

Luangta Mahā Bua's Legacy to Thailand and the rest of the World

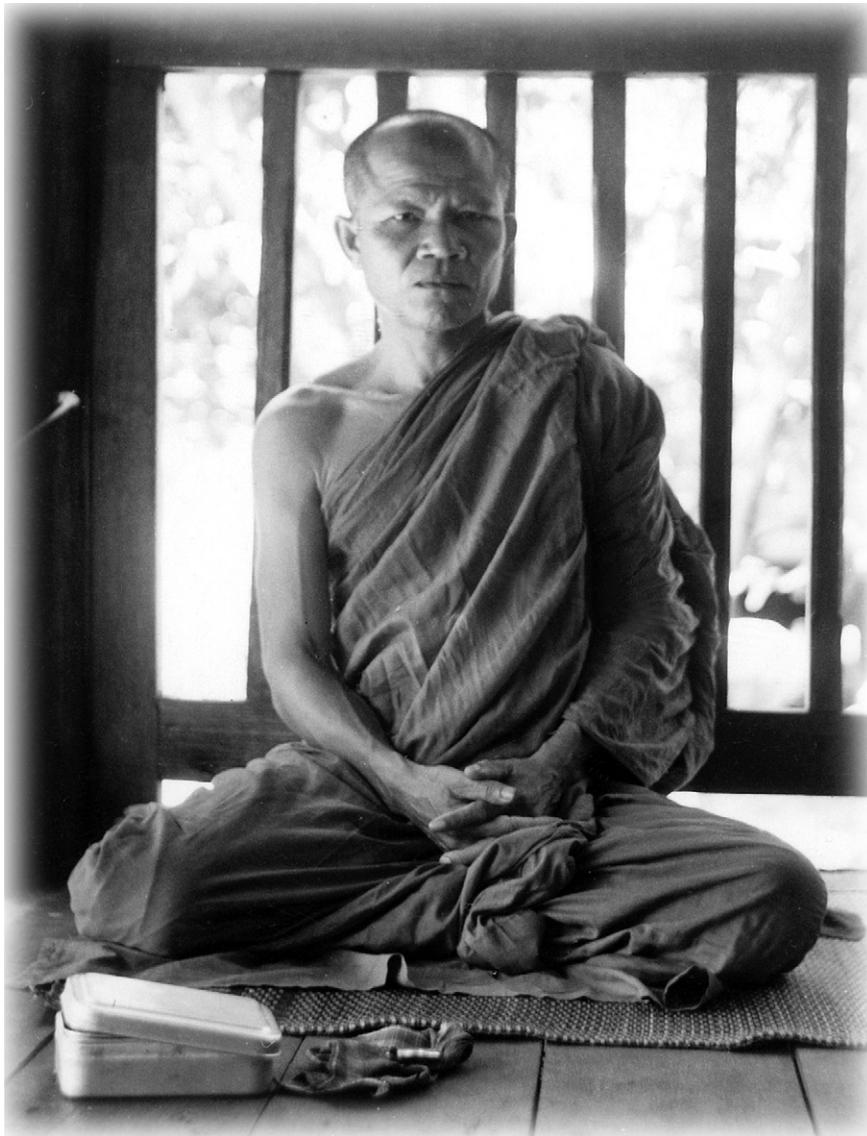


Forest Dhamma Books of Wat Pa Baan Taad

*this booklet is a gift of dhamma
and printed for free distribution only!*

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Luangta Mahā Bua, one of his early pictures

Luangta Mahā Bua's Legacy to Thailand and the rest of the World

Luangta Mahā Bua attained Arahantship at the age of 36 years. He then taught his fellow monks, novices, nuns and laypeople the Dhamma for more than 60 years! One will not find anybody like him. His wealth is the richness of the Dhamma he taught. He said he taught in three categories. The talks that were given to his monks, he called it the tiny pot of curry, Dhamma that is so deep, that only a few will understand it. More than 600 of these talks have been recorded and quite a few of them exist in printed form. Then the Dhamma of the small pot, that is Dhamma for general practitioners, that means a more general Dhamma for monks and laypeople who are interested in practice. Several hundred of these talks have been recorded. The most famous collection of this kind of Dhamma is called 'Triemprom' or 'Make yourself ready'. It has been printed and reprinted countless times. Then what he calls the Dhamma for the big pot, or general Dhamma. This includes the talks that he gave to a general audience, that are tailored for that audience. This includes also the talks that he gave in the morning at Wat Pa Baan Taad, or outside the monastery at public events, or at official government functions. Several thousand of these kind of talks have been recorded.

