



PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD

2011

PROGRAMME
ON THE OCCASION OF
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS
PRINCESS MAHA CHAKRI SIRINDHORN
AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF
HIS MAJESTY THE KING
PRESIDING OVER
THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF
PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD 2011
AT THE CHAKRI THRONE HALL
BANGKOK
WEDNESDAY 25th JANUARY 2012



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



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

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE MAHIDOL OF SONGKLA

His Royal Highness Prince Mahidol of Songkla was born on 1st January 1892 to Their Majesties King Chulalongkorn and Queen Savang Vadhana. Brought up in his formative years according to the royal Thai tradition, he was 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 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 studies 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 a decisive turning point in his personal life which would eventually mark the beginning of 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 of Songkla 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 practices and public health services in Thailand. In undertaking such a 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 the utmost importance and his belief that improvement of public health constituted an essential factor for national development. One of his primary tasks was to lay a solid foundation for teaching basic sciences which Prince Mahidol pursued through all available means. 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 a 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 emphases on medical education, public health, nursing and medical research. His initiatives and efforts led to a remarkable and lasting impact on the improvement of modern medicine and public health in Thailand, so much so 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 of America and enrolled at Harvard University in 1916. In spite of having to shuttle between Harvard for his studies and Thailand for his official duties and work, as well as his ill health, Prince Mahidol managed to pursue his studies. He 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 oversaw 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 for the expansion of the medical school, Prince Mahidol generously supplemented government budget with his own personal funds, as well as secured donations from other members of the Royal Family. In implementing his institutional development plan for the improvement of the teaching of basic sciences and pre-medical education, Prince Mahidol mobilized all available resources, including teaching vertebrate anatomy himself. It was, however, in his capacity as Chairman of the



Siriraj Hospital during the initial phase

Committee to establish the Siriraj School of Medicine that Prince Mahidol demonstrated his ability 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 preventive 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. Cort, Director of McCormick Hospital, and performed operations alongside Dr. Cort. As ever, Prince Mahidol did much more than was required in attending to 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 hard work and determination, an 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 when he still continued to tirelessly fulfill his noble mission, Prince Mahidol took temporary leave to 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 the 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”, and

“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, by motivating 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, Former Dean of Siriraj Medical School, Prince Mahidol ***“was born to make the world a better place”***.



*The Prince Mahidol Museum located in the Syamindra Building
2nd Floor, Siriraj Hospital*



Prince Mahidol Award

The Prince Mahidol Award Foundation

The Prince Mahidol Award Foundation, which was established in commemoration of the Centenary of the Birth of His Royal Highness Prince Mahidol of Songkla, is under the Royal Patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. The 1st of January 2012 marks the 120th Birthday Anniversary of His Royal Highness Prince Mahidol of Songkla and this year also marks the 20th Anniversary of the Prince Mahidol Award.

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\$ 100,000.



Nomination

An individual or a group of individuals or an institution may be nominated as a candidate for the award by a national medical or health authority or by an individual or a group of individuals in non-governmental capacity. Nominations are submitted to the Secretary-General of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation before the 31st of 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 2010-2012 are Professor Dr. Vicharn Panich (Thailand), Dr. Nevin S. Scrimshaw (U.S.A.), Dr. Visith Sitprijia (Thailand),



Dr. Aree Valyasevi (Thailand), Dr. Donald A. Henderson (U.S.A.), Sir Gustav Nossal (Australia), Dr. Kraisid Tontisirin (Thailand), Dr. Adetokunbo O. Lucus (Nigeria), Sir David Weatherall (U.K.), Dr. Bert Sakmann (Germany), Dr. Tadamitsu Kishimoto (Japan), Professor Miriam K. Were (Kenya) and Sir John E. Sulston (U.K.). The International Award Committee considers and recommends names of the proposed candidates to the Board of Trustees of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation for final approval.

The Award Ceremony

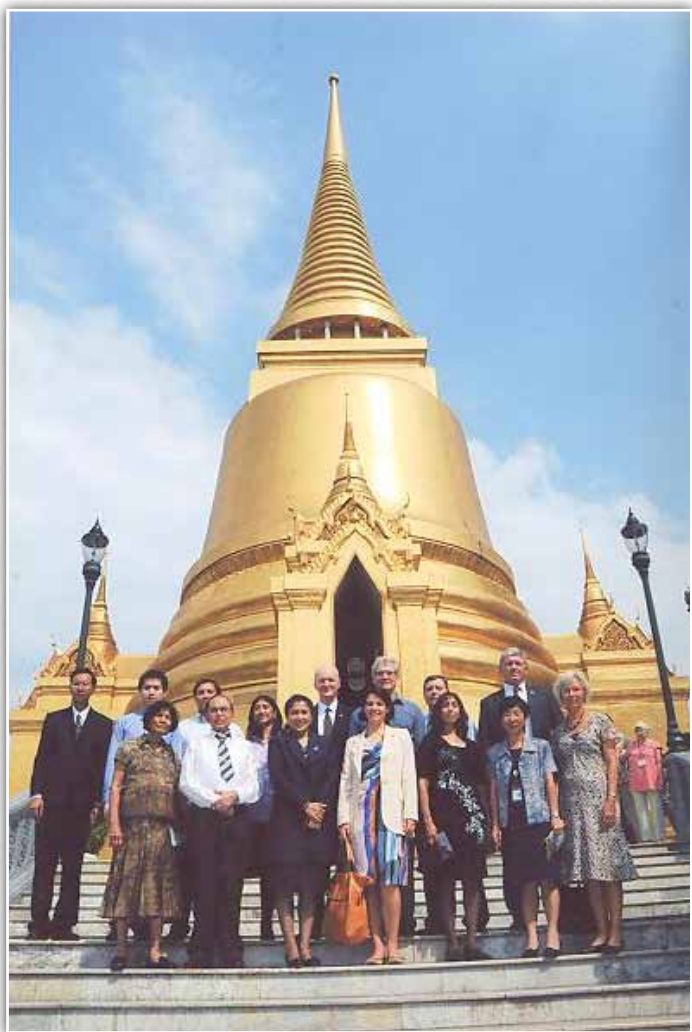
The Prince Mahidol Award Presentation Ceremony normally takes place in Bangkok in January each year. For the present year, the ceremony is to be held on 25th January 2012 at the Chakri Throne Hall and will be presided over by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn as the Representative of His Majesty the King.













