

CHAPTER 6

CONCLUSION

In recent years Feng Shui has been integrated into the modern society throughout the world. In Thailand, but mainly in Bangkok, it was propagated rapidly as traditions and changes complement each other. There are various factors for the fast spreading of the Feng Shui memes in Thai society. One of them is that the Feng Shui memes were dormant in Chinese-Thai culture before the Boom Years, which allowed it to infect more quickly. Secondly, the desire for more wealth is a widespread motivation to many. The misconception of Feng Shui promoting these objectives made it easier to follow the trend. Thirdly, Thai society in general respects and accepts beliefs of all kind, and Feng Shui is taken to be in the same category as other fortune tellings.

In general, Thai society preferred to invest in instant (short-term) profit instead of long term, also most of them frequently follow the social trends, as they do not like to be left out of their social circle. And lastly,

luck is an important aspect for success, and Feng Shui is said to bring luck.

Furthermore, the new-sprung theory of "memetics" assists in the understanding of how and why the Feng Shui memes has spread more in the Boom Years and not in any other period of time.

The significance of this study is that it explains how the Thai society combined both values of hard work and effort with supernatural beliefs and luck to succeed in life. During the Boom Years, the Feng Shui memes were more wealth oriented rather than aimed towards the true meaning of happiness, which Feng Shui is said to bring. Thus, the urban Thai society, which seems to be both traditional and modern at the same time, eventually practiced Feng Shui accordingly, as stated by Dr. Walter:

Feng Shui is a scientific system that comes to us from a time where science and religion were not yet separated and thus part of a truly holistic philosophy that grasped the complete life process. Therefore we can say that Feng Shui is a science that, despite the fact that it seems occult to many who simply ignore it, can be considered as a source of true enlightenment for the seeker of truth. And it helps to understand

the integrality of life and to value the interdependence of all living!⁵⁹

It is hoped that in Thai society and everywhere that is already influenced by Feng Shui, Feng Shui will be practiced to convey good fortune with more awareness of its original significance, which is to promote interdependence with all living beings. This should bring about the true sense of happiness.

⁵⁹ Walter, Peter F. Dr., "Life is Energy, The truth behind Feng Shui", 1999 Available at <http://www.autohuna.com/integral/lifeneng.html>