



The Coronation of
King Rama X

His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn
Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua



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**“We shall treasure, preserve and build on our heritage
and shall reign in righteousness
for the great enduring good of the people.”**



The Oath of Accession to the Throne of His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua
during the Coronation Ceremony on 4 May 2019



Foreword



In the eyes of many foreigners, one of the fascinating stories of Thailand is how its ancient culture and traditions have evolved to find their place in the 21st century. Thai people take pride in these traditions as they reflect our heritage and national identity which constitute the uniqueness of Thai characteristics handed down from generation to generation.

No other institution in the Kingdom has managed to preserve the many centuries-old traditions more masterly than the Royal Court, and no ceremony could better epitomise Thai tradition than the Coronation. Historical evidence has recorded the existence of the ceremony since the Sukhothai Kingdom in the 13th century. From then on, it has been practised throughout modern Thai history, gaining in both solemnity and splendour.

The Coronation of His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua was held from 4 to 6 May 2019. The last time that Thais witnessed a Coronation Ceremony was in 1950, when His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great (Rama IX) acceded to the throne. The world, with almost seven decades in between, has evolved exponentially, but the rituals and procedures of the Coronation remain largely unchanged.

The Coronation is symbolic with details and sacred rituals that signify divine and auspicious blessings on the Monarch and the Kingdom. It is not surprising that the grand scale of the preparations, the elegance and grandeur of the ceremonies, and the pomp and pageantry of the royal processions have attracted interest and aroused fascination among Thais and foreigners worldwide.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand has compiled this book as a general source of reference for those interested in Thailand and the Coronation Ceremony. The text and photos in the book have been carefully selected to showcase the procedures of the ceremonies and the close bonds between the Monarchy and the people, especially those who took part in the event and were impressed with the auspicious occasion. For them, the Coronation is not just history. The Coronation symbolises a new era, a new beginning, and is a story that belongs to all Thais - a story we are proud to share with the world.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Kingdom of Thailand

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Royal Biography of His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua



Early Life and Education

His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua is the only son of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great (Rama IX) and Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother. His Majesty was born on Monday, 28 July 1952, at Ambara Villa of Dusit Palace. Being the only son, His Majesty has an elder sister, Princess Ubolratana, and two younger sisters, Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn and Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn Krom Phra Srisavangavadhana.

His Majesty received his education at the kindergarten and primary levels at Chitralada School in the compound of Chitralada Villa, Bangkok. In January 1966, His Majesty continued his education at King's Mead School in Sussex, United Kingdom. Thereafter, in August 1970, he began military studies in the Commonwealth of Australia. Having completed his initial studies at King's School, Parramatta, in Sydney, which is a military preparatory school, His Majesty continued his studies at the Royal Military College, Duntroon, in Canberra in 1972.



His Majesty during the school years abroad

The college curriculum was divided into two parts: a military training course designed by the Australian Army, and a Bachelor's degree under the supervision of the University of New South Wales. During this period, His Majesty actively participated in field and academic training with other cadets, and completed his studies in 1976 with the rank of Lieutenant and a Bachelor of Arts degree (Military Study), from the University of New South Wales, Faculty of Military Study.

His Majesty returned to Thailand on 4 July 1977 and pursued further military studies at the Royal Thai Army Command and General Staff College in the 56th Class. Afterwards, His Majesty completed the course in 1978 and was the first Crown Prince of Thailand to attend and complete his studies at the Royal Thai Army Command and General Staff College. His Majesty also pursued further studies in law and in 1987, graduated with a degree in Bachelor of Laws from Sukhothai Thammatirat Open University in Bangkok.

His Majesty's military background was later broadened with training programmes in unconventional warfare and advanced navigation training in the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia. His Majesty is also a qualified military pilot and a helicopter pilot.



The ceremony of investiture on 28 December 1972

Investiture as the Crown Prince of Thailand

At the age of 20, His Majesty was conferred the title of Crown Prince of Thailand in accordance with the Palace Law of Succession of 1924. His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great graciously presided over the ceremony of investiture on 28 December 1972. The investiture made His Majesty the third holder of such title in the Chakri Dynasty.

His Majesty's Ordination

As a devout Buddhist, His Majesty was ordained in accordance with royal traditions. On 6 November 1978, at the age of 26, His Majesty entered the monkhood at the ordination hall of the Chapel Royal (Temple of the Emerald Buddha), obtaining the name of “Vajiralongkorno Bhikkhu.” During this time, His Majesty resided at the Panya Residence on the grounds of Wat Bovoranives.

His Majesty was strict in his conduct, making rounds to receive alms as prescribed by tradition, at Chitralada Villa, Srapatum Palace, Ambara Villa, the Government House and from ordinary people in various places. He also travelled to venerate and make merit at significant sacred places throughout the Kingdom. After 15 days, His Majesty returned to the royal duties.



