

The History of the Loy Krathong Sai Festival in Tak



The *Loy Krathong Sai* Festival in Tak has been cherished and passed down through generations. What sets this tradition apart is the unique use of coconut shells to craft the krathongs. The Ping River, which flows through Tak, features natural sandbanks that create stunning underwater channels. When the krathongs are floated, they follow these channels in a continuous, glowing line. The shimmering lights from the coconut shell krathongs beautifully illuminate the river. Over time, this community tradition evolved into the *Loy Krathong Sai* competition, celebrated for its unique format and becoming a source of pride for the people in Tak.

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- 1997 (B.E. 2540): Tak Municipality received royal recognition from His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great (Rama IX), who graciously bestowed a trophy for the first-place winners of the *Loy Krathong Sai* competition.
- 1999 (B.E. 2542): His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great graciously presented a ceremonial krathong to inaugurate the *Loy Krathong Sai* tradition during the festival.
- 2001 (B.E. 2544): Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, the Queen Mother, graciously donated krathong and personally participated in the *Loy Krathong Sai* Festival.
- 2006 (B.E. 2549) to the Present: Tak City Municipality has created royal-replica krathongs to display at the Chalerm Phra Kiat Tak Museum, attracting tourists and preserving this remarkable tradition.