

## PAD's "final war" – September 2, 2008

September 2, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

[PAD's "final war" – August-September, 2008](#)

Earlier: [High tension in Thailand](#)

*Komchadluek*, September 3, 2008 –

PM declares state of emergency decree in Bangkok – PAD rally to continue its fight

Bloody!

DAAD raid to fight the PAD – 1 dies and many others injured

Private sector to discuss solutions to end crisis – 43 state enterprises to take absence from work on D-Day



*Daily News*, September 3, 2008 – DAAD clash against the PAD – 1 dies and many injured –

On the hope to seize the Government House – Blocked in front of the Army Headquarters – Army Chief sends in army forces to support the police operation

43 State enterprises to stage protest halting operation to pressure Samak

*Phujatkan*, September 2, 2008 –

Court accepts arrest warrant appeal – State enterprises to cut water and electricity on September 3rd – Halt work protest nationwide



*Bangkok Today*, September 2, 2008 –

UDD vs PAD – People battle

PAD wanted – September 3, 2008

We knew this would happen.... After so much PPP flak over Thaksin and his wife on wanted flyers, now we have nine PAD leaders on wanted posters.

[In pictures: Bangkok clashes](#) – BBC, September 2, 2008

[Emergency decree must be lifted from Bangkok and south alike](#) – AHRC, September 2, 2008

*The Asian Human Rights Commission has vehemently opposed and campaigned for the lifting of the emergency decree over the southernmost provinces of Thailand since it was introduced in mid-2005. Now in an alarming sign of the dramatically worsening conditions in that country, today the AHRC finds itself calling for the lifting of the decree from the streets of Bangkok...*



(Photo: The Nation)



(Photo: [Richard Barrow](#))



(Photo: [Richard Barrow](#))

DAAD rally site – September 3, 2008

[Richard](#) writes: Above are photos of the Democratic Alliance Against Dictatorship (DAAD) stage set up at the city hall in Samut Prakan. The pro-government supporters moved from Sanam Luang to Samut Prakan due to the recent emergency decree that forbids 5 or more people assembling in one place. The banner is calling on the people of Samut Prakan to stand up to preserve democracy and to give strength to Prime Minister Samak. In the second picture you can see two truck loads of bottled water being offloaded. Crowds of over 3,000 people are expected tonight.

[Richard](#) writes: I have attached four photos of the pro-government rally at the city hall at Samut Prakan. Various speakers took turns speaking to a crowd of at 3,000 enthusiastic supporters who were mainly wearing red shirts or red headbands. Not everyone was local as many arrived in coaches. In between speeches the crowd was entertained with dancers and luktung singers. On the fringes of the crowd the usual food vendors were selling snacks to people from all walks of society. There were also a number of families at the rally with their young children. As I left at 8 p.m. more people were arriving.

More on the rally at [ThaiBlogs](#)



(Photo: Richard Barrow)



(Photo: Richard Barrow)



(Photo: Richard Barrow)



(Photo: Richard Barrow)

[PAD's "final war" – August-September, 2008](#)  
Earlier: [High tension in Thailand](#)

## Pro-Thaksin signs in Chiang Mai

September 2, 2008

Categories: Thai Politics



(Photo: Sardortu for 2Bangkok.com)

It reads: Good politics should be in the parliament, but the damned are playing outside.

Pro-Thaksin signs in Chiang Mai – September 2, 2008

Sardortu reports: *In front of Grand Warorot Hotel (behind Phra Singh Temple), a group of people who agreed with the government's action (the banners clearly showed their opinions), supported the government and asked for donations to protest against the People's Alliance for Democracy. There was a small banner near a stage saying "Please Save THAKSIN" by Rak Chiang Mai 51 Group.*



(Photo: Sardortu for 2Bangkok.com)

It reads: We support the police. Do not fear. You have performed your duty the best...



(Photo: Sardortu for 2Bangkok.com)

It reads: Please save THAKSIN by “Rak Chiang Mai 51 Group”



(Photo: Sardortu for 2Bangkok.com)

Top banner in background: Welcome quiet power all over the country.

Left banner in background: No! (PAD) don't respect rules.

No! (PAD) don't obey laws.

Banner pickup: PAD destroy economics.



(Photo: Sardortu for 2Bangkok.com)

Baby elephants – September 2, 2008

Sardortu reports: *postgraduate students from the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Chiang Mai launched a campaign entitled "Young Artist Chiang Mai," aimed at reducing violence against people. The group encouraged other students to express their standpoint toward the violent situation through art with the topic – No More Violence!!!*



(Photo: Sardortu for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Sardortu for 2Bangkok.com)

It reads: Stop using people as a way to create righteousness for the government.



(Photo: Sardortu for 2Bangkok.com)

It reads: Don't harm people. Violence is not a way out. Wake up, Baby Elephants!



(Photo: Sardortu for 2Bangkok.com)

## **Weird times in Thailand, Malaysia – but democracy is working**

September 3, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

[Weird times in Thailand, Malaysia – but democracy is working](#) – *Globe and Mail*, September, 2008

## A flaw in Thailand's justice

September 3, 2008

Categories: Crime

[A flaw in Thailand's justice](#) – Belleville News Democrat, September, 2008

*...What is wrong with this? The "perpetrator" has confessed, right? I asked Visut if it had ever happened that a suspect who had confessed to a crime turned out to be innocent.*

*"Not in Thailand," he insisted with clenched-jawed certainty. "They know the punishment is very serious."*

*In other countries, however, confessions are notoriously unreliable. An organization called the Innocence Project in the United States uses DNA evidence to find innocent people who have been convicted of crimes. And after 16 years of research, the project has come up with a startling conclusion: DNA evidence shows that 25 percent of the people who confess or plead guilty to a crime are irrefutably innocent...*

## PAD's "final war" – September 4-5, 2008

September 4, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008



PAD's "final war"  
September 4-5, 2008

[PAD's "final war" – August-September, 2008](#)

Earlier: [High tension in Thailand](#)

[Samak denies he will resign](#) – *The Nation*, September 4, 2008

Left: Samak's 7:30 am radio address to the nation as broadcast on NBT

[Rumours spread Samak will announce resignation Thursday morning](#) – *The Nation*, September 3, 2008



From earlier in the year: Cat lover? – Arun, *Krungtepturakit*, April 4, 2008

Loves the cat or does not want the cat to get the fish – The tag on the cage reads "Commander-in-Chief" meaning C-in-C Anupong.

[Step down, now!](#) – *Bangkok Post*, September 4, 2008

...When reporters asked you about the dead man, you shot back belligerently: "Whose side was he on?"

Your eyes tell all. The heartlessness. The cruelty. When you started dividing even among the dead, we knew we could not let you carry on...

More Thai-language [newspaper headlines and editorials](#)

And from *Phujatphan*, September 4, 2008 – PM Samak signing the Emergency Degree with the blood of the deceased protester.



Front pages

*Komchadluek*, September 5, 2008

Samak turns the game to avoid Army resistance – Seizing back power to prevent Anupong from staging Coup –  
Orders forces to suppress the people

No resignation, No parliament dissolution – “Tej resignation is due to his wife” – Move on public referendum



*Matichon*, September 5, 2008

Samak call urgent Cabinet meeting, seizing power to order force movement on his own – with reference to 20 bills in his hand on hopes to balance Anupong’s power- 2 undergraduates shot injured on way to rally at PM residence

[PAD’s "final war" – August-September, 2008](#)  
Earlier: [High tension in Thailand](#)

## Step down, now!

September 4, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Step down, now!](#) – Bangkok Post, September 4, 2008

COMMENTARY

*Step down, now!*

SANITSUDA EKACHAI

*If you did not know then, you should know by now. The man who died in a pool of blood during the free-for-all when your supporters attacked the protesters at Makkhawan Bridge was your man.*

*There was little information about him when you held the press conference to defend your decision to declare a state of emergency.*

*When reporters asked you about the dead man, you shot back belligerently: “Whose side was he on?”*

*Your eyes tell all. The heartlessness. The cruelty. When you started dividing even among the dead, we knew we could not let you carry on.*

*For your information, the dead man was Narongsak Kobthaisong from Korat, Nakhon Ratchasima, a Thaksin supporter. And since you are Mr Thaksin’s proxy, he supported you.*

*Narongsak was a nobody in your eyes. He was just a pawn in a larger ploy to incite violence so the state of emergency could bring in the military to eradicate the protesters.*

*Say what you like. Deny all you can, that you had nothing to do with your supporters attacking the protesters.*

*But who will believe it?*

*The violence may very well be the work of Mr Thaksin’s other generals whom you cannot control.*

*But you still cannot deny responsibility.*

*One man has died, and the game isn’t going according to plan.*

*The military has refused to carry out your order to crack down on the gathering of the People’s Alliance for Democracy (PAD) at Government House.*

*So what’s next?*

*Allowing Mr Thaksin’s men to send their thugs on a killing spree, so you can hold on to power over a country in ruins?*

*Indeed, couldn’t you see the blood ahead when you allowed the protesters from both sides to become confrontational, or when you ordered the military to do the dirty job for you?*

*Why do you have no qualms in dispensing with other people’s lives?*

*Don’t you believe in heaven and hell?*

*You might think you are in a different league from your pawn, the late Narong-sak. But haven’t you, as a Buddhist, ever been taught that we are all equal in birth, ageing, illness and death?*

*Haven’t you been taught that we all die, and we cannot take anything with us after we die but our karma?*

*That our next life is crucially determined by the last thoughts and feelings when we take our last breath?*

*Narongsak’s life was cut short by violence. What could possibly have been the last thing on his mind when anger and physical pain from the wounds subsided and darkness entered?*

*Happy, carefree moments in childhood before the harsh reality of poverty and violence in life set in?*

*The warm embrace of his mother?*

*Ironically, the nation owes much to him.*

*Because he was treated just like a pawn by his masters, he died in obscurity. Had he been a PAD supporter, he could have been turned into a martyr for the PAD leaders to whip up more anti-government anger.*

*Can you imagine what could have happened?*

*You know the PAD wants to see blood spilled so the military can intervene. Why did you fall into the trap?*

*Is the anger and greed too blinding?*

*The whole country is hanging precariously by a thin thread because of your stubbornness.*

*You might sincerely believe that you are protecting a democratic system, but history will remember you for putting yourself first before the country.*

*That is a very expensive price to pay for being a Thaksin lackey.*

*Is it worth it?*

*You can turn things around.*

*If you haven’t already taken that step – or have already been forced to do it – do it now.*

*Forget the PAD. Its leaders have their own karma to answer to.*

*If you do the right thing, it will not only save the country, it can also save your soul when your time comes.*

*Step down.*

*Before it is too late.*

*Sanitsuda Ekachai is Assistant Editor (Outlook), Bangkok Post.*

## Channel 3 TV show

September 4, 2008

Channel 3 TV show – September 4, 2008

[Richard](#) writes: *The early morning breakfast show on Channel 3 called “rueang lao chao ni” had a live outside broadcast today at the city hall in Samut Prakan...* [More](#)

## **Asia Sugar-Thailand to cash in on India's fading exports**

September 4, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Asia Sugar-Thailand to cash in on India's fading exports](#) – *Reuters India*, September, 2008

## Real Estate Firm To Open New Luxury Condo For Foreign Criminals

September 4, 2008

Categories: Humor

From Not the Nation

[Real Estate Firm To Open New Luxury Condo For Foreign Criminals](#)

*The developer says it has already sold more than 75 percent of the units: 40 percent to the city's regular client base of money launderers, 20 percent to people using stolen identities, and 15 percent under duress...*

[17% of Thai Men Have Been A Cabinet Member At Some Point](#)

[Desperate Tourism Authority Revokes Exit Visas](#)

*All foreign visitors now required to stay indefinitely, purchase at least one wooden elephant...*

## Worse than a coup

September 4, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

[Worse than a coup](#) – *The Economist*, September 4, 2008

*...The PAD's leaders, however, are neither liberals nor democrats. A gruesome bunch of reactionary businessmen, generals and aristocrats, they demand not fresh elections, which they would lose, but "new politics," in fact a return to old-fashioned authoritarian rule, with a mostly appointed parliament and powers for the army to step in when it chooses. They argue that the rural masses who favour Mr Thaksin and Mr Samak are too "ill-educated" to use their votes sensibly. This overlooks an inconvenient electoral truth: the two prime ministers had genuinely popular policies, such as cheap health care and credit...*

[Directionless Thailand falters on world stage](#) – *The Nation*, September 4, 2008

*It must be pretty awkward for Asean senior officials who have been meeting in Hua Hin over the past two days to work out plans for the upcoming Asean summit, which Thailand will host in mid-December – a little more than three months away...*

## **The Negrito of Thailand: the Mani**

September 5, 2008

[The Negrito of Thailand: the Mani](#) – September 5, 2008  
Thanks to Steve for pointing this out.

## Thaksin Shinawatra could be the Peron of Thailand

September 5, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

[Thaksin Shinawatra could be the Peron of Thailand](#) – Georgia Straight, September, 2008

*Thaksin Shinawatra is shaping up to be the Juan Peron of Thailand, with the significant difference that he is a rich Peron...*

## Thailand Elite spam campaign

September 6, 2008

Thailand Elite spam campaign – September 6, 2008

The infamous Thailand Elite program has now turned to a spamming campaign. It appears they are using the Australian Chamber of Commerce member database as their mailing list.

Incredibly, the email comes with a 3MB graphic attachment (right).

To make the experience complete, the text is written in an advertising style common in Thai, stoking the ego of the recipient by telling them how far above other people they are and how purchasing the product will elevate them even further:

*...Because of the elevated position and standing you have achieved in life, you have been personally selected for Thailand Elite membership. Please consider this a personal invitation, on behalf of both my ministry and the people of Thailand, to you to take up Thailand Elite membership and join this selected and privileged community as the details attached...*



## Another controversial decision in Thailand

September 6, 2008

[Another controversial decision in Thailand](#) – Philboxing, September 6, 2008

*There's been another controversial decision in Thailand and the question that needs to be resolved is whether Philippine super bantamweight champion Jun Talape was a victim of biased judging in Thailand when he lost a split twelve round decision to Wethya Sakmuangklang in an Oriental and Pacific Boxing Federation title fight or was the Filipino judge biased in his scoring? ...*

## Thailand's secrets in jewelry industry bared

September 6, 2008

[Thailand's secrets in jewelry industry bared](#) – Sun Star, September 6, 2008

*...With the special zones opened to foreign investors, Thai entrepreneurs sought foreign partners, particularly the known jewelry makers in France and Italy. When the foreign jewelry-makers took the bait, they also brought in state-of-the-art techniques and the machinery of producing quality jewelry items in large quantities. The Thais, even if only a few of them spoke good English, joined international trade fairs displaying the best of their glittering goods and kept on cornering more orders. From a few million dollars in sales at the beginning, the Thai jewelry industry proved to be a winner. By last year, the industry has become the second biggest exporting industry in Thailand...*

*In sharp contrast, the Philippines' jewelry export industry, despite the abundance of gold, silver, and other precious metals produced by local mines, plus natural and cultured pearls, grew at a snail's pace to peak at \$45 million last year while that in Thailand was zooming forward.*

## The mirror has 60 million faces

September 7, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

[The mirror has 60 million faces](#) – Bangkok Post, September 7, 2008

*...We can say the election was bought, but which election wasn't? Buying an election is just a matter of supply and demand, it can't be bought if the people aren't willing to sell it. And the people is us, the Thai people. It is us who sell our freedom, our democracy.*

*If Samak resigns, there are thousands and thousands more Samaks ready to replace him. The idea and being of the likes of Thaksin or Samak is like the proverb "fish in the water and the rice in the field" ...*

## Cabinet meet irresponsible

September 8, 2008

Categories: Thai Politics

[Cabinet meet irresponsible](#) – Bangkok Post, September 08, 2008

*The cabinet is scheduled to meet in Udon Thani tomorrow in the first of a fresh round of the so-called mobile sessions popularised by Thaksin Shinawatra. Normally, these up-country “shows” have more positive points than negative. They provide locals with a glimpse of leading government figures. They give the ministers a chance to look around and chat with citizens whose concerns are often quite different than those the Bangkok-centric cabinet are used to dealing with. But tomorrow’s meeting contains elements of a terrible risk. Whether by accident or design, Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej and his ministers seem more likely to trigger a confrontation and more national division – and bring more violence to the northeastern city.*

*Who pressed forward with this idea of the cabinet meeting in Udon Thani, and why? Certainly, if someone is trying to set the stage for a new round of violence, they could not have picked a better place to do it. All of the cabinet ministers appearing at once at a public place outside of Bangkok? And at a site of recent violence where tensions are known to be high? With local hotheads already mobilising to oppose a planned rally by hotheads of the People’s Alliance for Democracy?*

*Yesterday, Udon Thani MP Kriangsak Faisi-ngam of the People Power party bragged he expected to mobilise 50,000 supporters “to provide moral support” for Mr Samak and the ministers. The PAD coordinator for Udon Thani, Charoen Mookachornphan, told the media on Saturday his group would be holding a rally by an expected 200,000 PAD backers. He warned – or is that bragged? – that if both rallies actually took place, it could lead to a violent confrontation. The militant leader of the anti-PAD group calling itself the Udon Thani People’s Group for the Protection of Democracy, Uthai Saenkaew, issued his own warning that PAD protesters should not try to interrupt the cabinet meeting.*

