

Thesis Title	A Study of the Northeastern Version of the Mahāvessantara-Jātaka, from the Manuscript of Wat Klang Koke Kor in Kalasin Province.
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#### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to study the northeastern version of the Mahāvessantara Jātaka, from the manuscript of Wat Klang Koke Kor in Kalasin Province. The focus is on orthography of northeastern than Script, literary, social and cultural aspects of this work. A comparison with the Rai Yao of Mahāvessantara Jātaka is included.

The study is divided into six chapters: Chapters I is and introduction concerning the statement of the problem, the purpose, the delimitation and the methodology of the study. Chapters II indicates the importance and dissimulation of this Buddhist literary work, Mahāvessantara Jātaka, the story in which Buddha preached Dharma to the people. The story of Vessantara in Arthakatha is the source of the Mahāchata in Thailand. The Vessantara story in the northeastern part, called the Kingdom of Lan-chang in the past, was however influenced by the literary style of Lan-na. Chapter III presents the Characteristics of the script and the orthography 35 full-consonants, 17 tou-fuengs, 6 loi-vowels, 23 chom-vowels, 1 extra-vowel, 11 symbols, and 10 numbers are described. It is interesting to note that

3 full-consonants that are not found in the scripts are ᨠ (j<sub>h</sub>), ᨡ (d<sub>h</sub>) and ᨢ (L). The orthography in the manuscripts of Wat Klang Koke Kor is in general similar to that of northeastern Tham scripts, however, the -ᨣ vowel is more often added behind ᨣ- consonant, especially ᨣᨣ- vowel, than in any other scripts of the northeast. Chapter IV is a literary analysis of Mahāvessantara Jātaka from the manuscript of Wat Klang Koke Kor in the aspects of content, traditional metres Rai-Yao and Rai-Wa-Chi-Ra-Pan-Tee, all of 9 emotional experiences and the aesthetic value of diction which is beautiful in meaning and sound. Chapter V is a social and cultural analysis of this work, which reflects the picture of social and cultural structure of the northeastern people at that time. Chapters VI is a conclusion of the study.