

NIPA PHAKHADTARA : A CONTENT STUDY OF THAI ROMANTIC NOVELS PUBLISHED BETWEEN 1984 AND 1987. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO.PROF. KLOMCHIT PLYWEJ, 202 PP. ISBN 974-578-343-9

This research aims at checking the number of Thai romantic novels published between 1984 and 1987 as well as studying their themes.

The results of the research are as follows:

1. The number of Thai romantic novels increased during the period -- thirty-eight, fifty-one and fifty-seven in 1984, 1985 and 1987 respectively; with the exception of 1986 during which only thirty-four romantic novels were published. The romantic novels could be classified into three groups -- romances with happy endings, comic romances, and romances with sad endings. All these romantic novels were written by authors under forty pseudonyms.

2. The analysis of the themes of the Thai romantic novels was done under the three following headings:

1) In the stories presenting the theme of how to encourage personal virtues, courage was emphasized the most whereas creativity was dealt with the least.

2) In those with themes presenting different types of relationships (with others, within the family and within society), gentility was the most illustrated, but the love for nature and the environment was referred to the least.

3) In those presenting themes concerning various branches of knowledge, knowledge of language was the most presented theme whereas general knowledge was the least frequent.