

OBITUARY

Silpakorn University with deep regret announced the passing away of His Serene Highness Prince Subhadradis Diskul, our famous former president on the 6th of November, 2003.

The son of His Royal Highness Prince Damrong Rajanubhava, the “Father of Thai History”, Prince Subhadradis was recognized as one of the most eminent art historians of Thailand. His knowledge of Thai and Cambodian art as seen in many books, papers, and lectures in Thai, English and French was unparalleled.

Prince Subhadradis finished his secondary school at the prestigious Vajiravudh College, and graduated from the Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University in 1943 in History and English. In 1948 he was granted the scholarship from the British Council for the three month training on museum sciences and archaeology in London after which he crossed over to France to study art history, by the recommendation of Professor George Cœdès, at École du Louvre under the supervision of Professor Philippe Stern, a famous art historian who had corrected the date of ancient Khmer and Cambodian art. After the end of the course in 1951, he crossed back to London and studied at the Institute of Archaeology for two years, before his return to Thailand in 1953, and worked with the National Museum from 1953 to 1964.

Prince Subhadradis joined Silpakorn University in that same 1964 as the professor at the Faculty of Archaeology. During the eleven years of his professorship, Prince Subhadradis was highly praised as the specialist on Thai culture, art and art history. Besides writing a lot of books on the subject, he also participated and presented papers at many international conferences, gave lectures at some other universities, and acted

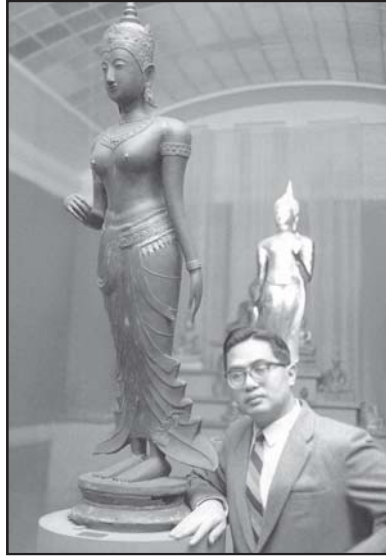
as an honorable guide for the Royal and Thai government's visitors.

Prince Subhadradis who often said that he was not accustomed with administration worked as dean of The Graduate School, Silpakorn University between 1976 – 1981, and as the president between 1982 – 1986. During his administration periods, he was regarded as a leader who worked with willingness and friendliness.

After his retirement from Silpakorn University, the prince who played an important role in the preservation of the cultural heritage of the country and the region was appointed by the Thai Government as the director of SPAFA and worked there for two terms, during 1987 to 1992.

Prince Subhadradis highly honored and decorated for his contributions to Thai culture and world heritage was awarded the Knight Grand Cross (First Class) of the Most Illustrious Order of Chula Chom Klao by His Majesty King Bhumibol, and was recognized by the French Government as a Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur, besides the awards and decorations from the governments of the Netherlands and Denmark.

For Silpakorn University Prince Subhadradis would be always remembered as the beloved teacher, the eminent honorable guide, and the kind president.



☞ Prince Subhadradis Diskul took the post of a curator of the National Museum during 1953 -1964.



☞ Professor Prince Subhadradis Diskul was appointed as the Chairman of the Historical Commission, the Prime Minister Secretariat from December 19th, 1985.



☞ Professor Prince Subhadradis Diskul, the President of Silpakorn University, acted as an honourable guide for Mrs. Nancy Reagan, the wife of the late US President Ronald Reagan, at the Emerald Buddha Temple in 1986.

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