

Rajabhakti Park



History

King Rama IX officially endorsed Royal Thai Army to build “7 Kings of Siam Statues” along with historical park named “Rajabhakti Park”. Aiming to admire and honour 7 Kings of Siam as follows:



1. King Ramkhamhaeng the Great (1279-1298 A.D.)

King Ramkhamhaeng the Great, the third son of King Sri-inthrathit and Queen Sueang. Poekhun Ramkhamhaeng, a nineteen year old young soldier fought along with Khun Sam Chon on the elephant back went on to win the war. As a result of the successful war and victory, he was proudly called as “Chao Ram Khamhaeng” by Pho Khun Sri Inthrit.

The outstanding contribution of Pho Khun Ram to the society was the invention of Thai alphabets in 1283 A.D. These alphabets were adapted from the ancient Khom alphabets. The original invention of Thai alphabets were called as “Lai Sue Thai”.

During the Sukothai Period, there were not so many people in the Sukhothai region. Villagers were close to one another both in proximity and emotionally. The King and the monks were in the people’s hearts, linking them closely. The people did various activities together such as listening to dharma on every Buddhist holy day. In this way, the people lived together peacefully.



2. King Naresuan the Great (1590 – 1605 A.D.)

King Naresuan the Great was the elder son of King Maha Dharmaraja and Queen Wisutthi Kasattri, who was a daughter of King Mahachakapat and Queen Srisuriyothai. He was born in 1555 A.D. in Chan Palace, in Pitsanulok. He had an elder sister, Princess Suphankalaya; and a younger brother, King Ekathotsarot

In 1590 A.D., King Maha Dharmaraja passed away, and King Naresuan was crowned King of Ayutthaya at the age of 35 on Sunday July 29, 1590 A.D. He was named King Naresuan or King Sanphet II. Thereupon he elevated his brother, Prince Ekathotsarot the Viceroy, to equal rank with him. King Naresuan the Great fought for almost his whole reign to achieve stability in Ayutthaya, and he passed away at the age of 50 on April 25, 1605 A.D. His reign lasted 15 years.



3. King Narai the Great (1656 – 1688 A.D.)

King Narai the Great was a son of King Sunpeth V (King Prasartthong) of Krung Sri Ayutthaya and Queen. He was born in 1632 A.D. His official name was Phra Surintra Khuman.

King Narai conducted foreign affairs with many countries such as Holland, England, Iran and France. Because of the power imbalance with Holland, he concentrated on his relationship with France. A large diplomatic corps were responsible for relations between Siam and France.

On December 12, 1685 A.D. King Narai entrusted the Siamese diplomatic corps, led by Oak Phra Wisut Sunthon, to have an audience with King Louis XIV in order to reciprocate the relationship. The corps helped in developing a strong relationship between the two countries.

King Narai was on the throne for 32 years and passed away at Suthasawan Parliament in Lopburi on July 11, 1688 A.D. at the age of 56.



4. King Taksin the Great (1767-1782 A.D.)

King Taksin the Great, Somdej Phra Chao Krung Thonburi or Somdej Phra Boromraja IV, was born on Sunday, April 17, 1734 A.D.

Before the fall of Krung Sri Ayutthaya, Phraya Vachira Prakarn, together with a troop of 500 followers, fought their way through the enemy's siege, heading to cities in the east with the intention of marshalling soldiers as well as weapons and returning to liberate Krung Sri Ayutthaya.

Conferred the royal title of Somdej Phra Boromraja IV, he ascended the throne on December 28, 1768 A.D., and established the City of Krung Thonburi as the new capital to replace Krung Sri Ayutthaya which had suffered vast devastation and could not be restored to its former state. During his 15-year reign, King Taksin brought all the independent principalities back to his governance and combined neighboring kingdoms as a part of Krung Thonburi. The King passed away on April 6, 1782 A.D.



5. King Buddha Yod Fa Chulalok the Great Rama I (1782 – 1809 A.D.)

King Buddha Yod Fa Chulalok the Great was the founder and first King of the Chakkri Royal Family. His Majesty's former name was Thongduang. His Majesty was born on March 20, 1736 A.D.

