



The Royal Society of Thailand Newsletter

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January-April, 2026

The Royal Society of Thailand

Royal Society Knowledge Outreach Program, Fiscal Year 2026

Between January and April 2026, the Royal Society of Thailand delivered a series of four academic lectures under its Knowledge Outreach Program, addressing issues of national significance and cultural heritage.

Session 5: *The Election of Members of the House of Representatives and the Future of the Nation*



Prof. Emeritus Surapol Issaragrisil, M.D., President of the Royal Society of Thailand, with Specially Appointed Prof. Noranit Setabutr, Fellow of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences (January 28, 2026, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.)

Session 6: *The Formation of a New Government and the Future of the Nation*

Prof. Emeritus Surapol Issaragrisil, M.D., President of the Royal Society of Thailand, with Specially Appointed Prof. Vicha Mahakun, Associate Fellow of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences (February 24, 2026, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)





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Session 7: Law Enforcement and the Future of the Nation

Prof. Emeritus Surapol Issaragrisil, M.D., President of the Royal Society of Thailand, with Specially Appointed Prof. Krisda Punyasmita, Associate Fellow of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences (March 25, 2026, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)



Session 8: Thai Literature: A Heritage of Language and Wisdom

Prof. Emeritus Dr. Cholada Ruengruglikit, Fellow of the Academy of Arts, with Dr. Anant Laulertvorakul, Associate Fellow of the Academy of Arts (April 29, 2026, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)





Joint Academic Symposium of the Three Academies Integrating Scholarship for National Development in Celebration of the Centennial of the Royal Society of Thailand

On March 11, 2026, the Royal Society of Thailand convened a full-day joint academic symposium at the Royal Princess Larn Luang Hotel, Bangkok, bringing together its three academies in celebrating its 100th anniversary.

The symposium sought to advance interdisciplinary collaboration, reinforce the integration of scholarly knowledge for national development, and enhance public understanding of the Society's mandate. It also provided a platform for public participation and the exchange of informed perspectives.



The program featured three thematic dialogues:

Academy of Moral and Political Sciences: *Good Governance, Anti-corruption, and Bureaucratic Reform: From Academic Knowledge to the Transformation of the Thai State*

Academy of Science: *Health Sciences and Biomedicine*

Academy of Arts: *Buddhism: Eastern and Western Perspectives*

The Centennial of the Royal Society of Thailand (April 19, 2026)



The Royal Society of Thailand commemorated the 100th anniversary of its founding on April 17, 2026 through a series of ceremonial and academic events.

The morning commenced with a formal tribute to the statue of King Rama VII, followed by Buddhist chanting and the offering of alms at the Society's premises. A centennial press conference was subsequently held, at which Prof. Emeritus Surapol Issaragrisil, M.D., President of the Royal Society of Thailand, addressed the media. The program also included a traditional water-pouring ceremony in honor of senior Fellows and Associate Fellows.





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The afternoon session featured a keynote lecture, *The Royal Society of Thailand and National Security*, delivered by General Surayud Chulanont, President of the Privy Council. This was followed by high-level academic panel discussions organized by the three academies:

- **Academy of Moral and Political Sciences:** *The Rule of Law and Intellectual Institutions: The Role of the Royal Society in the Stability of Thai Society*
- **Academy of Science:** *Leadership Toward an Intelligence Society: The New Role of the Royal Society*
- **Academy of Arts:** *Language and the Arts: The Soul of the Nation in the Age of Transformation*

This landmark occasion honored the Society's distinguished legacy, reaffirmed its intellectual leadership, and marked a century of sustained contribution to the nation. The event was attended by Fellows, Associate Fellows, government officials, staff, and distinguished guests.



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Academy of Moral and Political Sciences

Academic conference on “The Status, Direction, and Progress of Disciplines within the Office of Moral and Political Sciences, Royal Society of Thailand, and Policy Recommendations”



On February 11, 2026, the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences organized a full-day academic conference at the Vayupak Convention Center, Centara Government Complex , Bangkok, as part of the centennial program.

