

Thai Economy Demystifying Late Ayudhaya and Thonburi

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Topics

- Late Ayudhaya period
 - General conditions
 - Trade and war
 - The fall of Ayudhaya
- The rise and fall of Thonburi

Late Ayudhaya

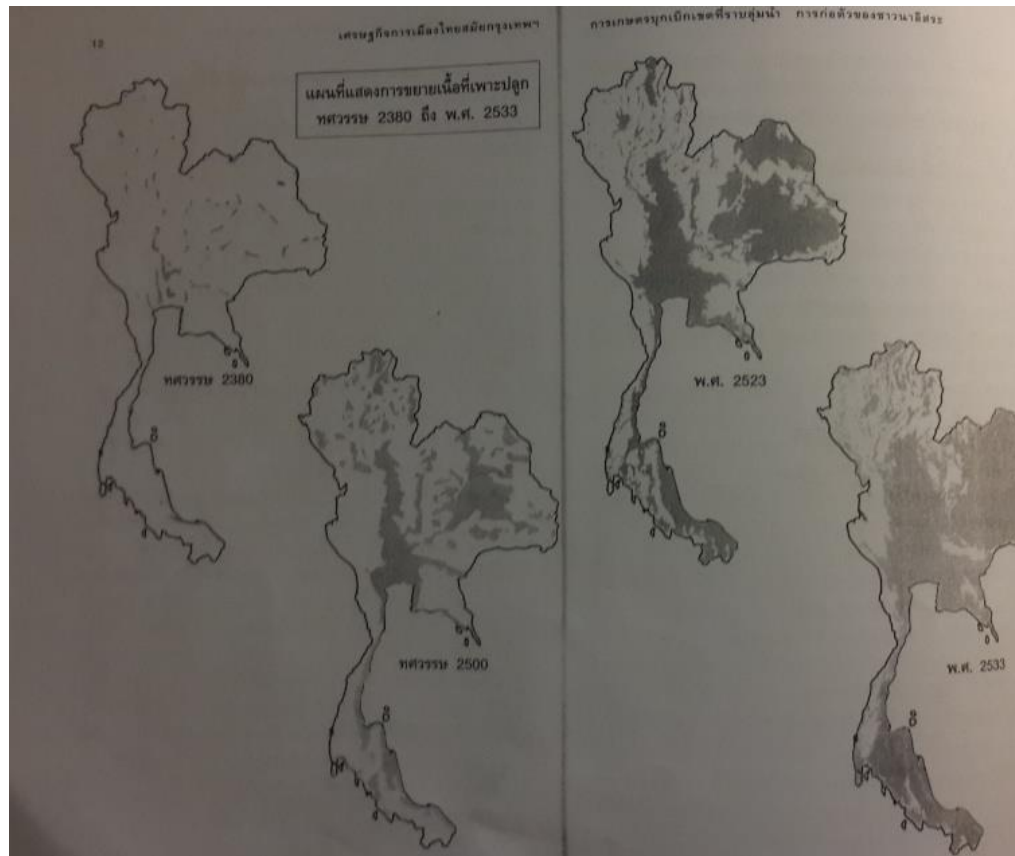
- Geography



ภาพที่ ๒ ริมน้ำแม่น้ำ กรุงศรีอยุธยาสมัยพระเพทราชา
(สมุดรายวันของเอนเกลเบิร์ต แกมปีเฟอร์ Engelbert Kaempfer)

Late Ayudhaya

- Geography



Late Ayudhaya

- Geography: characterised by (1) low-land basin and (2) forest hinterland



Late Ayudhaya

- Two types of areas facilitated the Kingdom's two crucial forms of production.
 - Rice production
 - Collection of forest products



Ayudhaya Society

- Where were the wealth of Ayudhaya rulers from?
 - Resources from rice-basins and forests
 - Extractions
 - Extraction of agricultural production
 - Extraction of labour
- Ruling system and the tasks of extraction

Ayudhaya Society

- Ayudhaya Feudalism
 - Phrai (indentured peasants)
 - That
 - King and nobles
- What was the most crucial function of Ayduhaya's Feudalism?

