

Departmental Seminar

TITLE

From ‘*aphisek*’ to “Coronation”: The Coronation and Thai Kingship in the mid-19th century and 20th century

SPEAKER

Ms Siriporn Dabphet

MA Candidate

Department of History, National University of Singapore

Day, Date, Time, Venue

Wednesday, 23 April 2008, 3 pm, AS1-04-01

Abstract

Purposes of political ritual are various. Political rituals are an instrument to construct, support and represent the power and authority of rulers. This talk focuses on the role of ritual in the maintenance of the symbolic authority and social centrality of the Thai monarchy. Its main focus is the coronation ritual as the most significant ritual in the display of kingship and the support of royal legitimacy; the talk also discusses changes in ritual performances and the ruler’s views of it in the period from the mid-nineteenth century to the twentieth.

About the Speaker

Siriporn is an MA candidate in History at the National University of Singapore, where she is writing a thesis tentatively entitled: ‘The Coronation Ritual and Thai Kingship in the 19th and 20th Centuries’. She has previously lectured at Srinakharinwirot University, Bangkok, on East Asian and Thai history.

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For enquiries, please contact the Department of History