“Words” are spoken or written tools to convey one’s ideas and considered the smallest linguistic units containing their own meanings. Some Thai words have today sounds, meanings, and functions that are different from those of the past. Some words seem to be meaningless unless they are allocated with other words, but in the past these words could be used alone and as a result their original meanings can still be traced. Case-studies of Thai words used in different periods can be determined by evaluating etymology and terminology. Such studies can reveal changes in the orthographic systems, meanings, and socio-cultural contexts reflected through the written language.

Asst. Prof. Prachya Parnkate (*พช. ปรัชญา ปานเกตุ*) was born in Phitsanulok and grew up in Suphanburi, where the people have their own unique languages and accents. This experience aroused his interest in languages and inspired his investigations into the origins, backgrounds, and terminological meanings of old words and phrases. After earned his Master degree in Thai literature, he has made many scholarly contributions in the field of etymology. Besides working as a university lecturer, he is the editor of academic books and a guest lecturer at various educational institutions. Among his outstanding contributions are *Lexicon of Thai Culture*, *Lexicon of Thai Literature*, and *Storytelling Olden Words and Meanings*. On the occasion of the National Thai Language Day (วันภาษาไทยแห่งชาติ) in 2022 he was awarded as the “Outstanding Thai User” (*รางวัลผู้ใช้ภาษาไทยดีเด่น*) by the Ministry of Culture of Thailand.

Friday, 28 July 2023
14h—16h (CEST)