



# **THE THAI PARLIAMENT**

**SPECIALLY PUBLISHED TO COMMEMORATE  
THE GRAND CELEBRATION OF THE 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
OF  
HIS MAJESTY KING BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ'S  
ACCESSION TO THE THRONE**

**ISBN 974-8055-27-2**





## THE ROYAL EMBLEM IN COMMEMORATION OF THE GRAND CELEBRATION

The Royal Emblem specially created to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of H.M. the King's Accession to the Throne Grand Celebration is a montage of various images neatly presented in a classic design. The images represent certain articles and symbols of sovereignty including:

The Royal Private Seal of His Majesty the King as the centre piece with the High Symbol of Chakri Dynasty and Maha Bhichai Mongkut, literally the Great Crown of Victory, on top. The design purposefully signifies His Majesty's personal status as one of the great rulers in the reigning Chakri Dynasty. The two images of white elephants in an attentive posture beneath a white nine-tier royal umbrella on each side and facing each other to keep the Seal in position with a double-deck golden footed tray in the middle bring a variety of meanings to the Emblem.

First, the elephants in their traditional role in the past as a means of transport for Thai kings, are regarded as the symbol of good service and a deep sense of loyalty. With such belief, the symbolic elephants seem to reiterate that all Thai citizens have the duty to be of good service to the Throne and the Chakri Dynasty and always wholeheartedly pay His Majesty supreme respect while enjoying a peaceful and happy life under the royal protection as symbolised by the nine-tier royal umbrellas.

Second, because white elephants were traditionally treated as creatures of importance. According to Brahmanism, any white elephant, if captured and found bearing correct characteristics as described in ancient scriptures, could be regarded as befalling good omens for the reigning monarch resulting in the rise of his sovereign power and courage, the increasing of his wisdom and the surge of his personal glory and intellect.

Third, elephants have long been historically associated with the Thai Kingdom in many ways. The image of a white elephant was once adorned the Thai national flag. With a life span longer than other animals, elephants were deemed a symbol of longevity, a perfect match with Thailand as a nation long in history.

There were also other reasons for depicting elephant images in the Royal Emblem. As one of the animals high on the list of endangered species and seriously needing protection, the elephant images on the Emblem may help stir up the stronger sense of conservation and love for this gentle and clever animal. But if the elephant's path to extinction cannot be avoided in the time to come, the images may somehow help the future generations in their learning of this majestic animal.



## FOREWORD

The year 1996 brought many joyful moments and great pleasure to all hearts and souls in the Kingdom of Thailand as it auspiciously marked the 50th Anniversary of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Accession to the Throne. All people across the wide spectrum of populace, seem openly demonstrate the shared feeling of high respect and unparalleled admiration for His Majesty. This is due to the fact that throughout the long years of His Majesty's reign all the people have been deeply touched by His Majesty's strict observance of the long-held Buddhist-influenced standards of good kingship, known as the Ten Point Royal Code of Principles. His Majesty's countless beneficent activities in many fields of social development have brought and still bring incalculable benefits to all the people in this fortunate land and reflect precisely the true essence of the Royal Inaugural Proclamation made by His Majesty during the Coronation Ceremony on the 5th of May 1950. Addressing the whole nation, His Majesty delivered a very strong royal oath which can be interpreted word by word as this, "*We will reign with righteousness, for the benefit and happiness of the Siamese people.*"

With deepest gratitude for His Majesty's graciousness towards the functioning of the Thai parliamentary system, the Secretariat of the House of Representatives has taken the opportunity to join the Celebration by publishing this special book, "*The Thai Parliament*" as a solemn tribute in its keenest sense of loyalty to His Majesty, the highly revered and beloved King of all the people in Thailand.

**The Secretariat of the House of Representatives**

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## **Chapter 1**

**His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej**



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