

Thesis Title The Ceramic Chronology of the Chi Valley : A Case Study of The
Ancient Community at Muang Fa Daed Song Yang.

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ABSTRACT

This thesis is intended to study about typology, decorating and producing technique of ceramics found from the excavation at Muang Fa Daed Song Yang which will reflect the pattern of life, religious belief and economic status of the community.

Ceramics from the excavation in 1991 were used to make a comparative study with ceramics from other archaeological sites not only from Chi Valley but also from other regions including neighbouring countries. For study the earthen ware, samples of them are also analyzed by means of petrographic analysis in order to examine their fabric.

From the study two groups of potteries are identified : one from the habitation site and the other from the buried site. Potteries from habitation site are in several forms of everyday usage potteries such as cooking and storing containers with 2 kinds, native and intercultural styles. Ceramics from buried site are divided into 2 types, as container for human bones and as ceramic for offering. the bone container in form of the big jar were probably made especially for this purpose although the ceramics used for offering and some jar covering are the same kinds as found from the habitation site. For the producing and decorating techniques were similar to other communities in the same period.

Traces of pottery making in this ancient settlement were uncovered as well. And the result of quantitative analysis shown that the fabric of each sample constitutes clay and iron oxide as the matrix but different in quantities of quartz and feldspar and organic matters (such as chaff).

As the result, Muang fa Daed Song Yang had been agricultural community since the late prehistoric time (2 B.C. - 2 A.D.) up to the historical period about 18th century A.D. and the habitants there had a skill in pottery making and had obvious belief in after-death rites as like other ancient sites of the same region and the same period. In addition to this, there was also cultural exchange between settlements in different regions.