**The Relations between Siam and China during King Narai Period**

Siam’s relations with China during King Narai's reign occurred mainly in two forms.

One is **commercial relations**. King Narai sent various diplomatic missions to China to establish trade relations. Abbe de Choisy recorded that the Siamese ambassador Ok Luang Kalaya Rajamaitri was sent to China twice. Commercial delegation was dispatched to China once in every three years.

Another form of relations is **Chinese migration to Siam**. These Chinese immigrants were the Ming who escaped to Siam during the Manchu conquest of China. They included merchants, sailors, and people who were looking for new opportunities. Evidence suggests that there was a Chinese residential area consisting of single-story houses made of brick in the Capital of Ayutthaya. The Chinese probably scattered throughout the Kingdom as evidenced by a Chinese inscription dated 1663 on a grave of Lim Yi Kung from Fujian that was founded in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province. The inscription on display in the Somdet Phra Narai National Museum was found at Wat Somdet Phra Narai, located on the western bank of the Ping River in Tak Province. It was made of brick and contains text stating that the surnamed Joeng made this inscription inthe 54th year of Kangxi (1716).

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