

Influence of Ethnicities in Thai Drama

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Abstract: This article aims to study the influence of ethnicities in Thai drama. The scope of the study focuses on ethnic groups that appeared in the Three Seals Law. The study method is a mixed method, and the results are presented by descriptive analysis. The study revealed that, Thai drama was recorded in the official legal document and performed for rituals, ceremonies, entertainment, education, occupations, publication of government policies, and in community identity. The early stories of Thai drama were about the local people, combined with ethnic cultures that had played an important role in the Kingdom of Thailand, as appeared in the Three Seals Law, namely, Mon, Lao, Vietnamese, Cham, Chinese, Khaek, Javanese, Malay, Khmer, Dawei, Burmese, Japanese, and Farang. The influence of the ethnic groups found in Thai drama is shown in the stories, characters, formats, contents, lyrics, musical instruments, musical accents, costumes, postures, stage, props, role performance, acting methods, and performance opportunities. The drama was used as a communication tool for leaders, symbol of honor for royalties, and the presentation of the kingdom's image. The influence of the ethnic groups that appear in Thai drama has been passed on and developed continually and finally created their own identity as evidenced in the present educational curriculum and performances.

Keywords: Influence of Ethnicities, Thai Drama, Thai Performing arts

1. Introduction

Generally, people recorded and presented events, experiences, stories, oneself and society with various fields of art including painting, literature, music and movement. Performing Arts is a type of art that acts as a recording and presenting events of persons experience can be materialized because the drama can mirror human beings and present. It's showed realistically, clearly the identity, image of a person, group of people, and society.

In Thailand, there are many different types of dramatic dances. In which a drama is a type of performance that tells a story that focuses on the content of love between the male and the female, the performances can be categorized according to the way of acting, such as Lakhon Charte, Lakhon Nai, Lakhon Nok, and Lakhon Ork Pasa (Lakhon Pantang), etc.

Type of Thai drama as mentioned above is the show going on and developed from the individual Ethnic groups to relation to Thailand. It's shown in TreeSeals Laws which refer regulations of the Siamese Kingdom. It also describes a population that includes both indigenous and foreigners including: Mon, Lao, Vietnamese, Cham, Chinese, India, Java, Malay, Khmer, Dawei, Burma, Japan and Vilanda [1] ect. These groups bring beliefs, rituals, cultures and dramas into the country. The later, the population became close to each other, creating a selection of compositions and incorporating their own identity called "Thai".

However, it was originally believed that Thai dramas had their roots in India [2] because the stories that show the characters and the opportunity to act are related to the Ramayana. It also appears that some of the shows do not appear in traditional Indian literature. In addition, evidence has been found that Thai theater has evolved from indigenous peoples in this region. [3]

As mentioned, there are many differences in the concept of origin of Thai dramas due to the scattered information. It's lack of consideration of factors that are involved especially, the population that plays a role in Thai society which those people appeared in the name of the nation in the law of the TreeSeals Laws which brings to the interest of this research.

Accordingly, researchers are interested in studying the influence of ethnicities on Thai dramas. The scope of the study focuses on the ethnicities that appear in the Three Star law. To lead to the discovery of the history of Thai drama to be clear can be evidence of academic references and continue to integrate with other science.

2. Research Objectives

The objectives of this research article were 1) to study the Ethnic appearances in the Law of the Three Seals, and 2) to study the Ethnic influences appearing in Thai dramas

3. Research Methods

Research Design and Process

This research is qualitative research, conducting by gathering information form primary and secondary historical document; TreeSeals Laws, Thai Classical Dance Drama Program, and Thai Classical Dance Drama Texts books., formal and informal interview 2 groups of experts in performing arts: national actors in Thai Tradition performing arts and others are lecturer in Thai Tradition performing arts, and observing live performances, teaching performance skill and studying Video and Social media including YOUTUBE and Facebook. This study also applied historical methods to criticize information and interpreting information for evaluating the reliability, as well as paraphrasing the information by synthesizing and analyzing theInfluence of the Ethnic in Thai Dance Drama.Steps were shown in Fig. 1.