*These are no idle threats. On July 26, around 1,000 members of the Khon Rak Udon (Udon Lovers) group attacked a PAD-led rally in Udon Thani. The pro-government thugs destroyed the speakers’ stage, then chased and beat PAD supporters with axes, knives and clubs. Three people were gravely injured and at least a dozen others required medical attention. Mr Uthai was detained for allegedly instigating the mob and subsequent riot. Police allege he put a bounty on the head of Mr Charoen: 10,000 baht to anyone who could crack, literally, that particular skull.*

*If this is not a fair warning of brewing trouble, then nothing is. It seems as though the government, unable to make things better, has decided to make them worse. It is sickening to hear the PAD leaders and the provincial support group both spoiling for a fight. It is disturbing that the government would wade into such a tinderbox, seemingly happy to hand a box of matches to those who would start a fire.*

*Mr Samak must understand that this meeting should not and cannot go ahead. The self-appointed leaders of those who hold the most extreme opinions in the province need to cool off as well. The two sides lay claim to the word “democracy”, yet both relish the settling of their differences with hatchets and truncheons.*

*The country was shocked at the brutality of the last clash in Udon. Now it seems the government, its supporters and its opponents are eager to sow the seeds of another round of pointless violence.*

*There will be other occasions for the cabinet to meet in the vibrant province capital. Rescheduling tomorrow’s meeting to Bangkok will be in everyone’s interest.*

## Father of Calgarian killed in Thailand meets with ambassador

September 8, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Father of Calgarian killed in Thailand meets with ambassador](#) – 660 News, September 8, 2008

*Ernie Del Pinto says he's more confident than ever; that justice will be done...*

## **Giant actor/wrestler Nathan Jones hit by truck in Bangkok**

September 8, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

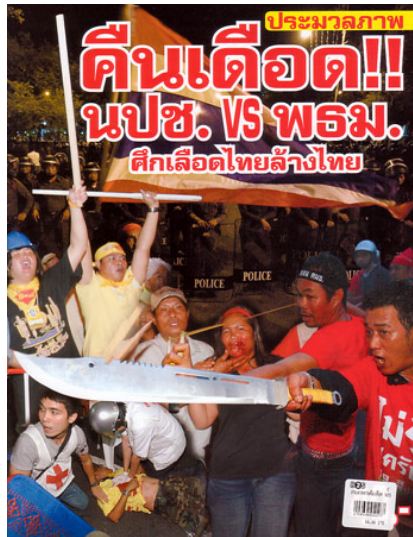
[Giant actor/wrestler Nathan Jones hit by truck in Bangkok](#) – *MarketWatch*, September 8, 2008

*...Jones was in Thailand promoting his latest film release “Sontum,” an action movie about a 7-foot-tall docile man who learns Muay Thai and then uses his new skills to help solve a case of stolen diamonds...*

## Photo collection of the bloody night of DAAD vs PAD

September 9, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

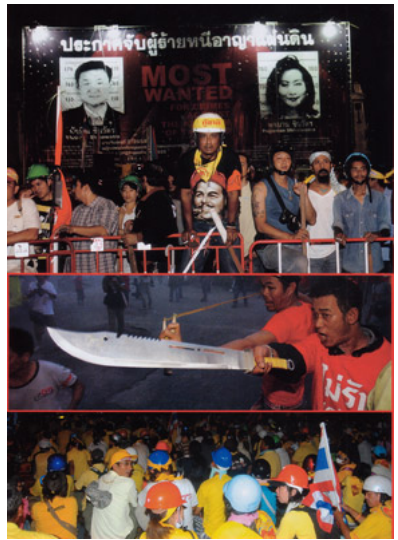


*Photo collection of the bloody night of DAAD vs PAD – The bloody war of Thais – September 9, 2008*  
Civil strife and natural disasters in Thailand are instantly memorized (or capitalized upon) with hastily produced photo books. This practice goes back to the 1970s. The magazine on this page is being sold at the counter in Robinson's B2S bookstores. When purchasing this, the clerk asked another cashier, "are we allowed to sell this to a fa rang?" The cashier shrugged.



*Boil the beans using the beans' peels as fuel  
The beans cry in the boiling water pot  
All were born from the same sprouts  
Why they burn such severe burn*

Poem of Josit in Samkok (The Romance of the 3 Kingdoms, China) – from the prelude of the Chinese novel "The Kinship war," translated by W. N. Muangloong



Close watch on the exciting moment of the clash between the DAAD and the PAD



The man's shirt reads: Vote no against the August 19th constitutional draft



On the back cover: Our country does not belong to one or two people  
 It is the country of everyone... avoid confrontation to solve the problem  
 as for the problem existed that when it occurs the word "bloody crazy" is used  
 when persons lose consciousness,  
 they end up fighting without explainable reasons  
 and know what problem they are to solve  
 but know only they have to win  
 and only who wins. There is no way. This is risk and there is only loss.  
 All lose.. those who encounter lose.  
 Overall the country loses  
 – His Majesty King 's speech delivered on May 20th, 1992  
 Produced by the Variety Media Company

Also: [High tension in Thailand](#)



## So far, it just isn't looking like Asia's century

September 9, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[So far, it just isn't looking like Asia's century.](#) — *Washington Post*, September, 2008

*So much for the Asian century. The Thais are bickering with themselves, and when they're done doing that, they'll bicker with the Cambodians — again. China may be Japan's biggest trading partner; but they hate each other anyway. Malaysia and Indonesia? Two countries divided by the same language...*

## PAD's "final war" – September 10-13, 2008

September 10, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008



Supporting Samak – *Komchadluek*, September 13, 2008

*Komchadluek* seems to draw attention to the older females and the elderly from the countryside who have been assembled to "spontaneously" support Samak. Their bored and quizzical expressions are typical of the pro-government mobs.

The caption reads: 600 members of the Udon Thani Patriots dress in red shirts with red and white cloth tied around their necks with the message read "Protect Democracy" gather in front of the Government House to express support for Samak Sundaravej's return to take PM post in the morning of September 12th.



*Matichon*, September 13, 2008 – Neglects wife and family's warning not to return to the PM post – "Samak" ready to fight, claiming his belief to win to maintain system – 70 MPs of the People Power Party says no supports for Samak for fear possible violence



*Komchadluek*, September 13, 2008 – Police-military stationed on concerns for possible clashes in front of Government House – Crowd of supporters for Samak



Daily News, September 13, 2008 – People networks prepare to petition to the King to oppose Samak to return to PM post – Royal armed force commanders to discuss tense situation watching closely on the vote against party resolution in Parliament



Naewna, September 12, 2008 – National Government called for – Academics-Army commanders urge everyone sacrifice to end conflict – Party resolution opposed to people;s voice, saying to support further Samak!



Bye Samak – Komchadluek, September 10, 2008 –

Court unanimously ruled by 9:0 to end gourmet – broken weapon!  
 3 struggle to take the Prime Minister post – Democrat Party supports Banharn to Run against “Sompong” who becomes an outstanding runner up  
 PAD continues its rally storming of Government House, cursing the return of the nominee



*Matichon*, September 10, 2008 – Negligence to the resistance! –

PPP's resolution opposing the Constitutional Court –

Bring back Samak to return to the PM post – Parliamentary vote to begin on September 12 – Chart Thai hopes for Banham on the move with Democrats to dissolve political block

[PAD's "final war" – August-September, 2008](#)

Earlier: [High tension in Thailand](#)

## **Thailand chair role likely deepening ASEAN scars**

September 10, 2008

[Thailand chair role likely deepening ASEAN scars](#) – by Kok Sap, September 10, 2008

## **Dhaka proposes road links with Thailand through Myanmar**

September 11, 2008

Categories: Highways and Roads

[Dhaka proposes road links with Thailand through Myanmar](#) – *Myanmar Times*, September, 2008

*Bangladesh has proposed direct road links with Myanmar and Thailand to improve its business ties with the nations of Southeast Asia...*

# Eating Thai bat

September 12, 2008  
Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Eating Thai bat](#) –  
thailandgek.nl, September, 2008

## **Military: Thai soldiers seize Cambodian temple**

September 12, 2008

[Military: Thai soldiers seize Cambodian temple](#) – Xinhua, September 12, 2008

*Cambodian military said that more than 100 Thai soldiers have seized control of the Kingdom's Ta Krabey temple and are refusing to leave, despite the best efforts of some 50 Cambodian soldiers who remain at the site, local media reported Friday...*

## **Architectural history of the Rajadamnoen**

September 13, 2008

Categories: Old photos and films

[Architectural history of the Rajadamnoen](#) – September, 2008

## Part 1 – At Government House with the PAD

September 14, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Part 1 – At Government House with the PAD – September 14, 2008

[Part 1 – At Government House with the PAD](#)

[Part 2 – Views of Government House buildings](#)

[Part 3 – Signs around Government House](#)

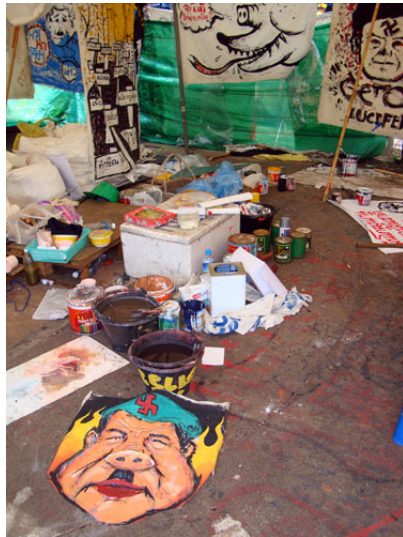
[Part 4 – More views around Government House](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Rear side of a Government House compound building facing Ratachadamneorn Road



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Many services are available at the site including haircuts.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above and below: Photo board showing photos of "Newin's men"—provincial toughs the PAD allege were brought to Bangkok to attack the PAD and enable Samak to declare a state of emergency



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The protest site is monitored by a makeshift series of cameras.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Next: [Part 2 – Views of Government House buildings](#)

[PAD's "final war" – August-September, 2008](#)

Earlier: [High tension in Thailand](#)

## Part 2 – Views of Government House buildings

September 14, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Part 2 – Views of Government House buildings – September 14, 2008

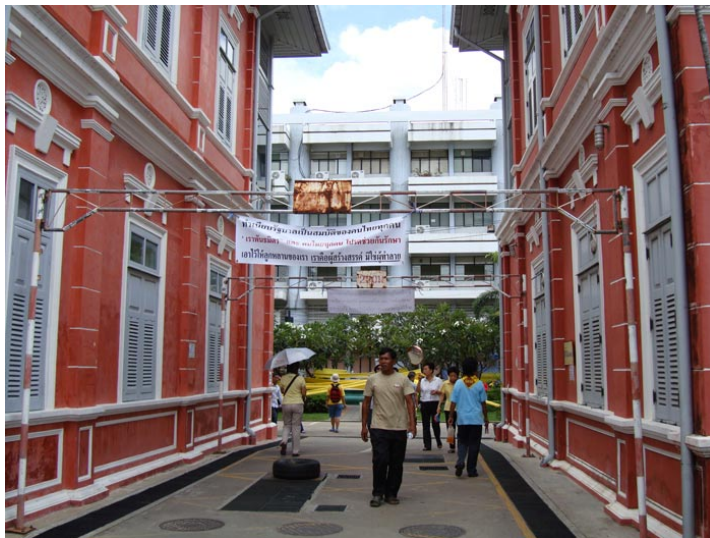
[Part 1 – At Government House with the PAD](#)

[Part 2 – Views of Government House buildings](#)

[Part 3 – Signs around Government House](#)

[Part 4 – More views around Government House](#)

Normally, Children's Day is one of the few days the public is allowed into Government House, but cameras are not allowed and one is not allowed to walk around the entire area. During the PAD occupation, people are wandering throughout the complex.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Interesting false second floor on the north side of Government House to disguise air conditioners and other machinery



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The front lawn covered with protesters



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

People have set up campsites in every area of Government House compound



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Makeshift showers with wanted posters of Thaksin and Pojaman

Next: [Part 3 – Signs around Government House](#)

[PAD's "final war" – August-September, 2008](#)

Earlier: [High tension in Thailand](#)

## Part 3 – Signs around Government House

September 14, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

PAD of Korn Buri district – (on the Thaksin/Samak poster) Together – Go to jail

Part 3 – Signs around Government House – September 14, 2008

[Part 1 – At Government House with the PAD](#)

[Part 2 – Views of Government House buildings](#)

[Part 3 – Signs around Government House](#)

[Part 4 – More views around Government House](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Warning of a dangerous person!! Udon Thani MP Surathin – not allowed to enter the PAD rally sites



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

(On stage backdrop) Last war fight – (On the front of the stage) Return the administrative power!



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Many signs facing the main entrance to Government House. The signs note the province where each PAD comes from and criticizes the government.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

(White sign) Government lacks sincerity – get out! – Sakon Nakorn PAD  
(Yellow sign) Wicked government to leave – The nation is damaged already

Next: [Part 4 – More views around Government House](#)

[PAD's "final war" – August-September, 2008](#)

Earlier: [High tension in Thailand](#)



## More views around Government House

September 14, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

These banners are hanging all around the compound: The Government House is the asset of every Thai person. We the PAD and every Thai all together protect our children. We are the creators not the devastators.

Part 4 – More views around Government House – September 14, 2008

[Part 1 – At Government House with the PAD](#)

[Part 2 – Views of Government House buildings](#)

[Part 3 – Signs around Government House](#)

[Part 4 – More views around Government House](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

This area contains the PAD guards. The banner reads: PAD Srivichai warriors – Nakorn Srithammarat people join together until gaining victory



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

D-Day on 26 August 2008, Our last war fight!! Hi5 PAD



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

It reads: Donation box – Please donate for medical treatment of Nongploy, the unfortunate puppy who suffered during the police operation, August 29th, 2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Nongploy, the dog allegedly beaten by police



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Thai-Muslims love the nation



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Back to [Part 1 – At Government House with the PAD](#)

[PAD's "final war" – August-September, 2008](#)

Earlier: [High tension in Thailand](#)

## Thailand ranks #13 in “Ease of Doing Business” ranking

September 14, 2008

Categories: Business

[Thailand ranks #13 in “Ease of Doing Business” ranking](#) – September, 2008

*...Singapore leads the global rankings on the overall regulatory ease of doing business for a third consecutive year. New Zealand is runner-up, and the United States third. Hong Kong (China) retains fourth place, while Thailand advanced to 13 and Malaysia to 20...*

## **Thailand cops protect sex-slave trade**

September 14, 2008

[Thailand cops protect sex-slave trade](#) – *San Francisco Chronicle*, September 14, 2008

## Threat To Thai Democracy

September 14, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Threat To Thai Democracy](#) – Sin Chew Jit Poh, September 14, 2008

*...Indeed, the latest crisis has left Samak looking like a champion of democracy. By contrast, PAD—a patchwork alliance of businessmen, unionists and other political activists—seems to be advocating anything but the democratic ideals that had heralded its birth two years ago...*

## Thai wins pole dancing

September 15, 2008

[Thai wins pole dancing](#) – *The New Straits Times*, September 15, 2008

*A Thai national danced her way to “pole position” in the recent Clorets Amateur Pole Dancing Competition grand finals at Zouk in Kuala Lumpur...*

## Bangkok Wires by photographer Thomas Kalak

September 15, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Bangkok Wires by photographer Thomas Kalak](#) –

September, 2008

More on Thomas Kalak: [Official Website](#) and [Weird Bangkok Objects at Things Magazine](#)

## Bangkok City Biking

September 16, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Bangkok City Biking](#) – YouTube, September, 2008

*Here you'll find videos of and about biking in Bangkok, Thailand. While many people would automatically think this is a dangerous, unpleasant pastime, my friends and I would politely disagree. Bangkok is a vibrant, active city where you never know what's around the next corner; where you're never sure who you'll meet, what you'll see or when you'll make it back home...*

# The Met

September 16, 2008



(Photo: Nils)



(Photo: Nils)

The Met – September 16, 2008

Nils reports: *Seems the Met in Sathorn is nearly topped out....*  
*Interesting how they already put plants onto the balconies. At 228m it will be Bangkok's 4th tallest behind the new Central World Hotel. Links [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).*

## **Bangkok Bank says has \$101 mln exposure to Lehman**

September 16, 2008

[Bangkok Bank says has \\$101 mln exposure to Lehman](#) – *Reuters*, September 16, 2008

## **Political upheaval hits Bangkok passenger traffic**

September 17, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

[Political upheaval hits Bangkok passenger traffic](#) – *MoodieReport*, September, 2008

# New Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat

September 18, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News



**New Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat** – September 18, 2008

The following is compiled from biographies of Somchai published in the Thai-language press.

Born August 31, 1947, Nakorn Sri Thammarat native, married to Yaowapa Wongsawat. Has 1 son and 2 daughters.

## Education

Bachelor's degree from Faculty of Law, Thammasat University in 1970, Barrister Association graduated in 1973, National Defense College alumni 38 in 1987, Master of Public Administration, Public and Private organizational management Program from National Institute of Development Administration in 2002.

