



Udon
OUR
Home
Town

Story : Rapeephan Pattanavech

Illustrations : Watcharee Kramyu

Translated by John Viano
and Peeriya Pongsarigun

Local Knowledge Book Series

By





TK park
อุทยานการเรียนรู้

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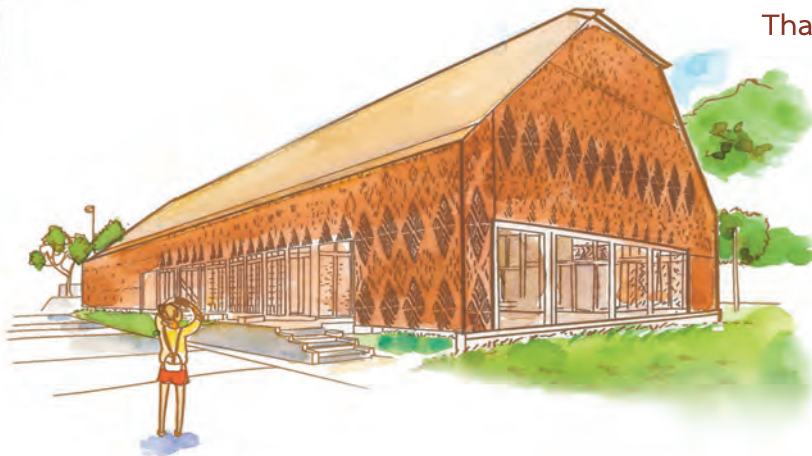
Preface

Thailand Knowledge Park (TK park) mission in society is to develop a love of reading and give people equal opportunities to experience modern learning centers which speak to their interests. TK park has been cooperating with local administrators in many regions of Thailand to build living libraries as a way to achieve its mission.

Bringing local knowledge to children, in a modern and fun way, is an important tool to inspire them to read and explore. The idea is to create books which reflect local wisdom, together with morality and ethics, for children aged 7-12.

The books in the Udon Thani Set were developed by TK park, scholars, and local writers. Children and adults will get to know about the Udon Thani and be proud of the unique traditions found there. Moreover, the books also foster better understandings of and tolerant attitudes toward others from different cultures and societies.

TK park hopes the books will be another learning tool to help encourage Thai people to read more and maximize their learning. TK park aims to make the books fun and easy to read. Readers can enjoy them and appreciate their own hometown, regions, and country.



Thailand Knowledge Park





Udon

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Pre-Mueang Udon



In 2411 B.E.,
the Chin Ho created chaos
at the Lao Phuan District.



