

Traditional Theatrical Entertainments of
Chinese Colonies in South-East Asia

Festivities and Local Theatricals during the months of July,
August and September (on Agricultural Almanac)

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During the recent years we have conducted general investigation of the festivities among the so-called Chinese people in Southeast Asia.

Following the preliminary survey in 1979, we conducted such surveys at Hong Kong in 1980, at Singapore in 1982, and finally at Malaysia and Thailand in 1984.

This paper is reporting our findings regarding internal organization, activities and ancestor worship of the clannish associations among the Chinese people in Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.

We surveyed the Choo Clansmen General Association, Association of the Cianmen Wang in Thailand, Penang Ong si Thye Guan Tong, Selangor Ong's Clan Association, Ong si Thye Guan Tong Peraknorth, Persaiuan Ong Negeri Sembilan, etc. in Malaysia and Singapore Hokkien Ong Clansmen General Association, etc. in Singapore. Almost all the clannish associations we surveyed were established rather recently, and their activities are mainly based upon *the provincial associations* such as Teochew Pooi Ip Huay Kuan, the Kiung Chow Hwee Kuan of M'sia, etc.

The main functions of these associations are providing financial aid such as scholarship to the children of the members, arbitrating the conflicts among the members, and helping the members' visit to their relatives in Mainland China.

The other results of our survey will be published in the near future.