## Major experience

Judge, Justice Ministry Permanent-Secretary, Labor Ministry Permanent-Secretary, Council of State member, People Power Party Deputy Leader, Acting Prime Minister and Acting Education Minister

## Full work experience

Judge assistant to the Justice Ministry, Judge of the Chiang Mai Provincial Court and also the Chiang Rai Court. Chief Judge to the Phan-nga Provincial Court, Judge of the Rayong Juvenile Court, Chonburi Chief Judge, Nonthaburi Chief Judge, Thonburi Criminal Court Chief Judge, Region 3 Appeal Court Judge, Region 2 Appeal Court Chief Judge, Justice Ministry Deputy Permanent-Secretary on academic department and on administrative department, Justice Ministry Permanent Secretary (November 11, 1999), Labor Ministry Permanent Secretary (March 8 2006-September 2006) National Research Council for Law section (1999-2006), Thai Barrister member, Asset Examination Committee on drug-dealing case Chairman, Electricity Generating Authority Committee member, Independent Power company committeeman, Krungthai Bank committee member, PTT Company committee member, Thailand Airports Authority committee member, Thailoil Company committee man, Board of Narcotics Control committee member, the Anti-Money Laundering Office committee member, The Council of State committee member. The Office of Board of Royal Thai Police Committee member, the Office of Police Commission committee member, the Civil Service Commission board member, the Office of Judiciary commission member, the Office of Attorney commission member, the National Intelligence agency committee member, the Government Lottery Office committee member, the Deputy Party leader of the People Power Party and Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister and Acting Premier (September 9, 2008) and Acting Education Minister.

# Bangkok Mediplex

September 18, 2008  
Categories: Buildings



(Photo: Bangkok Mediplex)

Bangkok Mediplex – September 18, 2008  
Articles [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#). [Bangkok Mediplex website](#)

From a press release:

*Fun facts about Bangkok Mediplex*

*\* Each floor's colour represents the five elements (Wu Xing), often found in Chinese medicine and Feng Shui. Each element has a different colour identity and represents each floor and interior space. (They tend to behave somewhat like the physical entities).*

*The elements are:*

*Fire (red – basement) Earth (amber – 1st floor)*

*Wood (green – 2nd floor)*

*Water (blue – 3rd floor)*

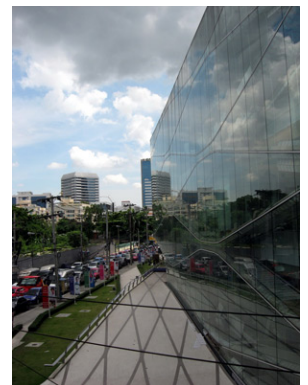
*Metal (white – surrounding space)*

*\* The structure of the building's facade was inspired by "Cell Expansion" and represents the human skin cell pattern.*

*\* The logo has evolved from "human tissue" and has a more lively and dynamic character.*

*\* Signage columns and light poles are based on the "Human Spine" and the way it "twists" like DNA. There is also a DNA portrait pattern on floor tiles inside the complex.*

*\* The lemongrass lawn in front of the complex is a natural / therapeutic feature...*



(Photo: Bangkok Mediplex)

## Old Bangkok

September 18, 2008

[Old Bangkok](#) – September 18, 2008

And don't miss their outstanding page on [King's Hotel on Sathorn Road](#)

# The Irrawaddy attacked

September 19, 2008

Categories: Myanmar/Burma



(Source: *The Irrawaddy*)

Message from *The Irrawaddy* – September 19, 2008

Dear Friends and Subscribers,

Our Web site has been crippled and disabled by DDoS attacks since Wednesday.

Many in the Burmese community—both inside and outside Burma—believe that the military authorities are behind the cyber attack. Our Web hosting companies have been assisting us day and night tracing IP addresses to identify the cyber criminals.

If the junta's paid stooges are indeed involved in these attacks, then we have learned a lesson—that the “powers that be” in Naypyidaw are nowadays well armed and more sophisticated.

Exiled media organizations, including *The Irrawaddy*, believe that foreign agents and cyber criminals have been hired to attack exiled Burmese Web sites.

We have offered our solidarity to fellow media Web sites, including the *Democratic Voice of Burma* and *New Era Journal*. They too have been badly crippled by the DDoS attacks.

However, we are not giving up and we will never give up. This is not a personal attack on the journalists and editors at *The Irrawaddy*—it is an attack on independent journalism and press freedom. The military junta is determined to prevent the flow of information in and out of Burma.

The attack will only make us more determined to focus on our mission—to bring you the truth from Burma and the region.

We will continue to provide our regular columns and timely news and analysis to you. You can now read *The Irrawaddy* news at a temporary site: <http://theirrawaddy.blogspot.com>.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to friends who helped us immediately by providing technical advice and consultancy to recover our site. Our special thanks go to Internews in Chiang Mai and SEAPA in Bangkok. We also would like to thank our readers and colleagues who sent messages of support and advice.

We would like to ask our readers for any support, technical advice or expertise they can lend us. As we are now rebuilding our site, using mirror sites and changing our Web hosting, we would also like to invite interested donors to contribute to our work.

Thank you.

*The Irrawaddy*



Message from *The Irrawaddy* – September 19, 2008

Dear Irrawaddy subscribers,

We regret to inform you that the *Irrawaddy* Web site is still unavailable due to a severe attack that has also targeted a number of other exiled Burmese media groups.

We attempted to redirect *Irrawaddy* readers to a mirror site, but that site has also come under attack. Our technicians worked until 2 a.m. to correct the problem, but finally had to take both sites offline.

Unfortunately, we still don't know when we will be able to return to regular service. We have been informed by the company that hosts our Web site that the attack was severe and sophisticated, and will resume immediately if we attempt to restore service.

As a temporary measure, we will be posting online content on a new blog, <http://theirrawaddy.blogspot.com>, until further notice. Please visit this site for updated news and other regular features.

For news in Burmese, please visit <http://theirrawaddyburmese.blogspot.com>.

*We have also received reports that Internet speeds in Burma have been very slow since Wednesday, and that Internet cafes in Rangoon have come under heavy surveillance, with police and officials checking customers' ID cards and monitoring Internet use.*

*These developments come on the anniversary of last year's monk-led uprising known as the "Saffron Revolution." At the height of the crackdown on peaceful demonstrations, the Burmese regime stopped all Internet traffic into and out of the country to stem the flow of information about atrocities being committed by the army and security forces.*

*We would like to assure Irrawaddy readers that we will make every effort to keep you informed of the situation inside Burma. We thank you for your patience and continued support.*

*The Irrawaddy*

Also: [The Burmese Regime's Cyber Offensive](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, September 19, 2008

## Flyover sign

September 19, 2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Flyover sign – September 19, 2008

It reads: BMA and Chulalongkorn Academic Service Center – Assessment of the flyover project. We apologize for any inconvenience.

## Bangkok fest removes ‘Children’

September 19, 2008

[Bangkok fest removes ‘Children’](#) – *Variety*, September 19, 2008

*... "Even though the bad guys in the movie are foreigners, the movie contains inappropriate content about child prostitution that does not fit with Thai society," said Federation chairman Jaruek Kaljaruek...*

[No Movie No Life](#) – September 19, 2008

*"i don't like my life so very much that's why i love movies"*

## Puea Pandin consults fugitive

September 20, 2008

[Puea Pandin consults fugitive](#) – Bangkok Post, September 20, 2008

*Puea Pandin leaders have consulted the party's chief adviser, fugitive criminal Vatana Asavahame, on their quota of cabinet seats. They visited Cambodia's Poipet province, known for its casino complexes, to meet him...*

More on [Vatana's escape](#)

## **Thai protesters pursue chaos theory**

September 21, 2008

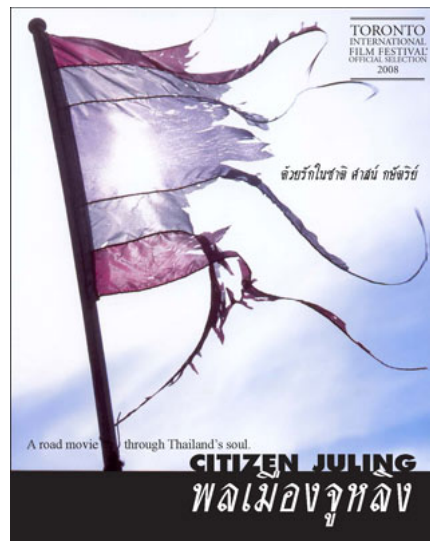
Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

[Thai protesters pursue chaos theory](#) – *Financial Times*, September, 2008

## Citizen Juling

September 22, 2008

Categories: Film and TV, The Thai Deep South



Citizen Juling – September 22, 2008

From a press release: *How did a young idealist, Buddhist art teacher Juling from the far North, end up lying comatose in a pool of blood at a village kindergarten school in the deep Islamic South? Colourful human rights activist and senator Kraisak Choonhavan goes on the road to understand what happened and why. Definitely not a straight enquiry into the Southern Unrest in Thailand, this strange documentary takes a deep-immersion trip into the country's soul with all its bizarre scenes. From the opening among ecstatic royalist crowds on the streets of Bangkok on Coronation Day in June 2006, to the festive military coup d'etat that ends it, the filming co-incides with the last four intense months of the Thaksin Shinawatra government, under which thousands died in extra-judicial killings and many disappeared.*

[Bangkok Film Festival 2008](#)

[‘Citizen Juling’: Exploring a Thai woman's death](#) – IHT, September 9, 2008

*‘How do you make a film about a girl who could never give you an interview, because she's in a coma?’ asks the Thai artist Ing K in a recent film festival blog entry. The answer: with the Thai contemporary art photographer Manit Sriwanichpoom and the controversial opposition senator Kraisak Choonhavan. The three collaborated in producing ‘Citizen Juling,’ an intelligent and timely documentary that explores the circumstances surrounding the death of Juling Pongkanmul, a teacher from northern Thailand who was assaulted by Muslim women in a village in southern Thailand's war zone in May 2006...*

## Welcoming the PM and his wife

September 23, 2008

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: Sadortu for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Sadortu for 2Bangkok.com)

Welcoming the PM and his wife – September 23, 2008

Sign welcoming the new PM in Chiang Mai.

It reads: Sankampenag people welcome P.M. Somchai Wongsawat, 26th Prime Minister – And his wife, Yaowapa Wongsawat – With warmth

## Thai court rejects US extradition request for Iranian accused in missile parts export case

September 23, 2008

Categories: Security

[Thai court rejects US extradition request for Iranian accused in missile parts export case](#) –

KSWT-TV, September 23, 2008

*A high-ranking Iranian air force officer facing charges in San Diego of trying to export U.S. missile parts to Iran has been released from custody after a Thai court denied his extradition...*

*A spokeswoman for the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok says the U.S. was disappointed. A spokesman for the Thai Foreign Ministry says the decision should be respected...*

## Thailand rated slightly less corrupt than last year

September 23, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand rated slightly less corrupt than last year](#) – *Bangkok Post*, September 23, 2008

## Tipping truck

September 23, 2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Tipping truck – September 23, 2008  
Propped-up cement truck at a construction site on Suthisarn Road.

## Director offered edit on pic cut from Bangkok

September 25, 2008

[Director offered edit on pic cut from Bangkok](#) — *Hollywood Reporter*, September 25, 2008

... "We made the film to expose the hidden reality in Thailand and in the whole region," Sakamoto said. "We just wanted to know the reaction and impression of what Thai people thought about it, and we're really sorry that they will not have the opportunity to do so..."

[Bangkok fest bans film for second year in a row](#) — *Hollywood Reporter*, September, 2008

... On the opening day of the sixth annual Bangkok fest, Junji Sakamoto, the director of "Children of the Dark" — which organizers last week barred from screening in the festival on the grounds that it lacked the proper permits — announced a news conference for Wednesday.

"This film must be shown (to) all of the world, especially in Thailand for the children's future," Sakamoto said in a statement. "To stop this film is the same as shutting children's futures, also shutting the future in the country."

Festival artistic director Yongyoot Thongkongtoon told *The Hollywood Reporter* that the ban of the Thai-Japanese co-production was more about the subject matter and the image problem it represents for Thailand...

## Southern security detainees and the stories they'll never forget

September 26, 2008

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Southern security detainees and the stories they'll never forget](#) – *The Nation*, September 26, 2008

*...First there was the initial confinement at a Pattani police station where he went through various forms of torture. Besides the normal punching and kicking, his captors also used electric shocks. He recalled grasping for breath as authorities took their sweet time removing the black plastic bag that they had put on his head moments earlier...*

## Jirapat Tatsanasomboon: LOVE and LUST

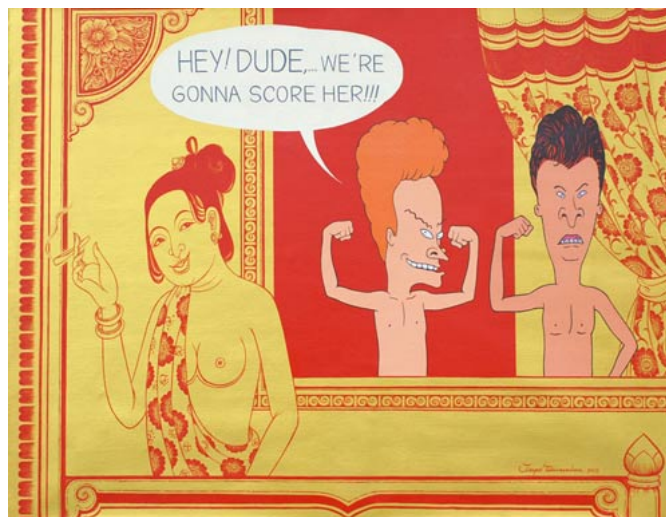
September 27, 2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

**Jirapat Tatsanasomboon: LOVE and LUST** – September 27, 2008

The always interesting Jirapat Tatsanasomboon's new exhibition "[LOVE and LUST](#)" at the [Thaivibu Gallery in the JTC building on Silom](#).



(Photo: thavibu.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

**More Jirapat art** – October 11, 2008

A couple more examples of Jirapat's interesting art...



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

## Marketing vs reality views of Sanam Luang

September 27, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo:  
2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Marketing vs reality views of Sanam Luang – September 27, 2008

An “Amazing Thailand” poster in the subway (left). This year’s kite flying festival was cancelled because of the construction of the funeral buildings for Princess Galyani Vadhana. Instead of lush green fields of the marketing version, the reality is a sandy, semi-paved expanse (above) where, from time to time, anti-PAD crowds are plied with cans of Leo Beer as speakers exhort them “settle” the PAD.

## **Journalist reporting on corruption killed in Suphanburi province**

September 29, 2008

Categories: Crime

[Journalist reporting on corruption killed in Suphanburi province](#) – IFEX, September 29, 2008

*The TJA condemns the barbaric killing of “Matichon” newspaper reporter Jaruek Rangcharoen, 46, in Suphanburi province on 27 September 2008. The organisation also condemns those behind the murder...*

## **Pro-PAD/Anti-Thaksin website**

September 29, 2008

Categories: Thai Politics

[Pro-PAD/Anti-Thaksin website](#) – September 29, 2008

## Ex-prime minister's sentence further entrenches criminal defamation and deepens threat to freedom of expression in Thailand

September 29, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

[Ex-prime minister's sentence further entrenches criminal defamation and deepens threat to freedom of expression in Thailand, says SEAPA](#) – IFEX, September 29, 2008

*...The Southeast Asian Press Alliance (SEAPA) is expressing concern over the penalty of imprisonment meted out against the former prime minister. While the Samak defamation decision will have to be taken within the larger political contexts in Thailand, SEAPA believes that meting out a jail sentence for defamation will only further entrench criminal defamation in Thailand, further growing an existing threat to freedom of expression. While there are accepted limits to free speech, the penalty of imprisonment for defamation is excessive against any person, in any context. The criminal defamation case against Samak -or any other personality- will have implications beyond the personalities directly involved. It will set a chilling standard by which all Thai citizens, including journalists, writers, and oppositionists, will now also be held by...*

## Thai Media Project – September 2008

September 30, 2008

Categories: Thai Media Project

More: [Unlocking the Thai world: Thai-language newspaper headlines](#)

### Somchai 1 Cabinet – *Komchadluek*, September 25, 2008

New cabinet lineup

New entrances – 12

Former members – 24

Core quota (Thaksin) – 8

PPP faction – 14

5 coalitions – 14

Somchai 1

(At the bottom) *Komchadluek* graphic



### Thaksin shakes the bottle – *Komchadluek*, September 25, 2008

It reads: Thaksin shapes the Cabinet himself – Oran to supervise the economy – Newin competes to enter the Cabinet – Chawalit failed – Sompong to sit Foreign Minister post –

Ladder given to PAD – Committee to be established to work with the 3rd Constitution Drafting Committee to discuss new politics



### PM Somchai – *Komchadluek*, September 18, 2008

It reads: House resolution votes Somchai to become Prime Minister by 298:163 – “I do not support the wrongdoer” – Surapong asks to leave –

Many (are) aides of Yaowapa –  
PAD considers to continue to fight or to dissolve



AIA profits – *Phujatkan*, September 18, 2008  
It reads: AIA ordered to continue profit haul from Thailand



From *Krungtepturakit*, by Arun Sept 10, 2008 – Samak stabbed with a cooking fork



From *Thairath*, September 11, 2008 – Don't taste, don't complain  
Out of PM position by the constitution



From *Manager* by Buncha/Kamin, September 10, 2008 –  
Assembly of only 9 persons who successfully chased Mak –



Resurrecting Samak – *Krunghthep Turakit*,  
Criticism (Tassana Vijarn), September 10, 2008  
Title at top: 500 men + 1....  
The cat says: Let's jump over his coffin so that he revives and returns to his Prime Minister post.  
At the bottom: Fighting ghost to revive – awakening the ghost to sit up!!!



