

Professor Dr. Puey Ungphakorn

ANNEX II

Form for the submission of an anniversary proposal

A. Information concerning the personality to be commemorated

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

Professor Dr. Puey Ungphakorn

2. Born: 9th March 1916 **Died:** 28th July 1999

or Date of the event: 9th March 2016

3. Date(s) chosen for the celebration March 2015 - March 2017

4. Field of activity: Education, Social and Human Sciences

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

Professor Dr. Puey Ungphakorn was an educator and economist. He was awarded the Magsaysay Award, the Asian Nobel Prize, in 1965 for his effort to promote economic development and anti-corruption In Thailand, the name was synonymous with his wisdom on economic sufficiency as well as bridging the urban-rural divide through education for all Thais.

During his tenure as Governor of the Bank of Thailand from 1959-1971, he instilled governance and accountability in the country's banking system, which still lacked independent decision-making mechanisms. These new disciplines helped strengthen financial institutions and practices which promoted economic progress and stability in Thailand.

As a professor teaching economics at Thammasat University, Dr. Puey was innovative in designing English-language curricula in economics and expanding the university's teaching staff enabling better interaction between students and lecturers. He also initiated another scheme, known as the Textbook Foundation, to produce Thai-language reading materials in social science and history. That foundation is still active today.

In the rural Thailand, Dr. Puey's legacy has been his launch of a non-degree programme at Thammasat University, called a Volunteer Graduate Programme (not affiliated to any

discipline or faculty), Students were sent to live in a rural village to teach or help promote the villagers' well-being. They then had to write a report on the village, its problems, and ways and means of solving them.

After leaving the public service, he wrote a series of essays about hope and benevolent society reiterating the values of good and healthy families benefiting from the country's economic health.

Today, the Thai people remember Dr. Puey as a person who stood against tyranny with honesty and integrity. He was known as the man who modernized the country's economic development plans as well as the education process that laid the foundation for today's Thailand.

The Magsaysay citation said it all: A single individual can make significant contributions to the progress of the country, despite a tendency toward official corruption evident in many lands. Thailand's relative prosperity and steady growth matched by stable finances area measure of his accomplishment.

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

Even though his works were mainly for the development of the Thai economy and education in Thailand, his opinions expressed in international and regional meetings, and his speeches made in many international arenas, were well received by economists and government officials overseas. His reputation for being honest, straight forward and fighting for righteousness was well recognized by elites in the region. He was regarded by bureaucrats in finance and central banking as the leading central banker of the region during his time. He was the only central bank governor that American President Nixon visited when he came to Thailand on an official visit.

His contributions during his career in the Ministry of Finance and Bank of Thailand were recognized by the Board of Trustees of the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation which gave him the Award for Government Service in 1965. The citation stated that "Dr Puey's career confirms that a simple individual can make significant contributions to the progress of the country, despite a tendency toward official corruption evident in many lands. Thailand's relative prosperity and steady growth matched by stable finances are a measure of his accomplishment"

During his career as the Governor of the Bank of Thailand, Dr. Puey contributed a great deal to cooperation between central banks in the region. At that time, South East Asian countries were individually attached to different constituency groups in the IMF. Such an arrangement fragmented the power of South East Asian nations and their individual interest had been overlooked as they were considered smaller members in their respective constituencies. Dr. Puey, therefore, saw the need for governors of South East Asian central banks to have opportunities to exchange information and ideas on the economics and financial conditions of the individual countries.

For that particular reason, in February 1966, Dr. Puey arranged for the very first conference of Governors from South East Asian Nations held in Thailand which was afterwards known as the “SEACEN Governors” Conference. The outcome of the conference yielded so much benefit so that the members continue to meet annually. The initial membership of 7 (Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam) has grown until there are now 20 central banks and monetary authorities as regular members, plus 14 invitees and 1 observer.



In that first SEACEN Governors Conference, Dr. Puey proposed and the conference resolve to establish a new constituency for South East Asian nations which would have the right to nominate its own representatives and a seat on the IMF Executive Board. However, Dr. Puey’s endeavor did not emerge in the first few years because it was opposed by countries in South East Asia which already belonged to a constituency and were concerned that they would be left with no place at the table. Through his unwavering commitment, his tireless campaign, vision and foresight, the group finally came together as the South East Asia Voting Group (SEAVG). The SEAVG still functions well to serve

the interests of ASEAN member countries along with other Asia Pacific members, and has been recognized in the international arena as a voice of reason and moderation.

