

*Living  
the  
Thai  
Life...*



"The secret to a happy life in Thailand is to recognise ..... The challenge is to do it without becoming ....."

*...in  
quotes*

*4000 chosen and specially written quotes about getting the most out of life & love.*

*Tony Crossley*

# COPYRIGHT

Living the Thai Life...in quotes

E-book, 1st edition 2013

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eISBN 978-616-222-254-2

**Published by** [www.booksmango.com](http://www.booksmango.com)

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## CONSIDER THIS

The art of life for people anywhere in the world is expression. The most common form of expression is words – written or spoken. The words we heed define our deeds, and our deeds determine our quality of life.

*“Words are the most powerful drug used by mankind.”*  
~Rudyard Kipling

No? What drug makes people blow self and others up to make a point? Words can be the greatest weapon or the greatest shield, the greatest disease or the greatest cure, the greatest pain or the greatest relief.

Words used wrongly can be dangerous, but wise ones can echo through the ages and inspire us, comfort us, support us or tell us that although lifestyles may change, the way people anywhere think is a constant. For instance, we all know the English equivalent to this Thai proverb:

***A tiger does not change its stripes.***

Topics provoking most interest in my *‘Quotes to Know in Thailand’* book seemed to be Women, Sexuality, Alcohol, Age, People and Politics. In those subjects and others, replacements and additions are made here. Additional subjects include Commercial Company, Foreigners, Opinion & Prejudice and Social Networks.

Life as an expat can be much affected by the words we heed, and one is sure to come across many that somebody wants us to heed. Talk to any westerner or read any westerner-oriented media, journal letters page or forum, and the odds are you will get the benefit of somebody’s prejudice and life inexperience that he or she appears to believe are *the* words of *the* Oracle. As a one-time new expat in Thailand, a notion soon came to this writer that those giving most advice about life in Thailand were

living lives that to me seemed, at best, locked into homeland attitudes and were extremely limited.

Foreign ways can be confusing, but many quotes herein, not originally aimed at foreign parts, suggest geography makes little difference to the way people in general tend to think.

***“When I was young, I thought money was the most important thing in the world. Now I’m older, I know it is.”***

Not from the mouth of the oft-stereotyped Thai woman who seeks a relatively wealthy western partner, but English wag Oscar Wilde. 1000s of years can be insignificant.

***“When I was a boy, we were taught to be discreet and respectful of elders, but the present youth know it all and are impatient of restraint.”***

Isn't that how many of today's older generation think? Those words are attributed to Hesiod – from 700BC.

Countless quotes can be seen on the Web, but filtering worthwhile ones can be arduous. The idea of this book is that someone alone or in company may open it at any page and at least one quote will amuse, inform or both, and maybe provoke debate or thought. A hoped-for conclusion is that answers to questions we often ask have long been there.

*A worthy quote states more than the obvious.*

*A good quote makes you think.*

*An excellent quote removes doubt.*

*A great quote teaches you something*

*A genius quote changes your mind.*

A quote is usually someone's view at the time it was said or written. Counter-quotes usually exist and it is for us to decide our preference. Many quotes refer to a man, stated when it was

a man's world. Most apply to many women today. Wisdom and insight can come from unexpected sources. Some quotes show how silly people can be. As great sage Aristotle said:

***“It is the mark of a wise mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.”***

That suggests the opposite of a wise mind is one that belongs to someone who dismisses any view that is at odds with one they already hold as rubbish. Be sure such attitude is common.

Note: Where a quote has been paraphrased, the original author is cited in brackets. No inverted commas signify the view of this author/compiler, often a quote from one of the following books.

*The Butterfly Circus – A guide to partner seeking in Thailand.*

*The Farang Wife: Two Can Play That Game – an erotic novel set in Thailand (e-book available).*

*Patty's Guide to Thai Ladies & All Men (e-book available).*

*The Eve Equation: A Story of Gender Rivalry (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)*



## PHILOSOPHY

This subject opens because our personal philosophy affects how we view life. Some people say religion and/or politics are philosophy and are a brand of it, but basic form philosophy is profoundly different.

***“Philosophy: ...the study of general and fundamental problems, such as those connected with existence, values, knowledge, reason and language. It is distinguished from other ways of addressing such problems by its critical, generally systematic approach and its reliance on rational argument. ‘Philosophy’ comes from Greek (philosophia), which literally means ‘love of wisdom’.”*** ~Wikipedia

The religious and politicians invariably lean to an idea formed from early-life influences or, in particular, expedience that soothes the ego. A philosopher questions with an open mind. Politicians usually have a right or left wing leaning and, as with the religious, are sure they are right and will purposely or subconsciously dismiss anything that undermines their own view or supports another. History tells that where one side gains power, it often tyrannises the other side. There will always be people who feel their sharper edge entitles them to sole benefits they create, and there will always be people who demand an unfair share of something they took a minor or no part in creating. These are aspects of human nature.

***Philosophy is a caution, religion a threat.***

*Religion is a system of behavioural manipulation that substitutes the human capacity for independent, rational thought for robotic, irrational conformity. Philosophy is study of the difference.*

*The only philosophy that religion can be is a biased one, which is like steering device that is stuck; it takes one in an involuntary*

*direction.*

*Religion demands unthinking worship; philosophy advocates consideration of all possibilities.*

*Philosophy does not have at its head an imaginary god that acts as the ultimate arbiter via self-appointed representatives.*

*Religion dictates that it controls its followers' thoughts. Buddhism advocates asking self how much one is doing to control the destructive vices that lie within; excess pride, anger, attachment etc.*

*Rejecting philosophy is like being blind and too proud to use a white stick.*

***Philosophy is acceptance of unpleasant truths; religion is denial of them.***

*Someone's sales pitch for self should not be confused with a worthy philosophy.*

*Without a personal philosophy – a road map for life – people will go with the flow. The flow goes in one certain direction and leads to that sea of misdirected humanity called 'the masses'.*

***A philosophical mind is a free mind, a religious one enslaved.***

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*"Religion is using a divining rod. Philosophy is using a pick and shovel." ~Unknown*

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*"To live alone, one must be a beast or a god", says Aristotle, leaving out the third case: one must be both – a philosopher." ~Nietzsche*

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*"Philosophy triumphs easily over past and future evils, but*