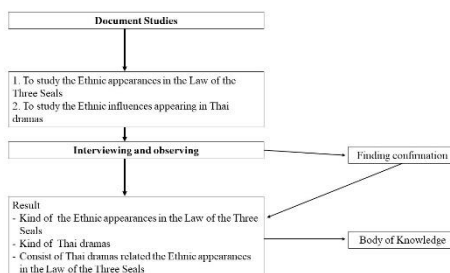


Fig.1Research process for Influence of Ethnicities in Thai Drama

4. Results

The results of the study showed that 1) Tree Seals Laws is an official document of Thailand. It's describing the state of society, population, beliefs, traditions and rituals of the royal court. Including, the rules and relations with different races which brings to the roots of Thai culture and Thai drama 2) The names and the population of the peoples appearing in the Three Seals Law was of great importance to the performance which is an important material for the development of Thai dramas 3) The dominant ethnic influences are India, China, Javanese, Malay, Mon, Lao, Japanese, Vietnamese, Cham Khmer (Khmer), and Vilanda (Farang), which appear to be in the Tree Seals Laws. It's showed that the Thai dance drama and Thai culture. It was developed from indigenous peoples by choose to develop and integrate various ethnicities until creating a new identity. However, the development that has occurred has the factors that affect the development, namely population, power of government. Relationship frequency and ethnic groups.4)The ethnic influence that appears in Thai dramas is reflected in the composition of the show.The method of acting and the opportunity for the performance:

Story played: The storyline and character name are used in the writing of the script. Content relate to the experience's author. The events of the country that took place at that time.

Style of performance: It is used as an integral part of a drama such as the opening ceremony, and blessing of the show that appears in the story.

Performance content: home events the author's experiences, thoughts, feelings, and needs of the author.

Lyric: Borrowing an ethnic vocabulary and transliteration. Music: songs of ethnicity And Thai songs, but imitated the accent of ethnic songs.

Musical instruments: ethnic instruments And Thai musical instruments, but mixed with some ethnic instruments. To mirror the accents of ethnic songs that were mixed in the ensemble.

Costumes: ethnic wear and Thai costumes or borrow a few pieces of ethnic costumes

Posture: imitation posture That ethnic movement.

Scene: There are ethnic similarities except West nation because small amount at that time.

Performance equipment: Depends on the title and episode.

Performer: The concept of a universal actor is the use of male actors. Women are often limited by their beliefs and regulations at that time.



Fig. 2Lakorn Chatree: Chala Chatree Troupe (Old Thai Actor performed Lakorn Chatree in Thai Fork Dance Drama. [4]



Fig. 3 Lakorn Chatree: Thai Classical Dance Dramaby Kromsilpakorn.[5]



Fig. 4Lakorn Nok: Thai Classical Dance Drama by Kromsilpakorn. [6]

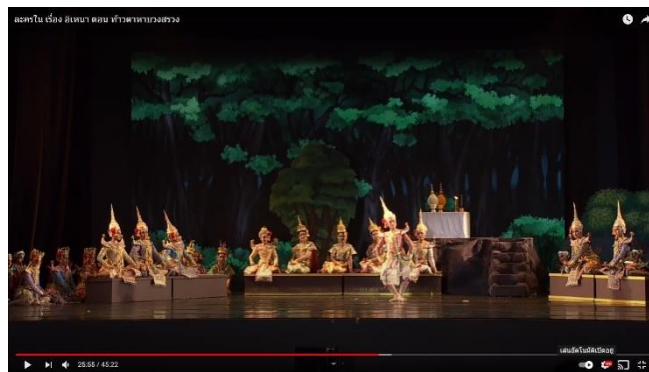


Fig. 5 Lakorn Nai: Thai Classical Dance Dramaby Kromsilpakorn. [7]



Fig. 6 Lakorn Nai: Thai Classical Dance Dramaby Kromsilpakorn. [8]



Fig. 7 Lakorn Pantang: Thai Classical Dance Drama in Mon and Chinese by Kromsilpakorn. [9]



