



Chao Phaya Prasadej Surendrathibodi

(M.R. Pia Malakul)

Annex II

Form for the submission of an anniversary proposal

A. Information concerning the personality /event to be commemorated

1. Family name and first name of the personality/Title of the event

Chao Phaya Prasadej Surendrathibodi (M.R. Pia Malakul)

2. Born April 16, 1867 **Died** February 14, 1916

Or Date of the event One hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth (1867–2017)

3. Date(s) Chosen for the celebration January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2017 (two years)

4. Field of activity Education, Social and Human Sciences

5. Brief description of the personality listing his or her major works/of the event

M.R. Pia was among the first class that graduated from Suan Kularb Vidhayalai College, the first modern public college in Thailand, established by King Chulalongkorn, a first step of the King's education reform plan.

At age 30, he was sent to England as the King of Siam's Special Envoy in education to the Court of Saint James, the United States, and Europe, from 1897-1898. There, he served as the royal guardian to the Crown Prince Vajiravudh studying history and law at the University of Oxford and receiving military training at Sandhurst, and also supervised the education of all Thai students in England and Europe, as well as maintained regular correspondence with King Chulalongkorn on all subjects concerning education development in those countries.

He submitted a "Report on Education System in England" with significant comparative analyses between the systems of Thailand and of England. This report became the foundation of the Draft Education Scheme of Siam, approved and promulgated in 1898. This document was the first national education policy which charted out the national education direction, its delivery system and core curriculum in accordance with international standards.

Upon his return to Thailand, he was made Head of the Department of Education and subsequently Permanent Secretary of Education. His mission was to expand public schools nationwide using the motto "It is always safe to learn".

He became King Vajiravudh's Minister of Education in 1910 and, for 4 years, he worked with other colleagues to prepare for the establishment of Thailand's first university, a specialized Arts and Crafts Institute as well as vocational training schools in Thailand. The Poh Chang Academy of Arts and Crafts was opened in 1913, followed by the establishment of Chulalongkorn University in 1916. M.R. Pia Malakul was also

responsible for the drafting of the Compulsory Education Act of 1921, although he died in 1916 at the age of 48, and did not see some of his important projects materialize.

6. Describe the way(s) in which this personality/event has had a genuine regional and/or worldwide impact

Forefather of the Education System in Thailand and Southeast Asia

His legacy in education is timely and important to Thailand. At the turn of the 20th century, public delivery of education was a very important agenda across Europe and the USA and publicly financed elementary schools had been rapidly developed in order to provide educated personnel for the country's modern social and economic progress. Countries in Southeast Asia which had come under the western colonization had also begun to follow the western system. Thailand, guarding against western colonialism, struggled to reform education and other social political aspects for modern development on its own terms. The Siamese government under King Chulalongkorn had engaged a number of foreign experts in various fields. The government needed Thai citizens with adequate training and international perception to work in the newly established government departments, the army and the navy. The country needed reform starting from the lowest level of education and up to college and university level. M. R. Pia's Report provided the necessary and visionary roadmap for that reform.

To a large extent, this legacy in education was important to the Southeast Asian region in the long run. M.L. Pin Malakul, his son, who was later Thailand's Director General of General Education, Education Minister, and a member and Vice President of the Executive Board of UNESCO from 1952 to 1956, used his father's visionary statement and direction in the 1921 Compulsory Act, and pursued it further. Together with a small band of Asian educators in the early 1950's, a vision of universal, compulsory, primary education for Asian children, and regional cooperation was fostered and became a regional legacy until today.(see [PDF]A tribute to the memory of Mom Luang Pin Malakul – Unesco www.unesco.org/education/pdf/ORDONEZ)

Forefather of Tertiary Education in Thailand

M.R. Pia, as the Permanent Secretary of Education, deemed future graduates from the schooling system to the higher level as Roots of the Nation, and perhaps of the Southeast Asian region. In the last year of King Chulalongkorn (1910), he proposed the concept of a college or academic establishment that would groom secondary graduates into excellence in specific fields of expertise. Moreover, he foresaw the influx of graduates that deserted their hometowns for future careers in the newly founded civil system. Therefore, the idea of vocation and technical training would prepare school leavers with occupational skills for their own future enterprises. This idea was embraced by King Chulalongkorn in the forms of Civil Servant College, modern day Suankularb Wittayalai, and the College of Arts in a couple of months after receiving the Note. Six years later, the Civil Servant College was renamed Chulalongkorn University in 1916, the first university in Thailand and fourth in Southeast Asia.

