

Kittipat Dongwung 2010: The Music Accompaniment of the Khawpheemod Ritual: A Case Study of the Ban-Song Chan Village in Song Chan Sub-District, Krasang District, Buri Ram Province
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Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor. Supoj Yukolthonwong, Ph.D. 223 pages.

This research aims 1) to study the ritual music focusing on its objectives for performing, style of music used, occasions used, and melody composed (musical form analysis), 2) to study musical instruments used including their physical properties and musical ensembles and 3) to study the beliefs that ritual music is based upon.

The research shows that 1) the ritual music is performed vary in three different purposes including as the music for rituals paying homage to patron deities, as the music for rituals associated with mediumship (Pheemod ritual, folklore ritual) and as the music for ivory cutting rituals for elephants. There are six types of musical styles used including Cherd Klong song, Yua Prung song, Ja Dol song, Hao Ta Salae song, Muad Klew Ta song and Ja Rieng song. Ritual music is performed at three main, at the procedure of summoning spirits, and at the procedure of cutting ivories for elephants. Musical forms found in ritual music including Iterative Form, Binary Form, and Rounded Binary Structure, while there are 5-6 sound groups detected in ritual music, largest of which is G-G₂. In addition, ritual music is also found to have 5 patterns of melody compositions, 2 types of texture which are Monophony and Idiomatic Heterophony

2) The musical instruments used in ritual music include Ranad Ek (xylophone), Khong Wong Yai (bossed gong), Pi Salai (double-reed oboe), Trua Klang (two-string fiddle), Khaen Paad (mouth organ), Taphon (barrel drum), Glong Tum (drum), Glong Kantrum (single-headed drum), Chab Lek (small cymbals) and Ching (finger cymbals). Prevaillingly, the sound system of these musical instruments employ seven cents intervals structure in which Ranad Ek is performed at 287, 22, 224, 320, 10 and 189 cents, Khong Wong Yai at 47, 296, 197, 158, 63 and 252 cents, Pi Salai at 140, 262, 95, 171, 189 and 115 cents, Khaen Paad at 152, 33, 287, 204, 229 and 180 cents, Trua Klang at 210, 185, 65, 239, 175 and 221 cents. Musical ensembles found are Khmer Piphat ensemble, Trua Kantrum ensemble and Khaen ensemble.

3) The beliefs that Khawpheemod Ritual Music are based upon in each phrase of rituals are found to be inherited from Khmer civilization. Among which are the belief that patron deities exist and rituals for paying homage to them from Bongbod and musicians is thus necessary, the belief in Pragum (Elephant Round-Up), the belief in housing for spirits, the belief in summoning souls back to the sick ones and their relatives, the belief in ancestral ghosts, the belief in casting out evil forces causing maladies

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