

Thesis Title A study of Brahmnical Influence on
Ayutthaya city During 1350-1767 A.D.

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Academic year 1991

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this Research is meant to study the history of Brahmnism in Thailand during the Ayutthaya period, to study the influence of Brahmnism on arts and culture,

It is mentioned in many documents that the Ayutthaya kings had performed Brahmnical ceremonies e.g. Ploughing ceremony, laying the stone foundation, triyampavai or tri-pavai to worship Hindu Gods.

Regarding artistic influence, two types of buildings should be mentioned here:

1. The typical Hindu temple. This type of building is situated at Wat Vorachettaram within the area of Ayutthaya city. Sivalinga is installed inside this temple. There are also evidence of small temple of this type scattering at Ayutthaya city. Statuettes of Hindu gods (Brahma, Vishnu and Siva-linga) still existed inside some of these temples.

2. The Prang. This type of building is derived from

the Hindu temple. but it is meant for Buddhism not for Brahmnism. The Prang is differed from the Hindu temple as it has its upper-building taller and more tapering than the typical Hindu temple.

Besides architectural remains, a number of Brahmical objects have been discovered at Ayutthaya city. Figerines of Garuda, Singha, and Naga are on display at chankasem National Museum. A large number of Brahmical objects have been preserved at the Chao Samphraya National Museum. Bronze, gold, and terracotta figerines of Garuda, Singha, elephant, Maga, Hanisa, (swan) regarded by the Hindus as the auspicious symbols, have been encountered at Ayutthaya city. The most important evidence is the bronze statue of Siva at the Chan-kasem National Museum. This statuette is belived to have taken part in the Triyampavai ceremony during the Ayutthaya period.