

Reading Text

Directions: Read the text and discuss with your friends.

1

Maha Sarakham is one of the provinces of Thailand. It is **situated** the heart of northeast of Thailand having the **peaceful** atmosphere and being the center of **education** in the northeast so the name “Taksila of Isan” (Taksila was a city where education of all branches was centered in ancient India) is given to it.

Neighboring provinces are (from north clockwise) Kalasin, Roi Et, Surin, Buriram, and Khon Kaen.

Maha Sarakham was originally a satellite town of Roi Et founded in 1865. In 1868, the central government in Bangkok **declared** Maha Sarakham a province of its own under the supervision of Bangkok.

The provincial **seal** of this province shows a tree in front of rice fields, symbolizing the richness of **resources** in the province. Now, Maha Sarakham is divided into 13 districts, 133 sub-districts, and 1,804 villages. It is 470 kilometers, along highway, from Bangkok. This province has no mountain or hill. There is the Chi River that flows through and the majority of the area is the rice field.

Source: <http://isan.sawadee.com/mahasarakham>



<http://www.mahasarakham.go.th/mkweb/new-data/map/75-75>

Vocabulary



- **Situate** (v.): fix or build (something) in a certain place or position (ที่ที่ตั้ง)
- **Peaceful** (adj.): free from disturbance; tranquil (เงียบสงบ)



- **Education** (n.): the process of receiving or giving systematic instruction, especially at a school or university (การศึกษา)
- **Neighboring** (adj.): next to or very near another place; adjacent (เพื่อนบ้าน)
- **Declare** (v.): say something in a solemn and emphatic manner (ประกาศ)
- **Seal** (n.): a device or substance that is used to join two things together so as to prevent them from coming apart or to prevent anything from passing between them (ตราประทับ)
- **Resources** (n.): a stock or supply of money, materials, staff, and other assets that can be drawn on by a person or organization in order to function effectively (ทรัพยากร)



<http://www.pornchaibiotech1.com>



<http://nittaya54135.blogspot.com>



<http://www.web.msu.ac.th>

2

The principal **occupations** of Maha Sarakham people are **cultivation** and animal raising. The outstanding home industry of Maha Sarakham is **sericulture** and silk **fabric** production. Maha Sarakham had woven silk and cotton which are the original and beautiful pattern.

There are **attractive** festivals and events in Maha Sarakham such as Bun Boek Fa and Red Cross Fair. It is an annual celebration taken place around the end of rice farming season which falls on the 3rd waxing day the 3rd lunar month. The main features of the fair are Bun Boek Fa procession which concerns about rice **goddess** spirit and container of Baisi Su Khwan. Along with the main features are cultural activities, local entertainment, folk music **performance**, and several ceremonies.

Source: <http://isan.sawadee.com/mahasarakham>

Vocabulary



- **Occupation** (n.): A job or profession (การประกอบอาชีพ)
- **Cultivation** (n.): the action of cultivating land, or the state of being cultivated (การเพาะปลูก)



- **Sericulture** (n.): the production of silk and the rearing of silkworms for this purpose (ปลูกหม่อนเลี้ยงไหม)
- **Fabric** (n.): cloth, typically produced by weaving or knitting textile fibers (ผ้า)
- **Attractive** (adj.): (of a thing) pleasing or appealing to the senses (มีเสน่ห์, ดึงดูดใจ)
- **Goddess** (n.): a female deity (เจ้าแม่)
- **Performance** (n.): an act of staging or presenting a play, concert, or other form of entertainment (การแสดง)

3

Phrathat Nadun Homage Paying Festival takes place on the 15th waxing day of the 3rd lunar month (Makha Bucha Day) of every year at Nadun district. The fairground is the area around Phrathat Nadun, Buddhist Bounds of the northeast and it lasts five days and five nights.

Maha Sarakham has many tourist **attractions** such as Phrathat Nadun, Isan Cultural & Art Center, Kae Dam Wooden Bridge, Kosamphi Forest Park, and Dun Lamphan No-hunting Area.

Source: <http://isan.sawadee.com/mahasarakham>



<https://thai.tourismthailand.org/>



<http://www.volunteerspirit.org>



<http://www.painaidii.com>

Vocabulary



- **Attraction** (n.): the action or power of evoking interest, pleasure, or liking for someone or something (สถานที่ที่น่าสนใจ)