There is probably no monk in Thailand or the rest of the world, who has given more Dhamma talks than him. Not only this, his Dhamma spreads from general to very deep. He has explained the Dhamma from the start, until the final battle against avijja in such rich and great detail and also has explained the ways of an Arahant in so many ways, with so many similes. He has not only shown the way to the Noble attainments of Sotapanna all the way through to final Nibbana, mentioning every hurdle to cross and how to cross it. No that wasn't enough. He has also shown the path of practice from every possible angle, so that anyone interested in practice will find the help, means and encouragement to progress until they can reach their goal.

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The pity for us western disciples, who do not speak Thai, is that this wealth of Dhamma is hidden. There is only a very tiny fragment of his Dhamma teachings available in English. One of the reasons for this was, that he did not have many longtime western disciples and if one was a disciple of his, he would not allow them to read books, nor did he want them to translate his books or talks into English. He had only one interest for all of his disciples - Reach Nibanna as fast as you can! For this reason, there exists so little of his Dhamma teaching in English.

In the last years of his life, he started the project of “Thai people help the Thai nation” and announced it officially on the 12th of April 2541. Six years later on the 12th of April 2547, with Her Majesty the Queen present (over those years she attended quite a few of his public functions), he officially announced the end of the project. Within these years he had collected more than 10 tons of pure gold, more than 10 million US dollars and about 800 million Baht! During these years he traveled through nearly all of Thailand, receiving invitations from government officials, heads of villages and mayors of towns, to come and receive donations of gold, US Dollars and Baht. He sometimes went to do two or three public functions a day, giving talks and sitting for hours to receive all the donations that were pouring in. At the start of the project he was already 84 years old, and 90 years of age when the project finished. It is beyond belief, that a person of this age could undertake all of these strenuous activities. All in all, on 14 occasions he offered (see appendix) the gold and US Dollars he had received, to the Thai Nation, to be stored in in the Central Bank of Thailand. He



Thais offering money and gold “trees” to Luangta Mahā Bua



The Supreme Patriarch offers Gold to Luangta Mahā Bua



The project “Thais help Thailand”: gathering Gold and money to help the Thai economy

had helped rescue Thailand out of its economic crisis and taught the Thai nation the Dhamma. Thailand’s economy was flourishing again.

Within this time he became well known in Thailand. He often appeared in the newspapers, was interviewed on TV talk shows and had a five minute slot on one of the TV channels, which broadcast his daily

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The mother radio and TV station in Baan Taad, and its substations.

Dhamma talks. Laypeople established a Dhamma radio station, 24 hours of uninterrupted Dhamma talks, where his daily talks were also broadcast live. All over the country 117 radio substations were established, so that nearly everybody in Thailand could listen to this Dhamma radio. In 2541 laypeople established a website for him, known as *www.luangta.com*, that a few years later was transferred to Wat Pa Baan Taad to be run by his monks. This became the only official website about him and his wealth of Dhamma. He allowed only his own monks to be responsible for the contents of this website. From September 2542, not only were his talks recorded as audio, but some were also recorded as videos. Later on, around 2546 his daily talks, be it in Wat Pa Baan Taad, or in SuanSaengtam, his branch monastery in Bangkok, were broadcasted live, as audio or video on his website. Later on, wherever he went, all of his public talks were broadcast live. So people all around the world could hear what he had to say. A few years later his public appearances and his public Dhamma talks were not only broadcast live via the internet, but also through his own TV station.

Famous Thai musicians dedicated more than 200 songs to Luangta Mahā Bua. Lungphu Mun's biography and Luangta's biography were transformed into musical audio books, then published and donated by a famous artist. One could hear these songs all over Thailand.

These are some of the reasons, why Luangta Mahā Bua became so famous in such a short time. Before, he was only known to insiders, but now, nearly everyone in Thailand knows who Luangta Mahā Bua is.

Luangta Mahā Bua is the best known and best documented Theravada Buddhist Monk in Thailand and one of the best known in the World. Just the number of books that were written on his account, e.g. his transcribed and printed Dhamma talks count to several hundred books, all for free distribution. He himself wrote only three books, "Wisdom develops Samadhi", "A Spiritual Biography of Lungphu Mun", and "Patipada, Venerable Acariya Mun's path of practice". Thousands of his Dhamma talks exist in the form of audio and since 2543 there are also videos of every talk he gave in the morning after the meal and at his public appearances. All of his audio talks have been made public in the form of cassettes and most of them are also available as MP3's on CD's or on his website. Lots of these videos have been edited for distribution as Video CD's and later as Video DVD's, but still a vast number remain unpublished.

This all to say, that in the World of Dhamma, Luangta Mahā Bua has not left us with one dark spot. He has uncovered for us everything, that lay hidden. Turned every stone for us to see, just with one intention for us all – to help us to go the path to the end of dukkha, Nibbana, as fast as possible and with the least amount of hindrances possible!



