



**PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD**  
**2006**

*Further information and detail  
of PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD  
and PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD FOUNDATION  
can be found on*

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PROGRAMME  
ON THE OCCASION OF  
HIS MAJESTY THE KING  
PRESIDING OVER  
THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF  
**PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD 2006**  
AT THE CHAKRI THRONE HALL  
BANGKOK  
WEDNESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2007





**HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS  
PRINCE MAHIDOL OF SONGKLA  
1892 - 1929**



H. M. King Chulalongkorn and H.R.H. Prince Mahidol

## **HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE MAHIDOL OF SONGKLA**

His Royal Highness Prince Mahidol of Songkla was born on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1892 to Their Majesties King Chulalongkorn and Queen Savang Vadhana. He was brought up in his formative years according to the royal Thai tradition and ordained as a Buddhist novice like his brothers before receiving his education at Harrow, a renowned Public School in England. He then proceeded to Germany to continue his studies in accordance with the wishes of his father who was a close friend of Emperor Kaiser Wilhelm II. Prince Mahidol first attended the Royal Prussian Military Preparatory College at Potsdam which also offered courses on humanities and sciences in addition to military science. This liberal education background as well as self-study and sedulous visits to museums during that period together helped form the intellectual and philosophical basis of his attitude and personality.

Prince Mahidol subsequently attended the Imperial Military Academy at Gross Lichterfelde in Berlin for two more years. He then followed the wishes of His Majesty King Vajiravudh by entering the Nurwik Imperial German Naval Academy at Flensburg in 1912. In that year, Prince Mahidol was commissioned by His Majesty King Vajiravudh as a Lieutenant in the Royal Thai Navy. He was concurrently commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Imperial German Navy. Prince Mahidol completed his naval study but was prevented from joining the Imperial German Navy since he was instructed by His Majesty King Vajiravudh to return to Thailand at the outbreak of the First World War.

After a year of service in the Royal Thai Navy, Prince Mahidol resigned, with His Majesty King Vajiravudh's permission, to pursue a civilian career. This was both the decisive turning point in his personal life and a momentous national event signaling his lasting contributions to the advancement of higher education, especially in the fields of basic sciences, public health, medicine, nursing, and medical research.



*H.R.H. Prince Mahidol with H.R.H. the Princess Mother*

Prince Mahidol had noted, while serving in the Royal Thai Navy, the serious need for improvement in the standards of medical practitioners and public health in Thailand. In undertaking such mission, Prince Mahidol set in motion a whole range of activities in accordance with his conviction that human resources development at the national level was of utmost importance and his belief that improvement of public health constituted an essential factor in national development. One of his primary tasks was to lay a solid foundation for teaching basic sciences which Prince Mahidol pursued through all necessary measures. These included the provision of a considerable sum of his own money as scholarships for six talented students to study physics, chemistry and biology in England. Upon their return, these students formed the core of well-qualified teaching staff in

basic sciences which the country had hitherto lacked. Once the teaching of basic sciences was well established, the teaching of other fields of applied sciences was upgraded. Here, Prince Mahidol placed special emphasis on medical education, public health, nursing, and medical research. His initiative and effort produced a most remarkable and lasting impact on the improvement of modern medicine and public health in Thailand such that he was subsequently honoured with the title of “*Father of Modern Medicine and Public Health of Thailand.*”

In implementing his plan for institutional development in these areas, Prince Mahidol decided to study public health and medicine himself. Upon leaving the Royal Thai Navy, he proceeded to the United States and enrolled at Harvard University in 1916. In spite of having to shuttle between Harvard for his study and Thailand for his official duties and work, as well as his ill health, Prince Mahidol managed to concentrate on his study. He succeeded and received the Certificate of Public Health (C.P.H.) in 1921, the degree of Doctor of Medicine (cum laude) in 1928 and the honour of Alpha Omega Alpha membership. During the first period of his residence at Harvard, Prince Mahidol also negotiated and concluded, on behalf of the Royal Thai Government, an agreement with the Rockefeller Foundation on assistance for medical and nursing education in Thailand.