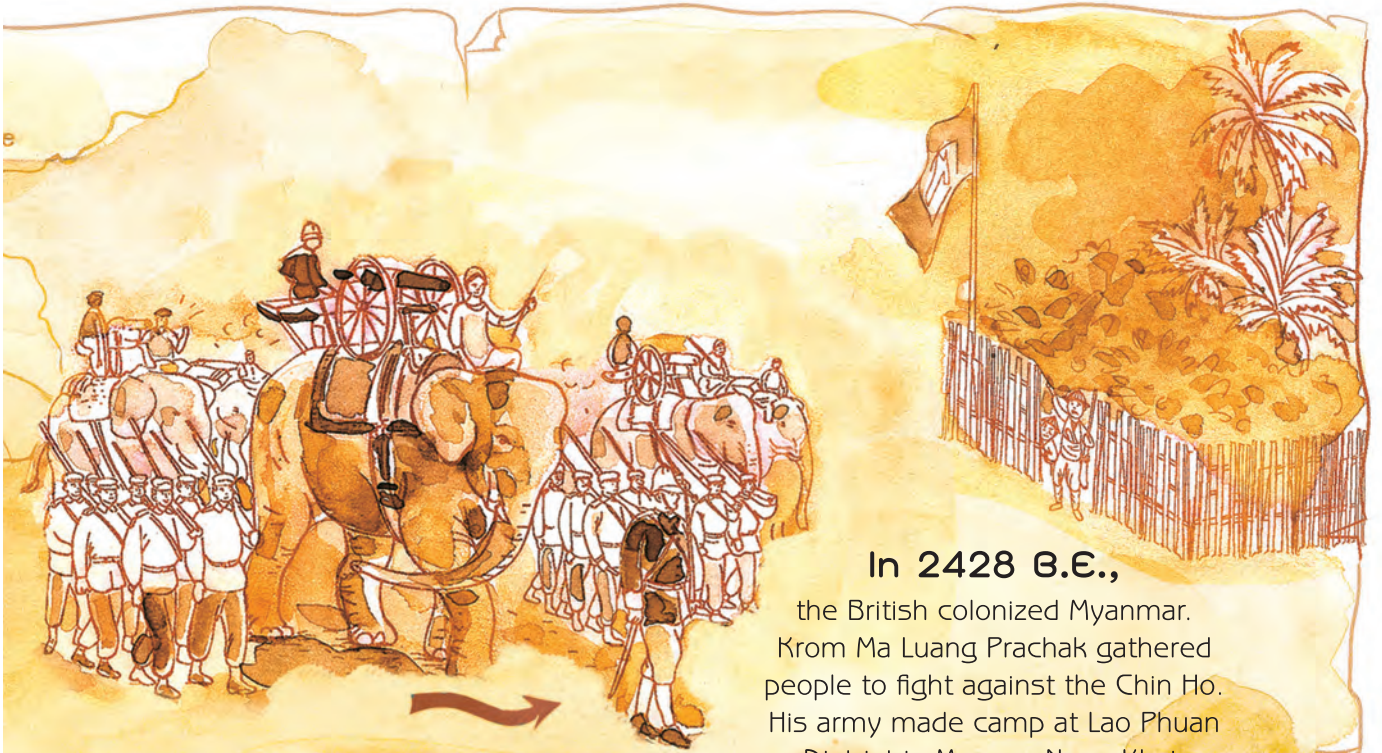
In 2423 B.E.,
France conquered and
colonized Vientiane, Laos.



In 2436 B.E.,
during the Franco-Siamese War of 1893,
Siam ceded some land to France
to preserve Siam's independence. The army's camp
was moved from Lao Phuan District because the treaty
which concluded the war allowed no forts
within 25 kilometers of the Mekong River.



In 2442 B.E.,
Krom Ma Luang Prachak led
his people out of Lao Phuan
District and named
the location of the new camp,
'The Northern District.'



In 2428 B.E.,
the British colonized Myanmar.
Krom Ma Luang Prachak gathered
people to fight against the Chin Ho.
His army made camp at Lao Phuan
District in Mueang Nong Khai.



