

#C 110162 : MAJOR HISTORY

KEY WORD: POLITICAL WORLDVIEW/ ELITE/ KING RAMA I/ RAJADHIRAJ/ SAMKOK/ SAIHAN
KANNIKAR SARTRAPHONG : THE POLITICAL WORLDVIEW OF THE ELITE IN THE
REIGN OF KING RAMA I : A STUDY OF RAJADHIRAJ, SAMKOK AND SAIHAN.
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CHANTORNVONG, Ph.D. 448 pp. ISBN 974-583-138-7

This is a study on the political worldview of the elites during the reign of King Rama I. The documents used as the principal texts in the study are the three major "Translation" works of the period, namely Rajadhiraj Samkok and Saihan, all of which belongs to a "new" class of literature in terms of format and content.

The study reveals that apart from providing the ruling elites with the new aspect of legitimacy, these three major works also contain the new ideals of leadership, qualification, roles and duties of kings and nobles as well as their relationships. The most important piece of work is, however, Rajadhiraj where the emphasis on the new Buddhist kingship which grows out of new political worldview is to be found.