

Traditional Thai Dresses Part II

Following [the first part](#) of my article about **traditional Thai dresses**, I'd like to continue with the remaining four styles. In the previous post on traditionalistic Thai dresses I have presented the Thai Chakkri, Thai Boromphiman, Thai Siwalai and Thai Chakkraphat to you. Thus, I'd like to continue with the fifth one called Chut Thai Chitlada.

Traditional Thai Dresses

5. Chut Thai Chitlada

Chitlada is a daytime ceremonial dress. Hence, it is worn on formal occasions such as welcoming royal guests at the airport. The Chut Chitlada can be worn with a long sleeved buttoned silk blouse. The skirt (Pha-Noong) is a casual wrap skirt that has a brocaded band at the hem. It is not necessary to wear royal decorations with this style. However, the colour of the dress should be appropriate for the respective occasion.



Photo © 2012 Queen Sirikit Museum of Textiles

*Thai Chitlada dress**

6. Chut Thai Ruean Ton

The Chut Thai Ruean Ton is the most casual style of all eight traditional designs presented here. It is most often worn at non-official functions, for example for the religious ceremony of the conferring of royal offerings to the monks (Khtin ton). The Thai Ruan Ton comprises a collarless buttoned blouse and a striped or plain coloured skirt (Pha-Noong) with a patterned band at the hem. This is sometimes folded to one side. The Chut Ruean Ton is a two piece dress which means that the blouse and the skirt are separate.



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Photo © 2012 Queen Sirikit Museum of Textiles

Thai Ruean Ton

*dresses**

7. Chut Thai Amarin

The Chut Amarin or Amarintra is a beautiful formal evening gown. It is made of brocaded fabric and ornaments. The blouse is usually round-necked and the skirt (Pha-Noong) is ankle length. With this style, royal decorations are worn. The Thai Amarin is a dress for an evening dinner or the Royal Birthday Procession.



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Photo © 2012 Queen Sirikit Museum of Textiles

Thai Amarin

*dresses**

8. Chut Thai Dusit

Dusit is the most Western style of all eight traditional dresses presented here. It is a wide necked and sleeveless brocaded dress. The skirt and top are sewn together so that they form a one piece dress. The Chut Thai Dusit can be worn for evening ceremonies in place of a Western style dress. For this kind of dress, Yok silk fabric is used. The Dusit can be either worn with Thai or Western style jewellery.



Photo © 2012 Queen Sirikit Museum of Textiles



*Thai Dusit dress & [HM Queen Sirikit](#) in Chut Thai Dusit around 1950**

I really enjoyed researching about Thai traditional dresses and since I have not been to the [Queen Sirikit Museum of Textiles](#) in Bangkok, this place is on my top priority list next time I have the chance to go there ☐

Finally, I'd like to close this article with a picture of little me in a traditional dress ☐



This is probably the casual Thai Ruan Ton style

I hope you enjoyed reading this post! Do you also like these dresses as much as I do?



Traditional Thai dresses featured in this post (photo credit: bangkokpost.com)

In case, you've missed my first part of Thai traditional dresses, check this out [here](#)! Did you know that there is also a [traditional make up look](#) that goes well with traditional Thai dresses? What is more, it is also interesting to note that today the [Siamese Fashionista](#) group tries to encourage young Thais to dress traditionally.

Yours, Sirinya

(*All photos in this post are from the [Queen Sirikit Museum of Textiles](#) unless otherwise stated, a further source about traditional dresses in Thailand is [here](#))

Happy Chinese New Year in Thailand!

Chinese New Year is a very popular festivity in Thailand because there are many people with Chinese ancestors in Thailand. In point of fact, over half of ethnic Thai today are descendants of people who migrated from southern China about 1,000 years ago (source: Wikipedia). In Thai, Chinese New Year is called 'Wan dtrut jiin' and it is also known as the Spring Festival.

This year, New Year is on 19th February, this is when the year of the goat begins. The festivities last for five days from 17th to 21st February.

