

BOOK RECEIVED FOR REVIEW
to 15 APRIL 2008

Amporn Marddet, *Sexual Culture among Young Migrant Muslims in Bangkok*.
Chiang Mai, Silkworm Books, 2007.

Direk Jayanama, ed. Jane Keyes, *Thailand and World War II*.
Chiang Mai, Silkworm, 2008.

Lee Hock Guan and Leo Suryadinata, eds, *Language, Nation and Development in Southeast Asia*,
Singapore, ISEAS, 2007.

Dawn Rooney, *Ancient Sukhothai, Thailand's cultural heritage*.
Bangkok, River Books, 2008.

Sao Sanda, *The Moon Princess, Memories of the Shan States*.
Bangkok, River Books, 2008.

Peter Skilling, ed., *Past Lives of the Buddha: Wat Si Chum – Art, Architecture, and Inscriptions*.
Bangkok, River Books, 2008.

Shigeharu Tanabe, ed., *Imagining Communities in Thailand: Ethnographic Approaches*.
Chiang Mai, Mekong Press, 2008.

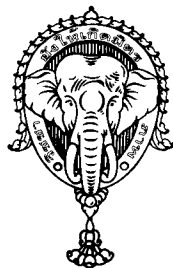
Daniel Viedlinger, *Spreading the Dhamma: writing, orality, and textual transmission in Buddhist northern Thailand*.
Chiang Mai, Silkworm Books, 2007.



HRH Princess Galyani Vadhana, with the then President of the Siam Society Khun Bilaibhan Sampatisiri and Dr Dhiravat na Pombejra (kneeling), watching the Pra Sat at Wat Sra Bua Kaew being hoisted into position. Nong Song Hong, Khonkaen province, 12 January 2001.



Her Royal Highness at an informal gathering at the Society, with the late Prince Suphadradis Diskul and the late Mom Ratchawong Patanachai Jayant, both former Presidents of the Society.



**Her Royal Highness Princess Galyani Vadhana
Krom Luang Naradhiwas Rajanagarindra
1923–2008**

Members of the Siam Society under Royal Patronage learnt with great sadness of the passing on 2 January 2008 of the Society's Vice-Patron and Honorary President since 1985. Her Royal Highness succumbed after a long battle against cancer at Siriraj Hospital, to which she was admitted in June 2007.

Her Royal Highness was unfailing in her support of the Society and its activities. She graciously accepted every invitation to its functions, and showed a sincere and lively concern with regards to its activities. Her counsel will be sorely missed. Whether it was to preside over a formal re-dedication, to which Her Royal Highness travelled by helicopter, of Wat Sra Bua Kaew in Amphur Nong Song Hong, Khon Kaen province, which had been restored by the Siam Society, or to examine an exhibition in the Society's home of old books on Siam from M. L. Manich Jumsai's collection, she showed a keen interest in everything, and, good educator that she was, a constant readiness to learn more.

Her Royal Highness presided in person at the Siam Society debate in 1988 on the controversy about the Ramkhamhaeng inscription, defending, as the then president of the Society noted, "the spirit of intellectual freedom so crucial to true scholarship."

Her Royal Highness had an amazing memory for names, and carefully read everything sent to her from the Society. She combined simplicity with a royal touch, and had a keen sense of humour. The preface to the volume of articles dedicated to Her Royal Highness, published by the Society on the occasion of her 80th birthday in 2003, rightly noted, "she is indeed an exemplar of the Siam Society ideal 'Knowledge Gives Rise to Friendship'."

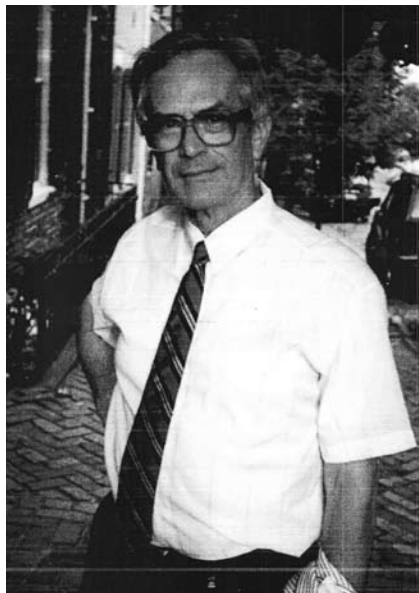
Many members, and particularly many presidents of the Society, will have fond memories of Her Royal Highness, and will recall occasions with her with affection. She will be greatly missed.

The Siam Society under Royal Patronage

James V. di Crocco

A long-time member of the American expatriate community in Bangkok, James V. di Crocco died on 3 January 2008 after a protracted illness.

Jim Di Crocco was born in 1922 and grew up in Staten Island, New York. He took degrees at both Columbia and George Washington Universities and studied Japanese at the University of Colorado. He was an officer in the United States' navy during the Second World War and the Korean War, and was a graduate of the U.S. Naval War College. He was fluent in several



European and East Asian languages; this competence was put to good use when he served as a radio announcer for the Voice of America, broadcasting in several foreign language programs in the 1940s. After retiring from U.S. government service, he lectured at the Thai Military Academy and Chulalongkorn University for several years.

In Thailand he will perhaps best be remembered for his long association with the Siam Society. He served as Honorary Editor of the *Journal of the Siam Society* from 1989 to 1994, and was also Vice-President of the Council of the Society from 1993 to 1994. He was elected Honorary Member of the Society in 1996, and was editor and translator of Emmanuel Guillon, *The Mons, a Civilisation of Southeast Asia*, published by the Society in 1999. He was also a great lover of classical music, particularly the operas of Giuseppe Verdi.

While in press, news has been received of the demise of Mom Kobkaew Abhakara na Ayudhya, Honorary Vice-President of the Siam Society, on 19 May 2008, and of Dr Roxanna Brown, ceramics archaeologist and life member of the Society, on 14 May 2008. Obituary notices will appear in JSS 2009.