Reviving Samak – *Naewna*, by Poj, September 12, 2008  
It reads: Do not worry sir, we have restored respiration for you, you will go back to take the post soon.



Sorry for letting you down... – *Kao Lao Ruam Mitr* by Tin, September 6, 2008

Sorry for letting you down...

Top left to right: Won't quit

Won't use a truncheon

Won't join a Buddhist ceremony

Bottom left to right: Won't cut water and power

Won't be noticed by anyone

Won't report himself to the police nor move out of the place



Good luck and bad luck – *Thai Rath*; cartoon by Chai Ratchawat, September 6, 2008

Top left to right: The good luck is that oil prices go down

The bad luck is that fees for expressway are raised

The good luck is that we have a right to vote for the Bangkok governor

The bad luck is that the public will not be allowed to gather in a group of more than five persons

Bad luck is that the boat is sinking, good luck that some are able to run away.

The good luck is that a referendum will be held

The bad luck is that it will be voted on by those people who do not accept the 2007 Constitution

Bottom left to right: The good luck is that the government requires people to pay respect to the Court

The bad luck is that 2,500 people have died without having any chance to testify in the Court

The bad luck is that the Prime Minister announces that implementation of the State of Emergency.

The good luck is that the Commander-in-Chief is not a greedy person



Taste and Curse – *Phutjatkuan*, September 1, 2008

1st row, left to right:

Panel 1 – WAIT

Panel 2 – Prime Minister, when will you allow me to fight the PAD?

Panel 3 – We have to wait until the PAD makes a false step—if not, we lose the area.

2nd row, left to right:

Panel 1 – And when will they make a false step? It is almost 100 days since the protest was started.

Panel 2 – Ah!

Panel 3 – This is it! The group's false step occurred. They invaded and tried to seize the NBT!

3rd row, left to right:

Panel 1 – Even it is a small mistake of the PAD, we should take the opportunity.

Panel 2 – No, we'll wait to see!

Panel 3 – Take a look at that... It gets started.

4th row, left to right:

Panel 1 – Let's wait until the press and the academics curse the PAD and later we do it ourselves.

## Signs at Chaing Mai University – Join the PAD

September 30, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008



Young PAD asks Chaing Mai University's undergraduates to go to Government House after the final examination – Call for enrollment 0834805145

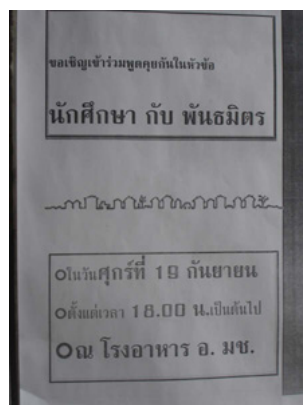
Signs at Chaing Mai University – Join the PAD – September, 2008

Sardatu reports: *After the seminar on discussion of the political topic "PAD meets college students" was hosted at the Chiang Mai University on September 19, 2008, many Chiangmai University undergraduates were invited to join the PAD rally storming of the Government House compound during the semester close.*



The National Democratic College Student Power Group joins hands with the Juvenile Network of the People's Alliance for Democracy (Young PAD) – Is politics a complicated matter? – Should college students neglect the situation? –

Ideal college students who have interests in politics are invited to join our activities after the final examination.



Invitation to join the seminar on discussion of the topic PAD and college students – On Friday September 19 from 6 pm at professor's canteen at Chiang Mai University

## **All about Rangsang**

September 30, 2008

All about Rangsang – September 30, 2008

[Rangsang get 25-year imprisonment for masterminding assassination attempt against late Supreme Court president](#)

[Rangsang architect website](#) – [in process projects](#) – [past projects](#)

## **Thailand's Humpty-Dumpty government still in freefall**

September 30, 2008

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's Humpty-Dumpty government still in freefall](#) – *Malaysia Star*, September, 2008

## **Asian mom, white dad: C-section more likely**

October 1, 2008

[Asian mom, white dad: C-section more likely](#) – *Globe and Mail*, October 1, 2008  
Thanks to [Noel](#) for pointing this out.

## **Archer Entertainment to film epic “Kings of the Sea” in Thailand**

October 2, 2008

Categories: Film and TV

[Archer Entertainment to film epic “Kings of the Sea” in Thailand](#) – *FinancialNewsUSA.com*, October 2, 2008

## Film producer, wife accused of bribing official

October 3, 2008

[Film producer, wife accused of bribing official](#) – San Jose Mercury News, October 3, 2008

*...One of the contracts they received called for their firm to produce an “elite privilege card” that gave the buyer special privileges in Thailand such as being escorted through immigration and customs. Other contracts were to design a calendar, a book and a Web site...*

## THEOS in orbit; set to transmit Bangkok photos

October 3, 2008

[THEOS in orbit; set to transmit Bangkok photos](#) – *Balita.org*, October 3, 2008

*Thailand's first natural resources survey satellite, THEOS, achieved orbit on Wednesday night, moving across the night sky...*

## Bangkok Governor Posters 2008

October 4, 2008

Categories: Elections



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Final Bangkok Governor posters: Warawut – October 5, 2008

It reads: Number 4 Warawut – Reject the constitution by the dictators

[ThaiElections.com](http://ThaiElections.com)

[Read all the daily Thai news on the 2Bangkok main page](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

It reads: Number 4 Warawut- Reject the Constitution by Dictators.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Final Bangkok Governor posters: Dr. Dan – October 5 , 2008

It reads: Dr. Kriengsak Chareonwongsak , independent candidate for the Bangkok governor post – Work for Bangkokians – Number 2 – “I understand the people, I understand my team” –

Lead Bangkok’s development –

Able to trust in honesty –

Please allow me and my team the chance to work –

Create the city by wisdom. WWW.DrDanCando.com



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Apirak in the rain – October 3, 2008

Current Bangkok Apirak (left) campaigns in the rain on Sathorn Road on Friday.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Cats and dogs – October 4, 2008

It reads: Captain Metta Temchamnarn –

Number 3 – To rely on the mercy principle to solve the homeless cat and dog problem – practically performs with good systems –

Feed pets -> takes good care/taming the pets -> bring them -> sterilization with vaccine -> release

Many of them are returned to where they were caught, few were adopted to raise as pets in the family – project to begin nationwide – supported by those who sincerely urge to solve the problem without intention to present good image – not following the hot issues or trendy topics – this is by the people and for the people



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Notoriety as a way of life – *The Nation*, October 3, 2008  
*....A lifestyle editor: Apart from bribing police, beating your wife, being involved in the sex trade and sending hooligans on bulldozers to raze beer stalls, are there other things bad about you that we should know about?...*

Also: *Not the Nation*: [King wants all future cabinets to take oath via teleconference from Hua Hin](#)  
*...The politicians will not have to feel guilty for taking in person an oath they know they will ignore and His Majesty will be able to save on gas."*



**It reads:** PPP Party –  
Join the grand debate  
on whom to be voted Bangkok governor  
go to Sanam Luang, Friday, October 3, 2008 at 4 pm –  
by Somchai Wongsawat  
and his PPP team and  
Prapat Jongsanguan – Number 10



– to run campaign on castrating dogs and cats instead of forcing to adopt microchips to rely on compassionate principle to solve the problems of homeless dogs and cats within 4 years – Supported by those who do not agree with the project forcing dogs and cats to have microchip ID registration project



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Chuwit billboard from 2005

More [Chuwit posters](#)

[Chuwit hits popular news anchorman of Channel 3](#) – *The Nation*, October 1, 2008

[And on YouTube](#) (the punch is not in this clip, but apparently this is the interview that occurred before the punch)  
Thank goodness [Leena Jang was there to examine the bruise](#)

[The city's one-horse race](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 1, 2008

And note how the foreign press are only interested in non-viable, but colorful candidates like Chuwit and Leena...

[Massage tycoon among candidates for Bangkok governor](#) – *Agence France-Presse*, September 30, 2008

*A former massage parlour tycoon and a glamorous high-heeled lawyer whose campaign adviser drowned during a bizarre media stunt are among 16 disparate candidates in the race to be Bangkok's governor...*

[Bangkok's former sex tycoon wants to be governor](#) – *The Associated Press*, October 2, 2008

*The one-time sex tycoon who would be governor wants to clean up this sprawling, gritty city where he grew rich overseeing an empire of flesh. But weeks of shaking hands and giving speeches have left him longing for the days of massage girls and hot tubs...*

[Former massage-parlor king says](#)

[he can ease Thai political tension](#) – *WSJ*, October 2, 2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

More Dr. Dan – October 3, 2008

It reads: Dr. Kriangsak – Number 2 – Dr. Dan Can Do



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Number 13 – October 3, 2008

It reads: Name Udom Wibulthepachart –

Number 13 –

(policy) to promote 1 million positions for unemployed



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

More Prapat – September 30, 2008

It reads: Prapat: People Power Party – Number 10 – Prapat Jongsanguan –

Former MRT (Mass Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand) governor and former Deputy EXAT (Expressway Authority of Thailand) governor – Modernized Bangkok – Comfortable Bangkok city



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

More Chuwit – September 30, 2008

It reads: Chuwit – Number 8 – Fire truck – Because no professional(s) –

so have to pay a stupidity fee of 6 billion baht. –

It's necessary to use a person like me / have it done by a person like me. – Give Chuwit a chance



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Hero – September 29, 2008

It reads: Picture 1: The hero governor! – Kittisak Thiravisit – Number 1



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

More Apirak – September 29, 2008

It reads: Apirak – Number 5 –

Continue the measures to solve the traffic problems—to construct the linked sky train structure, sky walk along Silom Road, Sukhumvit Road – To develop transportation and the marine service – To promote the WIFI transportation development –

Vote Apirak for Bangkok of the future – [www.futurebangkok.net](http://www.futurebangkok.net) – Democrat Party

Right: Nils comments: *And did you notice Aphirak's tie has little elephants on it?*



(Photo: Nils)

Some of the more obscure Bangkok Governor Candidates – September 27, 2008

Right: Mr. Wittaya Jangkobwattana – Number 9 –

Independent Bangkok governor candidate – Policy: to solve Bangkok's traffic congestion



Left: Miss Thoranee Ritteethammarong –  
Number 12 –  
Independent Bangkok governor candidate – Wife of former Foreign  
Ministry’s Thai ambassador –  
Policy: “check for corruption, new politics”



Right: Wachiraporn Aryueun ([Public Party leader](#)) –  
Policy: “Give opportunity for a woman for the Bangkok governor candidate to  
change the political battle field to become the field of compassion”

On the forum: [Bangkok Governor’s election 2008](#)

Also: [Thaielections.com for more posters](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

### Number 3 – September 24, 2008

Campaign truck for candidate number 3 on Silom Road. It reads: Please vote for a soldier who devotes himself for society – Colonel Mettha – “Tu Thinglee” (nickname – Orn) – The man who bravely fights for the public and who can be trusted – Clear ideas and ready to perform – Number 3



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Green Bangkok? – September 27, 2008  
It reads: Chuwit – Number 8 – I see – Bangkok...where is green only in television – Give Chuwit a chance



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Tuition for stupidity – September 25, 2008  
It reads: Chuwit – Number 8 – I see – Tuition for stupidity valued 6 billion baht – There should be someone to take responsibility – Give Chuwit a chance



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

4 years – September 24, 2008  
It reads: Chuwit – Number 8 – I see – The 4 year [BRT project](#) – We haven't used any of the route – Give Chuwit a chance

[Apirak streaks ahead in race for governor – 'Courageous' Chuwit lies a distant second](#) – Bangkok Post, September 23, 2008

[Leena falls into Saen Saeb Canal while campaigning](#) – The Nation, September 24, 2008

Leena Jungjanja, a Bangkok governor election candidate, fell into the polluted Saen Saeb Canal while campaigning Wednesday afternoon.

[Series of photos from Manager](#)

[Leena Jung falling in the klong](#) – YouTube, September, 2008



(Photo: Manager)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Firetrucks – September 23, 2008

It reads: Number 8 – Firetruck – Whose fault? –

6 billion baht budget – still not being used – Vote me to have me revise/ make it right – Give a chance to Chuwit

Earlier: [Chuwit Kamolvisit news](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

More Leena – September 20, 2008

It reads: Number 7 Leena Jung (Leena Jungjanya) – to build subway train and the BTS everywhere in Bangkok



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Bangkok of the future – September 19, 2008

It reads: Number 5 – Democrat Party – Vote Apirak for the Bangkok Metropolitan of the future



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

**Apirak's achievements** – September 26, 2008

It reads: Apirak: Please vote Apirak number 5 –

Enhance IQ and EQ of Bangkok children –

Free school tuition for outstanding studying – Strong

moral awareness policy achieved among more than

400,000 students –

Outstanding sports activity with the construction of

more than 1050 football fields and 10 teen sport

centers –

Outstanding students activities with the Art Gallery,

the school academy and football academy –

Fluent in linguistic ability – Every student studies

English and Chinese –

Vote Apirak for the Bangkok of the future –

[www.futurebangkok.net](http://www.futurebangkok.net) –

Democrat Party



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Prapat on motorcycle – September 22, 2008  
It reads: Number 10 – Prapadsorn Jongsanguan, former State Railway Authority governor (subway) – “Bangkok – the fine living city” – “Think innovatively, work fast, hold to true speech, capable man”



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Think innovatively – September 18, 2008  
It reads: "Think innovatively, work fast, hold to true speech, capable man" – Prapat Jongsanguan – Number 10 – former State Railway Authority Governor (subway) – "Bangkok – the fine living city"

Prapat is the People Power Party candidate – [Prapat's website](http://www.prapat10.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

More from Apirak – September 17, 2008  
It reads: Apirak Kosayothin – Vote for No. 5 – We share pain and happiness with Bangkokians – Vote for Apirak, vote for Bangkok of the future



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

We dedicate ourselves – September 16, 2008  
It reads: Apirak 2 – Apirak Kosayothin – Vote for No. 5 – We dedicate ourselves to Bangkok residents – Vote for Apirak, vote for Bangkok of the future



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Rats say goodbye – September 15, 2008

It reads: Bangkok Governor Candidate Dr. Kriangsak Charoenwongsak – An independent candidate who will do all he can for Bangkokians – Rats say goodbye. Cockroaches go to die. Bangkokians live with no diseases. – Declaring war against rats and cockroaches, aiming to get rid of disease carriers in Bangkok – I volunteer to use my wisdom to work for our Bangkok?

Also: [‘Yes, he can.’ says Bangkok Post poll](#) – *Bangkok Post*, September 14, 2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

I believe I can do it – September 13, 2008

It reads: Number 8 – I believe I can do it – Give chance for Chuwit



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Share happiness and pain – September 12, 2008

It reads: Apirak Kosayothin – Vote for No. 5 – We share happiness and pain with Bangkok residents – Vote for Apirak, vote for Bangkok of the future?



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Leena's back – September 10, 2008

It reads: Leena Jang

(Leena Jang Junya)

– Free community bus

Nils points out more on Leena Jang: [Leena Jang website](#) (Warning! May damage your eyes.) Don't miss: [milk](#) and [armpit](#). Just a little bit better (!!) from a web design point of view – [the law part](#).



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Chuwit! – September 9, 2008

It reads: I go where the problem exists.

Give a chance to Chuwit.

[Chuwit posters going back to 2004](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Dr. Dan  
It reads(below): Candidate  
for Bangkok Governor No 2

—  
Doctor Kriangsak  
Chareonwongsak – Non-  
party candidate will do the  
best for Bangkok residents –  
Safety of females first! – 24  
hour surveillance for  
Bangkok –  
Looking into security of  
Bangkok residents



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

WIMAX for Bangkok

It reads (right): Bangkok Governor Candidate Dr. Kriangsak Chareonwongsak – An independent candidate who will do all he can for Bangkokians – Strong network across Bangkok with WiMax with a speed of 75 Mps – WiMax Bangkok – 100 times faster than Green Wi-Fi – Network coverage provided all areas – Expanding business opportunity – I volunteer to use my wisdom to work for our Bangkok



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: [Chuwit](#) seems to have been running for governor all year. The above billboard came down in May.

It reads: Stop at Bangkok please. "I will get off"  
Give Chuwit one more chance to change Bangkok.

Bangkok Governor's race – June 4, 2008  
Apirak, Nattakorn, Somkid, Chuwit, Nitipoom... Who will be running?  
On the [forum](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Dr. Dan for Bangkok governor – June 9, 2008  
Creating the city with brain –  
Dr. Dan can do – Dr. Kriangsak Chareonwongsak – [DrDanCanDo.com](http://DrDanCanDo.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

We must manage the city to be the example for the country's management – Love Bangkok, Love Khun Pluem – M.L. Natthakorn Devakula

Bangkok Governor's campaign begins – June 9, 2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Targets must be clear. We should refuse to take sides. I'm here to fix and create things. Love Bangkok, Love Khun Pluem – M.L. Natthakorn Devakula



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

A Democrat poster thanking voters for results of the December, 2008 elections. It reads: Happy new year 2552 – Thana Teeravinit – Bhirapan Saleerathavipak – Dr. Sansern Samalapa – Sending you best wishes from your MPs of the Dindaeng, Huaykwang, Wangthonglang, Ladprao districts.

