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KIT MAKKAROON: THE CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE OF NORTHEASTERN REGION

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The architectural design in the northeastern region (ISAN) of Thailand is mainly affected by the traditional Thai architecture of the central region and, to some extent, by western architecture. Besides this two influential factors, the architectural design in the northeastern region is also strongly affected by the period of General P. Piboonsongkram and his government which emphasized very much the unity of the two mentioned regions, both culturally as well as architecturally.

As a result of this unification, the local architects as well as architects nationwide are aspired to create, explore and undertake research regarding the appropriate characters of the contemporary architecture of the northeastern region. Such architecture does focus on the authenticity based on the application of a proper and carefully prepared technology to achieve the best solution in terms of the quality of human life.

The main purpose is to spread out the awareness of the design guidelines and the development of the contemporary architecture of the northeastern region. Data were collected based on the survey of the accomplished building environment, and the information from the general architects, building dwellers and experienced architects of modern Thai architecture, including those leading architects who are members of the committee of the Association of Siamese Architects under the Royal Patronage(ASA). The questionnaire were delivered to 150 persons for each group of architects and general people.

The research results can be identified as the architectural concept and its environmental perception which provides the character of the contemporary architecture of the northeastern region. This character reveals such abstract qualities as simplicity, integrity, tranquillity, transparency and sturdiness which respects the forces of nature, and last but not least the expression and creation of critical thinking of the architects. The superior and genuine character derives from such architectural design in building placement or grouping, the roof profile, building base, materials, applied technology, ornaments, landscaping, colour and other environmental issues. They are all essential factors for the development of the contemporary architecture of the northeastern region in the future.

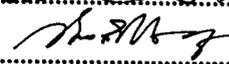
Furthermore, both architects and general people have expressed different point of views due to different personal perceptions and experiences. However, this information from the general people are of vital influence for the design and implementation to be carried out by the architects.

ภาควิชา สถาปัตยกรรมศาสตร์

สาขาวิชา สถาปัตยกรรม

ปีการศึกษา 2542

ลายมือชื่อนิติกร 

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