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BAND GROUP

SUDDAN SUKKASEM : SOCIAL SERVICES OF THE FOLK BRASS BAND : A
CASE STUDY OF THANORMSILAPA BRASS BAND GROUP. THESIS ADVISORS:
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The Folk Brass Band is a kind of Folk Band comprising of brass wind instruments. The folk brass band, which originated from the eastern culture, now combines elements of both western and eastern cultures. Brass wind instruments, such as 'Trae', have existed in Thai society since the Sukhothai Period - being used predominantly for religious ceremonies. Trae became more important indicating social status in the Ayuthaya Period and was recognized as a symbol of the monarchy until the early Rattanakosin Period. At this time the Brass Band changed its role in society to that of serving the people's needs. The Brass Band of the Bangkok Period eventually evolved into the "Folk Brass Band" of today.

This study is a qualitative research on the Thanormsilapa band, one of the most famous Folk Brass Bands in Thailand to analyze the development, changes, form, element of the band and also its different roles.

The study found that the Thanormsilapa band was the Folk Brass Band that change its form, when performing, all the time in order to adapt its performance to current social conditions. The Band prepared music note in advance, before performing the music, to make musical player comfortable and classified the types of songs to be performed in appropriate occasions as well as has good management within the band such as specific duties of each musical player.

The Folk Brass Band has major roles in the people's way of life as an announcer of all important occasions within the society and as a musical player in most traditional ceremonies.