Besides SEAVG, another initiative of the SEACEN Governors Conference was the establishment of a research and training centre for central bankers in the area of monetary policy, macro-economic and banking supervision. In the 2nd Conference in 1967, Dr. Puey was instrumental in conceiving this centre which was finally established in Kuala Lumpur as the South East Asian Centre for Research and Training (SEACEN) was established in Kuala Lumpur. The training courses offered at SEACEN are of great benefit to central banks which attract more central banks to join, covering South Asia and the Pacific. Each year, central banks across the region send their staff for training and research at the SEACEN, where they can exchange views and experience, and form and extend lifelong friendships that deepen as they advance in their careers.

It can be clearly seen that Dr. Puey's far sight and recognition of the importance of education and training was not only of value within Thailand, but also expanded throughout the wider region.

7. Website(s) including the website established/ designed for the anniversary celebration : <http://puey-ungphakorn.org> - section "The Centennial anniversary of Professor Dr. Puey Ungphakorn

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

1. Thailand

Thai Government Agencies: Treasury Department, Ministry of Finance

Budget Bureau

Office of the National Anti-Corruption Commission

Ministry of Education

2. Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO

3. Philippines National Commission for UNESCO

C. Anniversary to be celebrated

Fiftieth

Centenary

Multiple thereof

D: Information on the activities held on the occasion by the country or countries

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. Anti-Corruption Conference (to kick off the celebration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anti Corruption Organization - Office of the National Anti-Corruption Commission - Followers of Dr. Puey 	December 9, 2015	Baht 3 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crown Property Bureau - Budget Bureau
	2. Building the open air museum showing his biography, his works and memorable actions, his philosophy and ideology in the Puey rural training center in the province of Chainart	Foundation of Rural Development	To be completed for cerebration from July 2015 to March 2016	Cost of the project Baht 7 million	TU Alumni
	3. Youth activities in honour of Dr. Puey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Books for <u>primary school</u> students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Grandpa Puey’s biography” Cartoon Book - “From womb to tomb” Concept Cartoon Book • “Grandpa Puey” cartoon Trilogy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Young Adult Fictions in 20 chapters about the tireless 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TU - Assumption College - Thai Cartoon Association - Writers’ Association of Thailand - Ministry of Education 	Between March 9, 2015 to end of March, 2016		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TU - Assumption College - Budget Bureau

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)
	attempt and the virtue of Dr. Puey for <u>secondary school</u> students				
	4. Seminars and conferences to promote his good behavior ideology and philosophy throughout the country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference to promote his famous economic belief 	- TU - Bank of Thailand	From March 9, 2015 to March, 2016		- TU - Bank of Thailand - ATU, AETU
	5. Books on the centennial anniversary of Dr. Puey - “Dr. Puey-A decent person whom I know” - “Along 100 years of Puey Ungphakorn” - “The Thought that Engraved”	TU and Dr. Puey’s Followers	From September, 2015 to March, 2016		Self financed
	6. Thai Folksong CD “Calendar of memory - from womb to tomb” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD of the song “Dr. Puey-With love and admiration”	TU and TU Alumni TU and TU Alumni in Musical Business			Self financed Self financed
	7. A stage play about Dr. Puey’s work adventure named “Retrace the Dragon’s path” at Thailand Cultural Centre	TU and TU Alumni	November, 2015		Budget Bureau

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)
	8. Renovation of Talad Noi Community (his birthplace) to be a place with living environments of Chinese community in the time of his childhood which could attract Thai sightseers as well as foreign tourists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Treasury Department, Ministry of Finance - TU - Bank of Thailand - ATU & AETU 	To be completed for celebration in the month of March 2016	Cost of Renovation Baht 35-40 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Treasury Department - ATU & AETU - Bank of Thailand
	9. TU is preparing to establish “Puey Ungpakorn School of Rural Development” in his honour	TU	2016		TU
In other countries (please state which) Malaysia	Conference in Memory of Dr. Puey Ungphakorn, the founder of SEACEN	Bank Nagara Malaysia and SEACEN	February, 2016		Bank Nagara Malaysia

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

Transformations towards Sustainability Programme, and knowledge for global sustainability and sustainable development.