[ThaiElections.com](http://ThaiElections.com)

## **“The Coffin” based on real Thai ritual**

October 4, 2008

Categories: Film and TV

[Asian horror movie “The Coffin” based on real Thai ritual](#) – *Channel News Asia*, October, 2008

*A Thai ritual that involves lying in a coffin while alive was the inspiration behind the latest Asian horror flick “The Coffin”...*

## Bangkok wins Clean and Green Land award

October 4, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Bangkok wins Clean and Green Land award](#) – Bangkok Post, October, 2008

*Bangkok was awarded Clean and Green Land at the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment in Hanoi, Vietnam...*

## Time to tackle the menace of computer games

October 6, 2008

[Time to tackle the menace of computer games](#) – *The Nation*, October 6, 2008

*...A survey from the Culture Ministry revealed that Thai children spent around 2 hours a day playing computer games. About 80 per cent of them choose the combat-style, action-packed games, some of which come with graphic and violent images. The addiction can affect their personality as they become more prone to bursts of anger and violence. Without proper guidance, some are unable to distinguish between fantasy and the real world...*

## **AIG to sell operations in Thailand and the Philippines**

October 6, 2008

Categories: Business

[AIG to sell operations in Thailand and the Philippines](#) – Reuters, October 6, 2008

*American International Group, crippled by losses related to bad mortgages, said Monday that it had received offers for its Philippine insurance businesses and that it would sell its Thai consumer finance operations...*

*The Thai life insurance unit of AIG, American International Assurance, said that its parent company, based in Hong Kong, was considering the sale of part of its AIA stake, but that AIA would continue to operate in Thailand and retain a majority stake.*

## Thailand: Right-wing mob riots outside parliament

October 6, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

[Thailand: Right-wing mob riots outside parliament](#) – *Green Left Weekly*, October 6, 2008

*Late on the evening of October 6, the ultra right-wing fascist mob that calls itself the Peoples Alliance for Democracy (PAD) laid siege to the Thai parliament...*

## Pojaman's land purchase

October 7, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

[Pojaman's land purchase](#) – *The Nation*, October, 2008

*The Nation online presents readers with list of news relating to controversial land purchase of ousted prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra and his wife, Pojaman...*

## Thailand and Cambodia face off again – for what?

October 7, 2008

Categories: Border Issues

[Q+A: Thailand and Cambodia face off again – for what?](#) – Reuters, October, 2008

[FACTBOX: Preah Vihear, a source of Thai-Cambodian tension](#) – Reuters, October, 2008

*...In the run-up to the 1962 World Court ruling, Thailand's military government organized a fund-raiser in which every citizen donated 1 baht to pay for Bangkok's legal team at The Hague.*

*...In June 1979, Thai soldiers forced 45,000 refugees from Pol Pot's "Killing Fields" to descend the heavily mined escarpment back into Cambodia. "Several thousand died, either shot by Thai soldiers to prevent them trying to cross back, or blown up in the minefields," British historian Philip Short wrote in a seminal biography of Pol Pot...*

## Commemorating October 7, 2008

October 7, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008



(Photo: Asiper)

Commemorating October 7, 2008 – October 6, 2009



(Photo: Asiper)

At the top it reads: 7 October anniversary – Together express your feelings in reverence to the brave



(Photo: Asiper)



(Photo: Asiper)

Cartoons from the *Manager's Buncha*



(Photo: Asiper)

It reads: Erase all pains, must together create – New politics



(Photo: Asiper)



(Photo: Asiper)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

At the October 14 Memorial – October 14, 2009



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: October 14, Democracy Day



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Cousin of the heroes of 14 October Democracy – It takes long until we gain it – Must exchange with blood, flesh, and lives



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The banner reads: Gather blood and flesh for Democracy – People turns great in the land – In reverence of the brave of October 14, 1973

## Thailand still among top choices but outlook dim

October 8, 2008

Categories: Business

[Thailand still among top choices but outlook dim](#) – Bangkok Post, October 8, 2008

*Thailand has remained an attractive destination for foreign businesses, ranking eighth in the world, but prolonged political tensions may further erode investor confidence both in capital markets and the real sector, a global survey says...*

## Thai Internet wunderkind captivates audiences from behind bars

October 8, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai Internet wunderkind captivates audiences from behind bars](#) – *Christian Science Monitor*, October 8, 2008

*Panrit Daoruang, popularly known as “Gor,” once blogged about his life as a teen drug addict. Now he crusades about prison overcrowding and helps fellow inmates...*

October 9, 2008  
Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008



Death and injury toll up 300 – Royal Army forces stationed to look into Bangkok – Army Commander in Chief guarantees no coup – Revelation of the moment police use tear gas – Shocking leg and arm injuries  
Many police officers injured – Chaotic clash in the downtown area – Police uses tear gas to dissolve PAD mob encamping at Parliament to allow  
Perfunctory policy declaration – Somchai climbs to escape – Merely 2 hour long meeting – Democrats boycott – Parliamentary confusion



Bangkok chaos – Mob clash – Clash continues from morning to night – both sides injured – PAD male and female members die – Tear gas causes many lost legs – Somchai climbs fence to escape – Chawalit resigns  
Bloodshed chaotic clash between riot police and PAD causes both sides injuries after the police use teargas to dissolve the rally



From *Daily News*, October 9, 2008

2 die in mob dissolution – ABAC University undergraduate dies – Army Commander-in-Chief confirms no coup

Chawalit resigns to take responsibility for the incident

Policy declaration – Escape from the enclosure – PM, House Speaker, Senators, ministers escape the PAD enclosure



From *The Nation*, October 8, 2008 – Bloodbath in Bangkok



From *Krungthepurakit*, October 8, 2008

Social denouncement of government – Democrats boycott policy declaration – City chaos causes stock nosedive

Clash between police and PAD leads to 2 deaths and more than 400 injuries.

Chaos downtown

Private sector warns that the metropolitan crisis worsens the economic crisis – Damages investors' confidence

Don't use violent measures to solve problem – translated and summarized from *Daily News*; Column: Editorial; Author: n/a; page 2; October 8, 2008

What happened on October 7, 2008 must be written down as a historical incident of Thailand's politics. Police officials violently attacked members of the People Alliance for Democracy (PAD) to dissolve its gathering, aiming to oppose the government's move to announce policy at the Parliament. The move has led to an injury of over 100 people. Some are seriously injured. The public becomes to wonder if officials applied other weapons except tear gas.

As a result of the incident, Deputy Prime Minister Gen. Chawalit Yongchaiyuth submitted a resignation letter to take responsibility for it as he was one of those setting policy. It is interesting who will be in charge of Gen. Chawalit's duties, which include easing southern unrest, solving borderline conflict between Thailand and Cambodia and create peace – national agendas.

What is a concern is the decision to use violent measures to solve problems. Several parties disagree with such move. This columnist demands that the government and the People Alliance for Democracy use peaceful measures to end the conflict and show responsibility for what happened.

Somchai loses his legitimacy – gets in the Parliament by stepping over blood – translated and summarized from *Kom Chad Luek*; Column: Scoop; Author: n/a; page 11; October 8, 2008

No one knows when the conflict between the government and the People Alliance for Democracy (PAD) will end.

However, it is quite clear that the politics has come to a dead-end.

The Somchai Wongsawat administration has just finished announcing policy to the Parliament. However, it no longer has legitimacy to manage the country.

There must be someone who takes responsibility for the decision to dissolve the gathering in front of the Parliament with violence, which hurt over 100 people, including two police officers.

The police, the media, analysts and Mr. Somchai Wongsawat should have known once Maj. Gen. Chamlong Srimuang surrendered himself to the police what would happen.

Someone must be responsible for the decision to insist to announce policy in the Parliament, too.

From now on, the peacefulness or peaceful measures written in Somchai Administration's policy will not become true.

The question is what are Somchai's solutions?

The PAD demands that the Somchai government dissolves the Parliament and will not act as a caretaker government. The deadline of the request is 6:00 pm of October 7.

However, from this point, it is not likely possible that Somchai will decide to dissolve the government for a new election.

He decided to assign the police to dissolve the mob because he thought that the PAD prepared to set fire to a car.

The decision cannot be called a planned decision to control the crowd.

His decision shows that he will not dissolve the parliament, nor quit the position.

After the mob had been dissolved, Somchai met with military commanders to confirm that he would not resign, nor dissolve the parliament.

However, the attack is not likely to end, as the demand by the PAD still exists.

The situation is likely to become intense as the mob tends to use violence to fight back.

The country is about to become chaotic.

Moreover, Somchai, who should take responsibility for the problem, announced that he would stay. The decision also increases the anger of the PAD and put the country at a big risk of loss.

Answering the question why Chamlong is arrested when every party wants to ease the situation – translated and summarized from *Matichon*; Column: n/a; Author: n/a; page 11; October 7, 2008

It was unexpected that Maj. Gen. Chamlong Srimuang, a leader of the People Alliance for Democracy, surrendered himself by going out of the Government House to visit a polling station for elections for Bangkok Governor.

He was then arrested on treason.

This is just a big surprise as the situation is cooling down. Deputy Prime Minister Gen. Chawalit Yongchaiyuth had assigned his subordinates to negotiate with Maj. Gen. Chamlong and the PAD members in the House.

In addition, the Somchai Wongsawat's move to amend the Constitution received support from all partners.

People are wondering how come the violent situation happens. Is it a plan set up by someone?

The first assumption is that it was a set-up of Maj. Gen. Chamlong himself, who wants to end the game soonest by surrendering himself like he did during Black May. There are many reasons to support his decision.

He decided to visit the polling booth despite knowing that the police had an arrest warrant. He also wrote a letter like he knew how the situation would go.

There are many players in this game. Maj. Gen. Chamlong has a real close relationship with Gen. Chawalit. They once fought together during Black May.

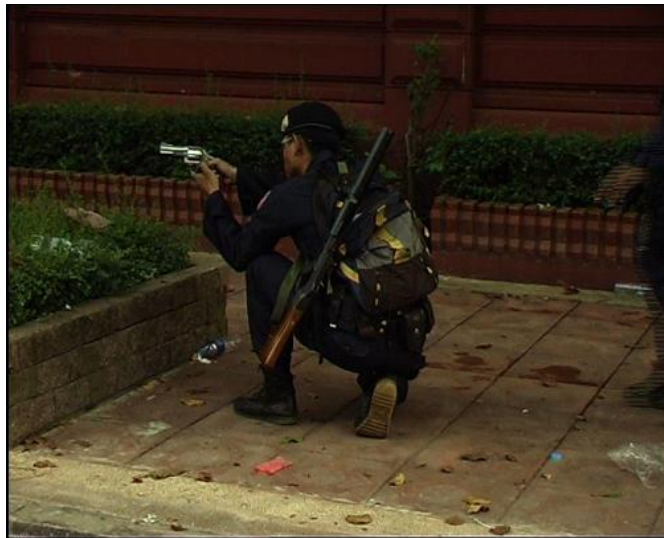
Lt. Gen. Pirat and Gen. Pallop Pinmanee are also friends of the major general.

The question is why Maj. Gen. Chamlong decided to apply the surrender strategy.

The current game is getting very complicated. However, we could not overlook Gen. Chawalit, who is nicknamed 'Zhuge Liang', and Maj. Gen. Chamlong, who is nicknamed 'Phu Pha Tee'.

Free now on, we must keep a close watch on an aggressive movement by the PAD and the role of Deputy Prime Minister Gen. Chawalit.

Chamlong's decision to surrender himself to the police must have been supported by big authorities.



(Photo: OKNation)

Prachatai: [Policeman being run over by a truck](#)

OKNation: [Shooter](#)

A tale of two newspapers

[No explosive residue: Pornthip](#) – *The Nation*, October 11, 2008

*An inspection of the scene of bloody clashes between police and the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) has found no explosive residue, renowned forensic expert Dr Pornthip Rojanasunand said yesterday.*

*"There's also no trace of any such substance on the clothes or bodies of the injured victims," she told a press conference...*

[Residues from explosives found: CIFS](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 12, 2008

*Some residues from explosive-like materials were detected following the inspection on more than 300 items of evidence gathered from the clashes between the police and supporters of the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD), Justice Ministry's Central Institute of Forensic Science director Pornthip Rojanasunand said on Sunday. She said the result will be examined again, and she planned to gather more evidence at the sites where confrontations happened on Sunday afternoon...*

Earlier: [‘A tale of two newspapers’ archives](#)

[THAILAND: Another bout of military rule?](#) – *Inter Press Service*, October 8, 2008

*The battle for Bangkok has entered a new and violent phase, the logical end of which can only be another bout of military rule...*

[Shippers quit Bangkok port over strike fears](#) – *Cargonews Asia*, October 9, 2008

*Shippers are clearing their cargo from Bangkok Port and re-routing shipments via Laem Chabang Port on fears that unionised workers will strike again...*

[Thailand: Right-wing mob riots outside parliament](#) – *Green Left Weekly*, October 6, 2008

*Late on the evening of October 6, the ultra right-wing fascist mob that calls itself the Peoples Alliance for Democracy (PAD) laid siege to the Thai parliament...*



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Mid-morning – Military riot police at the southeast corner of Chitlada Palace



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The areas around Parliament and the Royal Plaza are already clean and devoid of protesters.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Roads in the area are not blocked, but dozens of police paddy wagons are stranded around every intersection as all their tires were slashed by protesters.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The car bomb vehicle moments before it was towed away by police.

[Soldiers deployed to help control situation](#) – Bangkok Post, October 7, 2008

Soldiers from the army, navy and air force have been deployed on Tuesday night to help control political situation following request from police, according to army spokesman Sansern Kaewkamnerd.

Col Sansern insisted that the soldiers will not be armed, and their responsibility is to keep the country in order.

He reiterated that violence will not occur, and that soldiers would not stage a coup.

[Protesters' injury toll rises to 381](#) – The Nation, October 7, 2008

[PM: Emergency decree not yet necessary](#) – Bangkok Post, October 7, 2008

Prime Minister and Defence Minister Somchai Wongsawat vowed to continue to work as the premier and he will not dissolve the parliament despite political riots that took place several times in Bangkok on Tuesday.

"While I am taking this post, I will not stop my work," he told reporters after he was asked whether to step down or dissolve the parliament. "Any decisions would be made at the appropriate times."

Mr Somchai said he has not received the resignation letter of former deputy prime minister Chavalit Yongchaiyudh...



Above: [The Nation's entry page](#)

"Black October 2008"

Photos from [The Nation](#)

Photos from [Manager](#)

More links to local news photos of the event including [photos that allegedly show police throwing some sort of small incendiary device](#)

Below: ASTV1 frame grab – At the bottom left it reads: New politics by the people



From *Not the Nation*: [Nation Editor Finally Gets To Use “Black October” Banner](#)

...Currently, Ekkachai and his colleagues are working on some slide shows featuring the severed leg, as well as some Flash animation of his new “Thailand Holocaust” series, expected to debut on the Nation’s website as soon as a small child dies, which Ekkachai hopes will be this week.

[Fatal car bomb in central Bangkok](#) – BBC, October 7, 2008

*A suspected car bomb has killed one person in Bangkok, as tensions rise in the long-standing political crisis...*

[Urgent: Police fire tear gases at protesters in front of Parliament](#) – *The Nation*, October 7, 2008

*Police fire dozens of tear gases at protesters, who staged a blockade outside Parliament at 6:20 am.*

*The firing of tear gases managed to open an access to Parliament at the gate on Phichai Road.*

*Leading members of the People’s Alliance for Democracy urged the protesters to remain protesting there.*

[PAD siege broken](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 7, 2008

*Riot police launched a surprise tear-gas raid Tuesday morning to break up a siege and tear down barricades at parliament erected up overnight by supporters of the People’s Alliance for Democracy.*

*The PAD protesters retreated as unarmed police with shields and face masks moved through the barbed-wire barricades and tore them down.*

*Several people were injured but it was not clear how their wounds occurred. One man appeared to have been hit by a tear-gas grenade as it exploded, tearing off part of his leg...*

Earlier: [High tension in Thailand](#)

# Correspondence between King Mongkut and Abraham Lincoln

October 9, 2008

Categories: History

[Correspondence between King Mongkut and Abraham Lincoln](#) – October, 2008

## Russian rocket sends Thai satellite into orbit

October 11, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Russian rocket sends Thai satellite into orbit](#) – *Hindu*, October, 2008

## More scenes from around Government House

October 12, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Piles of water bottles everywhere around the site for use after tear gas attacks

More scenes from around Government House – October 12, 2008

From September: [At Government House with the PAD](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Somsak Kosaisuk, one of the PAD leaders, walks outside of the Government House with a group of guards.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Black Jeep patrolling the area. It reads: Children of King Naresuan (Onk Dam) – old city – Police Captain Plat Chuathong



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

More water bottles at the ready



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

New, more permanent roofing structures erected on the Government House lawn



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The stage – In the foreground: People to create the new politics – In the background: New politics by the people



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The rice paddy in front of Government House



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Writing out a message with bottle caps – It says something about "We hate you. You are..."



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Close-up of the backdrop – It reads at the top: The new politics by the people – People to create new politics



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Pornpip Rojanasunan arrives on the scene with her team to further investigate the October 7, 2008 tear gas incident.

From September: [At Government House with the PAD](#)  
[PAD's "final war" – August-September, 2008](#)  
Earlier: [High tension in Thailand](#)

## Sathorn/Narathiwat Road bike lane

October 12, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Sathorn Road bike lane – October 12, 2008



(Photo: Gigabyte)



(Photo: Gigabyte)



(Photo: Gigabyte)

Narathiwat

Road bike path – October 25, 2005

Gigabyte writes us about the small useless bike lane from Silom to Sathorn on Narathiwat Road: *...It is full of obstacles (maybe good for mountain bikers) and uses often all the space available so the many pedestrians will either have to fight with the bicycles, or they will have to walk in the street...*

Could this be a hoax or some kind of art project?

