

Title An Analytical study of the relations of Swastika symbols and the meaning and perception of arts in Thai society

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Abstract

The research study of swastika symbol in Thai society about meaning and perception of arts such as paintings sculptures and patterns on architectures in content of Hinduism and Buddhism arts in Thailand . Including elements of simple design about swastika symbol are influential to understanding and perception of art in Thai society. This research survey swastika is appears in art and design from pre-history symbolizing, The genesis of the swastika symbol is often treated in conjunction with cross symbols in general represented : “life” ,“lucky” , “sun” , “power” , “strength” and “thunder” conception. The word swastika is derived from the Sanskrit word “svastika” , meaning any lucky or auspicious object, and in particular a mark made on persons and things to denote good luck or well-being.

The objective of this research study is to discover a meaning and relation of art and design swastika symbol in Hinduism and Mahayana Buddhism and study between swastika symbol and perception of arts in Thai society. Researcher used to observation , survey , interview and photo record were used as tools for data collection of swastika symbol , In 4 Hinduism temples were selected to use for the sample sites of this study and 7 Mahayana Buddhism temples in Thailand.

As a result, the swastika symbol is relation in Hinduism and Mahayana Buddhism in Thai society. All have good perception but difference in symbol elements. Hindus have basic knowledge of swastika because they observe religious Hinduism rituals. While Mahayana Buddhists are not known swastika symbol meaning and understand are pattern types. A relation meaning of swastika symbol is similar between Hinduism and Mahayana Buddhism religion, but difference of size , shape , colour and position. However, swastika symbol in both religions are positive meaning.