

## List of Anniversaries in Thailand (1996 - 1997)

**Date** : June 9, 1996

**Name of the Event** : The Fiftieth Anniversary (Golden Jubilee) of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Accession to the throne

**Description** :

The year 1996 will be recorded as one of the most important years in the history of the Thai Kingdom as well as the World's history as it is the year when His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, Rama IX of the house of Chakri will have reigned for 50 years.

His Majesty took the Oath of Accession at the sacred moment of his coronation according to the code of conduct for Kingship, traced back to King Asoke the Great of the Mauryan Dynasty of India around the third century B.C.: *We will reign with righteousness for the benefit and happiness of the people.* For fifty years as father of the nation, His Majesty follows the never-ending task of bettering the lives of the people. His Majesty has initiated several projects for social welfare, agriculture, forestry, education, health and disaster relief programme. To his Majesty, the benefit and the happiness of the Thai people are of paramount importance, and all his royal efforts are towards this end.

Due to His Majesty's devotion and selfless dedication to the country, Thailand enters the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century with a high-profile role in world affairs. Good will and friendship have been earned from all over the world, serving as the bases for further relations in the future.

His Majesty has led Thailand to share the responsibilities of managing the world with respect to sustainable development. This serves as a means to bring about a harmonious co-existence of man, society and nature.

The reign of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand will be recorded as the one which has brought unprecedented wealth and prosperity to the Kingdom of Thailand.

**Anniversary to be celebrated** : fiftieth anniversary

**Events organized by Thailand** :

The Royal Thai Government has designated the period of 1 January 1995 to 12 December 1996 as *The Fiftieth Anniversaries of King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Accession to the Throne.* The whole nation will contribute to the events.

**Funds allocated to these events by the Royal Thai Government etc. :**

Total of allocation not yet published.

**Celebration or action expected of UNESCO :**

1. Proclamation of Chiang Mai 700<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
2. Invitation issued to UNESCO member countries to publicize this commemorative occasion in their own countries.

**UNESCO's financial contribution :** U.S. \$ 10,000

**Responsible Body for coordinating the Celebrations :**

1. Office of the Secretary Chiang Mai Provincial Authority  
Chiang Mai Province 50200  
Tel. (66 53) 22 12 33  
Fax (66 53) 21 38 40
2. Thailand National Commission for UNESCO  
External Relations Division  
Ministry of Education  
Rajdamnern Avenue  
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