

The Title The Role of Antagonists in Thai Literature

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Abstract

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to analyse the role of

antagonists in 20 plays of Lakorn Nok and Lakorn Nai of Ayutthaya and early Rattanakosin periods.

This research is divided into five chapters. Chapter I verifies the importance of the problem and purpose of the study. Chapter II is about the types of characters. Chapter III is the analysis of the types and characteristics of the antagonists. Chapter IV synthesizes the roles of the antagonists. Chapter V is the conclusion and recommending further studies related to this research.

It was found that, in Lakorn Nok and Lakorn Nai of Ayutthaya and early Rattanakosin periods, the antagonists were minor characters, and there were a few major characters. Most of the nonhuman antagonists were demons. The characteristic analysis indicated that they were flat characters. they remained wicked and villainous throughout the story. The rival between the antagonists and the protagonists mostly derived

from their love for the heroine.

There were several methods used by the antagonists against the protagonists. Although the antagonists used their force more than magic in destroying the protagonists, they were not able to conquer the later. The performances of the antagonists brought both good and bad effects to the protagonists. The bad effects were the cause of separating them from their lovers, the cause of their suffering and even destroying of their lives. The good effects were that the protagonists could show their martial excellence.

The antagonists was the most important factor of the plot in Lakorn Nok and Lakorn Nai due to their major struggle which causes conflicts and makes the story entertaining and exciting. Finally, the antagonists are used as a symbol of wickedness.