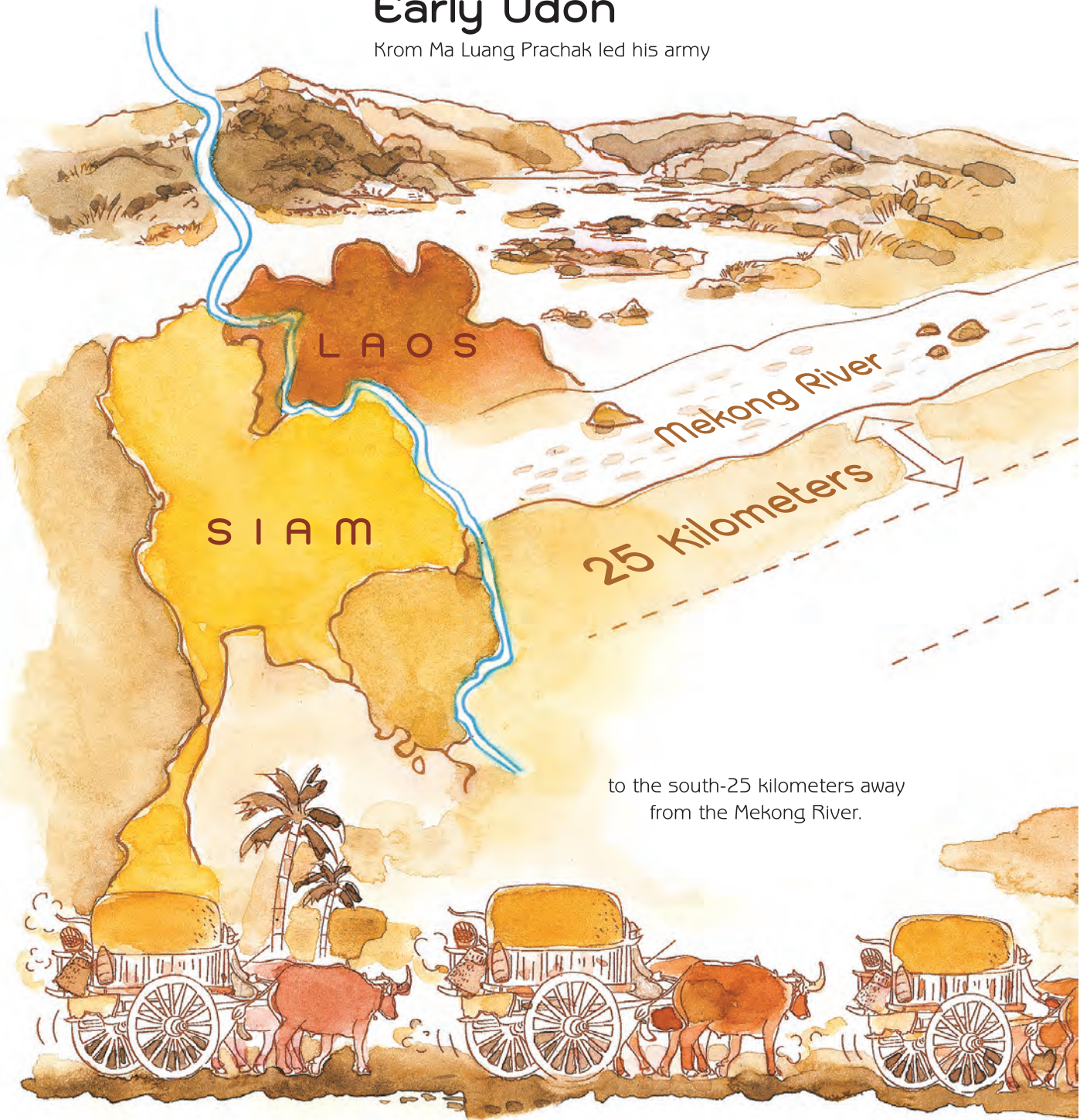
In 2443 B.E.,
the Northern District was
renamed Udon District.

Major General Phrachao Borommawongthuea
Krom Ma Luang Phrachak Sinlapakhom was the leader of
the army then. He led his people to Ban Dueda Mak Khaeng
because it was in a great location, with plenty of access
to freshwater and fertile land.

* References : The Muang Udon Thani Museum

Early Udon

Krom Ma Luang Prachak led his army



to the south-25 kilometers away
from the Mekong River.



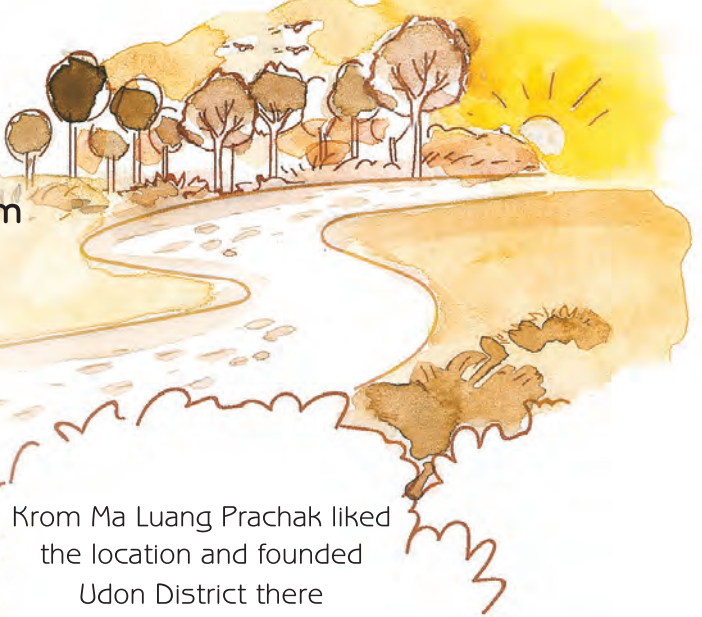
The area near the Suay River was too wild to build a city then.

