



His Majesty King Rama X

His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindradebayavarangkun (Rama X) is the only son, the second of four children, of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej (Rama IX) and Her Majesty Queen Sirikit. He was born at Ambara Villa, Dusit Palace, in Bangkok on 28 July 1952, and was invested as Crown Prince and Heir to the Throne by King Rama IX in 1972.



His Majesty ascended the throne as King Rama X of the Royal House of Chakri, succeeding the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who passed away on 13 October 2016. On behalf of the Thai people, the President of the National Legislative Assembly, acting as the President of the National Assembly, formally invited the Heir Apparent to ascend the throne, and His Majesty the King accepted the invitation on 1 December 2016. In accordance with royal traditions and laws, as well as international traditions that a kingdom should not be without a monarch on the throne, the commencement of the reign of King Rama X is therefore effective as of 13 October 2016.

His Majesty King Rama X

In harmony with the royal aspirations and approach of His Majesty the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej, His Majesty King Rama X has been carrying forward his leadership and legacy for the benefit and happiness of the people. His Majesty has followed the footsteps of His Royal Parents – His Majesty King Rama IX and Her Majesty Queen Sirikit – in easing the people’s problems and improving their well-being.

Aware of the importance of education, His Majesty the King supports education and sports development at various levels. He initiated the establishment of a scholarship program in 2009. The scholarship program has been operating with his personal funds as well as donated funds presented to him for charitable purposes. The funds have been used to support education for needy students on a continual basis.

Also interested in agricultural development, His Majesty the King has accepted the “Mobile Agricultural Clinic Project” under his patronage since he was His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn. The project provides prompt services to farmers in order to enhance efficiency in farm production and to solve farmers’ problems. It comprises experts in various agricultural fields who can advise farmers on plants, livestock, fisheries, and land development.



His Majesty King Rama X

With his firm intention to raise awareness among the Thai people about joint efforts to perform good deeds with a volunteer spirit, His Majesty the King has initiated the project “We Do Good Deeds with Our Hearts.” This volunteer project aims to contribute to society and the country as a whole, on the basis of sharing and unity. Public services carried out by members of this volunteer project, such as activities to improve the living environment and hygienic standards for the public, have made Thai society more livable and brought satisfaction to the people.

History of the Royal Coronation Ceremony

The Royal Coronation Ceremony is an ancient traditional royal practice performed since the Sukhothai period to complete the procedure of the enthronement of each King of Thailand. It has been upheld through the ages, but details have been modified as appropriate within the context of each period. The ceremony is a blend between Hindu, or Brahmin, and Buddhist practices.

In the Rattanakosin period, the Royal Coronation Ceremony has been performed 11 times, as follows:

1. In the reign of King Buddha Yod Fa Chulalok (Rama I), the coronation ceremony was conducted twice; the first one in 1782, when the King founded the Royal House of Chakri, and the second one in 1785, when the construction of a group of pavilions for the Grand Palace was completed;
2. King Buddha Lert La Nabhalai (Rama II) commanded his coronation to be performed on 17 September 1809;
3. King Phra Nang Klao (Rama III) had his coronation performed on 1 August 1824;
4. King Mongkut (Rama IV) commanded his coronation to be performed on 15 May 1851;
5. King Chulalongkorn (Rama V) performed his coronation twice. The first Coronation of King Chulalongkorn took place on 12 November 1868 when he succeeded to the throne at the age of 15, following his father. The King ordered the second Royal Coronation to take place on 16 November 1873 when he reached the age of 20, and after being ordained into the monkhood for a time;

6. King Vajiravudh (Rama VI) performed his coronation twice. The first one was conducted on 11 November 1910. The King ordered the second Royal Coronation Ceremony to proceed on 2 December 1911, as a celebratory period for the nation and so that its international friends would have the opportunity to participate in the full ceremony;

7. King Prajadhipok (Rama VII) commanded his coronation to be performed on 25 February 1925;

8. King Ananda Mahidol (Rama VIII) passed away before being crowned in a Royal Coronation Ceremony;

9. King Bhumibol Adulyadej (Rama IX) had his coronation performed on 5 May 1950.

The Coronation of King Rama X, to be held on 4-6 May 2019, will be the 12th Royal Coronation Ceremony in the Rattanakosin period, and the first coronation in the Kingdom of Thailand in seven decades.

