

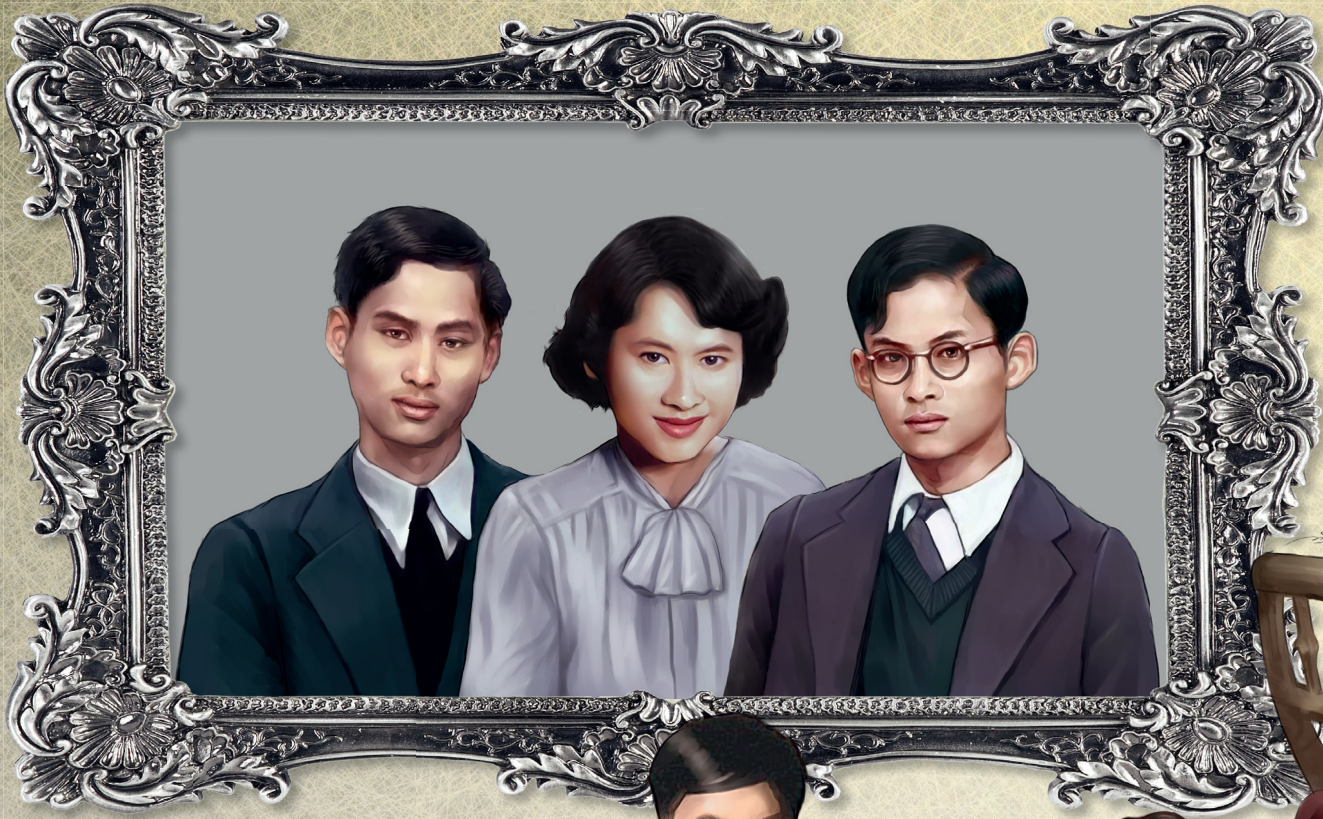


THE KING OF HEARTS

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LIFE OF A LEGEND



Royal biography

The late King Bhumibol Adulyadej was born into the Mahidol royal family, a member of the Chakri dynasty, at Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, Massachusetts on Dec 5, 1927.

He was the third child of Prince Mahidol Adulyadej, later known as Mahidol Adulyadej the Prince Father, and Mom Sangwan Mahidol na Ayudhya, later known as Princess Srinagarindra.

At birth, the late King was given the name "Baby Songkla" on his birth certificate. The royal name Bhumibol Adulyadej was bestowed later. He had one elder sister, Her Royal Highness Princess Galyani Vadhana, and one elder brother, King Ananda Mahidol.

King Bhumibol was engaged to Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, formerly known as Mom Rajawongse Sirikit Kitiyakara, on July 19, 1949. A formal royal wedding ceremony was held on April 29, 1950 and Mom Rajawongse Sirikit Kitiyakara has thereafter become Her Majesty Queen Sirikit.