His Majesty, then the Crown Prince of Thailand, receives robes from Their Majesties King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great and Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother during the ordination. Also present in the ceremony is His Excellency Mr. Deng Xiaoping, the then Vice Premier of the People's Republic of China



His Majesty presents offerings to Somdet Phra Nyanasamvara, abbot of Wat Bovoranives, who later became the 19th Supreme Patriarch of Thailand

Accession to the Throne

On 1 December 2016, after the passing of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great, His Majesty accepted the invitation by the President of the National Legislative Assembly to accede to the throne as the 10th Monarch of the Chakri Dynasty with the new name and title of “His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindradebayavarangkun.”



His Majesty accepts the invitation of the President of the National Legislative Assembly to accede to the throne



His Majesty gives a royal speech accepting the invitation to accede to the throne

His Majesty's Royal Activities as Crown Prince of Thailand



During His Majesty's tenure as the Crown Prince of Thailand, he diligently fulfilled the royal commands and wishes of his late father, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great, and his mother, Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother, thereby sharing the burden of their royal duties. His work included both domestic and international activities and ranged from presiding over royal and religious ceremonies to promoting education and youth activities, agricultural development, social work, medicine and public health, international relations, and the conservation of the cultural heritage.



His Majesty, then the Crown Prince of Thailand, meets the local people during the work trip with Their Majesties King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great and Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother

Continuing the Ancestral Legacy

Upon acceding to the throne, His Majesty continued the legacy of his father, mother, and ancestors, as embodied in the existing royal development projects. These include, among many others, irrigation and dike projects at Baan Khao Daeng, Chanthaburi Province, and visits to meet the local people in various regions.

Whenever the Kingdom was struck by disasters, His Majesty always responded immediately to provide aid and relief efforts to those affected, such as when he bestowed valuable advice, survival equipment, and supplies to the rescue team in their efforts to help the Wild Boar Academy Football Team, who were trapped in the Tham Luang-Khun Nam Nang Non Cave in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai Province during the months of June to July 2018. Similarly, at the beginning of 2019, when the Pabuk Typhoon hit Thailand, he encouraged all state agencies to pool their resources and to integrate efforts to assist the victims more efficiently. His Majesty also bestowed money from funds raised from the Love and Warmth at Winter's End (Oun Ai Rak Khlai Khwam Nao): the River of Rattanakosin to alleviate the sufferings of those affected by the typhoon.

Preserving the Institution of the Monarchy

His Majesty has sought to preserve the importance of the institution of the monarchy, whose connection to the nation, people, and religion is profound. From the very start of his reign, His Majesty therefore took a number of actions, such as appointing Somdet Phra Maha Muniwong (Amborn Ambaro) the 20th Supreme Patriarch, appointing new Privy Councilors to assist in royal activities, and preserving royal and Buddhist ceremonies that are expressions of the national character and ancestral heritage. He is engaged in supporting the activities of all religions in Thailand and carries out administrative duties in accordance with the democratic form of governance. Furthermore, he has continued to build friendly relations with foreign countries.



His Majesty receives Their Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko of Japan on 5 March 2017 on the occasion of Their Majesties' Private Visit to Thailand to lay a Royal Wreath and to pay respects to His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great at Dusit Maha Prasad Throne Hall in the Grand Palace



His Majesty, then the Crown Prince of Thailand, is greeted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at Lunch for Sovereign Monarchs in Honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee, at Windsor Castle, on 18 May 2012 in Windsor, England

Love and Warmth at Winter's End:

The River of Rattanakosin

Love and Warmth at Winter's End: The River of Rattanakosin, which was held for two consecutive years during the winter season from 8 February to 11 March 2018 and from 9 December 2018 to 19 January 2019, brought much happiness to both Thais and visitors to the Kingdom. The Festival was held in a vintage atmosphere, harking back to the past. Replicas of great artistic works were made and displayed at the Festival to promote awareness of Thailand's rich cultural heritage. Musical performances, food from all regions of the Kingdom, and merchandise from the royal foundations, state agencies, and private businesses were made available to the public to enjoy and purchase. His Majesty graciously supported the whole activity as a way to raise funds for further use as relief aid to people affected by natural disasters. The Festival helped to raise the morale and happiness of the Thai people and united them together for a common good cause. It has helped to draw confidence among the Thai people in joining hands to create an even more peaceful and harmonious society.



His Majesty presides over the opening of Love and Warmth at Winter's End:
The River of Rattanakosin on 9 December 2018



The Coronation Ceremony



The Coronation is a many centuries-old ceremony of the Thai monarchy that found its origins more than a thousand years ago when the influence of Indian civilisation reached Southeast Asia. According to tradition, the new king does not assume full power of kingship until the Coronation has been held and the official enthronement completed. This belief has been passed down from the time of Sukhothai and Ayutthaya periods to the current Rattanakosin Era under the Chakri Dynasty. The Coronation is characterised by a blend of Brahmanic beliefs and Buddhist teachings.