His Majesty's Father, Thongdee, lived on the riverside of Sakae-Krang River in Uthai Thani province and served as a civil servant of King Boromakoat. His official names, which were bestowed upon him by the King were "Luang Pinit Agsorn" and "Pha Agsorn Sunthorn." He was a royal draftsman in charge of royal documents. His Majesty's mother's name was "Daoruang."

King Rama I passed away at 74 years of age on September 7, 1809 A.D. at Phra Tinang Paisan Thaksin. His Majesty was a great leader. He was gifted in military affairs and in governing the state, and he was also interested in preserving religious heritage, arts and culture.

King Rama I founded Rattanakosin City as the royal capital of Siam. One of His Majesty's endeavors was to build Siam into as great a civilization as Ayutthaya had been in the past. His Majesty ruled Siam for 28 years.



6. Rama IV Mongkut (1850 – 1868 A.D.)

Phra Bat Somdet Phra Poramenthra Maha Mongkut Phra Chom Klao Chao Yu Hua (King Rama IV), the 4th King of the Chakri Dynasty, was the son of Phra Phutthaloetla Naphalai (King Rama II) and Queen Sri Suriyendra. He was born on October 18, 1804 A.D. in Thonburi Palace.

In 1866 A.D. His Majesty was able to calculate the occurrence of a solar eclipse that it would occur on August 18, 1868 A.D. at 10:36:20. The full eclipse would occur at the 6 minute 46th second, and it could be clearly seen in Klong Wan, Wahkor sub-district, Prachuab Kirikhan province.

After King Nangklao passed away, the members of the Royal Family, ministers and high-ranking officials invited King Rama IV to ascend the throne, so His Majesty left the Buddhist monkhood and took the throne on April 3, 1850 A.D. During the reign of His Majesty King Rama IV, the country experienced great development. King Rama IV passed away on October 1, 1868 A.D. after a total of 17 years and 6 months on the throne.



7. King Chulalongkorn the Great Rama V (1868-1910 A.D.)

King Chulalongkorn the Great (King Rama V) was the fifth king of the Chakri Dynasty. He was a son of King Rama IV and Queen Debsirindra, born on September 20, 1853 A.D.

During his reign, Siam developed greatly in many areas, including public administration, economy, finance, social welfare, education, religion, international relations, military, law, public transport, public utilities, and literature. King Rama V earned the title of “Pra Piya Maharat” which means Great Beloved King.

Finally, in 1905 A.D. an Act on Slavery was enacted by Royal Command to abolish slavery in the 124th year of the Rattanakosin Era on April 1, 1905 A.D. The children of slaves were no longer considered to be slaves. This Act was gradually enforced over the next 30 years until it came completely into effect.

King Rama V died on October 23, 1910 A.D. at the age of 58 years old at the Amphorn Satharn Villa in Dusit Palace. He had reigned for 42 years.

Objectives

1. To admire and honour 7 Kings of Siam from past to present for each of his contribution to the nation.
2. To use the Park's ground for performing important ceremonies of the Royal Thai Army and welcoming foreign Heads of States during their official visits to the Royal Thai Army.
3. To be the tourist spot attraction and historical learning site for officers and their families of Royal Thai Army as well as recreational venue for cadets and general public both Thai and foreigners.

Park site and construction framework

Rajabhakti Park is located in Hua Hin district, Prachuap Kiri Khan Province with the layout plan which is divided into 2 main parts:



1. 7 Kings of Siam Statues

The place builds for admiration and honour 7 Kings of Siam from Sukhothai Dynasty to Chakri Dynasty. The models were built in the manner of standing posture not over 1.9 meter with bronze metal.



2. **Multipurpose Ground**, is used to perform important ceremonies of Royal Thai Army and welcome foreign Heads of States during their official visits to Royal Thai Army.

Operation Time frame for building the Statues and Multipurpose Ground's Construction:
November 2014 – August 2015 (10 months)

Contact Us

Rajabhakti Park located in Fort Thanarat, Hua Hin District, Prachub Kiri Khan Province

Opening hour

Daily from 08.00 hrs. – 17.00 hrs.

Entrance fee

Free admission

Reference: <http://www.rajabhaktipark.in.th/>