

FESTIVALS AROUND THE WORLD

THAILAND



CHRISTMAS

Watch a short video on how Christmas is celebrated in Thailand and take part in activities from that culture.

COUNTRY QUIZ TIME

Q1. True or false: Thailand's capital is the longest place-name in the world?

True. Bangkok's full name is "the city of angels, the great city, the residence of the Emerald Buddha, the impregnable city (unlike Ayutthaya) of God Indra, the grand capital of the world endowed with nine precious gems, the happy city, abounding in an enormous royal palace that resembles the heavenly abode where reigns the reincarnated god, a city governed by Indra and built by Vishnukarn...Phew!

Q2. True or false: The national anthem is played before movies start at the cinemas?

True. The national anthem is played before a movie starts in the cinema and you may be removed if you don't stand up to pay your respects.

Q3. True or false: Nicknames are given to babies to trick evil spirits.

True. The Thais believe in ghost and spirits so they are very superstitious. They give nicknames to newborn babies to trick evil spirits that may want to steal the baby away.

Q4. True or false: In Thai, 'mai bpen rai' means we have a problem?

False. It means no worries. The Thais will say this when there is a problem but they are very laid-back people.

ACTIVITY TIME:

One: make some Christmas ornaments using origami which is a famous Japanese art form using folded paper. Whenever you play with your Christmas origami, remember to pray for the people of Japan to get to know Jesus. Amen! <http://www.origami-fun.com/christmas-origami.html>

VIDEO EXPLAINING CHRISTMAS IN THAILAND

UK missionary Rebecca shares what Christmas is like in Thailand.

- Thai Christians tidy the church and celebrate on the Sunday nearest Christmas day.
- Thai Christians wrap up gifts to give to guests and put up decorations to make the place look festive.
- People are picked up so they can go to the event at church.
- Everyone joins in with the songs and hears the Christmas story.
- Presents for guests are distributed and everyone enjoys a delicious meal together.



PRAYER TIME:

1. People: For Thai Christians to tell others about God's love this Christmas.
2. Pray for those who hear to respond with trust and faith.
3. For churches to be creative when celebrating Christmas this year.