His Majesty graciously commanded the holding of the Coronation in accordance with ancient Thai customs from 4 to 6 May 2019 for the peace and prosperity of the Kingdom. The Coronation is divided into three stages comprising the preliminary royal ceremonies, the primary royal ceremonies and the final royal ceremonies.



The Royal Emblem on the Auspicious Occasion of the Coronation of King Rama X B.E. 2562 (2019)

The Royal Emblem, marking the Coronation of King Rama X B.E. 2562 (2019), depicts, in the centre, in white trimmed with gold, the Royal Cypher of His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua. Each letter of the Cypher is decorated with diamonds which denote the origin from which the royal name “Maha Vajiralongkorn” is derived, whilst the gold trimming of the Cypher represents the colour of Monday which is the day of birth of His Majesty. The Cypher rests on a background of dark blue, the colour of righteous kingship, contained within a lotus bud frame marked out in gold and green, the mixture of which two colours signifies the power and might of His Majesty’s day of birth. The lotus bud frame begets inspiration from the shape of its foremost predecessor -- the frame which enclosed the Great Unalome insignia of the Royal Seal of State of His Majesty King Buddha Yodfa Chulalok the Great (Rama I), founder of the Chakri Dynasty. Surrounding the outer parts of the frame are the Five Royal Regalia, deemed to embody the symbol of Kingship itself. Placed on top of the Royal Cypher is the Great Crown of Victory with the Unalome insignia which Unalome includes within it the sequence number of this reign. The Sword of Victory and the Royal Whisk of the Yak’s Tail lie to the right of the Emblem while on the left of the Royal Emblem are placed the Royal Sceptre and the Royal Fan, and, lastly, below the Royal Cypher rest the Royal Slippers.

The Great Crown of Victory represents the great burden bearing down on the person of His Majesty for the sake of his people’s happiness. The Sword of Victory symbolises His Majesty’s responsibility to protect the Kingdom from all harm threatening it. The Royal Sceptre signifies His Majesty’s Royal virtues to bring forth peace and stability to the Kingdom. The Royal Whisk and the Royal Fan symbolise His Majesty’s righteousness as a ruler in relieving the suffering and hardship of His subjects. The Royal Slippers represent His Majesty’s care in fostering the sustenance and welfare throughout the Kingdom. Standing tall behind the Great Crown of Victory is the Great Umbrella of State trimmed with bands of gold. At the top of the Umbrella of State is the lotus bud finial showing Brahma Faces while the lowest tier of the Umbrella is decorated with golden Champa bouquets representing the extension in all directions yonder of His writ and authority. On the lowest part of the Emblem run stretches of green-gold ribbon, trimmed in gold, bearing the words “The Coronation of King Rama X B.E. 2562 (2019)”. At the right tip of the ribbon stands the purple Kojasi holding up a Seven-tiered Umbrella representing the Armed Forces. On the left tip of the ribbon stands the white Ratchasi holding a second Seven-tiered Umbrella which represents the Civil Service, which left and right together form the two pillars of public service. On the inner side of the shafts of the two Umbrellas, there are golden Naga trceries denoting the year of the dragon, the year of His Majesty’s birth. The golden colour of the Naga trceries signifies the prosperity for the nation and her people.

Preliminary Royal Ceremonies

Water is an essential element in the Coronation as it symbolises purity. Therefore, the preliminary royal ceremonies started on 6 April 2019 with the collection of water from 108 sacred and historical sites in every province around the Kingdom. Out of these 108 sites, there are nine sites whose water was specifically reserved for the Purification Ceremony on 4 May 2019, where the holy water would be poured on His Majesty the King. These nine sites consist of four sacred ponds in Suphan Buri Province and five principal rivers of Thailand. Meanwhile, water from other sites was used in the anointment ceremony or the offering of ‘abhisek’ water to His Majesty.

108 Sites for Sacred Water Collection





© Nation Photo

Officials arrange urns of sacred water collected from every province which were consecrated at Wat Suthat Thepwararam in Bangkok

According to Brahmanic belief, the water for the Royal Purification and Anointment Ceremonies must come from the five main streams in India. These are the Ganges or Ganga, Mahi, Yamuna or Jumna, Rapti or Aciravati and Sarabhu or Sarayu. All these five rivers flow down from Mount Kailash, the abode of Ishvara or Shiva, and therefore, the water becomes divinely sacred and befitting for use in the Coronation. This belief was applied by the Thai royal court in designating five rivers in the country to represent the said sacred rivers in India. These rivers are Chao Phraya, Pasak, Bang Pakong, Ratchaburi and Phetchaburi.

After the collection of water, each province held a ceremony at a major temple to consecrate the water before transporting it to the Ministry of Interior. On 18 April 2019, the collected water was consecrated again at Wat Suthat Thepwararam in Bangkok in a ceremony presided by the Prime Minister, and was eventually conveyed to the Temple of the Emerald Buddha in a procession on 19 April 2019.

