

The Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy with Thai Classical Dance for People Happiness

“Sufficiency Economy” is a philosophy that stresses the middle path as an overriding principle for appropriate conduct by the populace at all levels. This applies to conduct starting from the level of the families, communities, as well as the level of nation in development and administration so as to modernize in line with the forces of globalization. “Sufficiency” means moderation, reasonableness, and the need of self-immunity for sufficient protection from impact arising from internal and external changes. To achieve this, an application of knowledge with due consideration and prudence is essential. In particular great care is needed in the utilization of theories and methodologies for planning and implementation in every step. At the same time, it is essential to strengthen the moral fibre of nation, so that everyone, particularly public officials, academics, businessmen at all levels, adheres first and foremost to the principles of honesty and integrity. In addition, a way of life based on patience, perseverance, diligence, wisdom and prudence is indispensable to create balance and be able to cope appropriately with critical challenges arising from extensive and rapid socioeconomic, environmental, and cultural changes in the world.”

(Cited in Unofficial translation. A working definition compiled from remarks made by His Majesty the King on various occasions and approved by His Majesty and sent by His Majesty's Principal Private Secretary to the NESDB on November 29, 1999)



The economic crisis of 1997 affected everyone in Thailand, even His Majesty the King. Seeing many of his subjects suffering, he advised the Thai people to change their economic philosophy in order to cope with present economic adversity and withstand future economic insecurity. His Majesty's words have become known as the Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy and have been used as the guiding principle in drafting the current 9th National Economic and Social Development Plan.

In terms of the country's economic growth, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is not only supported, but also "The Gross Domestic Happiness", is regarded as indicators for effective strategic managements is nowadays recommended by academicians, theorists, and practitioners in both government and non – government organizations in order to mentally and physically offer their happiness without consumptionism.



In addition, the issue of the Gross Domestic Happiness (GDH), one of the most effective strategies for social, economic, cultural, and environmental developments could be applied to the worldwide countries' better developments of infrastructure, and ways of life.

As a result, these lead to the human's sustainable developments on both their physical and mental happiness; otherwise, the world's material growth has been changed more rapidly.

In fact, mind happiness and satisfactions are required in terms of the nature of human-being after the human's participations in attending performances, and social entertainments are viewed. For example, not only performers, practitioners, but also audiences get more aesthetic to participate in those activities. Thai Classical Dance is regarded as one of the Thai heritages that reflect on the Thai peoples' unique and great personalities to be respected to other peoples. Therefore, it has been originally inherited from generations to young generations. In such a community, those activities may be administered by youth groups, women's groups, as well as outsiders. In order to maintain, continue, and disseminate Thai traditional performances and cultures, it is regarded as one of the most important factors, which are very useful for their better ways of life. Furthermore, they can also spend useful times on their activities on Thai Classical Dance, and avoid behaving wicked conducts.

Most importantly, the effective management of the communities' people happiness is based on the royal theory of "Sufficiency Economy", which depends on such a community's reliable and senior peoples having more local wisdoms in collaboration with other formal and informal community groups. In terms of cultural capitals, their beliefs, cultures, and ways of life wisdoms are nowadays presented throughout the forms of Thai Classical Dances from the past to present times.



Under the on-going developments for people happiness management, however, the purposes of the article on "The Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy with Thai Classical Dance" are to entertain the peoples' pleasures and creative recreations, as well as to offer the peoples' ideas-sharing on cultural performances. Also, other internal and external organizations should be more enhanced for their better Thai traditional dance managements. Based on a harmonic way of the community strengths of such a community, Thai peoples should be more aware of their best homeland and more appreciate of rustic life. Finally, both the equality and justification of human rights, as well as mind happiness enhancement directly affect their sustainable community developments.

According to the feedbacks of my Thai Classical Dances held in Thai – American Culture Center and Mongkolratanaram, Buddhist Sunday School in Berkeley, California in 2000, Asian Week Festival, Adelaide, South Australia in 2003, and in the Northwest Folklife Festival in Seattle, U.S.A. in 2006 – 2007, most participants stated that it presented the unique Thai identity, which geared the Thai peoples' cheerfulness, mildness, gentleness, and respectfulness.

In order to mentally and physically develop the performers' Thai traditional dance, Thai traditional dance, which plays an important part of Thai culture, has been merged with Thai rustic lives and cultures. This leads to the Thai people' generosity, and happiness in the ways of life. However, it is one of the aesthetic arts, which can be foreseen from the performers' gestures, physical appearances, traditional costumes, decorations, lyrics, and melodies. As a result, it has been offered for the performers' happiness, pleasure, artistic appreciation, as well as the pride of cultural promotion. In addition to this, the performers are also pleased to entertain all the audiences attending Thai traditional dance performances.

Love Live the King of Thailand

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As a result of the above mentioned philosophy other countries attempted to take The indicator is a strategy for country development where the “People Happiness” idea is used for public welfare, harmony and cooperation for the development of communities for prosperity under the sufficiency economy for society, culture and environment. These principles raised the sustainable development through the way of human happiness both physical and mental condition being a way out of development the country which can not restrain in the world of material growth.

The significance of a human nature is mind happiness and satisfaction. When they have viewed, perceived or participated to do entertainment as singing whether the performer, parent or practitioner including the audiences get relaxation, happiness and satisfaction from participation in various performing activities through Thai Traditional Performances. The cultural heritage reflected various about the respectful personality, cheerful refreshment and good aspects on the people in the community. Therefore cultural performance is unique and being transferred from this generation towards next generation will be considered one activity that should be taken with youth group, woman group and interested people

within community. By the way, this activity will be caused of conservation, continuation, dissemination to Thai cultural performance and important factor will be the performing attendants, who spend useful time after that information will be received by the matter of performance in order to raise the perception on the way of life, culture, tradition and the aspect for reminding to live which it can be developed the better way in quality of life including the solution for social problems in youth while they are participating on the cultural performance, they will not pay attention to the ruination but they will spend their useful time for themselves and community.

The management for people's happiness in the community should be based on "**Sufficiency Economy**" which depends on the social capital available in their community such as natural leadership, senior group due to they were a resource of local wisdom, other formal and informal groups in community under the combination with cultural capital namely, convention of followed other traditions in community, theory, belief throughout

the form of local performance which continuously be conserved, continued and disseminated from past to present while each community has their own potentiality on social and cultural capitals appeared as long continuation.

The Philosophy of “Sufficiency Economy” includes cultural performance, it is an activity to build happiness and entertainment for people in the community under the suitable performing activities form the stage of ability performance or location for sharing ideas on cultural performances which all parties will aim the importance of local cultural performances are valuable and should be preserved and disseminated just only supporters cooperated to support them. The public supporting and promotion for this opportunity provide along with attitude or community requirement will be the way of strengthen community which harmony also relation will concern with their own homeland and desire to have serenity, mind happiness which depends on equality and justification in the society, in order to get a sufficiency way of life through sustainable community development.

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Very thank to Ajarn

Sarunkorn Mala for proving reader