Luangta Mahā Bua half a year before he passed away, still giving advice and being there for the people



Luangta Mahā Bua just a few months before he passed away

In summary:

The Venerable Luangta Phra Mahā Bua Nannasampanno is a highly respected and important figure in Buddhism, who has greatly contributed to the welfare of the Thai nation. His practice and behavior were admirable and serve as an excellent example for the next generation to follow in his footsteps.

Conduct for his own benefit: He himself practiced wholeheartedly with all his might, right to the end of the Noble Path. He finished his task in the Buddhist religion and attained to the highest Dhamma of Arahant.

Conduct for the benefit of relatives and other people: He was immensely compassionate towards his family and friends and all beings throughout the universe. He not only gave instructions on Dhamma for his mother, and many laypeople assembling around him, but he also



Just as an example Luangta Mahā Bua supports Animals (A,E) saves cows and water buffalos from the slaughter house (B) supports crippled animals(C) supports the poor (D) and builds a building for the hospital(F)

trained the ordained in the discipline of the Lord Buddha. He trained his mother, helping her to reach the stage of *Anāgāmi*¹.

¹ The four kinds of Noble beings, or the four stages of enlightenment are: 1.) Sotāpanna: the stream- enterer 2.) Sakadāgāmi the Once-Returner 3.) Anāgāmi: the Non-Returner and 4.) Arahant: the Worthy One, The Enlightened One.

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Conduct for the benefit of the world: He engaged in countless good deeds for the world. His compassion was evident in his donations to hospitals, institutes of civil service, schools, the poor and sick, victims of disasters, support of Buddhism and monasteries nationwide, and in establishing a twenty-four hour Dhamma radio network for the public. Most importantly, Luangta gave Dhamma Talks with the objective of teaching how to attain *Nibbāna*. This is an immense wealth of Dhamma, of endless value that he gave to enable those who follow him to reach the Dhamma up to the liberation from all *dukkha*. This is the marvelous legacy that he gave to his disciples, and all of humankind.

Luangta was a very senior monk, a *Mahā Thera*, who made great contributions to his country. He had many disciples who highly respected him. Not only this, Luangta was also a “Father in Dhamma” to “Her youngest Royal Highness”, the Princess Chulaporn Valailuck.

Even at the last moment before passing away into *Parinibbāna*, Luangta's compassion still shined forth and covered the whole of Thailand. For Luangta had said that “My corpse will be burned by firewood. The money, that is given up until my cremation must be used to buy gold and kept as national reserve in the Central Bank”.



At the cremation, those attending could admire the plain and unambiguous, yet elegant and dignified funeral pyre. The sarcophagus where Luangta's body rests will remain as a beautiful picture in the memory of each and every one of his disciples, and draws the attention of everyone who sees it.

Luangta has used his dead physical body to embrace all of the hearts of the whole Thai nation into one single heart towards the sacred gold which is kept at the Central Bank. The gold shines in bright yellow rays. This is his last gift; “the golden heart” that he gives to his Thai brothers and sisters to help them to join together in the protection of the “National Reserve Funds” to stay with the Thai nation forever.

Now that Luangta has passed away, and entered the undying *parinibbāna*, he is gone from us all, and he will not return again. We are here now to bid farewell to Luangta, at this last point, which is the borderline between the World (*sammutti*) and Freedom (*vimutti*). Let us recall some of Luangta's words: “When I'm living this life, I will do good deeds for the world as an example and have compassion for the world, because after this, when I die, I will not return to this world, nor will I be born in this world ever again”.

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Luangta is a venerated Teacher, Father and Mother to every one of his disciples. Luangta has been a huge and comforting shelter for all of his disciples for a long time. It is difficult for them not to be saddened by his passing away and shed their tears. Now, they can pay their respects by following in the footsteps of Luangta by giving their best to attain to magga, phala and Nibbāna as well. Luangta has now passed away into parinibbāna yet his legacy of loving kindness remains in the hearts of the Nation. His magnificent Dhamma shines brightly in the three worlds of existence, and the world has acknowledged him:

Luangta Phra Mahā Bua Nannasampanno.

*Luangta Phra Mahā Bua Ñāṇasampanno,
who has shaken up this country,
he just cannot be compared to anyone else!*

Specific Information:

Birthdate: Tuesday 12th August 1913.

Passing Away: Sunday 30th January 2011 Time: 3.53 am.

At the Age of: 97 years, 5 months, 17 days, 77th year of monkhood

Date of attaining Artahantship: May 15th 1950, Time: 23.00 pm.

Appendix

Before the gold that was offered to Luangta Mahā Bua on various occasions, be it golden rings, necklaces, bracelets, or even watches or any other kind of gold jewellery and gold bars, could be donated to the Thai nation it had to be melted down and purified into 99.99% pure Gold:



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then Luangta Mahā Bua offers on 15 occasions Gold and Dollars to the Bank of Thailand:

1.) 1,287,000 Dollars and 400 kg of pure gold on the 6th of July 1998.