Another ceremony that formed part of the preliminary ceremonies, which took place from 22 to 23 April 2019, was the Inscription of the Royal Golden Plaques on which the Official Royal Title of His Majesty and the Royal Horoscope are inscribed, and the Engraving of the Royal Seal of State. These objects would be offered to His Majesty during the primary royal ceremonies.

Primary Royal Ceremonies

The primary royal ceremonies commenced on 2 May 2019 when His Majesty paid homage to the Equestrian Statue of His Majesty King Chulalongkorn (Rama V), the Memorial of His Majesty King Buddha Yodfa Chulalok The Great (Rama I) and sacred beings at Baisal Daksin Throne Hall and Chakrapat Biman Royal Residence in the Grand Palace.



Their Majesties the King and Queen pay homage to the Equestrian Statue of His Majesty King Chulalongkorn



Their Majesties the King and Queen pay homage to the Memorial of His Majesty King Buddha Yodfa Chulalok The Great

4 May 2019

Royal Purification and Anointment Ceremonies

At an auspicious time on the morning of 4 May 2019, His Majesty took a ceremonial bath of purification in a specially constructed pavilion beside Chakrapat Biman Royal Residence. This is in accordance with Brahmanic belief, which requires that before the beginning of the Coronation ritual, the person must be purified. His Holiness the Supreme Patriarch also poured holy water on His Majesty.



The temporary pavilion for the Royal Purification Ceremony



His Holiness the Supreme Patriarch pours holy water
on His Majesty



His Majesty purifies himself with holy water from
the ceremonial conch shell during
the Royal Purification Ceremony



Members of the Royal Family witness
the Royal Purification Ceremony on the morning of 4 May 2019



The Royal Thai Army honours His Majesty
with 101 rounds of artillery salute firing during the Royal Purification Ceremony

Thereafter, His Majesty proceeded to Baisal Daksin Throne Hall and sat facing eastward on the octagonal Atha Disa Udumbara Raja Asana Throne (*The Octagon Fig Throne*) for the Anointment Ceremony. Representatives of the Royal Family, President of the Privy Council, Prime Minister, President of the National Legislative Assembly, President of the Supreme Court, representative of the Royal Society and the Minister of Interior were positioned in the eight directions around the Throne. His Majesty received holy water from each of them by moving clockwise from one direction to the next and completed the round when facing eastward once again. After the Royal Anointment Ceremony, the Chief Brahmin presented the Royal Nine-tiered Umbrella to His Majesty, signifying full assumption of kingship.



His Majesty, seated at Atha Disa Udumbara Raja Asana Throne, receives holy water from His Serene Highness Prince Pusan Svasti, a representative of the Royal Family



His Majesty receives holy water from General Prem Tinsulanonda, the then President of the Privy Council

His Majesty then proceeded to the Bhadrapitha Throne (Noble Throne) and sat under the Royal Nine-tiered Umbrella. The Chief Brahmin presented him with the Royal Golden Plaques of His Majesty's Official Royal Title and Horoscope, the Royal Regalia, the Ancient and Auspicious Orders, and the Weapons of Sovereignty. His Majesty then gave the Oath of Accession to the Throne.



The Chief Brahmin presents His Majesty with the Royal Golden Plaques of His Majesty's Official Royal Title and Horoscope, the Royal Regalia, the Ancient and Auspicious Orders, and the Weapons of Sovereignty

**“We shall treasure, preserve and build on our heritage
and shall reign in righteousness
for the great enduring good of the people.”**



The Oath of Accession to the Throne of His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua
during the Coronation Ceremony on 4 May 2019



Atha Disa Udumbara Raja Asana Throne

The Atha Disa Udumbara Raja Asana Throne is an octagonal throne made from fig wood. Its name could be literally translated as “Octagon Fig Throne.” The fig tree is considered auspicious in Brahmanism because it is believed to be the abode of the Triple Supreme Deities or Trimurti. They are Brahma the creator, Vishnu the preserver and Shiva the destroyer. In the Coronation, His Majesty sits on this Throne under a Seven-tiered White Umbrella to receive holy water from royals and dignitaries. The Throne is located in the eastern side of Baisal Daksin Throne Hall.



Bhadrapitha Throne

The Bhadrapitha Throne is in the north-western side of Baisal Daksin Throne Hall. It was built in the reign of His Majesty King Mongkut (Rama IV). In the Coronation, His Majesty the King sits on this Throne under a Nine-tiered White Umbrella to receive the Royal Golden Plaques, Royal Regalia including the Great Crown of Victory and Weapons of Sovereignty.



Members of the Royal Family



The Prime Minister, President of the National Legislative Assembly and President of the Supreme Court offer their best wishes on behalf of the executive, legislative and judiciary branches respectively



The Royal Palanquin and the Royal Barge are displayed during the Coronation to signify that these vehicles are also presented to His Majesty for his disposal

Proclamation as Royal Patron of Buddhism

At 16.00 hours, His Majesty proceeded to the Chapel Royal (Temple of the Emerald Buddha) to proclaim himself the Royal Patron of Buddhism. On the same occasion, His Majesty also paid homage to relics of previous Kings, Queens and senior members of the Chakri Dynasty.



