

Thesis Title A Study of Phra Kut Phra Phan
 A Northeastern Thai Literary Work.
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Academic Year 1988

ABSTRACT

The aim of this thesis is the study of a Northeastern literary work entitled "Phra Kut Phra Phan". The version studied is the one inscribed on palm leaves owned by Wat Khok-Klang Tambon Lumphuk, Kham Khuan-Kaeo district, in Yasothorn province, believed to be inscribed during the reign of King Rama V. This analytical study is emphasized on the script, writing system, contents, and social values, especially in terms of moral teachings.

The thesis is divided into 5 chapters. The first is the introduction. The second deals with the script and writing system of the work. The third is on the contents of the story. The fourth is the analysis of the literary and the sociological values of "Phra Kut Phra Phan". The conclusion and some recommendations are given in last chapter. Two appendix, an index of vocabulary and the is tranformed text, are also

included.

The result of the study shows the characteristics of the orthography of the Northeastern Thamma script belonging to the King Rama V period. As for the writing system, it does not differ much from standard Northeastern Thamma script. The plot of this literary work is very similar to "krisana-wataan" the story of Visnu incarnation as Krisna, but the local poet tried to adapt it to be a jataka tale. Some Buddhist principles, especially sin of adultery were included. As for the form of the work, there are both prose and verse. The story allows us to learn more about the Notheastern people's ways of life; their moral concept, traditions, customs, beliefs, social values, and social relationships. Besides, the poet was quite able to use words and figure of speech for literary value and appreciation.