3. Form of participation requested from UNESCO

To participate in the conference to promote his famous economic belief (Quality of life: A Calendar of Hopes, from Mother's Womb to a Person's Tomb, that reflects his ideas and social, economic and political perspectives that call for social justice and a satisfying quality life) and to witness the grand opening of the Talad Noi Community (his birthplace).

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

Parts of UNESCO's objectives are to create learning societies with educational opportunities and quality for all populations as well as to contribute to the development of public policies that will correspond better to changes in society in terms of formulation and implementation.

Along his outstanding career, Dr. Puey dedicated himself to development of society through economic education. During his years served as a governor of the Bank of Thailand, it was widely accepted that, had it not been because of his decent conduct,

the Thai banking system would not have emerged in the sixties as a stable and trustworthy institution. Moreover, Dr. Puey also featured largely in the introduction of systematic planning for the country development. With his initiation, the World Bank sent a study team to Thailand to prepare a general development program resulting in the creation of the National Economic Development Board as the agency responsible for drafting the First Six-Year Plan (1961-66). The Plan outlined basic development patterns such as agricultural diversification, intensive farming, industrialization, and improvement in social services. Dr. Puey, as one of members of the Executive Committee of the NEDB since its inception, was given the role of chairman of the sub-committees on national highways, on drainage and sewerage systems for Bangkok, and on education. Upon the recommendation of his committee, the government since 1960 has undertaken a series of major highway projects which were essential for the development of the economy and, consequently, the well being of society.

In the matter of education, Dr. Puey was intensely aware as an economist that education is an important factor in economic development, and rendered important service in focusing government attention on gearing education to the ever increasing manpower needs of a growing economy. His concern emphasized continuity of training and quality as well as quantity. In his capacity as a member of the Committee on Educational Development under the NEDB, he formed a voluntary working committee of government officials, educators, and economists.

As the World Bank has revealed an increasing interest in the education projects of developing countries and indicated it would give consideration to a definite and comprehensive education development program for Thailand, a UNESCO technical mission, sent at the request of the World Bank in August 1963 to explore needs and possibilities, used the proposal by his committee as the principal working paper for its report.

Later, after he was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Economics in 1964, he devoted himself to the challenge of developing a program of education for future economists. He built the Faculty into the strongest economic department in the country. Among his many initiatives at Thammasat, he set up the Volunteer Graduate Programme to expose academics to growing social problems and injustice endured by the underprivileged in the countryside. In this programme they are required to spend substantial time in villages which, then, and only then, let them absorb and captivate the adversity of rural life. When they got the real picture, they were then able to develop appropriate approaches to improve the well being of the underprivileged. It has been apparent that graduates who

underwent this programme became the main force rural and social development through their work.

For these reasons, it can be seen that his work focused in fostering educational opportunities for all people and the development of community.

F. Other information

Education

Dr. Puey successfully reformed education in economics in Thailand starting with the Faculty of Economics of Thammasat University whose standard of economics education was far behind the international standard even though it was considered at the forefront of economics faculties in Thailand.

At the Faculty of Economics at Thammasat University, he successfully increased the full-time faculty members from four qualified staff when he started to 65 within 6 years. He did it by opening an English language master's degree programme in economics for newly recruited lecturers and by introducing a fellowship programme for selected lecturers to further their post graduate study up to doctoral level in reputable universities overseas. With his reputation, the Rockefeller Foundation provided all financial support for the human resources development.



Dr. Puey restructured and improved the curriculum to international standards and also opened an English Language bachelor degree programme in economics for students with a relatively good command of English. A new library for books, journals and other printed materials on economics was established in the faculty. It was rated at that time to be the library with most complete books and journals on economics in Asia.

He himself taught certain subjects and sacrificed a lot of his time coaching the young lecturers. He allowed time to participate in extra-curricular activities with students and urged them to discuss and debate about economic matters, economic development, and democracy at a time when the country was being ruled by a military dictatorship.