[2Bangkok.com main page](#)



(Photo: Gigabyte)



(Photo: Gigabyte)



(Photo: Gigabyte)

## Din Daeng election posters

October 12, 2008

Categories: Elections



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Din Daeng election posters – October 12, 2008

Left: PPP- Number 1 – Anong Petchtad – Dindaeng zone representative – the leading city needs close supervision – area resident, working person, contact to people, service-minded “Once I have created happiness for Dindaeng and Huaykwang residents, I urge another opportunity to serve as BKK MP for the Dindaeng zone”  
The poster has been defaced with the words “betrayal killing the country”

Right: Democrat Party – Vote Sidhiwat Cheerawinit – MPs Bhirapan, Thana, Dr. Sansern – To develop Dindaeng – BKK MP for Dindaeng zone number 2 –  
Election Day on Sunday November 9th, 2008

## Thai queen weighs in with anti-govt protesters

October 13, 2008

[Thai queen weighs in with anti-govt protesters](#) – Reuters, October 13, 2008

*...Jinda's emotional account of his conversation with the queen is likely to damage the government, especially his revelation that King Bhumibol Adulyadej, whom many Thais regard as semi-divine, was behind the donation of 1 million baht (\$29,150) to treat those injured in the unrest...*

## Building collapse in Bangkok's gay street

October 13, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Building collapse in Bangkok's gay street](#) – Gay NZ, October, 2008

*The collapse happened on Tuesday in Bangkok's Silom Soi 4 at around 4pm local time (10pm NZ time), when the Soi is largely unattended. ...  
"We were so lucky no gays or any sign of human beings trapped within the wreckage..."*

## The plastic prison

October 14, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[The plastic prison](#) – Common Ground, October, 2008

*...Unlike Vegas, what goes on in Washington and on Wall Street doesn't stay there. In a financial version of the "Butterfly Effect," the stroke of a hedge fund manager's pen in New York can cause riots in Thailand...*

## No alcohol

October 14, 2008

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

No alcohol – October 14, 2008

It reads: No alcoholic drinks during the Buddhist Lent period.

## **Calgary family happy at news suspect in slaying of son in Thailand in jail**

October 15, 2008

Categories: Crime

[Calgary family happy at news suspect in slaying of son in Thailand in jail](#) – CNews, October 15, 2008

*A Calgary family is celebrating after finding out the man accused of killing their son in Thailand is going to jail until his trial...*

## Thai trio's deals terminated

October 16, 2008

Categories: Sports, The Thaksin Years

[Thai trio's deals terminated](#) – *The Press Association*, October 16, 2008

*...Suree Sukha, Teerasil Dangda and Kiatprawut Saiwaew were signed by City last November in what was widely believed to be a political move by former Thai prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra, the then billionaire owner of the club, four weeks out from an election in his homeland...*

## Court drops defamation case against Bangkok Post

October 16, 2008

Categories: Airports and Airlines, Censorship, The Thaksin Years

[Court drops defamation case against Bangkok Post](#) – Bangkok Post, October 16, 2008

*...The case was officially dropped because the plaintiff, the state-owned Airports of Thailand (AOT), withdrew charges that the paper had defamed it.*

*...The dismissal of the case included both the newspaper and Mr Kowit, who was listed as editor of the Bangkok Post at the time. He had faced up to two years in jail if the court had found the newspaper guilty of defamation.*

*The defamation case filed during the premiership of Thaksin Shinawatra, who reportedly was personally angry about the newspaper report.*

# Bangkok Bulletin 1966

October 17, 2008

Categories: Old newspapers, Old photos and films

**BANGKOK Bulletin**  
No. 657  
Bangkok, Monday, December 12, 1966

**AIR FRANCE**  
**ALITALIA**  
**Lufthansa**  
UNION DE TRANSPORTS AERIENS

OFFER  
DAILY FLIGHTS  
TO ALL CONTINENTS  
BY  
BOEING'S 707, 720, 727  
DC-8  
INTERCONTINENTAL JETS  
AND  
PURE JET Caravelle  
ALL OVER EUROPE

GENERAL AGENTS  
WORLD TRAVEL SERVICE LTD.  
1053 CHARDON KRUNG ROAD  
TELEPHONE 35001-5

WHERE TO GO & WHAT TO DO  
↑  
Rishi or the hermit in Wat Po.  
TOURIST'S RELIABLE GUIDE BOOK

(Source: Bangkok Bulletin, No. 657, December 12, 1966)

A series of scans from the tourist booklet  
Bangkok Bulletin (No. 657, December 12, 1966).

WELCOME to the  
NEW BUILDING OF  
**S. SAMRAN THAILAND CO., LTD.**  
(Sales & Showroom - All kinds of Thai Products)  
Nos. 304, 306 & 308 Petchaburi Road, Bangkok.  
Tel. 71361

- ★ Bronzeware ★ Meliowares
- ★ Jewelry ★ Precious Stones
- ★ Thai Silks ★ Teakwood carvings
- Etc.

EXCELLENT QUALITY AND WORKMANSHIP.

Head Office & Factory Showroom  
8771 Petchaburi Road, opp. Head Office,  
Bangkok. Tel. 71949. 304-308 Petchaburi Rd.,  
Bangkok. Tel. 71361

P.O. BOX 740  
CABLE ADDRESS: SORSAMRAN BANGKOK.  
71361, 71949

FOR TAXI:  
รถแท็กซี่ โทร. 71361 หรือ 71949

**HEAVEN HOTEL Co., Ltd.**  
THAI WORDS  
VIENG FAH HOTEL  
182 Rajaprach Rd. Opp. Rangnam Lane,  
Bangkok. Tel. 76610  
Latest Style Building, Situated Near Business  
Centre, Fully Furnished. Air-Conditioned & non  
Air-Conditioned rooms with hot & cold water bath.  
Prompt Service all in 24 Hours.  
Reasonable prices.

PHONE 37720  
Manufacturers & Exporters  
**LIN YU BROTHERS**  
LIMITED PARTNERSHIP  
Reliable & High Quality  
For  
★ Star Sapphires, Star Ruby, Blue Sapphire  
& Ruby.  
★ Silver & Metal Wares, Bronze Wares.  
★ All Kinds of Thai Souvenirs Such As:  
Thai Silk Ties, Thai Dolls, and Teak  
Wood Carvings.  
181/2 Oriental Avenue, Bangkok.  
P.O. Box 1520  
LICENSED MONEY CHANGER

(Source: Bangkok Bulletin, No. 657,  
December 12, 1966)

ENJOY REAL SHANGHAI FOOD  
AT THE **HI BALL**

Specialties by Mr. Wu Yew Tho, world-famous  
cook who has prepared and served delicious  
Peking Duck to Mr. Harry S. Truman, ex-  
president of the United States of America.  
Many other superb Shanghai dishes for your selec-  
tion cooked by famous cooks from Hong Kong.

For table reservations ring 33112  
Corner of Suriwongse / Nares Road.

**TIP-TOP Snack BAR**  
COMFORTABLY AIR-CONDITIONED  
46-48 PATPONG ROAD TELEPHONE 33811

Foremost Milk  
Foremost Ice Cream  
Snacks  
Sandwiches  
Espresso Coffee  
Liqueurs  
Breakfast  
etc etc etc  
Free! Pure polaris drinking water

OPEN DAILY (FOR TAXI)  
FROM 7.00 A.M. TO 2.00 A.M.  
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS  
FROM 7.00 A.M. TO 4.00 A.M.

**ทิป-ท็อป**  
46-48 ถนนพญาไท

(Source: Bangkok Bulletin, No.  
657, December 12, 1966)

Our present King is H.M. Bhumibol Adulyadej who was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A., on December 5, 1927. In 1949, he married Queen Sirikit; Their Majesties have four children, three daughters and one son. The Crown Prince, H.R.H. Prince Vajiralongkorn, was born on July 28, 1952.

The present government was instituted by the Revolutionary Party which seized power on October 20, 1958. Its aims include the introduction of far-reaching administrative reforms, to ensure honesty and integrity in public affairs; to stabilize the national economy and improve the people's standard of living by correctly utilizing and developing the Kingdom's vast natural resources. Within the past two years, long-range plans have provided effective and highly encouraging results.

The government is composed of fourteen Cabinet Ministers headed by Prime Minister Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn and two deputy Prime Ministers. According to the Interim Constitution, proclaimed by the Revolutionary Party, the political regime of Thailand is a constitutional Monarchy, with sovereign power which originates from the people, exercised through the executive, the national legislature and the judiciary.

Pending the announcement of the permanent Constitution, an Assembly, consisting of appointed members, has been set up to function both as the Constituent Assembly and National Legislature.

Thailand is a member of the United Nations; several U.N. Agencies have their Headquarters in Bangkok. The Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO), of which Thailand is a member nation, also has its Headquarters in Bangkok.

(Source: *Bangkok Bulletin*, No. 657, December 12, 1966)

**INTERNAL TRANSPORTATION:** Traveling in and about Thailand is no problem. There are efficient train services and Thai Airways maintains domestic flights to all points of interest, many of them having a daily schedule.

In Bangkok, transport facilities include bus services (rather crowded at peak hours), electric trams (slow, but sure), and taxis with meters—rates are Baht 3/- (U.S. 15 cents) for the first kilometer (5/8 mile) and Baht 1/- (U.S. 5 cents) for each additional kilometer.

(Source: *Bangkok Bulletin*, No. 657, December 12, 1966)

A thread about metered taxis in 1966 is [here](#).

### Thai Currency

Thai currency comes in denominations of 200 (red), 10 (green), 50 (red/dark brown), 5 (dark purple) and 1 (blue) Baht for printed notes and 10, 25, 50 and 100 Satang for coin fractions of a Baht.

**Approximate Rates Given**

CHEQUE WITH BANKS OR MONEY CHANGERS FOR DAY-TO-DAY RATES

CURRENCIES	Buying	Selling
United States \$	20.34	20.77
U.S. \$	20.34	20.77
Hong Kong \$	3.55	3.61
Singapore \$	6.46	6.75
Indian Rupee	2.72	2.76

**THE THAI DANU BANK, LIMITED.**

Bangkok Branch

The Office is situated at 122/10-11 Srinakharinwirot Road, in the vicinity of the Green Hotel (about three minutes walk).

Special Care and Attention are always given to Foreign Visitors.

We offer our best possible rates of exchange for Travelers' Cheques.

Shop at

**THAI HOME INDUSTRIES**

Oriental Avenue, Bangkok.

For

Homemade Bronze  
Tableware & Cutlery  
In Latest Design

### Conversion Table

U.S. DOLLARS INTO TICALS or BAHTS

U.S. DOLLARS	TICALS		BAHTS	
	20.00	21.00	20.00	21.00
1	30	31	51	1,001
2	60	62	102	2,002
3	90	93	153	3,003
4	120	124	204	4,004
5	150	156	255	5,005
6	180	188	306	6,006
7	210	219	357	7,007
8	240	248	408	8,008
9	270	279	459	9,009
10	300	310	510	10,010
11	330	341	561	11,011
12	360	372	612	12,012
13	390	403	663	13,013
14	420	434	714	14,014
15	450	465	765	15,015
16	480	496	816	16,016
17	510	527	867	17,017
18	540	558	918	18,018
19	570	589	969	19,019
20	600	620	1,020	20,020
21	630	651	1,071	21,021
22	660	672	1,122	22,022
23	690	703	1,173	23,023
24	720	734	1,224	24,024
25	750	765	1,275	25,025
26	780	796	1,326	26,026
27	810	827	1,377	27,027
28	840	858	1,428	28,028
29	870	889	1,479	29,029
30	900	920	1,530	30,030
31	930	951	1,581	31,031
32	960	982	1,632	32,032
33	990	1,013	1,683	33,033
34	1,020	1,044	1,734	34,034
35	1,050	1,075	1,785	35,035
36	1,080	1,106	1,836	36,036
37	1,110	1,137	1,887	37,037
38	1,140	1,168	1,938	38,038
39	1,170	1,199	1,989	39,039
40	1,200	1,230	2,040	40,040
41	1,230	1,261	2,091	41,041
42	1,260	1,292	2,142	42,042
43	1,290	1,323	2,193	43,043
44	1,320	1,354	2,244	44,044
45	1,350	1,385	2,295	45,045
46	1,380	1,416	2,346	46,046
47	1,410	1,447	2,397	47,047
48	1,440	1,478	2,448	48,048
49	1,470	1,509	2,499	49,049
50	1,500	1,540	2,550	50,050

(Source: *Bangkok Bulletin*, No. 657, December 12, 1966)

## GOLDEN PALACE HOTEL

No. 15 Soi Ruen Rudi 1, Sukhumvit, Bangkok.

Tel. 57519, 55115, 55234

**Air - Conditioned Rooms**

**Fresh Air Location Lovely Scenery and**

**Excellent Service Reasonable Rates.**

**European, Chinese, Thai Food & drinks provided.**

(Source: *Bangkok Bulletin*, No. 657,  
December 12, 1966)



(Source: *Bangkok Bulletin*, No. 657, December 12, 1966)

Above: A floating restaurant in Lumpini Park.



(Source: *Bangkok Bulletin*, No. 657, December 12, 1966)

Bill Stelling wrote in with thoughts about Nick's #1: *Thanks for the Nick's #1 ad. It was the first restaurant I remember going to in 1964, when we arrived in Bangkok. He was famous for his "Kobe" steak—which was probably marinated water buffalo, flambeed in cognac. You dined by candles stuck in chianti bottles, sweated profusely as you had your Hungarian goulash, and felt very sophisticated. The building was a vine covered Victorian teak villa facing onto the traffic circle at the top of Sathorn Road. There was no traffic...*

**PARK HOTEL**  
Bangkok's new, modern, luxurious hotel, conveniently located, equipped with full facilities, air-conditioning, hot & cold running water, separate bathroom, swimming pool, ample parking space with separate shelters, each room provided with telephone.  
**MODERATE CHARGES \* PROM SERVICE \* CONVENIENT LOCATION**



No. 6 Sukhumvit Soi 7 Bangkok. Tel. 55001, 55008, 55110, 55141, 55112. CABLE ADDRESS: "PARK HOTEL".

European, Thai and Chinese food.  
**Lady in Service**  
Air-conditioned.  
Delightful atmosphere.  
Car Park.

**LAVENDER**  
BAR & RESTAURANT



PARK HOTEL, SUKHUMVIT SOI 7 BANGKOK  
TEL. 55110-12

(Source: *Bangkok Bulletin*, No. 657, December 12, 1966)

Welcome  
to the  
**CENTURY HOTEL**

"The hotel designed for comfort"  
73889, 70284, 59642, 59755  
\* Rajapark Road, Bangkok.  
P.O. Box 5184. Cable: "CENTURYHTL."



- \* Thoroughly Air conditioned
- \* Restaurant, Bar & Coffee Shop
- \* Nice Swimming Pool
- \* Shopping Arcade
- \* Barber & Massage

FREE TRANSPORT PROVIDED AT  
DON MUANG FOR ADVANCED BOOKINGS

Room Rates:  
Single - US\$ 7.50    Deluxe Twin - US\$ 14.00  
Double/Twin - 22.00    Suite - 20.00  
10% Service Charge to be Added



Shop at  
**THAI HOME INDUSTRIES**  
Oriental Avenue, Bangkok. Tel. 33735

For  
*Real Handmade Thai*  
*Products of*  
*High Quality*

Open Daily From 9.00 A.M. To 7.00 P.M.  
Close on Sunday

For Taxi:  
อุตสาหกรรมไทยในครัวเรือน  
ศตวรรษใหม่ มงกุฎ พระนคร  
No Other Branch

(Source: *Bangkok Bulletin*, No. 657, December 12, 1966)

**GRACE HOTEL**  
Ideal Location in residential area . . .  
also near commercial and shopping centres.



The Grace hotel is one of the most up to date and modern hotels in Bangkok. It has 104 rooms at very reasonable rates. Naturally it is fully air-conditioned has a large Luxurious swimming pool, bar, restaurant and coffee shop, shopping arcade and convention room.

**Tariff**

Single with bath	\$10.00
Double with bath	\$12.00 - 15.00
Suite	\$22.50

Cable: GRACEHOTEL Tel. 57214, 59247-48

**CORONET HOTEL** Sarasin Lane. Tel. 36784-85-86  
Air-Conditioned and non Air-Conditioned rooms  
with single and double, bath room attached.

**NEW NANA HOTEL**

7 out of 10 important people you plan too see live somewhere near  
**New Nana Hotel**  
Bangkok



One hundred and eighteen air-conditioned rooms, tastefully decorated, with private baths, telephones and piped-in stereo music. Facilities include the largest Swimming Pool in town, around the clock "Coffee House" Bar and Restaurant, Shopping Arcade.

Singles from US\$ 8.    Doubles from US\$ 11,  
Suites from US\$ 20.

