

Thesis Title : An Analytical Study of Buddhist
Aesthetics in “Lotus” Paintings
of The Artist Tawee Nandakwang’s

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Abstract

This thesis entitled ‘An Analytical Study of Buddhist Aesthetics in Tawee Nandakwang’s Lotus Flower Painting’st has three objectives: 1) to study the concept of Buddhist Aesthetics, 2) to study Tawee Nandakwang’s lotus flower painting and 3) to analyze the concept of Buddhist aesthetics in Tawee Nandakwang’s lotus flower painting. This is a qualitative research.

In the study of first objective, it was found that the concept of Buddhist aesthetics is the subject enabling the development of man to understand things as they really are. Consequently, such a man is awoken from self-indulgence in all defilements. In the second objective, the research showed that Tawee Nandakwang’s lotus flower’s painting characteristic belongs to the Eastern Idealistic Art. There are two types of lotus flower’s painting; 1) it is a pure art or fine art, 2) it is an applied art. Its contents consist of: 1) it is a Buddhist symbol,

2) it is a personal identity of Tawee Nandakwang and 3) it is an aesthetical Buddhist sign. In the third objective, it showed that Tawee Nandakwang utilized the

aforesaid art to be a way in training man to decrease his or her defilement by means of worldly dimension of beauty and of Dhamma dimension of beauty leading to the precept, concentration, wisdom and the extinction of suffering respectively.

In this research, the researcher is of the view that his art work is a kind of imagination derived from the impression of the natural beauty. Based on this, it gave rise to the creation of such a marvelous painting, having a pregnant Buddhist teaching. However, his style of painting by means of Eastern technique is of no clear-cut style due to his usage of Western one.