His Majesty is carried on the Budtan Thong Royal Palanquin from the Amarindra Vinijaya Throne Hall to the Chapel Royal



The Military Band lines up along the route of the Royal Procession



The Royal Procession passes through Biman Jayasri Gate in front of Chakri Maha Prasad Throne Hall on the way to the Chapel Royal





Eighty senior monks chant prayers during the ceremony for His Majesty to proclaim himself as the Royal Patron of Buddhism



The Royal Procession from the Chapel Royal to Abhorn Bimok Pavilion





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His Majesty on the Budtan Thong Royal Palanquin

Royal Assumption of the Royal Residence

At 20.00 hours, the Royal Assumption of the Royal Residence took place at Chakrapat Biman Royal Residence. The purpose of the ceremony is for Their Majesties the King and Queen to symbolically take up the royal residence and perform a housewarming ritual for the new Monarch's auspicious and peaceful reign.



Their Majesties the King and Queen prepare themselves in the Baisal Daksin Throne Hall before proceeding to Chakrapat Biman Royal Residence for the Assumption of the Royal Residence



His Majesty disperses two-baht coins as a commemorative token to officials in attendance

5 May 2019

*Bestowal of Royal Names and Titles to Members
of the Royal Family*

In the morning, His Majesty presided over the ceremony to bestow new royal names and titles to members of the Royal Family at Amarindra Vinijaya Throne Hall.



Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn is bestowed a new name and title



Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Narendiradebyavati Kromluangrajasarinisiribajra Mahavajrarajadhita is bestowed a new name and title

*New Royal Names and Titles of
Members of the Royal Family*

1. His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great
2. Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother
3. Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn
4. Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn Krom Phra Srisavangavadhana
5. Her Royal Highness Princess Soamsawali Krom Muen Suddhanarinatha
6. Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Narendiradebyavati
(On 28 July 2019, she was elevated to Her Royal Highness Princess
Bajrakitiyabha Narendiradebyavati Kromluangrajasarinisiribajra
Mahavajrarajadhita)
7. Her Royal Highness Princess Sirivannavari Nariratana Rajakanya
8. His Royal Highness Prince Dipangkorn Rasmijoti
9. Her Royal Highness Princess Siribhachudabhorn
10. Her Royal Highness Princess Aditayadornkitikhun

Royal Procession on Land

At 16.30 hours of the same day, His Majesty was carried on the Royal Palanquin in the Royal Procession on Land to encircle the city, affording people the opportunity to attend and pay homage to their new King. Almost 200,000 people congregated along the procession route to be part of this historic event. Many of them came from other provinces since the night before to reserve the best spot. The Royal Palanquin departed the Grand Palace for three royal temples: Wat Bovoranives, Wat Rajabopidh and Wat Phra Chetuphon, where His Majesty paid homage to the principal Buddha image in the ubosot or ordination hall of each temple. Her Majesty the Queen and Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Narendiradebyavati Kromluangrajasarinisiribajra Mahavajrarajadhita accompanied His Majesty in the Royal Procession.

The Royal Procession on Land



Mounted Police Officers



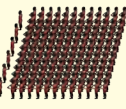
Royal Thai Army Band (Front)



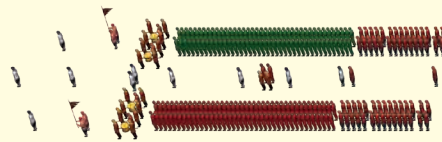
Joint Commanding Unit



Guards of Honour Battalion (Front)



Front Section of the Royal Party



Master of Ceremonial Instruments

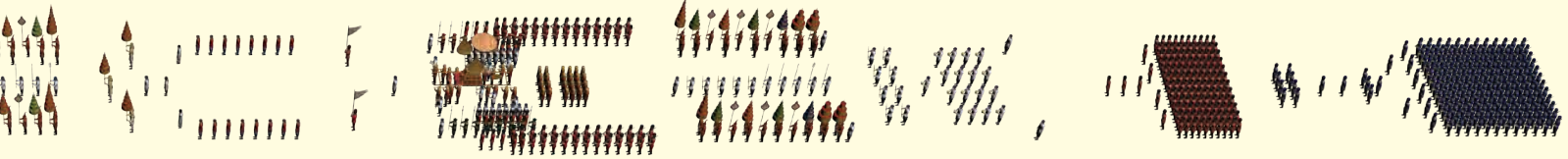


Royal Pages Bearing Regalia

Procession of the Guards of Honour (Front)



The Royal Procession on Land



Regalia (Front)

Royal Palanquin and The King's Own Bodyguards

Royal Pages Bearing Regalia (Rear)

Royal Thai Army Band (Rear)

Guards of Honour Battalion (Rear)

