

3536072 LCCU/M: MAJOR : CULTURAL STUDIES; MA(Cultural Studies)

KEY WORD : RONG-NGENG/DANCE/FOLK MUSIC IN THE SOUTH OF THAILAND.

PRAPAD KRUPRADUB : RONG-NGENG : MUSIC AND FOLK DANCE IN THE SOUTH OF THAILAND. THESIS ADVISOR : SUGREE CHAROENSOOK, M.M.E. D.A., NARONGCHAI PIDOKRAJT, B.Ed., M.E.d., M.A., SA-NGAD POOKHAOTHONG, B.E.d., PAIBOON DUANGJAN, B.Ed., M.A. P. 255 ISBN 974-588-962-8

The purpose of this research was to study the history and development of the Rong-Ngeng performance and the well-known Rong-Ngeng troupes in the South of Thailand, to investigate the roles of the Rong-Ngeng in social and cultural context of the South, as well as to analyze 25 songs of three Rong-ngeng troupes.

The result of the research clearly shows that the folk music of the South serves as ritual ceremony and as entertainment. As for the Rong Ngeng, it came to the south of Thailand about 200 years ago. As the South of Thailand was on the trade route of Indian, Arab, Portuguese, Spanish and Dutch merchants for a long time, cultural assimilation was naturally a by-product of their intercommunication. The Rong-Ngeng is one example of the assimilation between those cultures and the local one. We can see this cultural mix in the Rong Ngeng musical instruments such as the violin, mandolin and accordion of the West and the rebana and gong of the East.

Rong-Ngeng performances can be found in Pattani, Yala and Narathivat province on the east coast of the Southern of Thailand and in Satoon, Trang and Krabi on the west coast.

The Rong-ngeng has contributed the South in several ways, as follow;

1. The Rong-ngeng is a good example of inter-cultural assimilation.
2. The Rong-ngeng promotes mutual understanding between people and between nations.
3. The Rong-ngeng promotes education and State policy on folk culture promotion.

For the musical tuning system, this research found that the Rong-Ngeng musics is diatonic in major and minor. The main characteristic of the music is it is monophonic and quasi-harmonic.