His proposal for the expansion of vocational and higher education happened concurrently with the establishment of the University of Malaya, the second higher educational in the region. However, the different drives between the two countries can be observed in that M.R. Pia's proposal derived from his personal forecast of the influx of primary and secondary graduates after two decades of the schooling system in Thailand. In Malaysia, the British colony, not the local government, approved the licensing of the School of Medical School in 1905 due to the shortage of doctors in the colonial founded hospitals. M.R. Pia's contribution to vocational and higher education went beyond a sense of service to his own country, but a regional model of continuing linkage between basic/vocational graduates and higher education. Finally, Thai universities' unique spirit on the preservation of cultural heritage and local wisdom was instigated by M.R. Pia's concept of Thai higher education as a root of the nation, which was praised by international scholars including Yale University's Davis Wyatt as the Time Bomber of Modernization in Southeast Asia.

Regional Scholar on Moral and Civic Education

As the Director of the Education Department and Minister of Education (1902-1915), his legacy on textbook development reflected his strong belief in the education system as the national character and identity development. To mention only a few, his book *Medical Ethics* (1908) served as the first guidebook for medical practitioners, while *Etiquettes of Good Citizen* (1912) spelt out 10 genres of noble manners in the society. These academic publications were referred to in medical and social studies as the

trailblazing professionalism in Thailand and in many ways an early example of moral and civic education in a Buddhist society. He was also a regional thinker during in the early 1910s who used his own capacity to champion the concept of nationalism through education consequently known as civic education. For example, his poem “Gathering of Unity” was turned into a Thai version of Robert Burns’ s Auld Lang Syne, which has been rendered as parting words in various well wishing events up till now.

His legacy of textbook development on moral and civic education in the turning of the 1900s undoubtedly stood the test of time in that Thailand was the only country in the region that has maintained its own independence through a flexible foreign policy and modernization. M.R. Pia’s works therefore were based on his personal belief in Buddhism that shaped the modern national identity under his educational ministership. His campaign “It is always safe to learn” can be deemed as the early example of Education for All in Southeast Asian region and heralded Thailand as one of the forefront champions of the Education First Initiative.

7. Website(s) including the website established/designed for the anniversary celebration

<http://www.onec.go.th/>

B. Co-sponsors (two Member States or regional group)

- Korean National Commission for UNESCO
- Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO

C. Anniversary to be celebrated

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Fiftieth | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Centenary | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Multiple thereof | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

D. Information on the activities held on the occasion by the country or countries concerned

Place	Type of Activity	Institution Responsible	Time Frame (start and end dates for the celebration)	Estimated cost (US\$)	Funds Earmarked/requested (under the Participation Programme)
In your country Thailand	1) Religious ceremony and exhibition in commemoration of his passing	Ministry of Education and various Thai agencies	February 14-16, 2016	200,000	The Royal Thai Government
	2) Series of lecture entitled “Roots of the Nation”	Chulalongkorn University	January-December 2016	12,000	Partnership between Chulalongkorn University and King Prajadhipok's Institute
	3) Endowment fundraising and awarding of Choa Praya Prasadej Surendratibidi Teaching Fellowship	Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University	July 2016-December 2017	200,000	Public donation
	4) National essay contest on the topic “M.R. Pia Malakul and	Office of the Education Council, Ministry of Education,	January– March 2017	100,000	Office of the Education Council

Place	Type of Activity	Institution Responsible	Time Frame (start and end dates for the celebration)	Estimated cost (US\$)	Funds Earmarked/requested (under the Participation Programme)
	His Legacy of Building the National Characteristics” 5) Religious ceremony in celebration of his 150 th birthday anniversary and citation from UNESCO representative	Thailand Ministry of Education and UNESCO Bangkok	April, 2017	120,000	The Royal Thai Government and UNESCO
In other countries (please state which) UK	UK and Thai policy roundtable on sustainable education policymaking and planning	Ministry of Education, Thailand and the British Council	May 2017	500,000	Cost sharing between the two hosting countries.
Japan	Thai and Japanese fellowship program of the new wave of educational researchers	Ministry of Education, Thailand and Institute of Education, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan	September 2017	500,000	Cost sharing between the two hosting countries.

