



**QUEEN SIRIKIT
INSTITUTE**
Chitralada Villa

The SUPPORT Foundation
of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, The Queen Mother





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On her royal visits to people throughout the Kingdom, Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother observed fine traditional artwork and crafts created by Thai farmers. As she once remarked:



"I am very proud of our people. The Thais are natural artists, no matter who they are or where they are living, whether they are farmers or other professionals. Thais are also sensitive people with an artistic sense that enable them to swiftly absorb and develop creative skills"

(Excerpts from Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother's birthday anniversary speech on August 11, 1989 at Dusidalai Pavilion, Chitralada Villa.)

Such a conviction gave rise to Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother's command to have the SUPPORT Foundation of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, The Queen Mother established in 1978, with its primary aim to promote local arts and crafts to help provide supplementary incomes for underprivileged families, who would continue their main occupation as farmers, while at the same time preserving traditional arts which were in danger of becoming lost.



Two years later in 1978, Her Majesty had the SUPPORT Training Center set up within the compound of the Chitralada Villa, providing opportunities for members of impoverished farm families to be trained in various artworks.

First set up in small tents beside the Office of Her Majesty's Private Secretary within the compound of the Chitralada Villa, the Training Center has grown to become a permanent training center in its own premises.

The Center has several major artwork divisions: among them gold and silver nielloware, damascene inlay, gold and silverware, enamel, Yan Lipao basketry, woodcarving, beetle wing decoration, embroidery, and weaving.

For more than 40 years since its establishment, the SUPPORT Training Center has produced numerous fine works in over 23 types of traditional arts and crafts. In doing so, it helped develop many of its artisans to be comparable to court artists or Artisans of Rattanakosin,



all the while adhering to Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother's wishes to improve the lives of the Thai people, while also conserving the nation's fine traditional arts and crafts.

On 21 September 2010, the Training Center at Chitralada Villa was upgraded to be the "Queen Sirikit Institute" for the auspicious occasion of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother's 80th Birthday Anniversary.

As evident from the works presented at the Arts of the Kingdom museum, the artisans from the Queen Sirikit Institute produce masterpieces of Thai arts and crafts of the highest quality, recognized worldwide. All this was born from the vision and benevolence of Their Majesties the King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great and Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother, who have ceaselessly championed Thai arts and crafts as treasures of the Kingdom and its people.