Fig. 8 Lakorn Pantang: Thai Classical Dance Drama in Mon and Bermese by Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University. [10]



Fig. 9 Lakorn: Thai Classical Dance Drama in Java by Kromsilpakorn. [11]



Fig. 10 Lakorn Pantang: Thai Classical Dance Drama in Khmer by Kromsilpakorn. [12]



Fig. 11 Lakorn Pantang: Thai Classical Dance Lao by Kromsilpakorn. [13]



Fig. 12 Ram Mon (Mon Dance) by Mon in Pathumtani Province, Thailand. [14]



Fig. 13 YonRam Katang (Vietnamese Lighting Dance): Thai Classical Dance by Kromsilpakorn. [15]

5. Discussions

Ethnic influences appearing in Thai dramas as listed in the Law of the Three Stars. It shows the relationship of important people's cultures, both local and foreign, as well as the selection, integration and development of

cultures until the new identity of society. The adoption of a new social identity leads to inheritance of both conservation and development.

Ethnic influences appearing in Thai dramas can be seen that the races that play an important role in the culture recorded in the show are those with large numbers of people. The relationship of Ethnic's between the cultures of the villagers and the royal court continued to happen. The most importantly power of country administration because leaders are the people who make the right choice. Then conceptualization Practice of individuals, groups, and society at one time affect birth, development, stopping development and the loss of a culture that may occur for a short time or forever.

The ethnic influence that appears in Thai dramas is related to the traditional ethnic culture. New arrivals each time because each ethnicity has its own cultural development. To give rise to a specific subculture which is complicated difficult to clearly distinguish to along with the entry of ethnic groups in different periods. To affect the variables that cause the development of Thai dramas at different times.

6. Recommendations

A. Recommendations for Practices

1. Maintaining the social identity is in the community drama. Therefore, the exhibition of social identity at regular times and special occasions is the inheritance of cultural identity to remain to promote publicity to those who are interested.

2. Influence of ethnicities in Thai dramas as a guideline for the creation of Thai dramas. The key material is cultural capital that comes from ethnic influences at different times or the relationships that arise at different times.

3. Leaders play an important role in choosing a culture. Cultural adoption and a blend of cultures as it appears, ethnic influence in Thai theater performances, therefore, leaders play an important role in the preservation of art and culture. Thai Dance Drama's conserved and developed because drama is a recorded national art and culture and presenting the cultural heritage can be seen in a concrete and realistic way as well as in the person who has a continuous inheritance.

B. Recommendations for Further Research

1. Selection of samples used in this study. Emphasize on the Law of the Three Seals which should be extended to the law Governing policies that relate to drama or may formulate other types of performances such as pantomime, puppets and ethnic performances, etc.

2. This research study specifies the specific period when the law of the three stars enacted which can expand the study as a consequence of the use of the Law of the Three Seals To expand the study results of the inheritance of ethnic influences that appear in Thai dramas.

3. Ethnic culture is complex and difficult to separate clearly. There is a variety in both and abroad which should have a clearer study of ethnic cultures.

4. The results of this study were a qualitative research study which emphasizes the study of historical documents. There should be other forms of study such as fieldwork and acting creative experiments, which will lead to the use of the concept. Theories of education in a new dimension.

7. Conclusion

Research studies on ethnic influences in Thai dramas Define the scope of the study, focus on the law of the Three Seals. Moreover, ethnicity found in Thai dramas was found, which was originally believed to have the main influence from India. In addition, the influence that appears in Thai dramas is a structural introduction. Selected show components Tailored according to the tastes of the creator's work, the audience of the show presents the show's content as their own story. Important events of the country at that time until the identity of the show was born and new forms of presentation to identity's Image of society. The results of the study show that Thai society is influenced by various ethnic groups that interact. Choosing to improve and integrate existing cultures. As a result, the development of their own identity was evident in the form of Thai drama, which later had a way of developing performance elements, ways of showing opportunities for acting, resulting in the development of Thai dramas. There is more variety.

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