

Abstract

This is a study of *likay* as performed by members of a theatre group that is part of a non-governmental organization. *Likay* is a traditional performance consisting of singing and dancing in glittering costumes, popular among the low-educated common people.

The study documents the structure and daily life of the community of Makhampom which functions as a voluntary organization as well as a large “family,” led by the group leader who is experienced in the arts of traditional dance and singing. The study then documents the process by which Makhampom members learn the art of performance by becoming apprentices in a professional *likay* troupe. The learning process involves the technical aspects as well as adjusting to the culture of *likay*.

Finally, the study accounts for the construction of the new type of *likay* which is adapted from the new type of *likay* which is adapted from the popular type to cater for the taste and expectation of the middle class urban audience.