

Basic Detail Report



Title Lao Community New Year Celebration at the Lao Temple, Morris, 2010

Date 2010 April 18

Primary Maker Khoutavong Yongchaiyuth

Medium born digital photography

Description 2015.196.399.1: Image of families gathering inside the temple for the ceremony led by the Buddhist monks. 2015.196.399.2: Image of monks chanting inside the temple. 2015.196.399.3-4: Images of devotional wax decorations in the temple. 2015.196.399.5-7: Images of the resident monk Khoutavong tying strings around people's wrists, in the basi ceremony "mat khene" to symbolize well-being and connection. 2015.196.399.8: Image of traditional crowns arranged on a table, to be worn by young women taking part in the "Nang Sungkarn" event which presents and celebrates the young women of the

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community who exemplify Lao cultural values such as kindness, learning, grace, respectful behavior, and good character. The participants, dressed in traditional clothes, give speeches to the gathering and take part in ceremonial processions.

2015.196.399.9-.13: Images of young women taking part in the "Nang

Sungkarn" event, guided by Manola Sidara (.9) and Howard Phengsomphone (.11).

2015.196.399.14: Image of the new small temple building for personal

devotional practices built by resident monk Khoutavong. 2015.196.399.15-.16:

Images of an outdoor table covered in flowers and deity statues with people

sprinkling water on the figures symbolizing the cleansing aspect of the New Year

ceremony. 2015.196.399.17: Image of an ornate decoration on the temple made

by resident monk Khoutavong. 2015.196.399.18: Image of a statue on the temple

grounds made by resident monk Khoutavong. 2015.196.399.19: Image of a

person kneeling before a statue of Buddha inside the new small devotional

temple. There is a sign on the floor reading "Women not allow to pass this

line." 2015.196.399.20-.23: Images of dancers with Lao Narthasin dance group

performing at the outdoor festival during the New Year celebration. The dancers

are wearing traditional clothes and brass fingernails. 2015.196.399.24-.25:

Images of an outdoor table covered in flowers and deity statues with people

sprinkling water on the figures symbolizing the cleansing aspect of the New Year

ceremony. 2015.196.399.26: Image of a small shrine outdoors on the temple

grounds built by resident monk Khoutavong. 2015.196.399.27-.30: Images of

people at the statue of Buddha near the entrance to the temple grounds

sprinkling water on the figures symbolizing the cleansing aspect of the New Year

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ceremony. 2015.196.399.31: Image of a tarp covered in sand that has been

formed into a stupa surrounded by smaller mounds. This is the money stupa, a

part of the ceremonial decorations. The money is donated to the monks.

2015.196.399.32-.34: Images of people at the statue of Buddha near the entrance

to the temple grounds sprinkling water on the figures symbolizing the cleansing

aspect of the New Year ceremony. 2015.196.399.35-.36: Images of the statue of

Buddha near the entrance to the temple ground.