

## National Culture Act, B.E. 2485 (1942)

Translation

In the name of His Majesty King Ananda Mahidol  
Regency Council  
(By the announcements of the President of the House of Representatives  
Dated 4 August B.E. 2480 and 16 December B.E. 2484)  
Athit Thip-apa  
Pridi Phanomyong  
Enacted on the 28th Day of September B.E. 2485;  
Being the 9th Year of the Present Reign

According to a resolution passed by the National Assembly to amend Laws on the National Culture, to lay the basis solidly, to nourish, to uphold and to disseminate widely;

Be it, therefore, commanded by the King, with the advice and consent of the National Assembly, that the Act be promulgated as follows:

### Section 1

This Act is called "National Culture Act, B.E. 2485 (1942)."

### Section 2

This Act shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

### Section 3

The Act on the Nourishment of the National Culture, B.E. 2483 and the Act on the Nourishment of the National Culture (No. 2), B.E. 2485 shall be hereby repealed.

### Section 4

In this Act:

"Culture" means characteristics that demonstrate the prosperity, order, harmonized progress of the nation and good morals of the people.

### Section 5

All persons have a duty to behave according to the national culture and shall uphold and enhance the prosperity of the nation by maintaining culture according to good traditions and customs, as well as assist in adjusting the national culture appropriately upon time.

### Section 6

Apart from the provisions by this act, cultures to which a person shall exercise accordingly may be provided by Royal Decrees in the following cases:

- (1) Order in dressing, ethics and etiquettes in public places or as appeared to the public.
- (2) Order in personal practices and in performances to the households.
- (3) Order in personal behaviors which may bring about honors to the Thai nation and Buddhism in Thailand.
- (4) Efficiency and ethics of professions.
- (5) Sophistications of minds and good morals of the people.
- (6) Progress in literary and fine arts.
- (7) Preferences in Thais.

## **Section 7**

In determination of cultures by the Royal Decrees under the previous section, geographical conditions, life styles, types of people in each locality should be considered.

## **Section 8**

A council should be founded and called "National Culture Council". This council is a juristic person.

## **Section 9**

The National Culture Council shall have the following duties:

- (1) To research, adapt, maintain and promote the existing national cultures.
- (2) To research, adapt, and determine cultures that should be accepted and adjusted.
- (3) To disseminate the national cultures appropriately to time.
- (4) To control and find methods to instill national culture into the people's mind until it becomes their characters.
- (5) To give opinions, counsel and act according to the purposes of the government in affairs concerning national cultures.

## **Section 10**

There shall be a committee to control and supervise the general operation of the National Culture Council. Members and Secretary General of the Council shall be appointed by the cabinet and announced in the Government Gazette.

## **Section 11**

The National Culture Council shall be divided into 4 Bureaus.

- (1) Bureau of Spiritual Culture
- (2) Bureau of Traditional Culture
- (3) Bureau of Artistic Culture
- (4) Bureau of Literary Culture

## **Section 12**

Activities to be performed by each Bureau shall be assigned as regulations by the National Culture Council.

## **Section 13**

The National Culture Council may receive financial subsidy from the government or receive financial supports from any persons or organizations.

## **Section 14**

Any associations or organizations whose objectives are related to activities of the National Culture Council, no matter whether they have already been founded before, must get permission from the National Culture Council, prior to applying for foundation as provided by law or for continuance. After founded or continued, they are under the control of this Council.

## **Section 15**

Any person who violates orders of competent officials, who made orders by authorization provided by the Royal Decree legislated under Section 6, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twelve Baht.

Money acquired from such fine shall be regarded as the subsidized money for primary education according to Revenue Code.

**Section 16**

The Prime Minister shall have charge and control of the execution of this Act, and shall have power to create Regulations for the execution of this Act.

Such Regulations shall come into force upon their publication in the Government Gazette.

Countersigned by

Field Marshal P. Pibulsongkram

Prime Minister

Published in the Government Gazette, Part 63, Volume 59,

Dated 29th September B.E. 2485, pages 1744-1749.

**Disclaimer**

This translation is intended to help Thais or foreigners to understand Thailand laws and regulations only, not to use as references, because it is only the original Thai version of legislation that carries legal effect. [www.ThaiLaws.com](http://www.ThaiLaws.com), therefore, shall not be held responsible in any way for any damage or otherwise the user may incur as a result of or in connection with any use of this publication for any purposes. It's the responsibility of the user to obtain the correct meaning or interpretation of this publication or any part thereof from Thai version or by making a formal request to the appropriate or related authorities.