

**Sujet :** Kumut Chandruang

**De :** KruChang -Pobchan

**Date :** 06/12/2022, 01:56

**Pour :** gope@gope-editions.fr, Janaprakal Chandruang

Dear David,

Hope this message finds you well. I am sending a brief biography of my father and 2 pictures.

Thank you for all efforts and looking forward to hearing more from you.

Regards,

KruChang

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10x12.jpg



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Pièces jointes :

8x12.jpg

7,5 Mo

10x12.jpg

11,2 Mo

Kumut Chandruang SN edited.docx

18,6 Ko

## Kumut Chandruang: Man Before Time

Born on March 6, 1913 on the ancestral homeland called Song Phi Nong, Supan Buri Province, Thailand.

Father: Pra Brahma Preecha (Klin Chandruang) Mother: Mrs. Brahma Preecha (Lamai Chandruang)

4 Siblings: Kumut (White Lotus), Kamales (Red Lotus), Komal, Mayuri (Peacock)

Like other Thai extended family Kumut has half siblings born from other 2 different mothers.

1 sibling from the second (adopted) Mother Reaw Chandruang: Supanee

7 siblings from the third (adopted) Mother Chun Chandruang (Later named Mrs. Brahma Preecha): Ukot, Wipa, Adirek, Yaowamalaya, Yaowapa, and Yuthitham.

While his 4th (adopted) Mother, Mother Thongaon, produced no siblings.

Since his father was a judge assigned to take positions in different provinces, Kumut had to relocate from province to province during his childhood, from NakornSawan to Nakorn Sri Thammarat, Surathani and Phichit where later became the background of his book called *My boyhood in Siam*.

In 1933, Kumut Chandruang became the first Thai student of University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). In 1944, the book, *My Boyhood in Siam*, was published after some chapters got initially published in Asia Week in September 1938. Mentioned in the Preface of the book, Kumut clearly said that the publication of the book had turned the ups and downs life of a Thai student who was dismissed from the university due to shortage of income, to gain his reputation back and a placement to further his studies.

*My boyhood in Siam* was a trademark of Kumut, apart from telling the story of a country called Siam during time when there was hardly any English books talking about it. This book is a journal with simple yet eloquent English and full of sense of humor. The book tells a story of a life of young Kumut as the eldest son of a judge, emerging into adolescence, who had decided to take on a journey to experience a life adventure. Apart from one close cousin, no one knew that the ship which was moving away from the port in Bangkok would never take Kumut to the shore of Manila, Philippines, but instead went even further to the continent, discovered by Christopher Columbus, The United States of America.

Kumut beautifully completed the last epilogue of the book describing the ship slowly moving away further and further from the Chao Phraya River “.....But I’m a man and must be brave. I thought to myself. My father had run away from his mother during his boyhood and return to her as a Chief Justice. I ran away from

the Chief Justice and hope to return to him as something equal to him, if not bigger and better. However, one can never predict one's future."

This was the first chapter of a remarkable life of Kumut Chandruang: a writer, a dramatist, a forgotten member of The Free Thai Movement, a pioneer, and a learner all through his life.

He married the youngest daughter of the prominent Thai Classical Music maestro **Luang Pradit Phairoh (Sorn Silapabanleng)**: Chachavalaya Chandruang. He was a father of 3 children: Sunipond, Janaprakal, and Sasikanda Chandruang; a grandfather of 6 grandchildren: Ben Sunimit-Danunuch, Tanachon-Botlakorn, and Waewrawi-Pokpong; and a great grandfather of 3 great grandchildren. Kumut Chandruang passed away on October 11, 1998.