

## Recent Books from Thailand – Feb 2022

**Mary Martin Booksellers Pte Ltd**  
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**#03-05, Bras Basah Complex**  
**Singapore 180231**  
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### **Anthropology**

Manuscript Cultures and Epigraphy of the Tai World / Volker Grabowsky  
Chiang Mai: Silkworm Books, 2022  
424p. 135 B&W Ills. 23cm.  
9786162151880  
\$ 45.00 / PB

During the past four decades an impressive corpus of manuscripts and epigraphical material in Thailand, Laos, and adjacent Tai-speaking areas has been surveyed, documented, and digitized. Though manuscripts (written on palm-leaf, various forms of paper, cloth, bamboo, and other organic material) and inscriptions (on stone, metal, wood, etc.) may be considered “things of the past” in a modern world dominated by book printing and digital technologies, they continue to be produced in Thailand, Laos, and many adjacent Tai-speaking areas. Scholarly interest in these objects encompasses philological and historical studies of the texts themselves, as well as study of the material aspects that designate these materials as culturally significant. This collection explores the production, use, and transmission of manuscripts both as containers of traditional knowledge and as objects used in daily life. Special attention is paid to the significant influence manuscripts and inscriptions have had on each other, and to the relationship between modernity and the traditional manuscript cultures of the Tai world. The collection also addresses the preservation and storage of manuscripts, particularly in different kinds of repositories, ranging from diverse local catalogs to extensive international collections in the West. Finally, the book includes accounts by natural scientists of their work to determine the origin of writing materials and substances used to create manuscripts, to date manuscripts and inscriptions of the past, to reconstruct different script layers, among other topics.

## **Biography/Memoirs**

Silencing of a Laotian Son: The Life, Work and Enforced Disappearance of Sombath Somphone / Ng Shui Meng

Bangkok: Spirit in Education Movement (SEM) and International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB), 2022

xvi, 270p.

9786168209516

\$ 30.00 / PB

356gm.

The book describes how Sombath's ground-breaking community and youth development work earned him widespread recognition as Laos' leading development specialist.

It also documents the Lao authority's cynical denial of state involvement in Sombath's disappearance and his wife Shui Meng's tireless and agonizing struggle to rally international support to secure Sombath's safe return.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791992>

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## **History**

The King and the Consul: A British Tragedy in Old Siam / Simon Landy

Bangkok: River Book Press Co., Ltd., 2021

248p.; 32 B/W Illustrations; 6 Maps and Plans

Includes Index

9786164510593

\$ 32.95 / HB

382gm.

In 1856, just months after Britain and Siam had finalised the historic Bowring trade treaty that would prevent the country's colonisation, the violent death of a Siamese official at the new British consulate threatened to scuttle the deal and lead to war. The King and the Consul explores UK and Thai archives to reveal the twists, turns and tensions of this little-known episode that pitted Thailand's renowned King Mongkut, Rama IV, against the first British consul, Charles Hillier. The crisis was resolved without war, but not without cost for the participants who suffered unintended tragic outcomes. The book also reveals how this incident has continued to shape official Thai attitudes to foreign ownership of land up to today.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791993>

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Music and Recording in King Chulalongkorn's Bangkok / James Leonard Mitchell

Chiang Mai: Silkworm Books, 2022

362p.; 23cm.

9786162151873

\$ 40.00 / PB

Music and Recording in King Chulalongkorn's Bangkok is the first comprehensive history of Siamese music during the celebrated reign of Rama V (r. 1857–1910). Following on from the author's 2015 exploration of Thailand's most popular music genre, luk thung, James Leonard Mitchell focuses in on the brief period from 1903 to 1910 when gramophone recording came to Siam and almost failed. Music and Recording in King Chulalongkorn's Bangkok is the story of Siamese musicians, European recording experts and Chinese middlemen. It is the story of the city that was inherited and developed by Rama V, of a Chinese community seething with secret societies and revolution, and of the adventurous western companies that dreamed of global commercial domination. Based on research from the EMI Archive in London and the Ethnologisches Museum in Berlin, along with years of fieldwork in Thailand, the book contains 88 photographs, a discography of all known recordings, and links to YouTube videos.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791994>

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Lao Postcards by La Pagode, Old Postcard Series, Vol. 3: L. L. (Louis Levy), & F.N. (Fernand Nathan) with eight articles on the Nam Khan River, Raquez & de Sesmaisons on Postcards, Advertising on Postcards Review of Pages Laotiennes, second translation / Diethard Ande

Thailand: White Lotus, 2022

194p. Fully Illus. B&W 30cm.

9789748495057

\$ 45.00 / PB

500gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791995>

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### **Official Publications**

Thailand: Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2019: Survey Findings Report  
Bangkok: NSO-National Statistical Office, 2020

1v.

\$ 90.00 / PB

1046gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791250>

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The 2021 Health and Welfare Survey [Thailand]

Bangkok: National Statistical Office, Ministry of Digital Economy and Society, 2021

1v.

English & Thai Languages

ISSN: 1906-2885

\$ 45.00 / PB

440gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791251>

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The Skill Development Survey 2020 [Thailand]

Bangkok: National Statistical Office, Ministry of Digital Economy and Society, 2020

1v.

English & Thai Languages

\$ 25.00 / PB

390gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791252>

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The Skill Development Survey 2021 [Thailand]

Bangkok: National Statistical Office, Ministry of Digital Economy and Society, 2021

1v.

English & Thai Languages

\$ 25.00 / PB

398gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791253>

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### **Politics/Current Affairs**

Matchon Year in Review 2021 = บันทึกเหตุการณ์และประวัติศาสตร์หน้าใหม่ ของประเทศไทยตลอดปี 2564 /

ศูนย์ข้อมูลมติชน

Bangkok: Matchon Public Company Limited, 2022

384p.

English & Thai Languages

9789740217695

\$ 35.00 / PB

618gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791996>

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