

Thesis Title	<b>Antefix of the Ayutthaya Period</b>
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## **ABSTRACT**

The goal of this thesis is to study typology, stylistic evolution, and dating of the Ayutthaya antefix. Data is based on the antefix from survey, excavation, and collection in the National Museum primarily found in Ayutthaya province.

In this research, the antefix can generally be classified by stylistic variation and evolution into seven styles : an angel in adoration, a lotus, the gala, a floral, the garuda holding the naga, an arch in triangle, and a scroll. Among the most popular styles are the angel in adoration, and the lotus, respectively. The lotus style is also a major element found in the angel in adoration.

Based on a result of analysis, the stylistic evolution of antefix can be grouped into three major periods as follows:

### **1. The Early Ayutthaya Period (the 20<sup>th</sup> century B.E.)**

The common characteristics found in the Early Ayutthaya were the lotus, the angle in adoration, the gala, and the arch in triangle. The lotus were made in forms of lotus - bud and bloom - lotus which are very similar to nature. Especially, the lotus - bud with a stem and without a stem were popularly adopted in a short period of time. Meanwhile, the blooming lotus with out a stem was more popular and has continued

existing till the Late Ayutthaya period. The flame - like designs (Kranok) of the Early Ayutthaya period focused on the thickness of a curve and was a partial design in the lotus and the gala styles.

## **2. The Middle Ayutthaya Period (the 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> Centuries B.E.)**

The antefix obviously decreased in size, although the typical Ayutthaya styles have continuously existed, including the lotus, the angel in adoration, the gala, and the arch in triangle.

Between the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> centuries B.E., the lotus style has generally changed by adopting floral styles as a part of component design, including a scroll, a flower, and a leaf which were more popular designs than a lotus leaf.

## **3. The Late Ayutthaya Period (the late 22<sup>nd</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Centuries B.E.)**

The antefix was mostly increased in size as same as the Early Ayutthaya. The major styles were the lotus, the angel in adoration, the gala, the floral, the garuda holding the naga, the arch in triangle, and the roll of ornament.

Since the late 22<sup>nd</sup> century, B.E., the flame - like designs were more popular than the floral design and became the most important element of a newly developed style, the scroll. In general, the flame - like design is smaller and connects to a long rolling stem which is a typical rolling stem design of the earlier periods. Later, in the 23<sup>rd</sup> century B.E., the flame - like design further developed to a rolling pattern or a three flame - like. In the late 23<sup>rd</sup> century B.E., the lotus leaf was completely replaced by the leaf design, and the trifoliate design.

Furthermore, there were new styles of antefix: the garuda holding the naga and the floral, developing in the late 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> centuries B.E., respectively.