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KATAT NIXON CHEN : A NATIONAL MUSEUM FOR THAILAND : STEPS TOWARD A
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This research is to frame the National Museum, Bangkok with new meanings. Ever since the introduction of the museum concept to Siam, the National Museum, Bangkok has been assigned with a political mission that once made the museum relevant to its time and space of existence. Facing the changes in the Thai society, the museum faces the risk of becoming irrelevant to its current time and space. The museum has to release the political mission and to transform itself into a socially based museum: To associate itself with the development and the change of the Thai society. To make the museum relevant to the Thai society, the museum has to reframe with new meanings: To re-design its discourse, to make the best use of its consumable nature and to introduce a series of effective and efficient interpretations. A research was carried out in order to collect information for setting up frameworks for the new development of a national museum for Thailand. This dissertation is to tell the importance of a national museum for Thailand to be able to reflect the current time and space of the Thai society and the contributions that the museum is able to give to the society. A national museum for Thailand is a museum of hope and perception. It is to help foster a better Thai identity, a better Thai society and after all a better world.

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