

# # 3971226922 : MAJOR Comparative Literature  
KEY WORD: Zen Buddhism / Thich Nhat Hanh

PIMALAPORN WONGCHINSRI: THE INFLUENCE OF ZEN BUDDHISM ON THICH NHAT HANH'S LITERARY WORKS. THESIS ADVISOR: ASSO. PROF. ANONGNAT THAKOENGVIDH, Ph. D., THESIS COADVISOR: ASST. PROF. SUWANNA SATHA-ANAND, Ph.D., 199 pp. ISBN 974-332-364-3

This thesis is aimed at studying the influence of Zen Buddhism on Thich Nhat Hanh's literary works and to analyze how the ideologies and principles of Zen Buddhism affect the process of literary creation and result in the unique characteristics of Thich Nhat Hanh's literary works.

The study shows that Thich Nhat Hanh uses literature as the medium for conveying sufferings and conditions of people in reality and offers applied Zen ideologies and principles as the way out of those troubles. Considered on the basis of different themes which are factors influencing the variety of plots, Thich Nhat Hanh's literary works can be divided into four groups—1) those having as theme the main character's quest for cessation of suffering 2) those thematizing the importance of mindfulness 3) those offering the theme of the power of understanding, love, and compassion of the main character who has transcended worldly sufferings and 4) those based on the Buddha's life whose theme is the combination of the three mentioned above.

Furthermore, the research indicates that all of Thich Nhat Hanh's works have three common characteristics: the reflections of the Vietnam War, the use of nature imagery to represent some characters' direct experience of gaining the ultimate truth, and the importance of smiles.

ภาควิชา วรรณคดีเปรียบเทียบ.....

สาขาวิชา วรรณคดีเปรียบเทียบ.....

ปีการศึกษา 2541.....

ลายมือชื่อนิสิท.....

ลายมือชื่ออาจารย์ที่ปรึกษา.....

ลายมือชื่ออาจารย์ที่ปรึกษาร่วม.....