Ayudhaya's trade and war

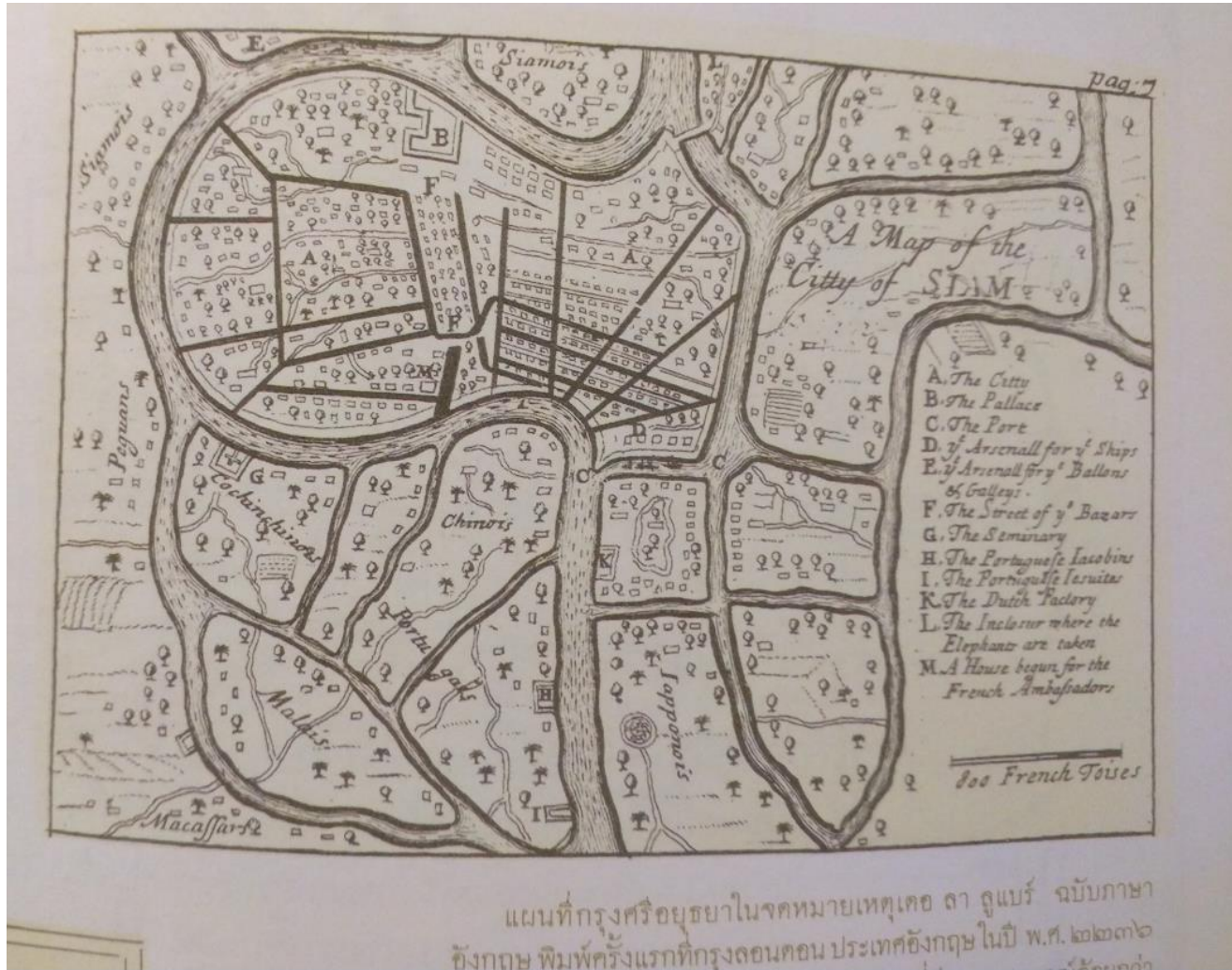
- Trade of forest product was crucial to the wealth of rulers. Ayudhaya's relationships with other cities were influenced by trade.
 - Control of trade routes
 - Tributary relationship

Ayudhaya's trade and war

- Kings and nobles of Ayudhaya were traders, and the essential aspect of the Kingdom's power was the ability to control and to facilitate trade.
 - Foreigners in Ayudhaya
 - Tributary relations with the Chinese emperor

Ayudhaya's trade and war

- Foreigners in Ayudhaya



Ayudhaya's trade and war

- Foreigners in Ayudhaya

Nai Kai Market is at Rue Chinoise (G) in Jacques Nicolas Bellin's (1703–72) map, published in Paris in 1764. The Chinese community of Ayudhya is located around the port where the Pasak River flows southwards to join the Chao Phraya River flowing in from the west. Klong Suan Plu is on the opposite bank of the city wall of Ayudhya, to the east of the Pasak River. Collection of the Ram Society.



Ayudhaya's trade and war

- Foreigners in Ayudhaya



Ayudhaya's trade and war

- Foreigners in Ayudhaya



Ayudhaya's trade and war

- Trade products of Ayudhaya



Export: ข้าว หนังสัตว์ อัญมณี เครื่องเทศ ยางไม้ ไม้หอม สมุนไพร

Import: ผ้าทอ ผ้าไหม เครื่องถ้วยชาม เครื่องปั้นดินเผา และอาวุธ

Ayudhaya's trade and war



Ayudhaya's trade and war

- Wars
 - Purpose of wars
 - Constraints of wars: scarcity of population
 - Nature of wars

Ayudhaya's trade and war

- Misunderstandings of wars in Ayudhaya
- Ayudhaya and Mafia.



The fall of Ayudhaya

- What led to the downfall of Ayudhaya?
 - Weak King?
 - Internal conflicts
 - Lost supports
 - Other factors

The fall of Ayudhaya

- The Burmese Kingdom during late Ayudhaya



Thonburi period

- Society after Ayudhaya downfall
 - “*Chum-num*”.
 - What set Taksin’s Chumnum apart from others?