Presided over by Prof. Viboon Leesuwan, Second Vice President of the Royal Society of Thailand, the conference provided a structured forum for examining the current status, developmental trajectories, and scholarly advancement of disciplines within the Academy.

Discussions were organized into three principal domains:

1. Philosophy, law, and society in the contemporary global context
2. Education, history, geography, and politics in a period of transition
3. Economy, mind, society, and communication for development

The conference generated analytical insights and policy-oriented recommendations to inform future academic and national agendas.



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Academy of Science

Mobile Academic Forum “The Future of Thai Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry under the Climate Change Crisis”

On February 11, 2026 (8.30 a.m.-2.00 p.m.), the Academy of Science, in collaboration with Kasetsart University (Si Racha Campus), Faculty of Fisheries of Kasetsart University, and Kasetsart Agricultural and Agro-Industrial Product Improvement Institute convened a mobile academic forum at the university campus, with additional participation via an electronic platform.

The forum, inaugurated by Prof. Viboon Leesuwan, aimed to synthesize empirical evidence, contemporary scholarship, and field-based experience in order to formulate actionable strategies for adaptation and mitigation. Particular emphasis was placed on strengthening the resilience and sustainability of Thailand’s agricultural systems amid ongoing climate change.





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The program included:

- *Thai Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry: Turning Risks into Opportunities in the Global Boiling Crisis*
- *Transforming Plant Varieties and Agronomic Practices to Adapt to Global Warming*
- *Global Warming: Accelerating Diseases and Insect Pests*
- *The Role of Kasetsart University Si Racha Campus and the Eastern Sustainable Agriculture Innovation Center in Climate Change Action*
- *Impacts on Vegetation in a Changing Global Environment*
- *Panel discussion: Climate Solutions for Thai Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry*



Academy of Arts

Music Project for the Celebration of the Centennial of the Royal Society of Thailand

On February 25, 2026 (6.00 p.m.-8.00 p.m.) the Academy of Arts, in collaboration with Chulalongkorn University, presented a lecture-demonstration at the University's Main Auditorium as part of the centennial celebrations.

The program centered on the composition *Buddha Symphony* for symphony orchestra and choir. In his opening remarks, Prof. Emeritus Surapol Issaragrisil, M.D., President of the Royal Society of Thailand, underscored the cultural and intellectual significance of the project.

The work comprises four movements inspired by the four principal Buddhist sacred sites—Lumbini, Bodh Gaya, Sarnath, and Kusinara. The presentation explored the conceptual underpinnings, sources of inspiration, and compositional techniques, complemented by selected live musical excerpts.

The composition represents a refined synthesis of sacred textual traditions, Thai musical idioms, and advanced Western classical techniques, exemplifying a high level of artistic and intellectual achievement in large-scale musical composition.





Academy of Arts Knowledge Outreach Program for the Year 2026

Topic: “Directions of Contemporary Thai Buddhist Art”



On 13 March 2026 (8.00 a.m.-4.00 p.m.), the Academy of Arts organized a knowledge outreach program at the National Museum Bangkok.

The morning session inaugurated by Prof. Emeritus Surapol Issaragrisil, M.D., President of the Royal Society of Thailand, featuring an academic dialogue on contemporary directions in Thai Buddhist art. The afternoon session consisted of guided study visits to key museum collections, focusing on:

- *Foreign art and artistic traditions in the lands of Thailand prior to B.E. 1800*, held at the Maha Sura Singhanat Building
- *Historical and archaeological evidence in Thailand from B.E. 1800 onwards*, at the Thai Parliament Museum

This project integrated Buddhist doctrine with visual arts, presenting coherent bodies of knowledge, conceptual clarity, and appropriate interpretive approaches. It sought to deepen public understanding of Thai Buddhist art in both its historical development and its doctrinal foundations, while fostering informed perspectives suited to contemporary cultural contexts.

Editor: Prof. Emeritus Surapol Issaragrisil, M.D.

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