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RAPEEPHAN KOMSAI, LIEUTENANT : THE SANNEAKTA RITUAL OF
THAI - KHMER GROUP : A CASE STUDY OF BAN GRAM, TAMBON
PRAI, AMPHOE KHUN HAN, SI SA KET.

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This thesis explores the symbolic meaning and function of the Sanneakta ritual. Sanneakta a ritual concerned with the belief in ancestors' spirits. The purpose in performing this ritual is to celebrate the agricultural feast and give charitable and pious deeds to the dead ancestors.

The methodology of the study is documentary research and anthropological field work employing participant observation and interview of key informants.

The findings are, firstly, people are motivated to be involved in ritual differently. The first group performs pious deeds to the ancestors while the second group joins the ritual to interpret symbolic meanings into numbers to buy lotteries. Secondly, symbols in "Sanneakta" represent the relationships between human beings and super natural spirits. And, lastly, ritual events bring relatives who usually live far away back to the village and hence creat social solidarity.

ภาควิชา.....สังคมวิทยาและมานุษยวิทยา

สาขาวิชา.....มานุษยวิทยา

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