During his stay in Thailand after receiving his C.P.H. in 1921, Prince Mahidol was appointed Director-General of the University Department, Ministry of Education. In that capacity, he implemented the assistance from the Rockefeller Foundation. He upgraded the teaching of biology, physics and chemistry through curricula development, acquisition of up-to-date equipment, and construction of laboratories and classrooms. To meet these and many other expenses in the expansion of the medical school, Prince Mahidol generously supplemented government budget with his own personal fund, and secured donations from members of the Royal Family. In implementing his institutional development plan for the improvement of the teaching of basic sciences and pre-medical education,



*Siriraj Hospital during the initial phase*

Prince Mahidol mobilized all available resources, including teaching vertebrate anatomy himself. But it was in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee to establish the Siriraj School of Medicine that Prince Mahidol demonstrated his capability and far-sightedness as an educational planner, as well as his efficiency as an institutional builder.

After discharging his official duties and working as an educator, Prince Mahidol went back to Harvard and returned home with his well-earned M.D. (cum laude) in 1928. Back again at Siriraj Medical School, he taught preventative and social medicine to final year medical students. However, he was not permitted to serve an internship because of his pre-eminent royal status as a celestial Prince. Thus, to overcome this obstacle and to enable him to personally help the sick and bereaved, Prince Mahidol decided to leave the establishment he loved and had toiled for, to work as a resident doctor at McCormick Hospital, an American missionary hospital in Chiang Mai. Leaving his family behind in Bangkok, Prince Mahidol stayed with Dr. E.C. Cord, Director of McCormick Hospital, and performed operations alongside Dr. Cord. As ever, Prince Mahidol did much more than was required in attending his patients, taking

care of needy patients at all hours of the day and night, and even, according to records, donating his own blood for them.

Finally, Prince Mahidol was able to accomplish, through his determination and effort, and affirmation of the noble principle of dignity and worthiness of everyone as human being, irrespective of social origin, property, birth or status.

During the last days of his life and still continuing to fulfill his noble and zealous mission, Prince Mahidol took temporary leave for Bangkok in order to attend the funeral of a senior member of the Royal Family. He never returned. He had been suffering from a severe kidney disease, for which he was once hospitalized while at Harvard, and refraining from disclosing to his family that he only had at most a year to live. The nation mourned a great man's death at the young age of 37 years, 8 months and 23 days.



*Residence of H.R.H. Prince Mahidol at the McCormick Hospital,  
Chiang Mai*

The resounding message affirming the dignity and the value of life, so forcefully translated into action by Prince Mahidol, was enunciated in 1948 with the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

His teaching of the spirit of brotherhood towards all human beings without discrimination of any kind is well-known. Many of his exhortations and pronouncements given to his medical students have been highly respected for their wisdom and their eternal moral values. For instance:

*“I don’t want you to be only a doctor, but I also want you to be a man.”*

*“True success is not in the learning, but in its application to the benefit of mankind.”*

Prince Mahidol’s humanistic attitude and idea permeated the lives of his family members: his consort, Her Royal Highness the Princess Mother; his eldest daughter, Her Royal Highness Princess Galyani Vadhana Krom Luang Naradhiwas Rajanagarindra; his first son, His Majesty King Ananda Mahidol; and his youngest son, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, as well as all the rest of His Majesty’s family. He motivated each and all of them alike to be selfless, acting on the principle that each of us, without discrimination, has human dignity and worth, ardently devoted to the betterment of health, happiness, and well-being of the sick, the poor, and the deprived. In the words of Professor A.G. Ellis, a former Dean of Siriraj Medical School, Prince Mahidol ***‘was born to make the world a better place.’***



*The Prince Mahidol Museum is located in the Syamindra Building  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Siriraj Hospital*



## **Prince Mahidol Award**

### **Prince Mahidol Award Foundation**

The Prince Mahidol Award Foundation was established in commemoration of the Centenary of the Birth of His Royal Highness Prince Mahidol of Songkla on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1992. The Foundation is under Royal Patronage, with Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn as president.

