

Wipatee Tipkongka 2010: Colour Terms in Thai in the Ayutthaya Period.

Master of Arts (Applied Linguistics), Major Field: Applied Linguistics, Department of Linguistics. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor

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The purposes of this research are to prove the evolution and occurrence of basic color terms in Thai in Ayutthaya period, to analyze the occurrence of non-basic color terms and their formations, to study culture of Ayutthaya people. The data was collected from the writings and literatures in Ayutthaya period and still remain in present.

The research findings show that there are 9 basic color terms in Thai in the Ayutthaya period that are white, black, red, yellow, green, pink, orange, blue and purple. Regarding the structure of the basic colour terms, they may occur with or without the word 'colour' and occur in metaphorical expressions. For the metaphorical expressions, they could be as: basic colour term (modifier) + comparing word + metaphorical expression. And non basic colour terms, they may occur with or without the word 'colour' and occur in metaphorical expressions. For the metaphorical expressions, they could be as: non basic colour terms (modifier)+ comparing word+metaphorical expression. The word formation of non basic colour terms have 5 methods that are the modifier of the basic color terms with basic color terms, the modifier of the basic color terms with level, the modifier of the basic color terms with specific entity, specify color terms, and the using of specific entity to be as colour terms. Thai people in Ayutthaya period lived along with environment. The mineral are used mostly to be as the metaphorical expressions.

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