The late King and Her Majesty the Queen had four children: Princess Ubolratana, His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn, Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn and Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn.

The late King Bhumibol Adulyadej had suffered declining health for many years before he passed away at 3.52pm on Oct 13, 2016 at the age of 88. He reigned for 70 years and four months. ❖



In Remembrance of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej



The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of
Thai Airways International Public Company Limited
Under the Ministry of Transport



ROYAL DUTIES

On June 9, 1946, parliament invited His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej to ascend the throne after the passing of King Ananda Mahidol. The king, who was 18, held the royal title of Somdet Phra Chao Yu Hua Bhumibol Adulyadej.

That marked the start of his long-running royal duties. King Bhumibol, who was studying in Switzerland, switched from studying engineering to public administration, as he believed knowledge of social and political sciences, law, geography and the arts would be useful for national administration.

On May 5, 1950, King Bhumibol proceeded with his coronation ceremony according to ancient custom at Paisan Taksin Hall in the Royal Palace. His royal title inscribed on the Phra Supanabat golden name plate reads "Phrabat Somdet Phra Paramindra Maha Bhumibol Adulyadej Mahitala Dhibesra Rama Dhibodi Chakri Naribodindra Sayamindra Dhiraj Barommanath Bobitra".

He declared: "I will fairly rule for the peace and happiness of the people of Siam". In the years that would follow, the King showed Thais he was a man of his word. He dedicated his efforts to ensure the country would be prosperous and stable.

King Bhumibol initiated over 2,000 royal projects, including in the medical and public health services, farming, irrigation, land development, education, religion, society, culture, transport as well as campaigns to boost the livelihoods of rural people.

The late King also worked on easing the grievances of people in urban communities, such as tackling traffic congestion, flooding and wastewater. He worked tirelessly, even when ill. Pictures of him working under the strong sun with sweat on his face still fascinate Thais.

King Bhumibol also travelled overseas to boost relations with other countries, helping Thailand forge partnerships with many nations in Asia, Europe, the United States and Australia.

The King's initiatives which have been well accepted domestically and internationally include the philosophy of the sufficiency economy and his new theory on the farming system. These ideas were bestowed to let people rely on themselves and exploit the land for optimum benefit.

No matter the economic situation domestically and globally, the sufficiency economy would be the people's answer to overcoming hardship.

On religious matters, King Bhumibol shone as a Buddhist. He was ordained as a monk at Wat Phra Sri Rattana Satsadaram on Oct 22, 1956.

He went to stay at Wat Bowonniwet Vihara, where he practised religious activities for 15 days. He also served as a supporter of all religions in an appropriate manner.

King Bhumibol was also interested in arts and sports. He wrote 47 songs which have been played by both Thai and foreign musicians, reflecting his talents in the artistic field.

An Austrian music academy also granted honorary membership to King Bhumibol.

The King won the gold medal in the fourth Southeast Asian Peninsular Games (SEAP Games), now the Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games) for yachting.

He was also regarded as a great artist. In addition to his musical talents, King Bhumibol created paintings and literature, which are now national intellectual property.

These include the translation of "A Man Called Intrepid" into "Nai Intra Phu Pid Thong Lang Phra" as well as the composition of the Buddhist legend of "The Story of Mahajanaka", which outlines the principle of perseverance for people to follow.

His royal duties and compassion also extended to animals, including royal white elephants and other pets. Among them was his pet dog, named Tongdaeng, which was popular among Thais. He set an example for others to follow in showing kindness to various animals. ❖



Schedule of the royal cremation ceremony for the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej
from October 25 to 29, 2017

OCTOBER 25, 2017

- ❖ Royal merit making before the royal cremation ceremony at Dusit Maha Prasat Throne Hall in the Grand Palace

OCTOBER 26, 2017

- ❖ Ceremony to take the royal urn to the royal crematorium
- ❖ Royal cremation ceremony

OCTOBER 27, 2017

- ❖ Ceremony to collect the royal relics and the royal ashes

OCTOBER 28, 2017

- ❖ Royal merit making for the royal relics and the royal ashes at Dusit Maha Prasat Throne Hall

OCTOBER 29, 2017

- ❖ Ceremony to enshrine the royal relics at Phra Wiman in Chakri Maha Prasat Throne Hall
- ❖ Ceremony to house the royal ashes at Wat Ratchabophit Sathit Maha Simaram and Wat Bowonniwet Vihara