30 Kilometers

So, Krom Ma Luang Prachak went 30 kilometers southwards and decided to settle at Non Mak Khaeng Temple*. His army stopped to rest under a big Bodhi tree near the Temple.



Lake Prachak and the **Mak Khaeng Stream** are both nearby.



Krom Ma Luang Prachak liked the location and founded Udon District there **in 2450 B.E.**

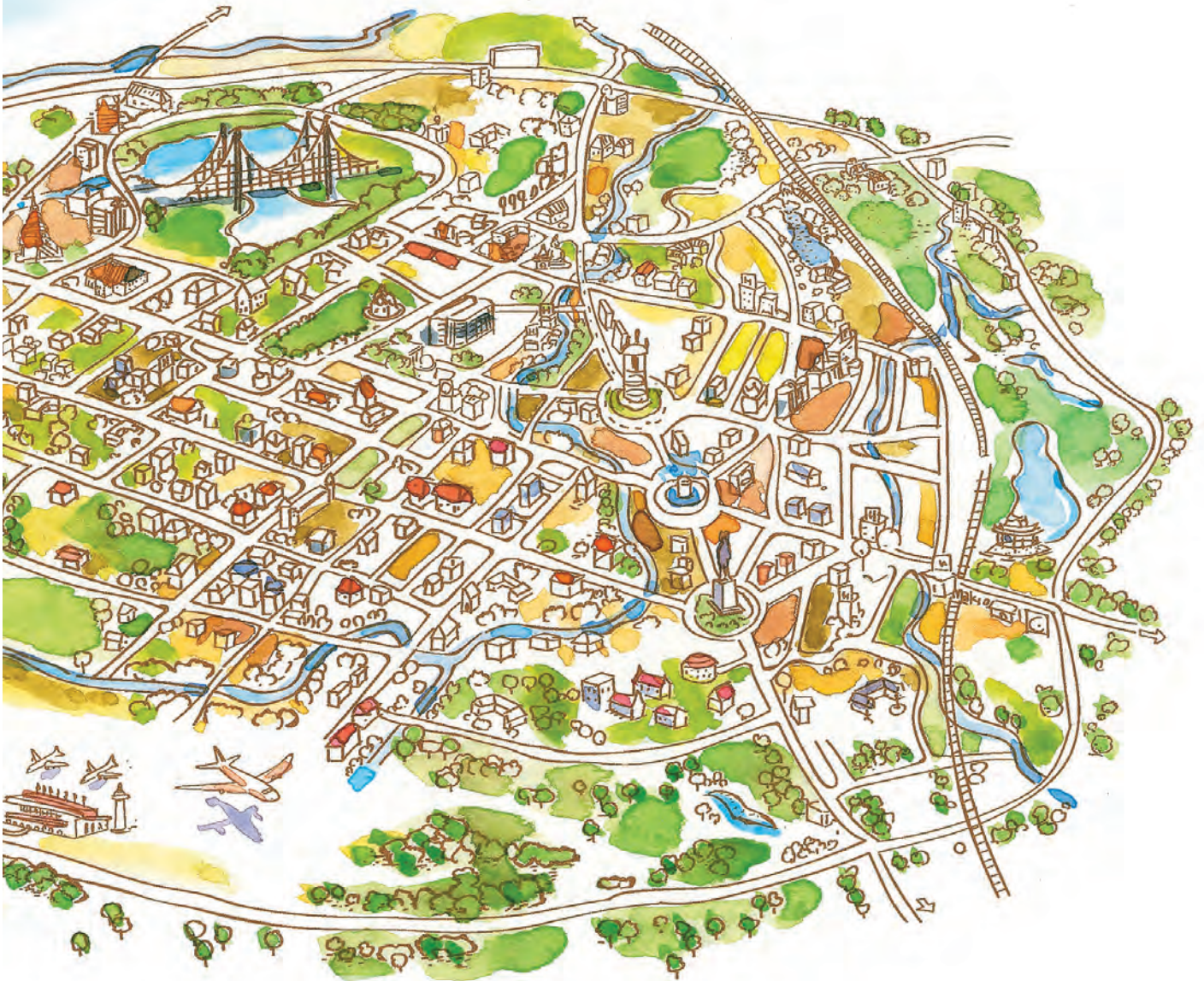
*Present is the Matchimawat Temple.