\* 4 SET NANA TAI SUWAPKOT ROAD, BANGKOK, THAILAND.  
TEL. 57051 & 9, 56761. RESERVATION: 56761  
CABLE: NANAHOTEL BANGKOK

(Source: *Bangkok Bulletin*, No. 657, December 12, 1966)







# Train Services

NORTH - EASTERN LINES,  
CENTRAL VIENTIANE, LAOS

Daily Express	19.30	BANKOK	06.00	↑
	01.21	NAKHON	00.12	
		KASIMA		

04.55	UON KHAM	00.29	01.35	SIEM	19.00
07.03	UON KHAM	18.16	05.14	SAKAT	19.00
08.00	UON KHAM	17.21	06.28	UIGER	19.00
				RAJANI	

FARE 1st Class	OW	R	T
Nakhon Kham	75	80.00	149.00
Uon Kham	10	107.00	203.00
Uon Trai	10	206.00	332.00
Xong Nhai	10	255.00	381.00
Seri	10	156.00	246.00
Sakhet	10	150.00	300.00
Uad Rajani	10	260.00	390.00

Steeper in the comparison. To 100.00

Steeper Grade B

Upper berth

Lower berth

Express Fee

(Bangkok-Udon Rajani Steeper Grade A only)

## BANKOK - CHIENGMAI (19.00)

BANKOK	D 17.05	CHIENGMAI	D 14.00
CHIENGMAI	A 11.30	BANKOK	A 2.26
	00.00		

Fare Bangkok to Chiengmai	1st Class	2nd Class	Round Trip
1st Class	200.00	428.80	
2nd Class	130.00	227.20	

The above fare is not including Steeper in the comparison & Express Fee

1st Class Steeper in the comparison 104.00 one way

Lower berth 70.00

Express Fee cost 20.00 per trip

Train Service		FARE 1st Class		FARE 2nd Class		FARE 3rd Class		FARE 4th Class		FARE 5th Class		FARE 6th Class		FARE 7th Class		FARE 8th Class		FARE 9th Class		FARE 10th Class		FARE 11th Class		FARE 12th Class		FARE 13th Class		FARE 14th Class		FARE 15th Class		FARE 16th Class		FARE 17th Class		FARE 18th Class		FARE 19th Class		FARE 20th Class		FARE 21st Class		FARE 22nd Class		FARE 23rd Class		FARE 24th Class		FARE 25th Class		FARE 26th Class		FARE 27th Class		FARE 28th Class		FARE 29th Class		FARE 30th Class		FARE 31st Class		FARE 32nd Class		FARE 33rd Class		FARE 34th Class		FARE 35th Class		FARE 36th Class		FARE 37th Class		FARE 38th Class		FARE 39th Class		FARE 40th Class		FARE 41st Class		FARE 42nd Class		FARE 43rd Class		FARE 44th Class		FARE 45th Class		FARE 46th Class		FARE 47th Class		FARE 48th Class		FARE 49th Class		FARE 50th Class		FARE 51st Class		FARE 52nd Class		FARE 53rd Class		FARE 54th Class		FARE 55th Class		FARE 56th Class		FARE 57th Class		FARE 58th Class		FARE 59th Class		FARE 60th Class		FARE 61st Class		FARE 62nd Class		FARE 63rd Class		FARE 64th Class		FARE 65th Class		FARE 66th Class		FARE 67th Class		FARE 68th Class		FARE 69th Class		FARE 70th Class		FARE 71st Class		FARE 72nd Class		FARE 73rd Class		FARE 74th Class		FARE 75th Class		FARE 76th Class		FARE 77th Class		FARE 78th Class	
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## General Information.....

**PASSPORTS:** All foreign nationals entering Thailand must possess valid Passports. Chinese Nationals from Hong Kong, who are from first countries, or transit passengers, may use Certificates of Identity in lieu of Passports.

**VIAS:** All foreign nationals shall apply for, and obtain, visas from Thai Embassies and Consulates abroad. The following persons are exempt from this formality:

- 1. Holders of Diplomatic or Official Passports from the following countries: Belgium, Japan, Italy, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Philippines, Malaysia, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Federal Republic of Germany.

**Direct Transit passengers who leave the immigration Division in possession of a valid passport at the time of arrival, with continuation of transportation to leave the country within 48 hours:**

- 2. Persons travelling from countries where there are no Thai Embassies or Consulates, may enter directly to the Immigration Division, Bangkok, and may obtain a letter of acceptance for entry in lieu of a visa.

**GRANTING OF VIAS:** After approval of the Immigration Division is required before granting visas to the following categories of persons:

- 1. Embassies or Consulates to grant the Non-Immigrant, Transient and Tourist Visas to their citizens, for maintaining diplomatic relations with Thailand.

**VALIDITY OF VIAS:** Any visa is valid for a period of 90 days from the date of issue. Should the holder of a visa, for any reason, be unable to enter Thailand within the period of its validity, Embassies or Consulates may issue the visa to be valid not exceeding the period of validity of the applicant's passport, but not exceeding six months.

**DURATION OF STAY**

**Transit passenger with Transit Visa - 8 days.**  
Non-Immigrant Visa - 90 days (with 30-day extension).

**Non-Immigrant Visa Passengers - 90 days (with 15-day extension and another 90 days if necessary).**

**TOYOTA BE SUPER ON THE DATE OF**  
period of stay extended in all passports by the Immigration Office.

**EXTENSIONS OF VIAS:** Passengers with Transient Visa wishing to stay longer than 90 days, may apply, on arrival, for an extension of stay for not more than 90 days at the Immigration Office in Bangkok at the 7th of 7th.

**Passengers with Non-Immigrant or Tourist Visa wishing to stay more than 15 days, may apply for extensions of stay at the local Office, Immigration Division, North Eastern Road, Bangkok, or local Immigration Office within the 30-day period.**



35

[illegible]

**MONEY CHANGER**  
Authorized under the Exchange Control Act  
B.E. 2485.

**ALL REGULATIONS SUBJECT  
TO AMENDMENT.**

(NOTE: If you have any questions that have not been answered in the foregoing booklet, please write, phone or visit TOT and they will be happy to help you).

**ACCOMMODATION:** Your first step, once your mind is made up to start on your jaunt to the Orient and THAILAND is to arrange hotel reservations well in advance, at any time of the year...if you are travelling on your own. The tourist season in Bangkok is at its peak during September to February and rooms are booked far in advance; so be sure you have a firm commitment on accommodation. Of course, if you work through your travel agent, such details are handled efficiently for you. Most of the hotels are air-conditioned; six have swimming pools for guests and accommodations vary from luxurious suites to comfortable medium priced singles; almost all of them

**CLOTHES:** When you pack for your trip, consider the weather of the countries you will visit. Thailand is a tropical country so the problem of what to wear is simple. Choose something cool and washable, not necessarily drip-dry items as laundry service is fast and reasonable in cost. If you are in Thailand during the cool season from November to February, a lightweight sweater for women and a light-weight suit for men are sufficient. Dress is generally informal. As a hint to the ladies, don't bring along a cocktail dress—except a Thai silk creation while you are here and you

## Thai troops ‘did not surrender’

October 17, 2008

[Thai troops ‘did not surrender’](#) – Bangkok Post, October 17, 2008

*...One of the 10 Thai soldiers reported to have surrendered to Cambodian troops during Wednesday's border skirmishes yesterday denied they had been detained. He said the team was a communications unit coordinating with a similar Cambodian unit, and they were still working freely in the disputed area.*  
*"We are not being detained. We did not surrender," Apichart Pupuak told Reuters by telephone from the shrine on Preah Vihear...*

# Matsicko Travelogue

October 18, 2008



© ONE OF THE COOLEST THINGS ABOUT GOING TO MOVIES IN THAILAND IS THE ROYAL NEWSREEL PRIOR TO THE MAIN FEATURE. IT STARS NONE OTHER THAN HIS MAJESTY HIMSELF AS HE OVERSEES THE LATEST PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT. INTERSPERSED THROUGHOUT THE MONTAGE, IS FOOTAGE OF FIGHTER JETS AND FLAGS FLAPPING TO THE TUNE OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, COMPOSED BY THE KING. SO THUMBS UP AND STAND UP!

(Source: matsicko.com)

[Matsicko Travelogue](#) – October 18, 2008  
From [Mat's homepage](#)



(Source: matsicko.com)

## **“A native house – Bangkok.”**

October 18, 2008



“A native house – Bangkok.” – October 18, 2008  
Postcard circa 1915

## **Ambassador: Anything can happen in Thailand**

October 19, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

[Ambassador: Anything can happen in Thailand](#) – ScandAsia, October, 2008

*... "Everything looks just normal. But so much is happening beneath the surface. So watch out.  
And avoid Government buildings"...*

## Bangkok's tallest buildings over the years

October 20, 2008

Categories: Buildings



(Photo: Latbin Bonnak, circa 1950, the National Archives)

**Above:** The Phra Ya Sombat Phaisan Building

**Rama IV era** – Wat Arun – 70 m (not strictly a building, but a tall structure)

**1925–1926** – Nai Loed Building near Saphan Phitthayasathian (Saphan lek Lang)– HQ of Nai Loed Co. Ltd. (Nai Loed Setthabut–Phraya Phakdee Noraset (1872 – 1945) was the pioneer of the Bangkok bus and boat system as well as the agency for selling Esso Oil–then Socony Oil)

**1927** – [Phra Ya Sombat Phaisan Building](#) – 7 stories

**1966** – AIA (American International Assurance) building on Surawongse Rd – 10 stories

**1970** – Cathay Trust Building (Esso Building) on Rama IV Rd, Silom – 12 stories

**1970** – Dusit Thani – 82 m

**1970** – Chokechai Building – 22 stories

1978 – Royal Orchid Sheraton – 101 m

1982 – Bangkok Bank (Silom) – 134 m

1987 – Baiyoke I – 151 m

1996 – ThaiWah 2 – 196 m

1996 – Jewelry Trade Center – 221 m

**1997** – Baiyoke II – 304 m

Cartoons from Stephff

October 20, 2008  
Categories: Stephff's Cartoons



## “Wat Phra-Keo Bangkok”

October 20, 2008

Categories: Old photos and films

“Wat Phra-Keo Bangkok” – October 20, 2008

Circa 1930 – Note the gas station (?) to the left.

Wisarut comments: *...it is Sam Taharn Gas Station (now PTT PCL) designed by Ajarn Nart Phothiprasart, the first dean of the Department of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University. This gas station was opened in 24 June 1940 near the city Pillar. This gas station was demolished around 1987 for the improvement of the surrounding near City Pillar. More about [Ajarn Nart Phithiprasart](#) (14 November 1901 – 18 June 1954)*

## Buddhist temple made of beer bottles

October 20, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Buddhist temple made of beer bottles](#) – *TreeHugger*, October, 2008

*The Wat Pa Maha Chedi Kaew temple is constructed of a combination of green Heineken bottles and the brown bottles of a local beer...* Also [here](#) and [here](#)

## **King-Father ridicules a band of Thai oddballs**

October 21, 2008

[King-Father ridicules a band of Thai oddballs](#) – *KI*, October 21, 2008

## Film censorship leaves viewers in the dark

October 21, 2008

Categories: Film and TV

[THAILAND: Film censorship leaves viewers in the dark](#) – *Asia Media Forum*, October 21, 2008

*It's film festival time in the Thai capital, but many movie enthusiasts still feel, well, left in the dark by the recent banning of the Japanese-Thai film 'Children of the Dark', which was deemed too sensitive by the authorities...*

## Cambodia recruiting militias on border with Thailand

October 22, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Cambodia recruiting militias on border with Thailand](#) – *People's Daily*, October 22, 2008

*Cambodian provincial and military officials said they are recruiting militias along the border with Thailand to protect frontier villages if hostilities erupt again amid a territory dispute between the two countries, national media reported Thursday. Some 2,400 Cambodians have already volunteered to serve in the paramilitary units in Oddar Meanchey province alone...*

[Golf diplomacy to ease Thai-Cambodia border dispute](#) – *Hurriyet*, October 23, 2008

*Cambodia's defense minister teed off with Thai military officials Thursday in a spot of golf diplomacy ahead of talks aimed at resolving a fierce border...*

## Somali pirates get ransom, release Thai cargo ship

October 22, 2008

Categories: Crime

[Somali pirates get ransom, release Thai cargo ship](#) – *International Herald Tribune*, October, 2008

*A Somali minister says pirates have released a hijacked cargo ship believed to be owned by a Thai company after receiving a ransom...*

## New US RFID passports manufactured offshore at a huge profit, transported by unsecured couriers

October 23, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[New US RFID passports manufactured offshore at a huge profit, transported by unsecured couriers](#) – BoingBoing, October 23, 2008

*....After the computer chips are inserted into the back cover of the passports in Europe, the blank covers are shipped to a factory in Ayutthaya, Thailand, north of Bangkok, to be fitted with a wire Radio Frequency Identification, or RFID, antenna. The blank passports eventually are transported to Washington for final binding, according to the documents and interviews.*

*The stop in Thailand raises its own security concerns. The Southeast Asian country has battled social instability and terror threats. Anti-government groups backed by Islamists, including al Qaeda, have carried out attacks in southern Thailand and the Thai military took over in a coup in September 2006.*

*The Netherlands-based company that assembles the U.S. e-passport covers in Thailand, Smartrac Technology Ltd., warned in its latest annual report that, in a worst-case scenario, social unrest in Thailand could lead to a halt in production.*

*Smartrac divulged in an October 2007 court filing in The Hague that China had stolen its patented technology for e-passport chips, raising additional questions about the security of America's e-passports...*

## Burglars not Mexican

October 24, 2008

[Burglars not Mexican](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 24, 2008

## Sikh businessman killed in Bangkok

October 24, 2008

Categories: Crime

[Sikh businessman killed in Bangkok](#) – *World Sikh News*, October, 2008

*70-year-old Sikh businessman Sawat Settee, who was undergoing bankruptcy proceedings, was shot at by unknown assailants while he was driving...*

## Identified – Miss Siam 1934

October 25, 2008

Categories: Old photos and films

Identified – Miss Siam 1934 – October 25, 2008

Two old photographs of “Miss Siam, 1934”

Wisarat notes: *For the case of Miss Siam 1934, it is a photograph of Khun Kanya Thian-Sawang, the first Miss Siam of BE 2477 on 12 December 1934 in the Annual Fair of Siamese Constitution when she was 20 year old.*

*The Biography of [Khun Kanya Thian-Swang](#) (30 August 1914-16 November 1960).*

*All the photos of the early Miss Siam are [here](#).*

## Thai princess opens Russia Fashion Week with line

October 28, 2008

[Thai princess opens Russia Fashion Week with line](#) – Reuters, October 28, 2008

*Thai Princess Sirivannavari Nariratana sashayed along a red carpet on Tuesday before launching her new clothes collection and kick-starting Russian Fashion Week with the snip of a ribbon...*

## Thai tensions form apt backdrop for Asean meeting

October 28, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai tensions form apt backdrop for Asean meeting](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, October 28, 2008

*...However, political tension does not plague Thailand alone. Malaysia, to its south, is gripped with its own turmoil. The government that has ruled for decades, led by the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), is in a spin due to an internal tussle for power and pressure from the opposition led by the charismatic Anwar Ibrahim.*

*The power of the ruling Barisan Nasional (National Alliance) coalition was shattered during general elections in March, emboldening the opposition and the country's minorities to mount challenges after the watershed poll. The opposition won five states and 82 seats in the 222-seat parliament, while the Barisan retained 140 seats...*

*What is happening in Thailand and Malaysia reflects a "shift in how people perceive democracy in this region," says Roshan Jason, executive director of the Asean Inter-parliamentary Myanmar (Burma) Caucus. "The public is demanding greater engagement in the process of government and decision making."*

*"The old order of letting Southeast Asian governments rule without any accountability to the people is unravelling," he added during a telephone interview from Kuala Lumpur. "Unfortunately, Asean still trails behind other regions in this area," Jason said.*

*Yet not all of Asean's founding nations—Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand—are eager to create a political culture that keeps an elected government in check through opposition pressure and campaigns by anti-government activists. The affluent city-state of Singapore is still determined to remain a nominal democracy...*

## **CIB to wrap up 32 lese majesty cases**

October 29, 2008

[CIB to wrap up 32 lese majesty cases](#) – *The Nation*, October 29, 2008

## Thai crocs feel bite as financial woes dull taste for luxury goods

October 29, 2008

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai crocs feel bite as financial woes dull taste for luxury goods](#) – AFP, October 29, 2008

*At the Elite Thai Leather factory in Bangkok, craftsman contort tough Thai crocodile hides into any style of luxury handbag a fashion designer wants...*

## Thailand cited as anti-smoking model

October 29, 2008

[Thailand cited as anti-smoking model](#) – *The Nation*, October 29, 2008

*The Global Smoke Free Partnership Steering Group has cited Thailand as an outstanding country for its accomplishment in controlling tobacco consumption, the Public Health Ministry's permanent secretary, Dr Prat Boonyawongvirot said Wednesday...*

## High tension in Thailand – October 2008

October 30, 2008

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

High tension in Thailand – October 2008

[Thai protesters snap up 'clappers'](#) – BBC, October 30, 2008

Thanks to Pieter for pointing this out.

[Somchai "Love Hotel" video](#)

This video has been extensively rumored and discussed in the Thai-language forums in the past week...

