Chulalongkorn notes (Baker and Phongpaichit, *A History of Thailand*)

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| P46 | Mongkut’s Thailand was a construct to avoid colonialism. Prior to this there was no cohesion.  Eg Bangkok Thais couldn’t understand Chiang Mai Thais |
|  | Mongkut’s Thailand was based on European nation state models |
| P52 | Chulalongkorn and his brothers and half-brothers saw themselves as “Young Siam” versus “Old Siam”  -Lots of them to experiment with Western ways in bureaucratic and military organisation |
|  | C. put his brother in charge of liquor, opium and gambling revenues.  -This money became the “seed money of absolutism” |
| P53 | C. replaced hereditary lords in areas slowly with a pyramid bureaucratic model so control of funds and power went to the government.  -backed up by a small, modern military |
| P55 | Judicial reform followed this centralized pattern  -most nobles reluctantly accepted their loss of power to allow progress.  -sons encouraged to enter new Western schools, so revolts were confined to the territory’s periphery |
| P58 | In 1893, Thais and French clashed over borders  -Thailand, though it found the concept perplexing, agreed to mapping and setting borders with the French and British |
| P59 | France sailed 2 gunboats up the Chao Phraya River: the Paknam incident  -resulted in a treaty between Thais and French dividing territory along the Mekong River |
| P60  \*\*\* | France and Britain wanted to squeeze Thailand into a small state but they stopped their colonial ambitions about 1900, as the need to be allies in Europe against Germany took precedence.  ALT per: Thailand NOT just a product of good governance |
| P61 | Through conscription and taxes, the Thais were now bound together  -one race---a C. achievement |
| P62 | Thai “race” continued to be an issue which C. tried to solve by saying if you speak the same language, you are Thai and you are Buddhist |
|  | French tried to entice “Thais” away from C., offering “protégé” status if Khmer.  -C. horrified. |
|  | Siam starts to be referred to as Thai from about 1902.  -A nation-state is born and referred to in treaties |
| P66 | Thai taught in schools  -compulsory primary education begins in 1921 |
| P66 | First hospital founded in 1888  -progress requires a healthy population |
|  | M. and C. spent a lot of time studying and adapting Western ideas to ensure “Thai” survival |
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