Present-Day Udon

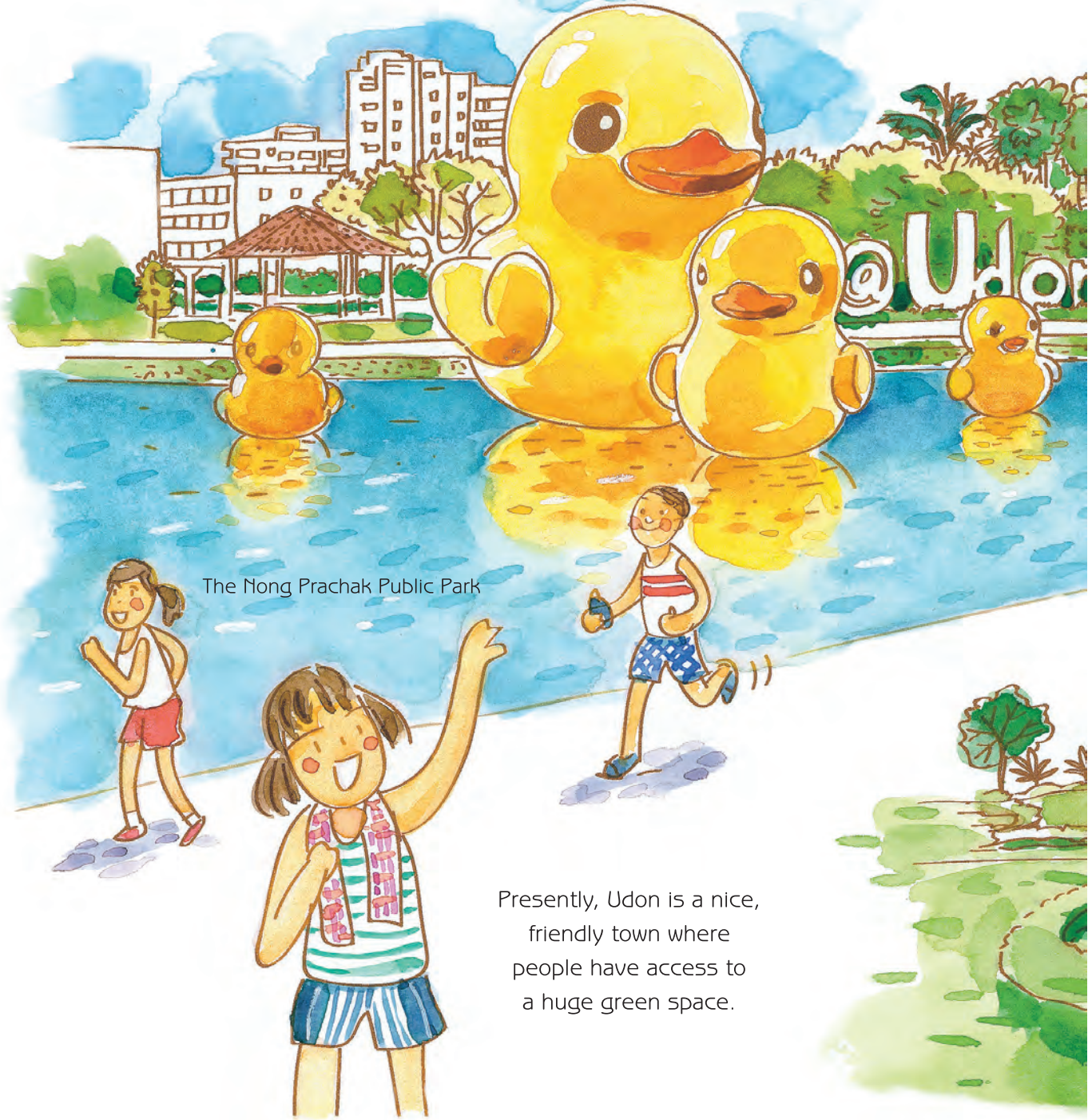
In the 100 years since its founding, Udon has developed into a big city with a good transportation system.

