

Sritala Srilanut 2009: A Comparative Study of Surin Khmer-Thai Idioms with Standard Thai Idioms. Master of Arts (Thai), Major Field: Thai Language, Department of Thai Language. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Siriwan Nuntachuntoon, M.Ed. 230 pages.

The purpose of this thesis was to analyze the origins of Surin Khmer-Thai idioms and to analyze and compare the words and meanings of the idioms between Surin Khmer-Thai and Standard Thai. The data for the thesis was one hundred and three idioms taken from the research work of Culture Centre of Surin Province which were orally collected by local people.

The results of study were:

Most of Khmer-Thai idioms were influenced by the environment around human, animal, parts of human body, professional tools, nature, emotions, beliefs, traditions, occupations and living, characteristics and behaviors. Those origins had influence on emotions, which lead to a comparison or a production of idioms in daily life.

For the study of using words and meanings of Surin Khmer-Thai idioms to Standard Thai idioms it was found that there were two kinds of words and meanings of idioms; the use of direct and indirect meaning words. Most Khmer-Thai idioms, used indirect meaning words to explain the context which need interpretation to understand or to perceive the text.

From the comparison of two idioms, it was found that there were different kinds of words and meanings of idioms; The first and the most was the usage of almost same meaning. The next was the usage of the same words with the same meaning. And the last one was the usage of the same word with different meaning. There were also the use of similar words and meanings, the use of the different words but the same meaning. The use of different words but similar meanings, the use of the same words and the similar meanings, and the use of similar words but different meanings.

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Thesis Advisor's signature