

Short Communication

Life, Not as We Know It

Somchai Bovornkitti, MD, Hon.MRCP, FRCP, FRACP, Hon.FACP

The Academy of Sciences, The Royal Society of Thailand, Bangkok

Nowadays, a number of people are focused on cenogenesis,¹ in search of life for the pleasures and perils of living agelessly, the so-called phenomenon of amortality.² Young and old men alike will wear snug shorts and vests with scooped armholes. Their faces may be avuncular, but their bodies will be that of Mr. Universe in his prime.

Sadly in the very near future, Thailand itself will be another place on earth having vanquished nature and stopped the clocks liked in Las Vegas, where resorts in the Nevada desert entomb visitors in the permanent, cool, clinking dusk of hotel casinos. That will be the Thailand paradox.

¹ Cenogenesis refers to the introduction during development of adoptive characters or structures that are absent from the earlier phylogeny of a strain (as addition of the placenta to the common vertebrate pattern in mammalian evolution). According to a medical dictionary it refers to the appearance of new features in development, in adaptive response to environmental conditions (Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary, 27th Edition, pg. 301)

² Pursuing a lifestyle that defies the process of aging. (Collins English Dictionary)