

## Abstract

### Rethinking Lanna Historical Records

A research on ‘Rethinking Lanna Historical Records,’ aims at making a search for major new invaluable records, to build a body of knowledge by means of selecting historical data from palm-leaves and mulberry manuscripts, and transliterated from Lanna Dhamma scripts into Central Thai scripts, after which the data are thereby analysed.

The selected historical records are on:

1. Lanna Chronicles: historical records from B.E. 2271-2397/A.D. 1728-1854
2. Legends of Chaingrai
3. Miscellenies on Chaing Mai
4. Golden Pillar of the Realm (The Laws of Nan)

Invaluable new data are found from the 4 selected historical records, which specially indicate the chronicle, legendary, memorial, and legal specificities.

From Lanna chronicles and Chaingrai legends, new data are found on Lanna environments during the Burmese occupation; the Burmese policy and Administration, the significance of Chiang Saen and Chaingrai under the Burmese rule.

In Miscellenies on Chaing Mai, new data are found on Chaing Mai traditional rituals, there were rituals on Regenerating the Muang Fate, Paying respect to the Ruling Prince, Ritual on Drinking the Oath-water, including a description on the promulgation of the tributary state laws, and the location of the court of justice, including the Luao couvee and their collecting system of tributes, and other items for the state.

The Golden Pillar of the Realm, under the Siamese over-ruling State, reflect Muang Nan social environments, which was agricultural feudal society with resourcefulness. In The forests there were animals, such as elephants, water-buffaloes, and plentiful forest products. There were laws of environmental conservation, the rules of laws and social order. As regard the law court proceedings, in case two offenders committing the same crime, the one who had a higher rank would receive heavier penalty than the one with lower ranking. Besides, the laws promulgated from B. E, 2418(A.D.1875) on, reflect Muang Nan economic and social changes, indicating the moving from the traditional towards the modern age.