

CARTOON CHARACTERS IN TRADITIONAL THAI MURAL PAINTING: NEW TREND OF COMBINED ART

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ABSTRACT

The Thai traditional mural painting is the specific local art seen in Thailand, a local country in Indochina. The long history of this local art is documented. The combining of the local technique with new coming culture has been seen for many centuries. However, the newest trend of combination is the adding of cartoon character in the model traditional Thai mural painting. The good examples can be seen at some specific Buddhist pagodas in Thailand at present

KEY WORDS: Cartoon, Thai, Traditional, Mural Painting.

INTRODUCTION

The Thai traditional mural painting is the specific local art seen in Thailand, a local country in Indochina. The long history of this local art is documented. The combining of the local technique with new coming culture has been seen for many centuries. However, the newest trend of combination is the adding of cartoon character in the model traditional Thai mural painting. The good examples can be seen at some specific Buddhist pagodas in Thailand at present

CASE STUDIES

DORAEMON

Doraemon is the famous Japanese cartoon character from Japanese anime. The existence of doraemon is the original point of adding cartoon character into the Thai traditional painting. The pioneer Buddhist pagodas that have this kind of

mural painting is Wat Samprasew in Suphanburi province.

FERBY

Ferry is a cartoon character that becomes a famous doll and computational pet. This kind of character is also already included into the modern traditional Thai mural painting. The most famous Thai pagoda that has the specific Thai traditional mural painting showing ferby is Wat Khunindarapamool in Angthong province.

SPIDERMAN

Spiderman is a famous cartoon character from USA. This character is also included into the Thai traditional mural painting. The pioneer Buddhist pagodas that have this kind of mural painting is Wat Angwian in Chonburi province.

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(A).Doraemon at Wat Samprasew



(B).Spiderman at Wat Angwian

Figure 1. Some Thai traditional mural paintings with cartoon characters

DISCUSSION

The combination of new thing into the local art is not a new trend. Thai traditional mural painting is the specific art drawing inside the buildings in Buddhist pagodas in Thailand. The painting can reflect the local cultures and become historical evidence. The promotion of conservation of mural painting is the basic activities worldwide [1 – 3]. Focusing on Thai traditional mural painting,

there are many evidences of adding pictures from new culture into the picture. In the past centuries, when Chinese and Western foreigners go to this area, the mural painting exists for picture of Chinese and Western foreigner. However, the existence for cartoon characters is a real innovation. This kind of combination goes well and becomes attractive art to the visitors. It can well exists in the holy religious place such as Buddhist pagoda.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

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