### **The Award**

Two Prince Mahidol Awards are conferred annually upon individuals or institutions which have demonstrated outstanding and exemplary contributions to the advancement of medical and public health services for humanity throughout the world. Each award consists of a medal, a certificate, and the sum of US\$ 50,000.



## Nomination

An individual or a group of individuals or an institution may be nominated by national medical or health authorities or by individual or group of individuals in non-governmental capacity as candidates for the award. Nominations are submitted to the Secretary-General of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation before 31<sup>st</sup> May each year.



## Screening and Selection

The Secretary-General of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation transmits all nomination forms to the Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee for initial screening. Once approved by the panel of Scientific Advisors, the nomination forms are forwarded to the International Award Committee which comprises a number of world-renowned experts in the fields of medicine and public health. Members of this committee for 2004 - 2006 are Professor Dr. Vicharn Panich (Thailand), Dr. Donald Ainslie Henderson (U.S.A.), Dr. Joshua Lederberg (U.S.A.), Dr. Adetokunbo O. Lucas (Nigeria), Sir Gustav Nossal (Australia), Dr. Nevin S. Scrimshaw (U.S.A.), Dr. Visith Sitprija (Thailand), Dr. Kraisid Tontisirin (Thailand), Dr. Aree Valyasevi (Thailand), Professor Sir David John Weatherall (U.K.), Dr. Bert Sakmann (Germany) and Dr. Tadimitsu Kishimoto (Japan). The International Award Committee considers and recommends names of the proposed awardees to the Board of Trustees of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation for final approval.

## Award Ceremony

The Prince Mahidol Award Presentation Ceremony normally takes place in Bangkok in January each year. For the present year, the ceremony is to be held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2007 at the Chakri Throne Hall and is presided over by His Majesty the King.



## **PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARDEES 2006**

**In the Field of Medicine**

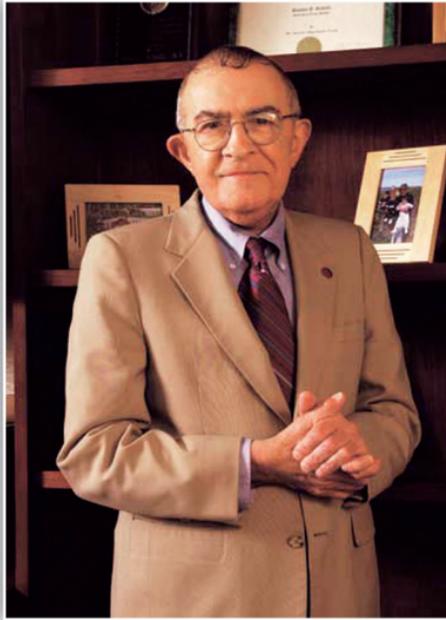
**Professor Stanley G. Schultz**

**In the Field of Public Health**

**Dr. David R. Nalin**

**Dr. Richard A. Cash**

**Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis**



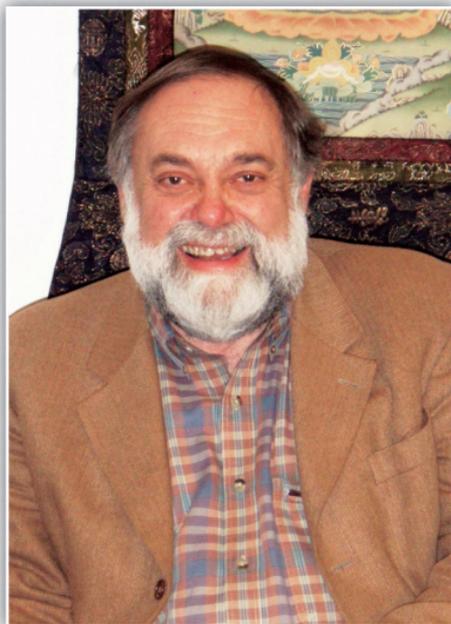
**Professor Stanley G. Schultz, M.D.**, Professor and Former Dean, University of Texas Medical School at Houston, Texas, U.S.A.

