

National

King Rama V papers given Unesco status

Published on August 1, 2009

An extensive series of royal documents issued during King Rama V's reign have been recognised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) as second historic documental evidence, Education Ministry deputy permanent secretary Sriwipha Mekthawatchaikul said yesterday.

The documents, comprising royal gazettes and commands totalling about 800,000 pages, included a famous royal command to abolish the centuriesold slavery system in Thailand.

The documents will carry a Unescoissued "Memory of the World" title and will be allowed to be kept in local custody at the National Archives of Thailand.

A Unesco seminar in Barbados agreed in principle to provide official recognition on Thursday, said Sriwipha, referring to a statement by MR Rujjaya Aphakorn, a councillor on the Thai National Committee on Memory of the World Programme of Unesco, who attended the seminar.

The royal documents, which featured several of King Rama V's revolutionary works, including the introduction of telephone and postal services in the Kingdom, were proposed to Unesco in March last year.

The first recognition granted to Thailand under the Memory of the World title was the First Stone Pillar, made by King Ramkhamhaeng (1279-1298) and documenting the Thai alphabet and the use of Thai language, which he is reported to have invented.

King Rama V (1868-1910) was recognised by Unesco in 2001 as an influential person in the world.

Privacy Policy © 2006 Nation Multimedia Group 

August 3, 2009 08:41 am (Thai local time)

www.nationmultimedia.com