

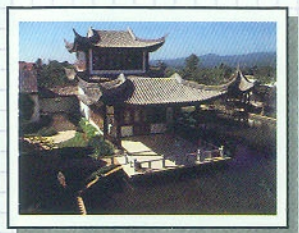


Academic programs and activities



The Sirindhorn Chinese Language and Culture Center offers language teaching and training program as many levels:

1. primary Chinese Language Course for the General Public; Level 1
2. primary Chinese Language Course for the General Public; Level 2
3. Middle Chinese Language Course for the General Public; Level 1
4. Middle Chinese Language Course for the General Public; Level 2
5. Advance Chinese Language Course for the General Public; Level 1
6. Advance Chinese Language Course for the General Public; Level 2
7. Primary Chinese Language Course for Student; Level 1
8. Primary Chinese Language Course for Student; Level 2
9. Middle Chinese Language Course for Student; Level 1
10. Middle Chinese Language Course for Student; Level 2
11. Course Training for Chinese ' Language Teachers
12. Chinese Language Summer Youth Program
13. Zhi neng ABC Chinese language Program
14. Chinese Language University Preparatory Program
15. Chinese ' Thai translation and interpretation training program



*The Sirindhorn Chinese Language
And Culture Center*
Mae Fah Luang University
Chiang Rai



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History

The Mae Fah Luang University Sirindhorn Chinese Language and Culture Center was established through the joint cooperation of Mae Fah Luang University and the People's Republic of China. The government of China assumed the lead role in the construction of the Sirindhorn Chinese Language and Culture Center. The center was built as a memorial to honor Her Royal Highness princess grandmother's 100th birthday as a symbol of friendship between the two nations. Both nations have high expectations that the center will be the focal point for the development for teaching the Chinese language within the Kingdom of Thailand, and within the Greater Mekong Subregion. In addition, there is a desire to establish the center as the center for arts and cultural exchange between the two nations.



On the 9th of December 2000, Her Royal Highness Princess Sirindhorn presided over the building foundation laying ceremony, and once the construction was completed, the princess once again arrived on a royal visit to preside over the official opening ceremony of the center on the 27th of January, 2003. At which time Her Royal Highness kindly christened the center as "The Sirindhorn Chinese Language and Culture Center". This is intended to be a symbol of understanding within Mae Fah Luang University.

Construction

The Chinese government took on the responsibility for the design and construction of the center. The center's design was drawn to adhere to the architectural schemes as depicted in structures found in mainland China. The construction company chosen by the Chinese government to build the center was able to replicate the Suzhou Chinese architectural structure, building decorations and the garden ornaments by complying with the design layouts and using authentic materials shipped in from China. The roofing tiles, the doors, and the marble tiles laid at the entrance of the center are all examples of a few of the materials brought in from China. The construction began on 29th of December 2001 and took seven months to complete at a total cost of approximately 60 million Baht (1.4 million U.S. dollars).



Program Strategy

The Sirindhorn Chinese Language and Culture Center's strategies and policies are as follows:

1. To be a non-profit institution in pursuit of investment yet capable of achieving quality status on its own.
2. To be able to successfully take on the responsibility for developing the level of teaching Chinese in Thailand and also to be a source from which knowledge is disseminated to all nations in the Greater Mekong Subregions.
3. To develop a greater understanding and better cooperation in the areas of Thai and Chinese Arts and Culture.

Goals

1. The center is the nucleus for the establishment and improvement Chinese-teaching standards.
2. The center will be an institute that certifies other Chinese-teaching institutes
3. The center will be the hub of training for Chinese-language teachers in Thailand and the region.
4. The center aims to conduct seminars regarding the Thai-Chinese relationship
5. The center will establish a venue of knowledge in the area of arts and culture of both the People's Republic of China and The Kingdom of Thailand.
6. The center will establish and build a concrete and friendly relationship between Thailand and China.
7. The center will promote training programs and facilitate the teaching of Chinese in Thailand and nations in the Greater Mekong Subregion.



Source of Budget

1. Financial support from the Mae Fah Luang University and the government of the People's Republic of China.
2. Registration fees from training in Chinese-language courses and other academic activities.
3. Donations.