The city was planned so every road is connected, making it easy to get around.





Lovely and Livable Udon



The Nong Prachak Public Park

Presently, Udon is a nice, friendly town where people have access to a huge green space.



The Nong Bua Commemoration Public Park



The Nong Sim Public Park

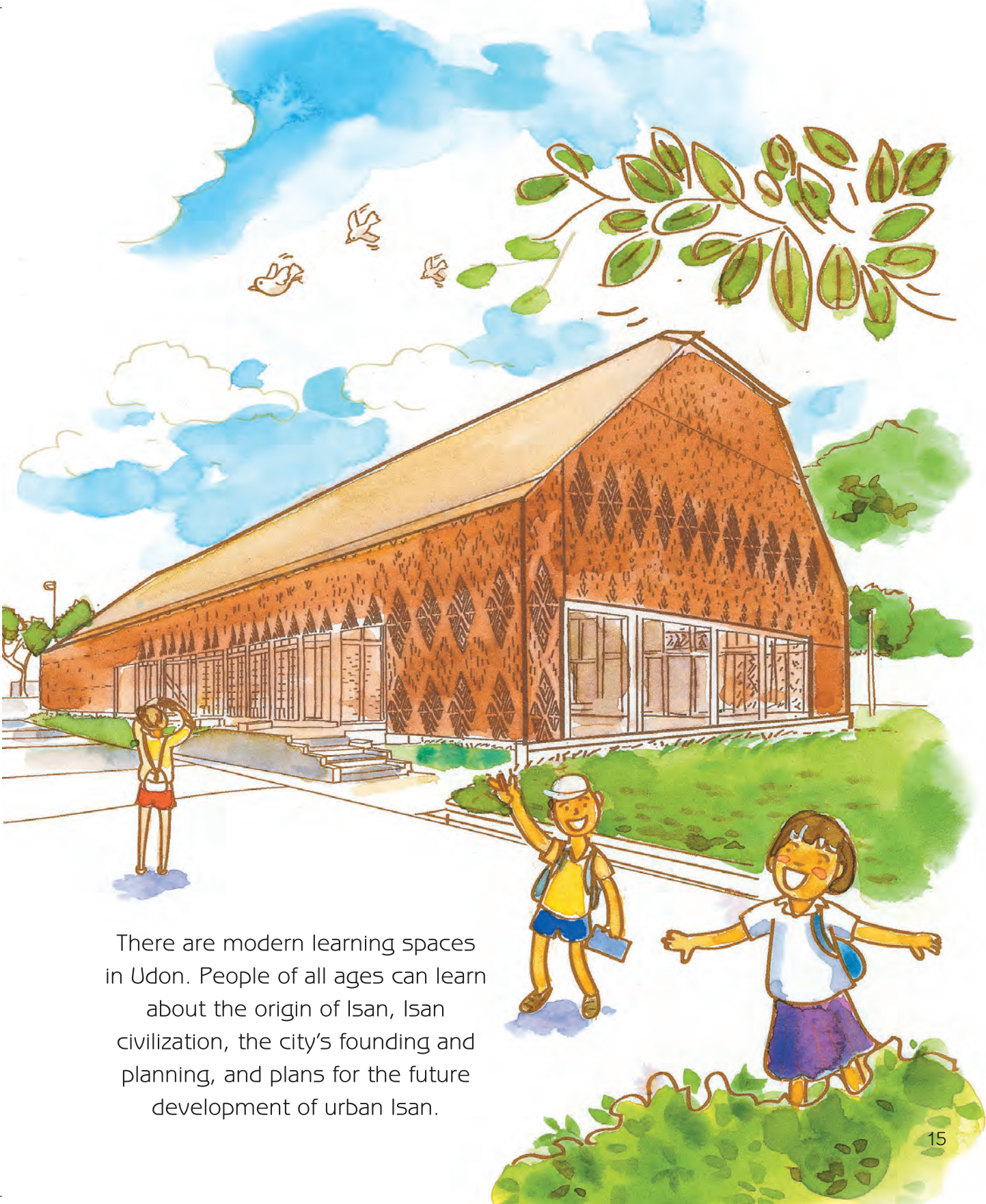
Let's learn about Udon



The Muang Udon Thani Museum

The Muang Udon Thani Museum is located in the Rachinuthit Building. It is a hi-tech interactive museum for all.