2.) 3,000,000 Dollars and 1036 kg of Gold on the 4th of May 1999



3.) 1,000,000 Dollars and 1024 kg of Gold on 21st of April 2001



4.) 300,000 Dollars and 687 kg of Gold on 2nd of July 2001



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5.) 400,000 Dollars and 1811 kg of Gold on 26th of September 2001



7.) 300,000 Dollars and 500 kg of Gold on 10th of December 2002



8.) 400,000 Dollars and 525 kg of Gold on 10th of December 2002



6.) 300,000 Dollars and 500 kg of Gold on 11th of April 2002



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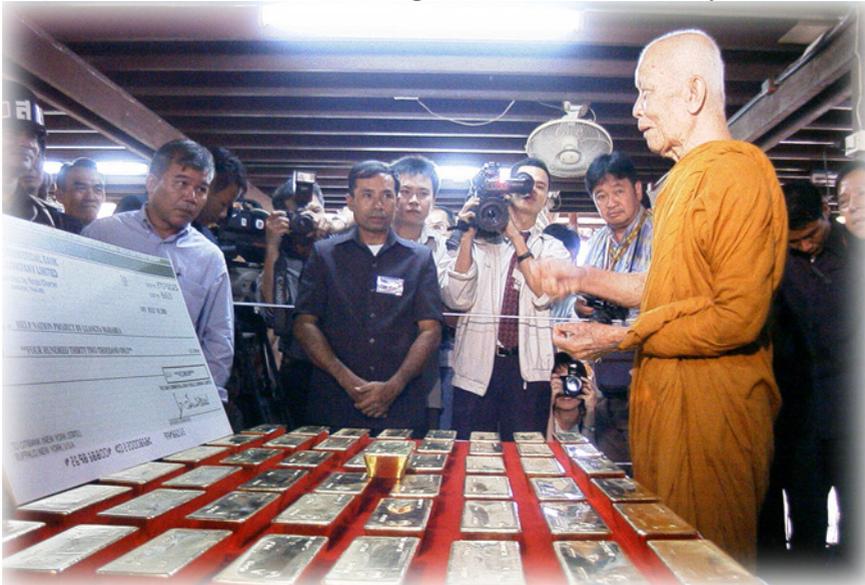
9.) 432,000 Dollars and 612 kg of Gold on 10th of July 2003



11.) 500,000 Dollars and 1400 kg of Gold on 26th of December 2003



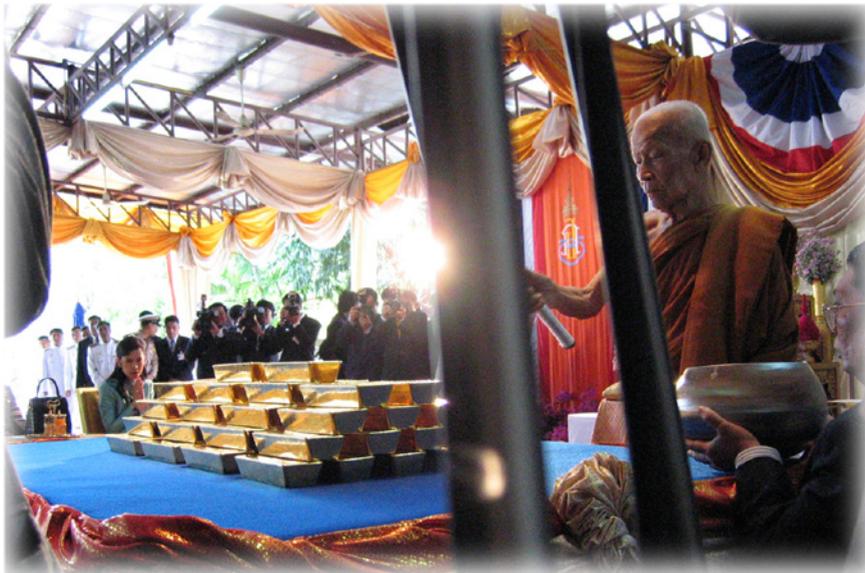
10.) 300,000 Dollars and 1025 kg of Gold on 26th of July 2003



12.) 2,004,600 Dollars and 1188 kg of Gold on 12th of April 2004



13.) 725 kg of Gold on 19th of August 2004



14.) 600 kg of Gold on 19th of December 2007



15.) 450 kg of Gold on 9th of January 2010



and the last time for the gold and money that has been offered during the preparation for his cremation:

16.) 921 kg of Gold on 7th of May 2011



totalling into 13 tons of Gold and 8 kg and 10 Million and 803 thousand and 600 Dollars!

Pictures of Relics of Luangta



above bonefragments turning into relics
and below his hair turns into relics.

