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S. J. Tambiah

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A STUDY OF BUDDHISM AND POLITY
IN THAILAND AGAINST A
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

S. J. Tambiah

*Professor of Anthropology
Harvard University*

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S. J. Tambiah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contents

Acknowledgments	vii
PART ONE	
1 Introduction: Reconstructing a Journey	3
2 From <i>Rajadharma</i> (the King's "Whole Duty") to <i>Dharmaraja</i> (the "Righteous Ruler")	9
3 The Brahmanical Theory of Society and Kingship	19
4 The Early Buddhist Conception of World Process, Dharma, and Kingship	32
5 Asoka Maurya: The Paradigm	54
6 Thai Kingship and Polity in Historical Perspective	73
7 The Galactic Polity	102
8 The Kingdom of Ayutthaya: Design and Process	132
9 Asokan and Sinhalese Traditions Concerning the Purification of the Sangha	159
10 The Sangha and the Polity: From Ayutthaya to Bangkok	179
11 The Nineteenth-Century Achievements of Religion and Sangha	200
Appendix to Chapter 11: The Symbolization of Monarchy in the Nineteenth Century	225
12 The Sangha Acts of 1902, 1941, and 1963	230
PART TWO	
13 The Composition and Distribution of Religious Personnel: What the Figures Say	265
14 Monkhood as an Avenue of Social Mobility	288
15 Monastic Careers and Monastic Network	313
Appendix to Chapter 15: Monastic Networks in Christian Europe and Thailand	360
16 Patronage of the Sangha and the Legitimation of the Polity	365
17 Reformism and Ideological Transformation Based on Tradition	401
18 Missionary Monks (<i>Thammathud</i>) and National Development	434
Appendix to Chapter 18: The Monks' Universities	464

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S. J. Tambiah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

vi

Contents

19	The Politics of National Development and the Symbols of Legitimacy	47 ²
20	Dialectical Tensions, Continuities, Transformations, and the Uses of the Past	51 ⁵
	Bibliography	53 ¹
	Index	54 ¹

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S. J. Tambiah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Acknowledgments

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S. J. Tambiah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

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Finally, a word on recent events in Thailand. The second part of the book, including Chapter 19, was virtually completed in 1972, before the occurrence of the student insurrection in October 1973, the deposition of the three leading military figures at the apex of the regime, partly achieved through the mediation of the king, who has a lively sense of the dangers of open involvement, and the setting up of a civilian cum military caretaker government charged with the responsibility of framing a new constitution before holding free elections. Except for inserting a few sentences relating to these momentous events, I have retained the analysis in much its original form because I believe it was and is substantially correct and because the analysis of the events of 1973 and later would comprise a new and separate undertaking.

Chicago
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S.J.T.