

THESIS TITLE	A STUDY ON ARCHITECTURE IN WAT ARUN-RAJCHAWARARAM
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ACADEMIC YEAR	1992

#### ABSTRACT

The aim of doing this thesis is to study the architectural structure of Wat Arun-Ratchawararam. The studies include history of architecture, historical background, interior architecture (in the temple itself), the importance of symbolism and its significance in Thai architecture particularly in that era.

This thesis started in the beginning with the historical background from Thonburi period to Rattanakosin, where for the first time history was being recorded. It include the coronation of different kings up until the present time. It also shows the construction, restoration and important everts associated with the origin of Wat Arun-Rajchawararam in details.

For an example, Wat Arun-Rajchawararam was the chosen place for Emerald Buddha before Wat Pra-Srirattana Sadsadaram. This was quite important in the history of Wat Arun-Rajchawararam. It was also important because of its location; being on the bank of Chao Praya River and secondary because it was next to the King Kung Thonburi's Palace. All these factors had made Wat Arun-Rajchawararam become the most important Wat that situated opposite the island of Rattanakosin. Wat Arun-Rajchawararam has been well looked after though the centuries. As it is an important place for special ceremonies like Royal Barque ceremony and Kra-Tin ceremony.

To study Wat Arun-Rajchawararam's architercutal structure, this thesis has been devidial into 3 main parts and 1 small.

The main parts are Prang, Ubosot and Vihara. The other part explains the decoration of Wat, composition and the special design of Wat for special purposes.

The most important part of Wat Arun-Rajchawararam is the main Prang which was built during King Rama 3. It was the best of its kind. The Prang of Wat Arun-Rajchawararam was built as a model of cosmologic diagramme which was shown in Tribhumi. This figuration became a symbol in buddist religion. It was also the early Rattanakosin period.

The cosmologic diagramme in Tribhumi is emphasised in the last part of this thesis. This includes the studies of symbolism, architectural plans, and structures of Prang, Ubosot and Vihara. They were the best and most skilful sturctures at that time. The Prang was beautiful, enormous and architecturally correct. These conclude the studies of development and construction of Prang.

Wat Arun-Rajchawararam is one of the most important landmark of its kind. It showed the effort, skill and harmony of people of early Rattanakosin. This made Wat Arun-Rajchawararam unique, Materialistically valnable and became a symbol of Buddhism in Thai culture. Wat Arun-Rajchawararam possesses important qualities and deserve recoquition and care; both in historical ground and spiritnally.