



The study of Structure of the Social Relationship System in The Pagoda Worship Ceremony of Karen Society (Pwo and Sgaw), Hermit of Talaku Sect Through the “Legend” of Ban-Mongkua, Umphang District, Tak Province

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Abstract

This study aimed at 1) to explore the history of pagoda worship ceremony of Karen Society (Pwo and Sgaw), hermit of Talaku sect through the “legend”, and 2) to study the structure of the social relationship system in the pagoda worship ceremony of Karen Society (Pwo and Sgaw), hermit of Talaku sect through the “legend”. Purposive sampling was employed in gathering information from spiritual leaders, masters and philosophers for 8-12 people. Research instruments included; a semi-structured interview, content analysis, consideration of the relevance of various phenomena, description of the value of social system and basic function in 4 categories (LIGA), and conclusion.

1. The pagoda worship ceremony is a knowledge package which emanated from the “legend” in Buddhism, “Yoehair got the Buddha’s relic (hair) and kept it in the pagoda that was built by him”. And it concerned with a supernatural, “while praying, they have been asking the deity of the ether and the earth that do you agree? Definitely we do, gods replied. Then, those gods have helped them to build the pagoda until it is done. And Ser-kher-ta-ra became the name of pagoda as the Buddha supposed.

2. A chronicle of the “legend” of the pagoda worship ceremony is related to the social relationship system based on faith and ritual conducting. It is the process combining to gather people to participate activity and fulfill the basic requirements of the LIGA system. This is a circumstance that directs to holistic way of living of the Karen society.

Keywords: Karen society, legend, the pagoda ceremony, and social system

1. Introduction

Globalization which be beneath the global community was borderless information age. The information could be transnational. This situation effected cultural connection in the global society. Global Village was born because of this connection. People could connect with each other as if they were in same house. Various nation could live together. Different culture was reducing. People held the same culture in costumes, language, currencies, technologies and ideas. However different culture could not be gathered. People and ethnic groups tried to make own selves to be different.

The way to make own selves to be different from each other was important for people and ethnic groups. “Self” was created with leaning process and training. Social regulation was taught by surrounding people till it could be called value and folkways. Culture was idea and believes which could identify human’s behaviors. Human was born without senses. Culture made human be sensible by human’s perception. Human’s

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