

K 40262006 : MAJOR : HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE

KEY WORD : THE PRA UBOSOTS IN THE REIGN OF KING RAMA V OF BANGKOK

SUPACHAI AREERUNGRUANG : A STUDY ON THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN OF THE PRA UBOSOTS IN THE REIGN OF KING RAMA V OF BANGKOK. THESIS ADVISORS : SUNON PALAKAVONG NA AYUDHAYA AND ASST. PROF. SOMKID JIRATHUTSANAKUL. 389 pp. ISBN 974 -- 653 -- 421 -- 1

The study on the architectural designs of the pra ubosots in the reign of King Rama V of Bangkok aims at studying factors contributing to the construction of the pra ubosots, namely: the architectural styles, factors effecting the concepts, the styles, the characteristics and the architectural composition as well as the development of the ideas. The study was conducted through the documents and the comparative analysis of 12 pra ubosots at the actual sites leading to ultimate conclusions.

The study reveals that King Rama V studied architecture systematically since he had been taught by His Majesty and the western instructors. In earlier reigns, the ambassadors were sent to foreign countries as the kings' representatives. Travelling to Europe twice, King Rama V met several architects and artists rendering him direct experiences as the models to develop the architecture in his own country. Such experiences caused extreme changes of beliefs, concepts and attitudes towards architecture. The aforementioned changes stemmed from the basic needs of men who required good economic state to make their countries survive.

In addition, King Rama V had his personal taste deriving from his study visits both domestic and abroad influencing the temples he constructed. The reasons for such construction were to provide the places for performing religious rites as well as to support Buddhism, in particular the Dharmayut Denomination in order to develop the human resource and the country. Thus, various temples were constructed in the metropolitan and the architectural styles were later extended to the province.

In the beginning of King Rama V's reign, the architectural aspects and composition were passed down from King Rama IV's period. Nevertheless, a turning point started in the early reign of King Rama V as well as there was a construction of the Niwetdhamaprawat Temple. The design of such temple by a western architect had an influence on the Thai architect's designs which previously based on their customs and beliefs. The architectural compositions of the pra ubosots in the commencement through the end of the reign reflected the reproduction of the western architecture. By the end of the reign, the architectural styles became a blend between the and the Thai concept, such as the pra ubosots of the Marble temples.