E. Links to UNESCO

1. Please indicate the UNESCO field(s) of competence to which the celebration is linked

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Link to: | |
| Natural Sciences | <input type="checkbox"/> | Priority Gender Equality | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Culture | <input type="checkbox"/> | Priority Africa | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Social and human sciences | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> | Explain:..... | |
| Transdisciplinary projects:..... | | | |

2. Explain the contribution that such an anniversary celebration can effectively make to the attainment of Member states' goals in UNESCO's fields of competence and in regard to the major priorities set in the Medium-Term Strategy (C/4) and Programme and Budget (C/5) approved by the General Conference.

The commemoration and anniversary of M.R. Pia Malakul's life and legacy can be firstly deemed as part of the United Nations' Education First Initiative and follow-up programs of EFA 2015 in terms of Goal 1, 2, and 3. Various programs of in this biennial celebration also cherish his passion for education for sustainable development and education for peace highlighted in Medium-Term Strategy (C/4).

3. Form of participation requested from UNESCO

- 3.1 In kind: A citation of his life and legacy in April 2017, to participate in the conference to promote his famous education.
- 3.2 In cash: -

4. Describe the way(s) in which this commemoration is consistent with and enhances UNESCO's goals and mission

Because of his legacy in educational policymaking and planning at the turning of the industrial revolution, Thailand and co-hosting countries will benefit from designed programs of the commemoration that highlight peaceful cohabitation along with human resource planning for global competitiveness and global citizenship education. His foresight in higher education for technocrats in the early 1900s are also resonated in the recent call for global dialogue initiated by UNESCO on policy repositioning of the disparity between general education and technical/ vocational training in light of the labor shortage in the latter stream. Finally, the celebration of his vision of civil education and

textbook development at the turning of the 1900s also reflects the ongoing pledge of UNESCO to education for global citizenship and new media of learning.

F. Other information

None

His Photos



Biography

Chao Phaya Prasadej Surendrathibodi (M.R. Pia Malakul)

Birth:	Bangkok, Thailand (April 16, 1867)
Status:	Married (with Thanpuying Sanghiam Malakul, 8 children)
Parent:	His Serene Highness Prince Kajonjaraswongse, Krommeun Prapporapuk Mom Piam Malakul
Education:	1886, Proyoke II (basic education certificate in Buddhist religion), Phratumnuk suankularb school
Working Experiences:	1889-1897 Clerk, Department of Education and Ministry of Interior 1897- 1899 Special Envoy (Education) at St. James Palace, the United States of America, and Europe, based at Embassy of the Kingdom of Siam, London 1899- 1902 Director-General of the Royal Staff School 1902-1912 Director-General of the Department of Education, Ministry of Education 1906-1915 Permanent-Secretary, Ministry of Education 1912-1915 Minister of Education
Major documents:	1897-1899 Letters to His Majesty King Chulalongkorn on Thai Scholarship Students 1989 Report on Education System in England 1908 <i>Medical Ethics</i> 1910 Letters to His Majesty King Chulalongkorn on Proposal to Establish Higher Education in Thailand 1912 <i>Etiquettes of Good Citizen</i>
Death:	February 14, 1916 with Arthritis



유네스코
한국위원회

Korean National
Commission for UNESCO

Ref.: KNCU-IR-677

29 December 2014

Mr Kamon Siriban
Secretary-General
Thailand National Commission for UNESCO

Subject: Support for Thailand's Anniversary Proposal

Dear Secretary-General,

It is my pleasure to inform you that the Korean National Commission for UNESCO is delighted to support Thailand's anniversary proposal to honor M. R. Pia MALAKUL.

I firmly believe that the remarkable achievements of M. R. Pia MALAKUL demonstrate the crucial role of national initiatives in promoting education effectively. It is my sincere hope that this proposed anniversary will, among other things, contribute to realizing Strategic Objective 1 of the Medium-Term Strategy 2014-2021 (37C/4), "Supporting Member States to develop education systems to foster high-quality and inclusive lifelong learning for all."

I look forward to hearing positive results in relation to Thailand's proposal to UNESCO.

Sincerely,

MIN Dong-seok
Secretary-General



Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO

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Ref: 690 /BTK/

Hanoi, December 26th 2014

Dear Mr Kamon Siriban,

In reference to your letter No Ref. 0205/13112 dated 19 December 2014, I would like to express the support of the Viet Nam National Commission for UNESCO to your project proposing MALAKUL, M.R Pia (Chao Phaya Prasadej Surendrathibodi), to be honored by UNESCO in the field of Education and Social and human sciences.

Along with my best wishes for every success on the occasion of New Year, accept, Mr Secretary-General, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

NGUYEN Manh Thang

Deputy Secretary-General

The Viet Nam National Commission for UNESCO

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