

PREFACE

The lessons in the *Thai Basic Reader* are graded in difficulty and are designed for use in teaching reading to students who already have a general conversational Thai background and are familiar with the Thai writing system. The lexical range represented in the early lessons is approximately that of Lessons 1 through 50 in the Thai series prepared by J. Marvin Brown (A.U.A. *Language Center Thai Course*, books 1, 2, and 3; 1967, 1968, 1969, respectively, Bangkok).

Each lesson begins with a passage dealing with some aspect of Thai society, history, geography or culture. Following the passage are questions on the content of that passage. Also included is an accompanying glossary (except for Lessons 10, 15, 20 and 25 which serve as review lessons, introducing no new vocabulary). Each of the early lessons has, in addition, exercises designed to provide the student opportunities to practice using the syntax and vocabulary of that lesson and of previous lessons. Later lessons include exercises which entail paraphrasing and summarizing in Thai. A manual for instructors is available and may be ordered from the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa, 1890 East-West Road, Moore Hall 416, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.

A precursor of the *Reader* was prepared jointly with Mary S. Sarawit under a grant from the Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies of the University of Michigan. The present volume is a revision of a work originally funded by the U.S. Office of Education. In addition to this assistance, funding from the College of Languages, Linguistics and Literature, University of Hawaii, is gratefully acknowledged.

The number of individuals who have contributed to the lessons in this text is very large indeed and, while none of them is responsible for any errors or infelicities which may appear on these pages, they have played significant roles in bringing about the *Reader* and we are much in their debt. In addition to thanking our students, we would like to acknowledge especially the suggestions and assistance of Chalintorn Neovakul-Burian, Sirinee Santaputra, Chanthanee Santaputra, Grirggiat Punpiputt, and Praromrat Rattanakanok.

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Honolulu
January 1992