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PRATEEP TIMHAIPHON : KHOY BOOK : AN ANALYTICAL THESIS

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The objective of this research is to study the ethical concept, Concerning Summum Bunum, way of life, ethical rules, and moral judgment held by people living in Bangongko which is indicated in Khoy Book. The study was based on both documentary and field research (oral interview of significant persons in village).

The findings indicated that ethical concepts in Khoy Books are mainly dominated by three fundamental sources.

First, Animism, a deeply root faith on spirits or "Phi" and their influences on their lives and heath behaviors, for example Phi Ka, Phi pong, etc.

Second, Buddhist ethics, Summum Bunum, (the Absolute Good or Reality), and law of Kamma. Moral judgment based on Buddhist-ethics. People do believe that the true happiness of life is serenity, living in accordance with Dhamma. Significant moral virtues which are highly regarded are Gratitude, Loving-Kindness, Hospitality, Forgiveness, and tolerance etc.

Third and finally, other supporting guidance are reflected by customs and tradition.

At the present time the rapid change of society and the influence of Materialistic consumerism value lead some people to go astray, however most of the people are still living decent lives.