

Rapee Outeepentrakool 2008: Violence in Sebha Khun – Chan Khun - Phan. Master of Arts
(Thai Literature), Major Field: Thai Literature, Department of Literature. Thesis Advisor:
Assistant Professor Yada Arampee, Ph.D. 187 pages.

The objective of this research is to examine Thai classical literature “Sebha Khun – Chan Khun – Phan” in view of violence presentation throughout the story, including its cause, its motive and its impact in general.

The objective of this research is to study and examine Thai classical literature “Sepha Khun - Chang Khun - Phaen” in term of its significance and benefits to the readers. This long poem “sepha” of Khun - Chang Khun - Phaen is praised to be the real “Gem” of Thai literature whereas the Literature Club in King Rama VI reign had voted and rewarded the most outstanding Thai literature in long poem category. This piece of work is still well recognized and popular to the public despite challenges of time due to its main theme which represents not only realistic events, rational incidents, pleasant and amusing circumstances, but also illustrates the way of life, social and culture of the people of that period in details.

The findings suggests that most activities or incidents in Sepha Khun - Chang Khun - Phaen, were presented in form of violence which became the main theme of the story. The realistic violent actions and incidents could successfully captivate the attraction and provoke excitement to the readers throughout the story. Furthermore, the violence became the key factor which influenced or drove the life of all characters to face or proceed with different unpredictable destiny or complicated outcome and consequences. The poet wisely created the causes and key points supported these violent circumstances with credibility and rationality in addition to the application of various techniques in description of violent incidents to successfully allure the readers.

The impact of violence on the characters in the “Sepha Khun - Chang Khun - Phaen” as described by the poet clearly presented that the consequences in the colorful story and theme not only led to emotional and attractive, persuasive effects on readers, but more importantly, it clearly confirmed that the method of problem solving by violence as decided by the characters generally led to suffering, miseries and unhappiness and none was favored by happiness. Based on the study of contemporary 4 TV soap operas including Jum-leoi-rak (the prisoner of love), Ram-pissawas (the dark side of passion), Songkram-nangfa (the war of angels) and Sawan-bieng (the downturn of heaven), the findings indicated that the favor of violence of viewers might influence the preference in presentation decision of today’s Thai entertainment media.

Student’s signature

Thesis Advisor’s signature