Taksin – the Chinese King

- Taksin was a son of Teo-chew chinese merchant



- He was likely to be born in Ayudhaya, but built himself as a merchant who travelled to trade in Tak.

The challenges of Thonburi

- The strength of Taksin was in military skills. A fierce and ruthless leader, he excelled at being a leader of a *chumnum*.
- But he faced different challenges as the King of a newly revived Siam.
 - What were the challenges?

The challenges of Thonburi

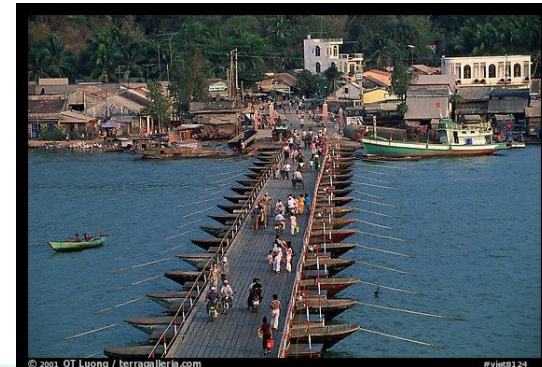
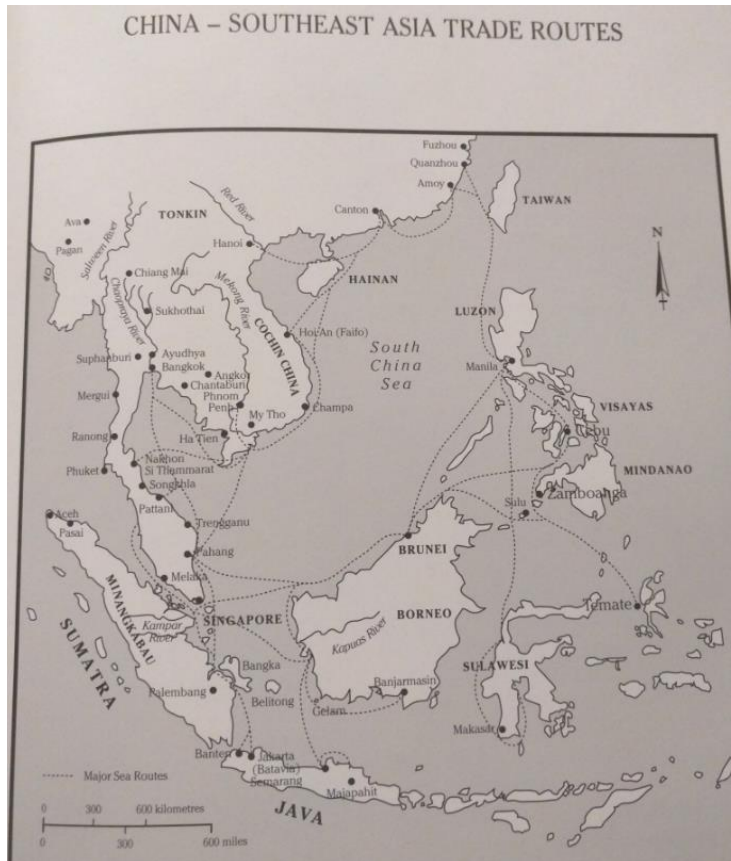
- Reviving the ruling system



- Reviving the economy and re-establishing trade routes.
 - Taksin military campaign went to the East and Cambodia, Why?

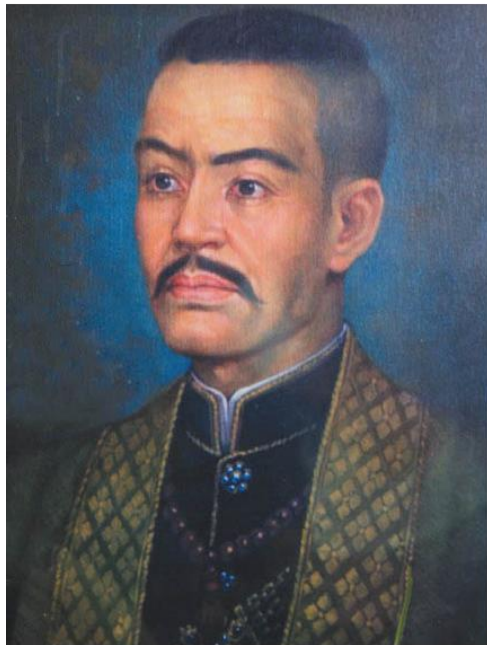
The challenges of Thonburi

- Geo-politics of trade with China
 - Chantabun VS Ha-tien, Teochew VS Cantonese.



The fall of Thonburi

- Taksin's position was destabilised by the system he tried to revive.
 - Taksin's dilemma with Ayudhaya nobles?



Moving on to Bangkok period

- Continuing challenges from Thonburi
 - Scarcity of labour
 - Expanding trade
 - Rebuilding the society
 - Reviving the royal court