

THE KINGDOM OF THE YELLOW ROBE



BY ERNEST
YOUNG 

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THE KINGDOM OF THE
YELLOW ROBE



"THE SHRINE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WATERS"—PAKNAM.

Page 30.

THE KINGDOM OF THE YELLOW ROBE

BEING SKETCHES OF THE DOMESTIC AND
RELIGIOUS RITES AND CEREMONIES
OF THE SIAMESE

BY

ERNEST YOUNG

Late of the Education Department, Siam.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY E. A. NORBURY, R.C.A.

(Late Director of the Royal School of Art,
Bangkok, Siam)

And from Photographs by the Author.

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P R E F A C E

THE following pages are intended to present to the reader an account of the domestic and religious rites and ceremonies of the Siamese. They are the outcome of several years' residence in the Capital of Siam. In order to verify some of my own observations or to amplify some points with regard to which my own knowledge was rather scanty, I have consulted most of the books which in recent years have been published concerning the country of Siam. I am particularly indebted to the works of two writers whose knowledge was both wide and deep; viz., H. Alabaster, whose "Wheel of the Law" deals with Siamese Buddhism; and Captain Gerini, whose various monographs on domestic or religious customs are full of valuable and reliable information concerning their misty origin and meaning. I must also acknowledge my indebtedness to "The Siam Repository" (a weekly paper long since extinct, but whose pages are a treasure-house of information to the enquirer), and to my friend Mr. R. L. Morant for much helpful criticism and advice.

The illustration "Planting out young Rice" is from a sketch in the possession of Mrs. Smith, of Tarrawatta, Beckenham, who has kindly lent it for the purpose of illustrating this book.

The following five illustrations are also from sketches, kindly lent by E. Lloyd Williams, Esq., of James St., Buckingham Gate.

"Offering Rice to the Priests."

"Making Curry."

"Ploughing a Rice-field."

"Collecting ripe Grain."

"Rice Boats coming down the Menam."

E. Y.

Chingford, 1898.

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
	<i>Preface</i> ix
CHAPTER	I. STREET SCENES IN THE VENICE OF THE EAST 1
"	II. BY KHLONG AND RIVER 25
"	III. THE CHILDREN 44
"	IV. THE SHAVING OF THE TOP-KNOT 64
"	V. COURTSHIP AND MARRIAGE 85
"	VI. DOMESTIC LIFE AND CUSTOMS 103
"	VII. " " " " (<i>continued</i>) 125
"	VIII. POPULAR AMUSEMENTS 147
"	IX. OUTSIDE THE CAPITAL 171
"	X. THE CULTIVATION OF RICE 196
"	XI. LAWS AND LEGISLATION 218
"	XII. CEREMONIES FOR THE DYING AND THE DEAD 235
"	XIII. THE ORDER OF THE YELLOW ROBE 251
"	XIV. AMONG THE TEMPLES 272
"	XV. " " " (<i>continued</i>) 297
"	XVI. RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES 316
"	XVII. " " (<i>continued</i>) 338
"	XVIII. " " (<i>continued</i>) 358
"	XIX. A PILGRIMAGE TO PRABAT 375
"	XX. THE ELEPHANTS 388

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

	<i>Page</i>
THE SHRINE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WATERS. (<i>Frontispiece.</i>)	vi
A SCAVENGER	3
THE CURRY VENDOR	6
THE KEROSENE DEALER	10
THE THREE HEADED GATE. (<i>Full page.</i>)	15
A GHARRY	23
RICE BOATS COMING DOWN THE MENAM	27
A LIGHTER	31
SIAMESE CANOES	33
CHINESE TRADING JUNK	36
"CAN I GIVE YOU A LIFT, REVEREND FATHER?"	40
MOTHER AND CHILD	58
MOUNT KAILASA AS ERECTED FOR THE HAIR CUTTING CEREMONIES OF H.R.H. THE CROWN PRINCE OF SIAM. (<i>Full page.</i>)	81
A CHINESE MERCHANT	97
A SIAMESE TEAKWOOD HOUSE. (<i>Full page.</i>)	106
MAKING CURRY	119
STEAMING RICE	123
A RICKSHAW	135
LAYING WAGERS ON FIGHTING FISH. (<i>Full page.</i>)	151
A WRITER OF LOTTERY TICKETS	155
FACES FROM A SIAMESE THEATRE	165
PREPARING RATTAN FOR CHAIR-MAKING	172
FISHING BOATS AT THE BAR	177

	<i>Page</i>
KLONG NEAR PETCHABOORREE. (<i>Full page.</i>)	181
A BUFFALO CART. (<i>Full page.</i>)	185
A SIAMESE BULLOCK CART	189
THE SWINGING FESTIVAL. (<i>Full page.</i>)	197
COLLECTING RIPE GRAIN. (<i>Full page.</i>)	199
A SIAMESE RICE PLOUGH. (<i>Full page.</i>)	203
PLANTING OUT YOUNG RICE—FOOT OF KORAT HILLS	206
PLOUGHING A RICE FIELD	208
BUFFALOES RETURNING FROM THE RICE FIELDS. (<i>Full page.</i>)	215
A ROYAL FUNERAL PROCESSION. (<i>Full page.</i>)	237
THE POOR MAN'S FUNERAL	245
PRIEST AND ATTENDANT	255
OFFERING RICE TO THE PRIEST	264
A VILLAGE TEMPLE. (<i>Full page.</i>)	275
SALA IN A JUNGLE CLEARING. (<i>Full page.</i>)	279
TEMPLE BELL TOWER. (<i>Full page.</i>)	291
WAT CHANG, BANGKOK. (<i>Full page.</i>)	299
THE SLEEPING BUDDHA. (<i>Full page.</i>)	309
THE FESTIVAL OF KAW PRASAI. (<i>Full page.</i>)	319
WAT CHANG AT SUNSET. (<i>Full page.</i>)	345
PRABAT HILLS FROM NEAR AYUTHIA. (<i>Full page.</i>)	379