

Title: Interpretation of Philosophical Isân Phyâ

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### Abstract

This research titled "Interpretations of Philosophical Isân Phyâ" aimed at interpreting philosophical Phyâ systematically in order to present the meaning of philosophical Phyâ and to develop the teaching and learning materials for the course concerning Isân culture.

From the metaphysical interpretation it is found that the Isân Phyâ is characterized as idealistic that uphold the belief that human beings originated from Phyâ Thaen i.e., the Supreme Deity or God. There is also the belief in Ghosts or Spirits in nature like animism, but later, there was the influence of Buddhism and Brahmanism, so that the Isân philosophers tried to write or compose Phyâ chapters, which reflected the beliefs that human beings died and were reborn in the realm of circular existences with the force of wholesomeness or unwholesomeness.

In epistemological sense, it was found that Isân Phyâ or wisdom or knowledge arose from the sense experience, reasoning and sublime knowledge (Bhâvanâ), the most supreme wisdom being Bhâvanâ. Wisdom is the key to open the door to happiness and the values of wisdom or ethical knowledge is that one who possesses it is capable of finding the treasures – both mundane and supramundane.

In the ethical sense, it was found that knowledge and self-training that make a good man should go hand in hand, or in other words, should be developed simultaneously. All things have values that correspond to causes and conditions. When the various values are comprised together they make the complete values. So to judge good/bad and right/wrong is to consider the principles formulated by the ancient philosophers as well as moral conscience of oneself. The cardinal virtues that appeared in the Isân philosophical Phyâ are – humility, contentment, diligence, patience, good-

heartedness, etc. The character of Isân philosophical Phyâ's ethical suggestion is dependent on the situation or existential context.

In conclusion, it can be said that although the present research is a systematical study of the interpretation of the philosophical Isân Phyâ, further research has to be carried out in the future in two main related areas – 1) Phyâ and Aesthetics and 2) Phyâ and Applied Philosophy.