PRINCE MAHIDOL LAUREATES 2011

In the field of Medicine

Professor Aaron T. Beck

Dr. David T. Wong

In the field of Public Health

Dr. Ruth F. Bishop



Professor Aaron T. Beck (U.S.A.), Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry, University of Pennsylvania, and Honorary President of the Aaron T. Beck Psychopathology Research Center, Pennsylvania, for his outstanding contribution in the development of cognitive behavioral therapy.

Professor Aaron T. Beck is the first person who has worked on cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) on patients suffering from depression. He developed CBT in the early 1960s when he was a psychiatrist at the University of Pennsylvania. He researched, developed and tested the efficiency of the method used on patients. This method focuses on how thinking affects the way a person feels and acts, and helps to change their thinking, behavior and emotional responses to become more rational. Later studies show that CBT is the best method for major depression. CBT has been widely used by psychiatrists and psychotherapists for the treatment of depression. This therapy has helped more than 120 million people suffering from major depression and reduced the rate of suicide among more than one million people worldwide every year. Professor Beck has become known as the Father of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy.



Dr. David T. Wong (U.S.A.), Adjunctive Professor, Neurobiology, Department of Psychiatry, Indiana University School of Medicine for his outstanding contribution in the discovery of fluoxetine.

Dr. David T. Wong started his study and research in the 1970s and later found fluoxetine, which was the first selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI). It then took about 15 years before the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (U.S. FDA) approved fluoxetine for marketing as an antidepressant drug under the trade name “Prozac” in January 1988. In 1990, fluoxetine or Prozac became the most prescribed antidepressant because of its sustained effectiveness, low side-effect profile, overdose safety and convenient once-a-day dosage. It has been widely used to help more than 100 million patients around the world. Moreover, fluoxetine has become the basic model in developing many antidepressants.

Both cognitive behavioral therapy and fluoxetine play a major role in the treatment of major depression, but the combination of the two gives a more effective and satisfactory result.



Dr. Ruth F. Bishop (Australia), Professorial Fellow, Department of Paediatrics, University of Melbourne, and Senior Principal Research Fellow, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, Australia, for her outstanding work on Rotavirus and vaccine against Rotavirus diarrhea.

Dr. Ruth F. Bishop is the first person who discovered that diarrhea in children, which occurs in those younger than six years old around the world, is caused by Rotavirus. The virus claims about half a million children's lives every year, especially in low and lower middle income countries in Africa and Asia. In 1973, Dr. Bishop and her team at the Royal Children's Hospital examined cells from the intestines of children with gastroenteritis under the electron microscope and found that the virus has a round and wheel-like shape, so they named it as "Rotavirus".

Furthermore, she discovered the demonstration of protective immunity against severe disease by natural neonatal rotavirus infection. This laid the groundwork for vaccine development against Rotavirus. Since 2007, it was mandated that every Australian child must receive the vaccine against Rotavirus diarrhea. At present, the vaccine has been widely accepted and used in more than 60 countries including Thailand, saving lives and providing health care to millions of children worldwide.



The Chakri Throne Hall

Programme

- 16.30 hrs - The Laureates and guests arrive at the Chakri Throne Hall.
- 17.15 hrs - Guests are invited into the Throne Hall.
- 17.30 hrs - Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, as Representative of His Majesty the King, arrives at the Chakri Throne Hall and proceeds to the Throne Hall.
- The Grand Chamberlain leads the Laureates, the Vice President of the Foundation, the Chairman of the International Award Committee and the Ambassadors representing the Laureates' countries into the Throne Hall.
 - Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn presents the Prince Mahidol Awards for the Year 2011 to the Laureates.
 - Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn delivers the Royal Address.
 - Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously grants a private audience to the Laureates and spouses at the Sommut Dhevaraj Uppabat Hall.
 - Guests are invited by chamberlains to the East Wing and West Wing where refreshments are served.
 - Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn leaves the Chakri Throne Hall.