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KEY WORD: LAKORN KAE-BON / CITY SHRINE

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This thesis focuses on the studying of the origin, performance technique, structure and elements of Lakorn Kae-bon at Bangkok City shrine, which has its specific identity in order to maintain the art of Lakorn Kae-bon as a national cultural heritage.

Lakorn Kae-bon is one of the performing arts that the washiper presents to the deities as a token of thank after the washiper's request is fulfilled. Lakorn Kae-bon appeared at this shrine since 1907 under the supervision of the Office of the Royal Household and was transferred to the War Veterans Organization of Thailand in 1960.

Lakorn Kae-bon at the City shrine has two different kinds of performance, dance and dance drama. Dance called Ramtawai-mue is based mainly upon Pleng Cha, Pleng Reo and other Songs for dance suites. Dance Drama or Lakorn can be categorized into three styles : Lakorn Chatrri, Lakorn Chatrri mixed with Lakorn-Nok and Lakorn chatrri mixed with Pun-Tang and Likay.

Lakorn Kae-bon at the City shrine performed alternately by four companies everyday. Performers including musicians are about eighty-four people with age ranges from twelve to seventy-five years old. There is a tendency that more younger generations will become Lakorn Kae-bon performers due to the new regulation of the War Veterans Organization of Thailand.