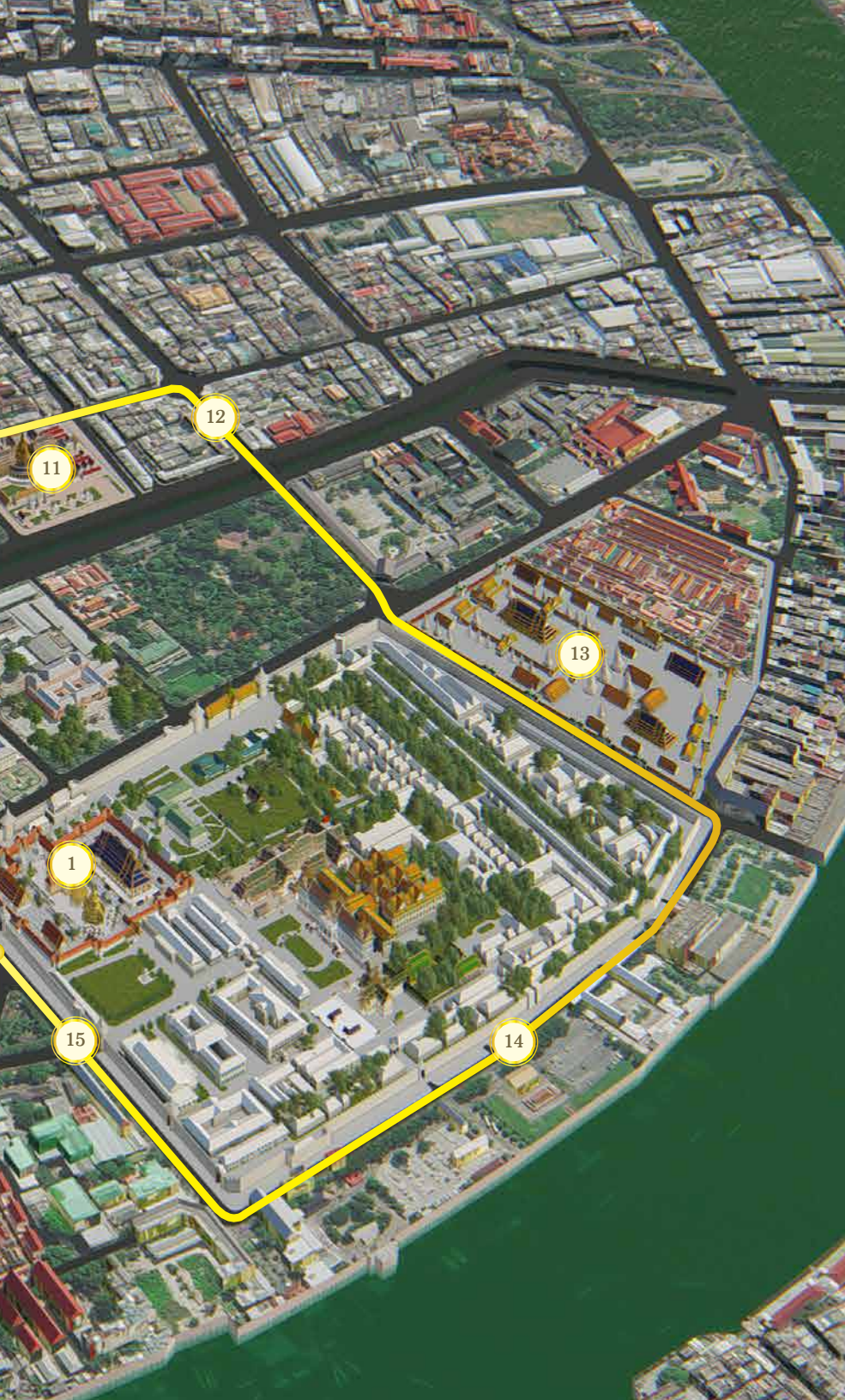
Procession of Honour

Procession of the Guards of Honour (Rear)



Courtesy of Thairath TV





Royal Procession on Land

1. Grand Palace
2. Ratchadamnoen Nai Avenue
3. Ratchadamnoen Klang Avenue
4. Tanao Road
5. Wat Bovoranives
6. Phra Sumen Road
7. Maha Jetsada Bodin Royal Pavilion
8. Atsadang Road
9. Bamrung Mueang Road
10. Fuang Nakhon Road
11. Wat Rajabopidh
12. Charoen Krung Road
13. Wat Phra Chetuphon
14. Maharaj Road
15. Na Phra Lan Road



The Royal Procession from the Grand Palace, the starting point of the procession, through the Viset Jayasri Gate



The Royal Procession spans over 500 metres



Thousands of Thais wait eagerly for the Royal Procession on Ratchadamnoen Avenue



The Royal Procession travels to three temples,
with a total distance of 6.77 kilometres



© Nation Photo

The Royal Procession is a rare occasion where the people could admire the King closely