**Professor Stanley G. Schultz** and his team demonstrated in the 1960s that glucose and sodium absorption in the small intestine were intimately coupled, and glucose could facilitate the absorption of sodium and water. This pioneering work provided the scientific foundation for the use of the Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) consisting of salt, sugar and water in the treatment of dehydration in diarrhea patients. Since the early 1970s, the Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) has continuously benefited the lives of millions of children each year all over the world. Professor Schultz is also known to be a great teacher, receiving several teaching awards, including Teacher of the Year Award from the American Physiological Society.



**David R. Nalin, M.D.**, Former Director of Vaccine, Scientific Affairs, Merck Vaccine Division, Merck&Co. Inc., West Point, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

**Dr. David R. Nalin** was assigned, in the 1960s, to the Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory (CRL) in Dhaka, East Pakistan (presently, the capital city of Bangladesh) as a research associate at the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH). Dr. Nalin, Dr. Cash, and their colleagues successfully tested the efficacy of an oral glucose-electrolyte solution, later known as Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS), to be used instead of intravenous fluid for the treatment of patients with severe cholera. This new treatment was tested in Matlab and then used by the Johns Hopkins University International Center for Medical Research and Training (ICMRT) in Calcutta in the refugee camps during the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971. Later as a WHO consultant, Dr. Nalin has helped establish a number of highly successful national programmes on the ORT for diarrhea diseases in Costa Rica, Jamaica, Jordan, and Pakistan.



**Richard A. Cash, M.D., M.P.H.**, Senior Lecturer on International Health, Department of Population and International Health, Harvard University School of Public Health, Boston, U.S.A.

**Dr. Richard A. Cash** had been involved in the first successful scientifically-proven clinical trial of testing the ORT on severe diarrhea patients, when working at the Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory (CRL) in Dhaka in the 1960s, right after finishing his internship in New York City. The trial became a landmark for subsequently applying this treatment around the world.



***Dilip Mahalanabis, M.B.B.S., D.C.H. (London), F.R.C.P. (Edin)***, Director, Society for Applied Studies, Kolkata, India.

***Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis*** started his work on the ORT in 1966 as a research investigator for the Johns Hopkins University International Center for Medical Research and Training in Calcutta. During the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971, Dr. Mahalanabis used the ORT in the refugee camps which accommodated 350,000 refugees in West Bengal, India. Dr. Mahalanabis instructed his staff to distribute the Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) for the treatment of over 3,000 patients. With the ORS, the death rate dropped to only 3% in comparison with 20 – 30% using only intravenous fluid therapy. This was the first large – scale use of the ORS in a disaster situation. As a result, it gained international health organizations’ recognition and its application was spread worldwide.



The Chakri Throne Hall

## Programme

- 16.30 hrs. - The Awardees and guests arrive at the Chakri Throne Hall
- 17.30 hrs. - His Majesty the King and Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn arrive at the Chakri Throne Hall
- The Presentation Ceremony of the Prince Mahidol Award 2006
  - His Majesty the King graciously grants a private audience to the Awardees and spouses at the Sommut Dhevaraj Uppabat Hall
  - Guests are invited by chamberlains to the West Wing where refreshments are served
- 18.30 hrs. - His Majesty the King leaves the Chakri Throne Hall
- 19.00 hrs. - Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously grants a private audience to the Awardees and spouses at the Private Room of the East Wing of the Throne Hall (Guests are invited to the Mulsthan Borom Asana Hall for a reception)
- All guests are invited to proceed to their places at the dining tables in the Boromrajasathitmaholarn Hall
  - Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn and the Awardees proceed to the main table
  - Dinner is served
  - Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn and the Awardees proceed to the Private Room in front of the Devaranyasthan Hall for tea/coffee
  - Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn presents mementos to the Awardees
  - Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn leaves