To tackle the lack of teaching materials, particularly Thai language textbooks, Dr. Puey was instrumental in setting up a Textbook Foundation which produced, and is still producing dozens of high-quality original textbooks in the Thai language. These cover all fields of the social sciences, as well as history.

With all these efforts he managed to create a modern economics faculty, the product of which has become a good workforce for the economy both in the government offices and in private sector including many good economists. His success inspired other universities to follow in improving or establishing their own economics faculties with an aim to achieve the same standard as that of Thammasat University. As a consequence the standard of education in economics of the whole country has been markedly improved.

It is for this success in reforming economics education in Thailand that we propose Dr. Puey to be honoured by UNESCO in the field of education.

Social and Human Sciences

Dr. Puey was, and still is, known to be a person with total integrity. He treasured the values of honesty, modesty, and perseverance, and he fought for righteousness. He opposed any corrupt activity that he encountered or knew of. He openly criticized any indication of corruption. He became the anti-corruption symbol.

Righteousness was another human value that he fought for. He dared to refuse the request of General Sarit Thanarat, the most powerful military man in the country at that time, to maintain righteousness in his duty as the Deputy Governor of the Bank of Thailand.

His courage to go against most powerful men in power was admired by the public in general, as well as by all civil servants. He became an icon as the courageous bureaucrat who never yielded to any deceitful authorities.



His devotion to the country was another value which was well known and set an example for civil servants in his day. It could be clearly seen in all his work that only national interests always prevail. No trace of personal interest could be detected at all in his work.

It is for these human values that he is treasured. He behaved according to his beliefs and set an example for others to follow for the good of mankind. For these reasons we propose Dr. Puey Ungphakorn to be honored by UNESCO in the area of Social and Human Sciences.

Dr. Puey's famous economic belief

Quality of life: A Calendar of Hopes, from Mother's Womb to a Person's Tomb that reflects his ideas on social, economic and political perspectives that call for social justice and a satisfying quality life.

Quality of life: A Calendar of Hopes, from Mother's Womb to a Person's Tomb

"When I am in my mother's womb, I want my mother to have nutritious foods and receive caring attention and services in mother-and-child welfare.

"I don't want many siblings like my parents had, and my mother must not give birth too often.

"It does not matter if mom and dad are legally married, or whether they abide by nuptial custom and tradition. What matters is they live together in peace and keep us happy and warm.

"During my first 2-3 years in life, the crucial period when my body and brain are growing, I want my mom and I to have nutritious foods.

"I want to go to school. So do my sisters. Schooling would provide us knowledge to make a living and learn morality of life. If I have brain to study further, let me have an opportunity to do so whether my parents are rich or poor, living in the city or the impoverished rural areas.

"After finishing my school, I want a meaningful career that gives me a satisfaction of contributing to the society.

"The country where I reside must be a law-abiding society with no harassment, oppression, or assault.

"My country should maintain fair and beneficial relationships with the outside world, so that I could learn the ideas and knowledge of the human of the world and my country would access to opportunities to receive foreign funds for our public goods.

"I want my country to sell our products abroad at fair prices.

"As farmers, I want to own adequate land sufficient for making a living and have access to loans for expanding my production, knowledge for improving my living, good market, and able to sell produces at fair prices.

"As a human being, I want to read newspapers and other books that are not expensive, to listen to radio and watch TV without too irritating commercials.

"I want good health, and the government must provide me free preventive healthcare, good medical services at low cost and convenient to see doctors and nurses when ill.

"I need free time for family enjoyment, green public parks, participation and appreciation in arts, literatures, dances, music, cultural events, temple fairs, Loy Kratong and other festivals, and any merit-making occasion as proper.

"Anything that I cannot do, or cannot do well, I shall seek help from friends in the form of co-operatives, clubs, or unions that help each other.

"All my demands above are not made as request for handouts. I am willing to pay taxes to the public according to my means.

"I want an opportunity to be part of the society around me, to participate politically, economically and socially in deciding the fate of the country.

"My wife also shares my wishes. The two of us should be taught and trained family planning.

"In our advanced age, my wife and I should receive compensation from the social security to which we contributed.

"When I die, I don't want to die foolishly or crazily, like in wars that other initiated, die in civil wars, die of road accidents, die of water or air pollution, or die of political toxicities.