There are modern learning spaces in Udon. People of all ages can learn about the origin of Isan, Isan civilization, the city's founding and planning, and plans for the future development of urban Isan.



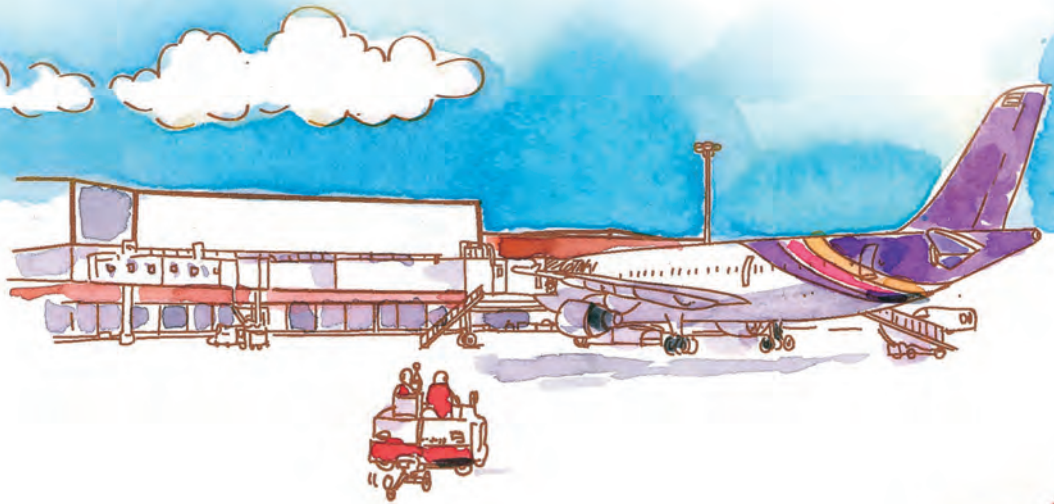
The Planetarium



Learning Centers in Udon

Besides the living museum, Udon has many places where people can learn, discuss, and come up with great ideas for the future.