The year of the goat is supposed to be a harmonious and calm year. In fact, I was born in the year of the goat ☺ Hence, I hope this will be a lucky, harmonic and successful year for me

too!

Chinese New Year



Year of the goat

Centre of the New Year festivities in Thailand are Chinatown on Yaowarat Road in Bangkok, Phuket Town and Chiang Mai.



Celebrations in Thailand & 'Lions' in front of Siam Paragon in Bangkok (photo credit: Bangkok Post)

Traditionally, families clean their houses in order to get rid of any misfortune so that there can be a fresh start into the new year. Hence, they make way for incoming luck. This is also known as 'Spring cleaning'.

On the eve, families have supper together and feast on Chinese

dishes and delicacies like duck, chicken, pork and sweets. The night is ended with fireworks and on the following morning, children greet their parents by wishing them a happy new year. The children will then receive the so-called lucky money in red envelopes which are called 'Ang Pao'.



Red envelope for lucky money

Usually, the married people will give money to the unmarried who are mostly younger people and children.

During the New Year celebrations in Thailand, the Dragon and the Lion dance are the most popular highlights. In particular, the Dragon is supposed to bring good luck since the Dragon is believed to possess qualities like power, fertility, dignity and wisdom. Thus, the longer the dancing Dragon is, the more luck and power it brings to people.

The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) invites everyone this year to visit Chinatown in order to celebrate the Lunar New Year at Yaowarat. The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration wants people to learn about the history of Yaowarat road on 19th and 20th February 2015. Tomorrow, Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn will preside over the opening ceremony at Chalermpkrakiat Gate, Odeon Circle, Yaowarat Road.



Dragon Dance (photo credit: Tourism Authority of Thailand)

Finally, I'd like to round off my post by sharing with you a recipe on how to make Rice Cakes for this occasion ☐

Along these lines, I wish you all a very happy Chinese New Year! Gong Xi Fa Cai! (*'I wish you wealth'*)

By the way, the [Thai New Year \(Songkran\)](#) takes place in April ☐

Yours,

Sirinya

Happy Valentine's Day!

14th February is a special day because it's **Valentine's Day**, a day of love and harmony. If you ask yourself if this special day for lovers is only a 'Western matter' or whether it is also popular in Thailand, you can be sure that the celebrations in Thailand beats Valentine celebrations in the Western world by far.

In point of fact, 14th February festivity for lovers is extremely popular in Thailand, it's celebrated enthusiastically and passionately. Hence, a lot of time and money is spent for this day and you may also critically say that it is a commercial 'thing' over there. In particular, teenager and young people like to exchange presents with their loved ones and they often like to go to a romantic dinner in the evening.

Valentine's Day Celebrations



Valentine's Day Tree (photo: Johntex, [wikimedia.org](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Valentine's_Day_Tree.jpg))

It is the time when guys give beautiful flower bouquets, chocolates and other kinds of sweets to their love.

However, not only teenagers but also adults very much enjoy Valentine's special Day celebrations in Thailand. Thus, exchanging gifts on this day has become a tradition in Thailand.



lovers in Thailand

Selling gifts for



Thai flower bouquet

On 14th February, shopping malls are beautifully decorated to suit Valentine's Day and its setting of love and harmony.

In the malls, there are also stalls which sell flowers, sweets, toys and heart shaped balloons on this special day.

In addition, and this is an interesting and fun fact, many couples like to get married on Valentine's Day in Thailand. Thus, on this day many couples go to the municipal offices in Bangkok's district of Bang Rak (บางรัก) in order to register their marriages. In fact, Bang Rak means the 'love district' ('Rak' is the Thai word for love, to love). As a matter of

fact, the Bang Rak district office gives 12 gold marriage certificates to 12 fortunate couples who register their marriage at the district office on 14th February.

Suiting the this day's theme, I'd like to feature a new song by theBOYKOR. It's called 'The Wedding Singer'.

Along these lines, I wish you all a very happy Valentine's Day wherever you are!

Yours, Sirinya