© Nation Photo

Her Majesty the Queen marches in
the Royal Procession



Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha
Narendiradebyavati Kromluangrajasarinisribajra
Mahavajjarajadhita marches in the Royal Procession



Members of the Royal Family observe the Royal Procession from a pavilion on Ratchadamnoen Klang Avenue



© Eakarin Ekartcharyawong

People don yellow and wave the national flag to welcome the Royal Procession. In Thai tradition, yellow is the colour for Monday, the day of His Majesty's birth



The Royal Procession encircles the old quarters of Bangkok on the “Rattanakosin Island,” which is enclosed by either a river or a canal



Six songs composed by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great are performed to guide the marching rhythm of the Royal Procession



His Majesty assembles a component that represents the six radial colours of Buddha on the head of Phra Buddha Angkirot, the principal Buddha image of Wat Rajabopidh



The Royal Procession proceeds from Wat Rajabopidh to Wat Phra Chetuphon



Monks chant prayers to offer blessings to His Majesty at Wat Phra Chetuphon



An aerial view of Wat Phra Chetuphon

6 May 2019

*Public Audience on the Balcony of
Suddhaisavarya Prasad Hall*

At 16.30 hours, Their Majesties the King and Queen together with the Royal Family granted a public audience on the balcony of Suddhaisavarya Prasad Hall in the Grand Palace to receive the good wishes of the people. On this occasion, His Excellency General Prayut Chan-o-cha (Ret.), Prime Minister of Thailand, represented the Thai people in offering their best wishes to His Majesty.



© Wason Wanichakorn

Their Majesties the King and Queen, together with members of the Royal Family wave to the people from the balcony of Suddhaisavarya Prasad Hall



His Majesty the King receives offering of best wishes from the public and gives a Royal Address from the balcony of Suddhaisavarya Prasad Hall. The balcony was built in 1949, prior to the Coronation of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great in 1950, where a Royal Address was also made to the public



People in yellow congregate near the Suddhaisavarya Prasad Hall, eager to be part of this historic event



© Subpong Ittitanakul

The crowd cheers in joy and jubilation, shouting “Long Live the King!”
as His Majesty waves from the balcony



Long Live the King!



© Eakarín Ekartchariyawong

Volunteers clean the walkway to prepare the area for the people traveling from all over the country to offer their best wishes to His Majesty

It was not only in the Kingdom where Thai people joined the very auspicious moment, but also 98 Royal Thai Embassies and Royal Thai Consulates-General around the world in 96 cities held religious ceremonies, social volunteer activities and a ceremony for Thai communities abroad to offer their best wishes to His Majesty the King on the same day or the following day. Members of the Thai communities abroad were also able to view the live broadcast of the Coronation Ceremony from the Grand Palace.



Religious ceremony organised by the Royal Thai Consulate-General in Frankfurt, as part of the activities to celebrate the Coronation



Royal Thai Embassy, Brasilia



Royal Thai Consulate-General, Los Angeles



Social services organised by the Royal Thai Embassy in Nairobi, as part of the activities to celebrate the Coronation



Social services organised by the Royal Thai Embassy in Kuwait, as part of the activities to celebrate the Coronation



Social services organised by the Royal Thai Consulate-General in Nanning, as part of the activities to celebrate the Coronation



Royal Thai Embassy, Vientiane



Social services organised by the Royal Thai Embassy in New Delhi, as part of the activities to celebrate the Coronation



Royal Thai Consulate-General, Sydney



Religious ceremony organised by the Royal Thai Consulate-General in Kolkata, as part of the activities to celebrate the Coronation



Social services organised by the Royal Thai Embassy in Hanoi, as part of the activities to celebrate the Coronation



Social services organised by the Royal Thai Embassy in Manila, as part of the activities to celebrate the Coronation



A religious ceremony organised by the Royal Thai Embassy in Kathmandu, as part of the activities to celebrate the Coronation



Royal Thai Embassy, Kuala Lumpur



Royal Thai Embassy, London



Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations
& Royal Thai Consulate-General, New York



Social services organised by the Royal Thai Embassy
in Pretoria, as part of the activities to celebrate
the Coronation



Medical service organised by
the Royal Thai Consulate-General in Savannakhet
as part of the activities to celebrate the Coronation



*Audience with Members of
the Diplomatic Corps, Consular Corps
and International Organisations*

Later at 17.30 hours, His Majesty granted an audience to Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Consular Corps and International Organisations at Chakri Maha Prasad Throne Hall. Her Excellency Mrs. Chua Siew San, Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to the Kingdom of Thailand, as Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, offered felicitations and best wishes on behalf of the attendees.

**Message of Congratulations by Her Excellency Mrs. Chua Siew San
Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to the Kingdom of Thailand
as Dean of the Diplomatic Corps**

Your Majesty,

I have the honour to convey to Your Majesty the sincere congratulations and best wishes of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps on Your Majesty's formal assumption of the high responsibilities and dignities of the great estate to which Your Majesty has been called.