[PAD Letter to UK Ambassador to Thailand](#)

[Thaksin's letter](#) – *The Nation*, October 26, 2008

*...The best I can comprehend is that I was convicted simply because I was a politician. In that case I was quite guilty because I was quite a successful politician. I got elected twice by the majority of Thai people as prime minister.*

*If I were to be guilty of anything, that would be for what I have shown to the Thai people, especially those underprivileged rural Thais that they can, and have the right to, demand their government to provide effective policy and programmes to improve their lives...*

[Korn's letter to Thaksin](#) – *The Nation*, October 26, 2008

*...It is precisely because it is so difficult the world over to actually catch clever politicians with their hands in the till that we have laws against conflicts of interests – it is a reflection of our society's desire for good governance, not dissimilar to codes of conducts in most leading corporations in the private sector.*

*It may be true that there are the so-called elites who don't like you, but I can assure you that there are plenty of grass-root members of the Thai population who are also not too keen on having leaders who cheat. You got away early in your political career with an 'honest mistake' when you failed to properly disclose your assets, but how many more of these 'honest' mistakes do you think the Thai people should allow you? You are once again charged with hiding assets even now, not least the money you used to buy Manchester City. After all, you no longer even try to pretend that it was not your own money that was used to buy the football club, even though you never disclosed, as was legally required, that you ever had any money overseas...*

[Thaksin's TV speech cancelled](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 26, 2008

[Salang vows not to join anti-PAD protest](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 25, 2008

[Salang denies he planned to surround Govt House](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 25, 2008

[Thaksin's letter in response to the Ratchada land verdict](#) – *Matichon*, October 24, 2008

Includes an English version.

Above: Channel 7 news banner – It reads: The Supreme Court rules on the Ratchada land corruption case.

[Thaksin found guilty and sentenced to two years in jail](#) – *The Nation*, October 21, 2008

*The Supreme Court Tuesday said then prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra and family should not have get involved in buying properties from the state...*

[Thaksin convicted with two-year jail term but Pojaman acquitted](#) – *The Nation*, October 21, 2008

Below: ASTV news banner showing worried looking versions of the Thaksins – It reads: Live broadcasting of the Court's hearing on Ratchada Land case.

Only Channel 7 and ASTV broke into programming to report the unfolding verdict. Other stations waited until a news break for an update.

Top brass on Channel 3

[Coup via TV?](#) – *The Nation*, October 17, 2008

*...Army chief Anupong Paochinda led the historic commentary that was soft in tone but brutally harsh in substance. The top brass's unspoken message delivered at the news talk programme hosted by Sorrayuth Suthassanachinda was clear: Mr Prime Minister, you'd better go. Anupong all but held the government accountable for the October 7 bloodshed, saying he was well aware of "orders" that the police had to follow. He also expressed regret for failing to warn that such orders could lead to violence...*

[In the Thai heartland, anger over protests in Bangkok](#) – *IHT*, October 13, 2008

*... "The people of Isaan are people, too," said Damneun, 48, who is now a farmer, like most people in this small village. "We also eat rice, and we also have an education, and they can't insult us like this."*

*The insult comes from the leaders of an anti-government protest in Bangkok who say that rural voters are misguided and ignorant. In the hope of changing the balance of political power, the protesters have put forward a new plan that would weaken those rural voices...*

[Joshua Kurlantzick: Going backwards in Bangkok](#) – *National Post*, October, 2008

*...In the last week of August, after nearly two decades, the Sunday Perspective section of the Bangkok Post, the leading English newspaper, closed down forever, to virtually no notice.*

*It shouldn't have. In a society where the elites — the military, the bureaucracy, the rich — long went unquestioned, Perspective, a tough investigative reporting section, provided Thais with a service people in other countries take for granted: questioning the powerful.*

*...Beginning in the mid-1990s, just as Thailand began to build a democracy, those methods still worked. Perspective reporters showed the Bangkok Post's readers a country beneath the false harmony and smiles: the environmental disasters covered up by industry, the simmering separatist movement in the south, the massive graft of the Thai political class and much more...*

A tale of two newspapers

[No explosive residue: Pornthip](#) – *The Nation*, October 11, 2008

*An inspection of the scene of bloody clashes between police and the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) has found no explosive residue, renowned forensic expert Dr Pornthip Rojanasunand said yesterday.*

*"There's also no trace of any such substance on the clothes or bodies of the injured victims," she told a press conference...*

[Residues from explosives found: CIFS](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 12, 2008

*Some residues from explosive-like materials were detected following the inspection on more than 300 items of evidence gathered from the clashes between the police and supporters of the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD), Justice Ministry's Central Institute of Forensic Science director Porntip Rojanasunan said on Sunday.*

*She said the result will be examined again, and she planned to gather more evidence at the sites where confrontations happened on Sunday afternoon...*

Earlier: [‘A tale of two newspapers’ archives](#)

## Thai Media Project – October 2008

October 30, 2008

Categories: Thai Media Project

**More:** [Unlocking the Thai world: Thai-language newspaper headlines](#)

**Thaksin's political game** – translated and summarized from *Krungthepturakit*; Column: Kaeroykanmuang; October 27, 2008

Former PM Thaksin Shinawatra was begun blaming anti-Thaksin groups for his court verdict when he had released a statement blaming them to the foreign press. He makes up stories that the judge is not fair to him in order that many foreign countries will give him a helping hand. It is not strange that those countries are sympathetic on him because they know his basic accusation only. Besides, he will to fight on every battlefield to get back his seized cash totaling 7 billion baht. Nowadays, he turns to influence Thai politics and tries to support PM Somchai Wongsawat, his brother-in-law, to set up the Constitution Drafting Committee version 3 because it is easy to prolong the Somchai-led government by amending the constitution. It is said that *Kwamjing Wannee* The meeting is to be held by a bunch of Thais to present an adorable image towards the former PM, Thaksin Shinawatra, who is now refusing to accept his warrant, his bail, or the judgment that he be jailed for two years. His "mainstays," or, in the other words, political officials, who obtain their salary from state taxes, are now doing their best to use the nation's mass media to promote the Thaksin speech, writing a history in nation's annals by being the first citizen to condemn his motherland, state organizations and justice. These organization which he himself and followers in the first place tried to influence. Such an action never happened in Thailand before, although some spent their years in exile in the jungle which is an uneasy environment to live in. Thaksin, on the other hand, receives the maximum benefit from the nation which enable him to live, earn a living and finally become the richest in the nation who at the same time became PM and supervised selling the nation's property for his own interest. Many people in varies careers–police, state officials, MPs–are still showing their loyalty towards him by organizing a demonstration to gain political power–all the while knowing it would affect national stability and increase the risk of battle with those who posses different political ideas. State officials and those responsible for justice however are not practicing what they are supposed to do and ignoring the call not to insult the Thai Royal Family and justice in general. This is only because of the power of money, gained by corrupting their own motherland, and presses the nation towards political crisis cause by crooked political officials.

**Civil war** – translated and summarized from *Krungthep Thurakit*; Column: Kae Roy Karn Muang; Author: Pracha Burapavithree; October 24, 2008

As expected, Thaksin Shinawatra does not surrender in this game of power. He announced that he would make a call to the 'Khwaam Jing Wannai Sanjorn' or Touring Truth today TV program, at the Rajamangala Stadium, on November 1. It is a signal to his advocates. On his say, the People Power Party will move as many people as possible there. The stadium has a capacity of 100,000 persons. 100,000 people wearing red T-shirts will be aired worldwide. This is an announcement of a symbolic civil war. The symbol which underlines that the red is Thaksin. Therefore, Thaksin's new civil war is different from the civil war by the Communist Party of Thailand. His battlefield is the next election, which he has to totally win like that in 2005. Thaksin gains power with his funds, not with guns like those communists. After the incident of October 7 and the court's judgment on the Radchada land, more and more grass-root people and mid-class people in the provinces oppose the 'mysterious power'. Even those who experienced the civil war in the past say that this time is much more dreadful. Therefore, Gen. Anupong Paojinda decides not to run a coup although everything is ready. The coup d'etat on September 19 showed that the military cannot run political tasks and cannot resist the mass power. Thaksin's symbolic civil war on November 1 will not only encourage his advocates, but also means that he announces a psychological war against the military. Will Gen. Anupong take a risk and run a bloody coup? Will he be able to survive if people nationwide called him 'murderer'? These are questions the military must answer as the opposition has already staged a new war.

**Cursed land – Pojaman Ratchada** – translated and summarized from *Thai Post*; Author: Silver Flame; October 23, 2008

I criticize the gathering of plain-clothes police officers at the Royal Plaza on the October 23rd – Chulalongkorn Day. How come officers in charge let them do such thing on the day? On the Chulalongkorn Day, normally people will gather to pay respect to the Statue of the King Rama V. The political gathering of officers not only shows disrespect, but also destroys the tradition. Also the Office of National Buddhism should take care of monks because lately, a large number of monks are seen getting involved in political activities and movements. On October 23, a total of 20,000 monks joined plain-clothes police officials at the Royal Plaza. Did these monks get paid and how much did they get? In addition, readers should not be jealous of Khunying Pojaman Shinawatra for being allowed to possess a 33-rai plot of land. The land plot is cursed. Whoever owns that land would face unfortunate experiences. Thaksin said he bought the land to build a house, but at the end, he was sent into prison. Let's see how she copes with her fate – keeping the land or loosing it.

The end of news!!! – *Krungthepturakit*, October 20, 2008  
The end of news!!!

**Lesson for dishonest politicians** – translated and summarized from *Kom Chad Luek*; Column: Editorial; October 24, 2008

The Supreme Court decided to hand down a two-year jail term on former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra for illegally purchase of a 33-rai plot of land worth 772 million baht, on Ratchadapisek Road. However, the Court acquitted Pojaman in the land purchase case as she was not a governmental official.

This is an important lesson to remind all politicians that to abuse their power to facilitate themselves and fellows is a challenge to the Asset Examination Committee (AEC), the National Counter Corruption Commission (NCCC) and people nationwide.

During five years of being the Prime Minister, Thaksin faced many scandals. The AEC sent over 20 cases to the NCCC for investigation and send them further to the criminal court.

There are over ten corruption cases of Thaksin waiting to be settled. However, he decides to flee the England.

The prison sentence for the former prime minister is expected to help stop dishonest politicians.

Get out – *Thairath* by Zeer, October 20, 2008

Pok pak, pok pak , get out , get out

Conflict of interest – translated and summarized from *Thairath*; Editor Review; October 23, 2008

A historical judgment occurred once the Supreme Court sentenced former PM Thaksin Shinawatra to two years in jail in the Ratchada land Case after being found guilty in a land deal his wife, Pojaman Shinawatra.

Judges found Thaksin violated conflict of interest, as a government official having interest in contracts with state agencies under their supervision, letting his wife to buy those lands knowing that it would evade government to derive the best benefit from the sale.

The case is very new to Thai society since it just has been part of the 2540 Charter which gives the means to halt Thai officials using power and supervision for their families and friends. Previously these abuses were practiced widely without any consequences previously.

The judgment cleared Pojaman of all charges associated with the deal while former PM Thaksin Shainawatra was sentenced to two years in jail in the first case out of all cases against him.

The judgment too shall impact on the current turmoil political problems and is expected to be accepted widely.

Government officers showed disagreement on this matter said the court has too much power over Thai politics. However the investigation power of the court is used and practiced widely in developed countries and now has been applied too in the Thai charter.

The judgment on Thaksin will serve as a reaffirmation of a new principle in Thai politics that politicians muse use their power and exercise supervision with good care without mixing their own interests with the nation's.

With intensive investigation and laws, corrupt Thai officials will be held accountable.

Tainted milk scandal – *Krungtepturakit* by Arun, October 20, 2008

New enemy of plant species –

On the top left: So sympathy... Has the plant for a long time.

**Seriously critical report** – translated and summarized from *Komchadluek*; Column: Politics; Author: Political news team; October 19, 2008

Regarding the decision to continue the work of the Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat-led government without concerns for the warning of the army and suggestions for the parliament dissolution or the resignation of the Prime Minister, the ongoing tense political conflict is worsened. The Government has to face the opposition to its power both from the People's Alliance for Democracy and the army. The October 7 clash has already ended the legitimacy of the PPP government. Despite the confirmation by the Army Commander-in-Chief that there would be no coup staged, the rumor is that the Army possibly will stop the power of the PPP by the seizure of the Prime Minister. It is the serious moment for Thai society when any possible thing can occur.

**Northern and northeastern teachers lured to join the mob to pressure the court** – translated and summarized from *Phujatkarn*; Column: Regional news; October 13, 2008

Sources reveal that the federation of teachers of the northern and northeastern teachers group are reportedly persuaded to join the gathering at the Royal Plaza in Bangkok to call for the official rank promotion from the Teachers' Council of Thailand.

However, the source further reveals that the attempt is aimed at luring the team of academics to gather on October 21 when the criminal court's special litigation on political office holders is to read verdict on Thaksin's Ratchada land corruption case. The pro-government UDD (United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship) prepares to rally to pressure against the Court as well.

**People to gather to threaten the court – PPP fears Thaksin will be jailed – Weird lying by the press about a coup** – translated and summarized from *Thai Post*; Column: The Editorial; October 19, 2008

The People Power's Party is preparing to move the crowd to Bangkok to pressure the Court on the judgment of the Ratchada land corruption case.

Representative from Mahasarakham province Sutin Klangsang disclosed that the current political situation really makes local residents upset. He says there is no need for the PPP to move people in to Bangkok, as they are willing to move by themselves.

He says people are now keeping an eye on the Court's judgment over the Ratchada land case. If the judgment is not fair, people will lose their patience.

In addition, the party's spokesman Lieutenant Kuthep Saikrajang talks about the rumor over the dismissal of Gen. Anupong Paojinda. He says that for now, the party has no plan to transfer military commanders. It believes that they can work together.

He says that the CIC was likely to be seduced by famous and tricky Channel 3 reporter Sorayuth Suthasanajinda. At the first place, the commander was invited to give an interview on the fight with Cambodia. Anupong was not prepared to talk about politics.

Kuthep strongly criticizes the Channel 3 for generating rumors about the possible coup. He insists that it is the PPP decision to continue to support PM Somchai as government leader and denies PPP support for deposed Premier Thaksin's fight in the land corruption case.

**Political culture should be included in political reform** – translated and summarized from *Thairath*; Column: The Editorial; Page 3, October 14, 2008

In fact, the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand B.E.2517 and 2540 are the two best complete constitutions. During this political trouble, should the Constitution Drafting Assembly Issue a new constitution or not? Is this the best solution to Thai political trouble? Thai people always treat rich and powerful men with respect. The constitution becomes indeed a worthless piece of paper. Hence, if Thai politics was reformed, it should also included a reform of political culture. That culture makes people have more respect for the law and agree on other different opinions instead of disagreeing.

**Political crisis and Somchai Wongsawat's role are not that naive** – translated and summarized from *Matichon*; Column: Wipak Hang Wipak; page 3; October 13, 2008

If compared to Gen. Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Mr. Samak Sudaravej, it can be said that Mr. Somchai Wongsawat is still inexperienced in the political world. His political path just began from the election on December 23, 2007.

However, Somchai is a lot more patient than Gen. Chawalit Yongchaiyut.

And he is a lot more flexible and tricky than Mr. Samak Sudaravej.

What is more interesting is that he was a judge.

According to Niccolo Machiavelli's political theory (1469-1527), Somchai's flexibility is an important point. He might not be as gorgeous as a lion, nor outstanding like a fox, but it is said that we should look at what a human does, not what he should do.

His move is realism, which is complete opposite to romanticism.

Some people could be surprised that Somchai had been selected to succeed Mr. Samak. To think this way, it means that they overlook Somchai's position as the Secretary-General of the Justice Ministry. What must be recorded is that he got the position because of the Democrat Party.

If you ask former ministers of justice, they will say that Mr. Somchai is not as inexperienced as people think.

The army to wait patiently for political problem to be solved by politics – translated and summarized from *Komchadluek*; Column: Watch the Army, October 13, 2008

The Army's reaction to the ongoing political crisis is not to side with the People's Alliance for Democracy and the PPP government. The crackdown on October 7 is the expensive lesson that everyone must remind that violence does not bring good to anyone, but is the nation's loss. General Anupong Paojinda, the Army Commander in Chief, expresses his stance to allow the political crisis to be solved by politics and announces that the Army is to stand with the people. From lesson of the past dark May and the September 19 coup of 2006, the Army's urgent reaction to the situation leads to the tortured image of the politics. Speculation is strong that the Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat-led government prefers dissolving parliament to resignation. The only way that the Army can reduce pressure from outsiders is to be patient. We therefore comment that the Army Commander-in-Chief's reaction by not supporting coup is acceptable to the public.

Non-violent penalty is better than severe clash like Civil War – translated and summarized from *Komchadluek*; Column: The Editorial; October 12, 2008

Nowadays, people have the courage to stand up for fairness so the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) is also a group of people which calls for truth and fairness. Last Tuesday, it was unacceptable that the police use violent tactics to disperse the PAD protesters. The government ignores the severe condition and prolongs for more time, forming two committees to find out quickly the facts surrounding the incident and to work out ways to compensate affected people and damaged properties. However people seldom agree over these details. Fortunately, they prefer a peaceful solution and dislike the violent clash. Thus the government should show responsibility, resigning or dissolving the house immediately. It is better than forming committees.

## **‘Bangkok sighting’ of missing businessman**

October 30, 2008

Categories: Crime

[‘Bangkok sighting’ of missing businessman](#) – *Asian Image*, October, 2008

...He said: “At first I couldn’t place the man in the picture, then I realised it was the man my cousin and I had seen in Bangkok last Christmas...