

Timeline of the Drafting Process

บรรพ ๑ และ ๒ (2466), บรรพ ๓ (2467), บรรพ ๑ และ ๒ (2468)

- **1916:** Phraya Man (พระยามานวราชเสวี) returned from London.
- **1919:** The French advisers submitted the Draft Civil and Commercial Code for the Kingdom of Siam.
Same year, Phraya Man was sent to the Code Commission as a secretary and began to translate the Draft to Thai language.
- **1920:** “It is not a human language!”
Probably about this period, the members of the Commission experienced hard controversies about the adequacy of the Draft. They began to consider to revise the Draft.
 - ☞ Phraya Man’s Interview (P.76)
 - ☞ The letter of Mr. René Guyon of 15th January 1920
- **August 1920:** Discussion about the “Division of the Code”.
At first, the Commission considered to divide the first 39 sections of the “Book on Obligations” as a general part for the whole civil and commercial code.
 - ☞ The Note of Mr. René Guyon of 24th August 1920
- **August 1921:** Discussion about the part of “Specific Contracts”.
The Commission began to discuss and translate the part of “Specific Contracts” (Secs. 388 – 1463).
- **September 1921:** Submission of the first Thai translation of the “Book on General Principles”.

◇ Book I on General Principles (Secs. 1 – 39)

◇ Book II on Obligations (Secs. 40 – 1463)

- **October 1922**: Integration of the part “Capacity of Persons” and “Juristic Persons” into Book I.

The Code gradually got certain similarity to the German or Japanese Civil Code.

Also in this period, the Commission decided to separate the part of the “Specific Contracts” from the “General Part of Obligations”.

- **March 1923**: Submission of the final version of the new “Book on General Principles”.

The following final composition of the Code was determined:

◇ Book I on General Principles (Secs. 1 – 105)

◇ Book II on Obligations (Secs. 106 – 452)

◇ Book III on Specific Contracts (Secs. 453 – 1463)

- **July – August 1923**: Finalization of the Thai translation of the Book I and II.

- **November 1923**: Promulgation of the Book I and II (บรรพ ๑ และ ๒ พ.ศ. 2466)

Presumably, the revision work of these Books began soon after their promulgation.

- **April 1924**: Submission of the final Draft for the Book III.

This final version was further discussed and revised in the Commission.

☞ The Note of the Commission in the Archive Vol.46 and 47

- **October 1924**: Finalization of the Draft for the Book III in English

- **January 1925**: Promulgation of the Book III (บรรพ ๓ พ.ศ. 2467)

At the same time, the royal decree of the promulgation announced the suspension of the implementation of the Book I and II (บรรพ ๑ และ ๒ พ.ศ. 2466). The decree declared that all the three Books should be put into effect at the same time; namely on the 1st January 1926. However, it did not utter the necessity to revise the Book I and II.

☞ The Decree of the Promulgation of 1st January 1925

These circumstances suggest that the original schedule had planned to promulgate the whole three Books on the 1st January 1925. However, the revision of the Book I and II was delayed. For this reason, the Book III only was promulgated on this day. The revised Book I and II should be promulgated as soon as possible by the 1st January 1926.

- **August – September 1925**: Finalization of the Draft for the revised Book I and II in English.
- **November 1925**: Promulgation of the revised Book I and II (บรรพ ๑ และ ๒ พ.ศ. 2468).

The revision work was so delayed that only 6 weeks remained for the get-acquainted period.

- Surely, one of the issues which caused the tremendous delay was the law on the remedies for non-performance of obligations.