It is the earnest hope of all those on whose behalf I speak today that Your Majesty's reign will be long and happy, and that under it the Thai people, who in recent week have so clearly demonstrated their loyalty and affection towards Your Majesty's person, will continue to enjoy the blessings of peace, prosperity and progress.

Your Majesty, allow me to conclude by renewing to Your Majesty our enduring commitment to further develop and strengthen the excellent relations between the Kingdom of Thailand and our respective countries. May this great kingdom be blessed with abiding peace, prosperity and progress under Your Majesty's auspicious reign.

I beg that Her Majesty the Queen will also graciously accept our warm felicitations and every good wish for the future.

**Royal Address of His Majesty the King
in Reply to the Message of Congratulations of the Members of
the Diplomatic Corps, Consular Corps and International Organisations
on the Occasion of the Coronation of King Rama X
at the Chakri Maha Prasad Throne Hall
on Monday, 6th May, B.E. 2562 (2019)
(Unofficial Translation)**

I and the Queen are pleased and deeply touched by the kind words of goodwill and best wishes expressed, on the collective behalf of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps, by the distinguished Dean of the Corps, marking this occasion of my Coronation.

We wish in turn to express our sincere thanks to you all for the kind sentiment extended to us both, and to the Kingdom and people of Thailand. Also much appreciated is your stated commitment to promote the cordial relations between your respective countries and mine, making them even closer and stronger. You may rest assured that you will receive the fullest support for your good work from the Royal Thai Government and the people of Thailand. I myself shall do my own part in strengthening the ties of cooperation between the Kingdom of Thailand and all of our friends to ensure that these ties will flourish and gain ever greater vitality.

Allow me to reciprocate your generosity on this occasion in offering my best wishes to you and your families, and, of course, my very best wishes for the greater progress and prosperity of your countries and peoples, so ably represented by yourselves in this Kingdom.





By The Royal Command

*On the Auspicious Occasion of the Coronation of
His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindradebayavarangkun*

*The Lord Chamberlain requests the pleasure of the company of
Her Excellency Mrs. Chua Siew San and Spouse*

*at the Audience in the Chakri Maha Prasad Throne Hall
for The Diplomatic Corps, Consular Corps and Representatives of International Organizations in Thailand
on Monday, 6th May, B.E. 2562 (2019)
at half-past Five o'clock in the afternoon
followed by a Reception at the Baromarajasathitmaholarn Hall within the Grand Palace*

*Full Dress Uniform
White tie or National Dress with Sash and Decorations*

An example of the invitation extended to Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Consular Corps and International Organisations for the Audience with His Majesty the King on 6 May 2019 at Chakri Maha Prasad Throne Hall

Festivities in Celebration of the Coronation

(Mahorasop Sompoch)

From 22 to 28 May 2019 , the Ministry of Culture, in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, relevant government agencies and the private sector, hosted cultural festivities to celebrate the Coronation in Bangkok and in every province around the country. These festivities are an integral part of the Coronation, as prescribed by ancient tradition.

The performances in Bangkok consisted of ‘khon’ or masked dance depicting the story of Ramayana, as well as traditional puppet, concert and musical play. Contemporary performance troupes from Indonesia, Myanmar, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, India and China also took part in the festivities.

Throughout the seven days of the festivities, daily light and sound presentations about the benevolence of His Majesty the King were shown on a water screen.



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The grounds of Sanam Luang in front of the Grand Palace are beautifully decorated and lit up with artistic flowers during the festivities



© Rapeephat Sitichailapha

'Khon' is a traditional performance that used to be reserved only for the entertainment of the royal court



© Eakarin Ekartchariyawong

Representatives of elephant keepers and relevant foundations for the welfare of elephants, together with eleven elephants pay tribute to His Majesty near the Grand Palace



© Eakarin Ekartchariyawong

The 'City of Angels' is adorned with strings of decorative light bulbs on this special occasion

Final Royal Ceremonies

The final procedure of the Coronation was the Royal Barge Procession held on 12 December 2019. His Majesty traveled on the Royal Barge Suphannahong along the Chao Phraya River from Wasukri Pier to Rajavoradit Pier for a distance of 3.4 kilometres. The procession of 52 barges was manned by about 2,200 crew members. Rhythmic barge-rowing songs were part of this ceremonial water-borne procession, which is a rare spectacle of splendour, arranged on only special occasions.

The Coronation is a momentous ceremony of each monarchical reign that demonstrates the deeply-rooted role of the monarchy in building national unity and stability throughout the ages. Every object and ritual pertaining to the ceremony has been deliberately selected to reflect the weighty responsibilities of the King in safeguarding the realm and uplifting the welfare of his subjects. Moreover, the ceremony reflects the country's traditions and beliefs, and the preservation of intricate craftsmanship and Thai traditional arts that altogether filled the Coronation with magnificence and grandeur, as witnessed by the world in 2019.





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*The Coronation of King Rama X
His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua*

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