

# **The recording of photographs and the compilation of contemporary event photographs in digital age**

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## **Abstract**

### **Introduction to Contemporary Record Section**

In Thai history, the term "Archives" or "จดหมายเหตุ" holds not just one, but multiple meanings. It refers to historical records that originated from various sources such as the king, chamberlain, astrologer, scribe, and even foreigners from the West. In 1932 A.D., when the Thai archives institution was established by the government, it became the responsibility of Thai archivists (Contemporary Record Section) to diligently record all current national events or situations. This process involves collecting, analyzing, and synthesizing data from diverse sources, which are then compiled in a chronological order. Archivists employ various methods such as documentary research, observation, interviews, note-taking, photography, and video to accomplish their tasks. The end result is a comprehensive historical diary. Furthermore, archivists also have additional responsibilities, which include writing, editing, and publishing these recorded books.

### **The recording of photographs and the compilation of contemporary event photographs in digital age**

In Thailand, the process of Contemporary Record involves the recording of photographs and the compilation of contemporary event photographs. These elements are vital in capturing significant moments, such as royal ceremonies, rituals, and other important events, and documenting them for historical purposes. The photographs serve as valuable visual records, providing insights into the social, cultural, and historical aspects of our society.

However, the rapid advancements in technology have had a profound impact on the work of archivists in this field. Several notable changes have emerged, including Evolution in Photography Technology (changing of recording equipment, Quality and Quantity of photography, Storage Devices), Shifts in Photographer Behavior, Changes in User Behavior. These factors influence the processes of photography, compilation, selection, assessment, preservation, conservation, and

provision of photographic services. As a result, adaptations in the workflow are necessary to address these evolving trends.

### **Suggestions regarding the recording of contemporary events photographs in the future**

The changes in technology have required archivists to develop and adapt their working methods to keep up with these transformations. Here are some suggestions for recording contemporary events in the future.

- Regularly Update Skills and Technology of photographs.
- Collaborate with professionals.
- Defining Quality and Quantity Standards of photographs.
- Utilize Metadata and Tagging.
- Reviewing Methods of Organizing Photographic Storage for the long-term preservation.
- Leverage Social Media and Online Platforms.