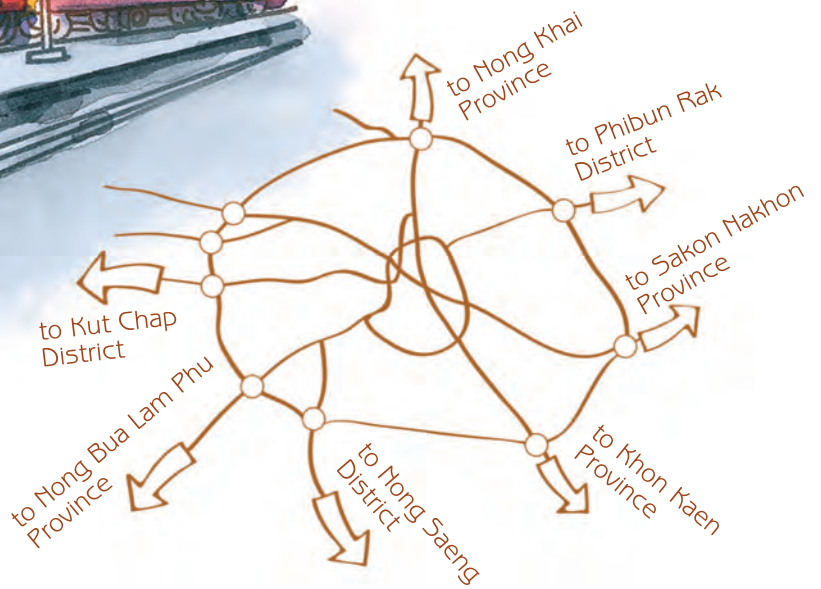
Strong Udon

Udon is a well-rounded city with good a transportation system. People from different backgrounds come to Udon to visit, travel, trade, and learn.





Mitrathap Road, leading to Vientiane in Laos



Growing Udon

What can we do for Udon?

How do we want to see Udon grow?



Let's figure it out and start doing it.

Let's make our hometown a better place.

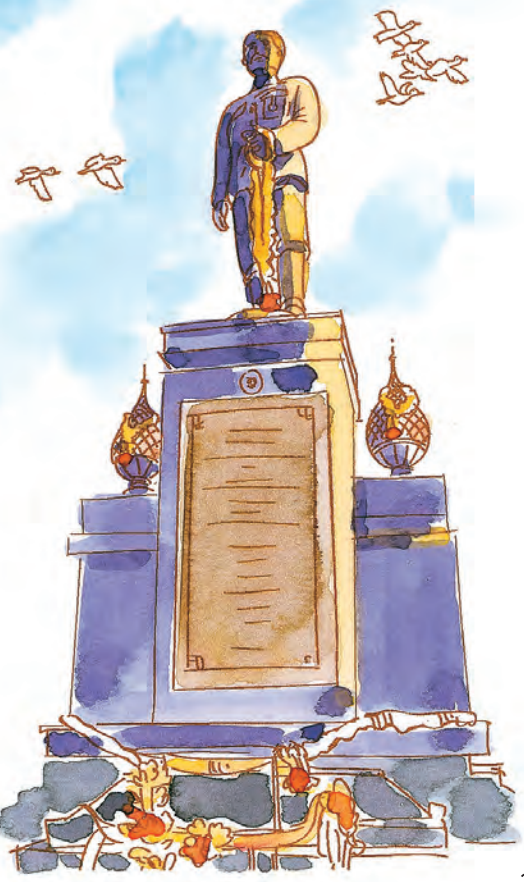




We were **born**, are **growing up**, and
are **learning** in Udon.



We want to
make Udon better!
Let's go create
a better Udon!



We are youths from Udon, a nice,
fabulous city with many centers of learning.
We live in a strong city which can
Udon and we are growing stronger together.





Udon: Our Hometown is a book in the Local Knowledge Documentary Book Series and is written for a teenage audience.

Activities for this age group should focus on giving students the freedom in expressing their opinions and should foster critical thinking.

Sample Activity : Let's Talk

Teachers may organize the Let's Talk activity before or after their students have read Udon: Our Hometown. This activity aims to:

- encourage students to think critically
- motivate students to communicate clearly
- enable students to express their opinions in a constructive way



About the Author

Rapeephan Pattanavech

graduated from the Ramkhamhaeng University Faculty of Humanities, majoring in English. She held editorial roles for scholarly periodicals and at publishers for more than 20 years.

She is currently a freelancer, working on promoting children's literacy and literature and frequently lectures on child development through reading.

About the Illustrator

Watcharee Kramyu

graduated from the Silpakorn University Faculty of Decorative Arts, majoring in communication design.

Presently, Watchari is a graphic designer for print media and illustrator.