The Royal Coronation Ceremony is an important event in countries where the monarchy remains as the core institution, and this is especially true in the Kingdom of Thailand. In Thailand, the institution of the monarchy holds all the hearts and souls of the people together. The Royal Coronation Ceremony is the formal observance that reveals the glory of the King ascending to the throne, assures the country that he holds love for all his people, and accords recognition from the international community. Most importantly, it is a ceremony that demonstrates the stability and unity of the people as the Nation.

History of the Royal Coronation Ceremony

The Coronation of King Rama X B.E. 2562 (A.D. 2019)

The Bureau of the Royal Household issued an announcement on 1 January 2019 stating that the coronation of His Majesty King Rama X is scheduled for 4-6 May 2019. The statement said, “His Majesty deems it fit to hold the coronation ceremony per royal traditions for the good fortune of the nation and the Kingdom, to be enjoyed by the hopeful people.”

Before the Royal Coronation Ceremony, the following activities are arranged:

Preparation of Sacred Water for the Royal Coronation Ceremony

The earliest process in the preparation of the Royal Coronation Ceremony is to collect waters from different important sources and then consecrate and combine them for use in the Royal Purification and Anointment Ceremonies during the Royal Coronation Ceremony.

6 April 2019
The gathering of waters to be blessed and used for the sacred water in the Royal Coronation Ceremony takes place in all 76 provinces.

8-9 April 2019
Consecration rites for the collected waters are organized at major temples in the respective provinces.

10-11 April 2019
The waters are transferred to the Ministry of Interior in Bangkok.

12 April 2019, 13.00-14.09 hr
The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration performs a water consecration rite at Ho Sattrakhom in the Grand Palace and transfers the consecrated water to the Ministry of Interior to combine it with waters from the provinces.

18 April 2019, 17.19-21.30 hr
The waters from 76 provinces and Bangkok are combined and taken from the Ministry of Interior to go through another consecration rite at Wat Suthat, one of Bangkok’s oldest and most important temples.

19 April 2019, 07.30 hr
The sacred water is taken in a procession from Wat Suthat to be kept at the *ubosot* of the Temple of the Emerald Buddha.

Inscribing the Royal Golden Plaques and Engraving the Royal Seal of State

The ceremony of making an inscription on the Royal Golden Plaque of the official title of the King and on the Royal Golden Plaque of the King’s horoscope, as well as the engraving of the Royal Seal of State, are important processes in the preparation for the Royal Coronation Ceremony. This takes place inside the *ubosot* of the Temple of the Emerald Buddha.

The Coronation of King Rama X B.E. 2562 (2019)





Baisal Daksin Throne Hall

22 April 2019, 16.00 hr

Ten monks chant prayers at the Temple of the Emerald Buddha on the day before the designated day of the inscription ceremony.

23 April 2019, 08.19-11.35 hr

A ceremony is held at the *ubosot* of the Temple of the Emerald Buddha to make an inscription on the Royal Golden Plaque of the official title of His Majesty the King, and the Royal Golden Plaque of His Majesty's horoscope, as well as the engraving of the Royal Seal of State. On this occasion, the inscription of the Royal Golden Plaques, with the official titles of members of the Royal Family, is also made.



Chakrabat Biman Royal Residence

2 May 2019, 16.09-20.30 hr

His Majesty the King pays homage to the Equestrian Statue of King Chulalongkorn at the Royal Plaza and the Memorial of King Rama I at the foot of Memorial Bridge. He also worships sacred beings at Baisal Daksin Throne Hall and Chakrabat Biman Royal Residence.

3 May 2019, 10.00 hr

The Royal Golden Plaque of the official title of His Majesty the King, the Royal Golden Plaque of His Majesty's horoscope, and the Royal Seal of State are transferred from the Temple of the Emerald Buddha to Baisal Daksin Throne Hall.

The most important process of the Royal Coronation Ceremony takes place on 4 May 2019, marking the Coronation Day of King Rama X.

The Coronation of King Rama X B.E. 2562 (2019)



Three-Day Royal Coronation Ceremony

4 May 2019

10.09-12.00 hr

The Royal Purification, or the "Song Muratha Bhisek" Ceremony, takes place at Chakrabat Biman Royal Residence. "Muratha Bhisek" refers to the action of pouring holy water over the head of the king, also known as ablution. It is followed by the Anointment Ceremony at Baisal Daksin Throne Hall. Then His Majesty the King proceeds to the Bhadrapitha Throne and sits under the Royal Nine-tiered Umbrella, where the Chief Brahmin presents him with the Royal Golden Plaque of His Majesty's official title, the Royal Regalia, the Ancient and Auspicious Orders, and the Weapons of Sovereignty. After the Crowning and Investiture Ceremony, His Majesty presents the First Royal Command.

