

Chaloempol Lohamart 2008: The Music for the Mon Ghost Dance of the Bangkadié Village, Smaedam Sub-district, Bang Khun Thian District, Bangkok. Master of Arts (Ethnomusicology), Major Field: Ethnomusicology, Department of Communication Art Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Porntip Yenjabok, Ph.D. 253 pages.

This research aims to know the history of Mon ghost dance in Bangkadié Village and to analyze the music trait and relation of music to the Mon ghost dance ritual, to study the part of the ritual in the community including the impact of change in community to the ritual. Using the qualitative approach which emphasizes on field study, analytic conclusion and describing the details.

The Mon ghost dance is a dedication of offering to their ancestors together with the dance. From the similarity to the ghost dance between Thailand and Mon State in Myanmar, we can assume that the ghost dance in Thailand came with Mon refugee who took refuge to Thailand. The ghost dance ritual will be held because of violation to the rule which is called “Phidphee” or swear to their ancestors.

The dance uses Piphat Mon ensemble to play along the ritual. In this research the researcher chose to study only the music of ghost dance ritual of the Phooyai Boontham Piphat ensemble. The result showed that there are 24 main themes all together in the ghost dance of the Phooyai Boontham Piphat ensemble. Playing music along the ritual will relate to the part in which they are making. In the music trait, the researcher chose to study the five most repeated songs. By study the melody of the Khong Mon wong yai, found that all the five songs used only two modes which are C D E G A and G A B D E, but the most used mode is the mode C D E G A. The use of mixed mode made the music playing along the ritual tranquilly. There are three songs which use all two modes are Abakan (ထူးခါနီ), Le Anachuk (လှေခွက်တွဲဆု) and Le Kro (လှေလှောင်), but only two songs use the mode C D E G A, they are Le Sang (လှေခြင်) and Le Krub (လှေကြပ်).

The ghost dance ritual has passed the belief, rule and forbidden, which are wisdoms to teach the Mon descendants. In the changing society like the present has affected the way of life and lifestyle of the Bangkadié villagers so now we can find less Mon ghost dance in the Bangkadié Mon village.

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