"When I die, and if there are assets left; spare some for my wife to survive through the rest of her life. If our children are young; spare enough to see them through maturity. If our children are adults, do not give them any. The state should take away all the rest for the benefit of other lives.

"After my death, please cremate my body. Do not bury. Spare the ground for other people's domicile and productive land. Do not bother to organize an elaborate funeral.

"This is the meaning of life. This is a development that would exist for the benefit of all.

"Lastly, I would like to thank all of you who have a patience to read through to the end. May happiness and peace be with you, and as the Lord Buddha said about happiness:

"We do not see any happiness for all mortals other than wisdom, enlightenment, endurance, prudence, and sacrifice."

Puey Ungphakorn

1965 Ramon Magsaysay Award

for

Government Service

in recognition of dedication, unquestioned integrity and a high order of professional skill brought to the management of Thailand's public finance.

Manila on 31 August 1965



Belen H. Abreu

Biography

Prof. Dr. Puey Ungphakorn

Born: March 9th, 1916, Bangkok

- 1923 – 1932 Primary and Secondary Education at Assumption College in Bangkok.
- 1932 – 1937 Teaching at Assumption College.
- 1934 Started undergraduate study in Faculty of Law and Politics, Thammasat University.
- 1937 Graduated with Bachelor's Degree in Law and Politics from Thammasat University.
- 1938 Granted Thai Government Scholarship to study at London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE), University of London.
- 1942 Graduated with Bachelor's Degree in Economics from LSE.
- 1942 – 1945 Joined the Free Thai Movement against Japanese domination over Thailand during World War II by serving in the Royal Army of Great Britain.
- 1948 Graduated with Ph.D. in Economics from LSE.
- 1953 Deputy Governor of the Bank of Thailand
- 1956 – 1959 Economic & Financial Counselor, Royal Thai Embassy, London, United Kingdom.
- 1959 – 1966 First Director General of the Budget Bureau of Thailand.
- 1959 – 1971 Governor of the Bank of Thailand.
- 1962 – 1967 Director General of the Fiscal Policy Office.
- 1965 Ramon Magsaysay Award for Government Service**
- 1964 – 1972 Dean of the Faculty of Economics, Thammasat University.
- 1973 – 1975 Member of the National Legislative Assembly.
- 1975 – 1976 Rector of Thammasat University.

Died: July 28th, 1999, London, United Kingdom



Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO

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Ref: 666 /BTK/

Hanoi, 19 December 2014

Dear Mr Kamon Siriban,

In reference to your letter No Ref. 0205/12597 dated 8 December 2014, I would like to express the support of the Viet Nam National Commission for UNESCO to your project proposing Professor Dr. Puey Ungphakorn, to be honored by UNESCO in the field of education 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

Mr Kamon Siriban
Secretary- General
National Commission for UNESCO
Ratchadamnoen-Nok Avenue, Dusit
Bangkok 10300
THAILAND

Subject: Letter of Support for Thai proposal concerning the Celebration of Anniversaries with which UNESCO could be associated during the 2016-2017 biennium.

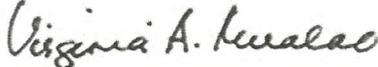
Dear **Kamon Siriban**,

We are writing in support of the proposal of the Thai National Commission for UNESCO recognizing the invaluable contributions of Dr. Puey Ungphakorn in the field of education and human sciences.

His moral fortitude which remained intact, as shown in his capacity to ingeniously compromise between what was objectively possible and morally desirable is an admirable character of Dr. Ungphakorn. His advocacy for democracy and efforts in fighting corruption, despite the risks for his life, is an invaluable contribution to humanity that could not be simply ignored.

Indeed, the impressive personal and professional background of Dr. Ungphakorn has shown us a man with integrity and incorruptible character. His honesty, modesty, perseverance and righteousness are values that we should all look up to and emulate. Hence, the Philippines National Commission for UNESCO, in behalf of the Philippine Government vehemently supports the proposal of the Thai NatCom in honoring the life and contribution of a great educator and leader, Dr. Puey Ungphakorn.

Yours truly,


VIRGINIA A. MIRALAO, PH.D
Secretary-General

MR. KAMON SIRIBAN

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