

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RJAyAuFc6oY> please download subtitle and open simultaneously with video.

Sanam Luang Project

Duration 12:34minutes

Credits:

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Introduction part

Part1

Location : Siam

Dialogue between Mr.Kitti with other foreigner, with the question “Did you know Sanam Luang” and most answered no but some said yes.

Part2

Location: the middle of Sanam Luang

Speakers: Mr.Chanin & Mr.Kitti

Dialogue:

Both: Swasdee kub

Chanin: I am Chanin Mukkijcharoen.

Kitti: I am Kitti Tantisrisuk. We are from BE19

Chanin: Here, we are at the largest open spaces in Bangkok, Sanam Luang. Today, it is mainly used as a park area where people can escape from their city life and breathe in fresh air.

Kitti: However its importance is much greater than its function as a park. Sanam Luang has been used for various royal ceremonies including funeral ceremonies for kings and queens since King Rama I.¹

¹ Wikipedia contributors. “Sanam Luang”. Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. 8 Sep 2011. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanam_Luang>

History Part

Part1

Location: using related pictures

Speaker: Kittti

Dialogue:

Kitti: Sanam Luang, originally known as “Thung Phra Mane”, was used for various royal ceremonies since the time of King Rama I. Initially, Sanam Luang was mainly used as a royal crematorium where cremation ceremonies of kings and queens were held. During the time of King Rama III, rice crops were planted on the area in order to show that Thailand was a fertile country. During the reign of King Rama IV, the name of the area was changed to “Sanam Luang” which means “the royal ground” and buildings for the Royal Ploughing Ceremony and the Ceremony of Calling the Rain were built at Sanam Luang but they were later pulled down by King Rama V to extend Sanam Luang.²

Chanin: Since then Sanam Luang was used for various royal ceremonies including birthday celebrations of kings and funerals of kings and queens. In 2009, a political rally was held at Sanam Luang. As a result Sanam Luang was closed for about a year then reopened as politics free open space. Sanam Luang is reopened after this incident and it

² Wikipedia contributors. “Sanam Luang”. Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. 8 Sep 2011. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanam_Luang>

is now against the law to have any kind of political rally. It is opening from 5 A.M. to 10 P.M. and bringing alcohol in the area is strictly forbidden.³

Location: Sanamluang

Chanin: and now it became a famous tourist destination, a main transportation hub and a site that holds significant historical values.

Location Part

Location: Pictures are various locations including Sanam Luang, Wat Phra Kaew, Grand Palace and Thammasat University and video is taken at bus stop of Sanam Luang.

Speakers: Mr.Chanin& Mr.Kitti

Dialogue:

Chanin: Sanam Luang, the royal ground where various traditional ceremonies are held, is located in Phra Nakhon District, Bangkok, The fact that it is surrounded by many famous places such as the City Pillar Shrine, the Grand Palace, Wat Phra Kaew and Thammasat University suggests that it has a great traditional value to Thai people,

Kitti: Furthermore, Sanam Luang functions as a main hub of transportation. There are more than 30 bus routes that pass bus stations near Sanam Luang and it is also near Tha Phrajan pier and Tha Chang pier.⁴

³ Thai Travel News contributors. "Sanam Luang to officially re-open on Tuesday 9th August". ThaiTravelBlogs. <
<http://www.thaitravelblogs.com/2011/08/sanam-luang-to-officially-re-open-on-tuesday-9th-august/>>

Activity Part

Traditional (official) Activities

Part 1

Location: video about ploughing and funeral ceremony. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LkrvRxl-3w>

Dialogue:

Kitti: Several important traditional ceremonies are held at Sanam Luang. One of the most important ceremonies held at Sanam Luang is the “Royal Ploughing Ceremony”. It is usually held in May as it is the beginning of the rainy season when it is a good time for farmer to start planting. Another important ceremony held at Sanam Luang is the funeral of royal family. It has always been one of the main functions of Sanam Luang since King Rama I used the area as a royal cremation ground.⁵

Part 2

Location: Sanam Luang

Speaker: Mr.Kitti

Dialogue:

Kitti: “Wan-Phor” or “Father’s day” is one of the important national holidays in Thailand. It is the day that all Thai people annually celebrate the birthday of King Rama IX. There are

⁴ Google maps and Chiangdao. “Contributors. Sanam Luang location”. Chiangdao. <<http://www.chiangdao.com/bangkokmap/location/Sanam+Luang>>

⁵ Tour Bangkok Legacies contributors. “Sanam Luang the royal field for the people”. Tour Bangkok Legacies. <<http://www.tour-bangkok-legacies.com/sanam-luang.html>>

several festivals held in many places but one of the largest festivals for the “father’s day” is held at Sanam Luang. It is because the royal ground has been used for celebration of birthdays of kings for several hundred years.

Kitti: As you can see, Sanam Luang and the area around Sanam Luang is filled with people enjoying the festivity of the “father’s day”. Roads are closed to form a market place where goods from many different provinces of Thailand are sold. People stop by and buy tasty squids, Thai sauces and many others Thai traditional food and traditional cloths for their parents.

Chanin: Inside Sanam Luang, a concert is held as a tribute to birthday of the king and several performances are prepared. Also, people line up in front of the wishing tree with their wishes written in little leaf-shaped paper and wait their turn to tie their wish to the wishing tree.

Leisure Activities

Location: Sanam Luang

Speakers: Mr.Chanin & Mr.Kitti

Dialogue:

Kitti: There are several leisure activities available for tourists at Sanam Luang. Firstly, many people go to Sanam Luang for a walk or a picnic. Trees around the edges of Sanam Luang that provides shades for visitors make it a perfect place for families to go on a picnic.

Chanin: Secondly, kite flying has always been one of the most popular traditional and leisure activities at Sanam Luang. Kite flying season is from late February until May.

Interview Mr.Suradit Sopon or Nickname “Mar” by Mr.Kitti

Kitti: How often you come here to play a kite?

Mar : If it's not raining, have some wind, I'll come.

Kitti: Oh, you came here since before the renovation then? Now I would like to know that are there differences after the renovation?

Mar : Most of it are in the good side.

Kitti: So, it's better?

Mar : Better, much better!

Kitti: For example?

Mar : Cleanness, great views, well ordered, and there is no...kind of tinkers hanging around.

Kitti: After the new rules?

Mar : Yes, I had been here playing kite since before I was 10 years old.

Kitti: Wow... Thats long time ago.

Mar : Now I'm just 62.

Kitti: That's mean we've found the right person here. What about, the differences between your kite and other ordinary ones?

Mar : Mine is for exercising for old people. There are many types such as polyester or even diamond shaped. It's a kite for exercising and tired even though its look like not.

Kitti: We have to fight with strong wind?

Mar : Yes, and it also easy to carry. In the past I also liked to play star-shaped kite but transportation these days are bad. You'll need a car to carry one of them but these two are easy to carry and packed. I still have another type of kite left here. We can just disconnect it, it's leave us a piece of cloth.

Kitti: How about, Is Sanam Luang important to the Thai people?

Mar : I think it's the center of Thailand. It would be good if they are able to keep the standard. If they can increase the standard of cleanness, it's already good enough to stays on this standard because in the past, usually in the evening, there a lot of my friend that came here to play amateur radio. There are too many street workers, too many!!!
Those girls like to sleep around the place, too many street workers, too many!!!
I really have to say that I'm quite impressed after the renovation. It's one of the square here

Kitti: Thank you so much for interview.

Kitti: Concerts and football matches are also great attraction for visitors. There used to be the Weekend Market but it was moved to Chatuchak Park in 1982. Now, there are some market areas remaining near Sanam Luang. You could also feed the pigeons with seed corns around Sanam Luang, but beware. People who sell bird food will force you to buy it even if you refuse, and they usually overcharge you, especially if you are a foreigner.

Meaning to Thai people Part

Location: Sanam Luang

Speakers: Mr.Chanin & Mr. Kitti

Dialogue:

Kitti: Sanam Luang is not just an open park area where people relax, but it has a profound historical and traditional values.

Chanin: It is the royal ground where several important traditional ceremonies are held and the symbol of prosperity of Thailand.