14.00 hr

His Majesty the King grants a grand audience to members of the Royal Family, the Privy Council, and the Cabinet, as well as senior officials, gathered to offer their best wishes to His Majesty at Amarindra Vinicchaya Throne Hall.



The Royal Regalia

The Great Crown of Victory

16.00 hr

His Majesty proceeds to the Temple of the Emerald Buddha to proclaim himself the Royal Patron of Buddhism.

13.19-20.30 hr

The ceremony of Assumption of the Royal Residence takes place at Chakrabat Biman Royal Residence. The purpose of the ceremony is to symbolically take up the royal residence and perform housewarming.

5 May 2019

09.00 hr

The ceremony to bestow His Majesty's Royal Cypher and Royal Title and to grant the royal ranks to members of royalty takes place at Amarindra Vinicchaya Throne Hall.

16.30 hr

His Majesty the King rides in 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.

Three-Day Royal Coronation Ceremony

Routes of the Royal Land Procession

- From the Grand Palace, the procession comes out from Abhorn Bimok Pavilion through Vises Jayasri Gate. It turns right to Na Phra Lan Road, turns left to Ratchadamnoen Nai Avenue, turns right to Ratchadamnoen Klang Avenue, and then turns left to Tanao Road before moving toward Wat Bovoranives. The Royal Palanquin stops in front of Wat Bovoranives, where His Majesty the King enters to pay homage to the main Buddha image in the *ubosot*.

- The procession continues to move along Phra Sumen Road and turns right to Ratchadamnoen Avenue, passing through the Rattanakosin Exhibition Hall. Then it turns left to Atsadang Road and Bamrung Mueang Road. The Royal Palanquin stops in front of Wat Rajabopidh, where His Majesty enters to pay homage to the main Buddha image in the *ubosot*.



Wat Bovoranives



Wat Rajabopidh

- The procession leaves Wat Rajabopidh, passing through Fueang Nakhon Road, and then turns right to Charoen Krung Road. The Royal Palanquin stops in front of Wat Phra Chetuphon, where His Majesty enters to pay homage to the main Buddha image in the *ubosot*.

- The procession with His Majesty riding in the Royal Palanquin leaves Wat Phra Chetuphon along Thai Wang Road, moving back to the Grand Palace. It enters Vises Jayasri Gate to Abhorn Bimok Pavilion.



Wat Phra Chetuphon

Three-Day Royal Coronation Ceremony



Chakri Maha Prasad Throne Hall

6 May 2019

16.30 hr

His Majesty the King grants a public audience on a balcony of Suddhaisavarya Prasad Hall in the Grand Palace to receive the good wishes of the people.

17.30 hr

His Majesty grants an audience to members of the international diplomatic corps, who offer their felicitations on this special occasion at Chakri Maha Prasad Throne Hall.

Royal Barge Procession

The final procedure of the Coronation of King Rama X is the Royal Barge Procession, to be held in late 2019. The procession begins at the Wasukri pier at 16.00 hr, when His Majesty the King travels along the Chao Phraya River to Wat Arun (Temple of Dawn) on the occasion of presenting robes to Buddhist monks (Royal Kathin Ceremony). About 2,300 oarsmen will be prepared to row over 50 barges to be arranged into five groupings, from the Wasukri pier to Wat Arun, with a total length of four kilometers. Rhythmic barge-rowing songs are part of this ceremonial water-borne procession, which is a rare spectacle, arranged on special occasions only.

The royal processions, both by land and by water, exhibit the glory and great power of the monarch, in accordance with the traditional beliefs and court traditions handed down through generations. They also mark the conclusion of the Royal Coronation Ceremony, which is considered one of the most important events for all Thai kings.



For the media and interested persons, more information can be obtained at the websites <https://phralan.in.th> and <https://thailand.prd.go.th>.

The Committee on Public Relations for the Coronation of King Rama X
B.E. 2562 (A.D. 2019)

Three-Day Royal Coronation Ceremony

