

Die Hamburger Gesellschaft für Thaiistik e.V. in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Arbeitsbereich Thaiistik der Abteilung Sprachen und Kulturen Südostasiens des AAI lädt Sie zu folgendem Online-Vortrag ein:

Astrological Symbols: The Condiments of Life, Beliefs, and Rituals of Thai People



Thai society is strongly characterized by the Buddhist belief in karma blended with other traditional beliefs in supernatural powers and spirits. Astrology is another important body of knowledge integrated into Thai society that is deeply rooted in almost every way of life. It can be said that astrology is a cultural mechanism that shapes life in Thai society. Various principles of astrology and relationships to people's lives can be broadly divided into three levels: 1) Individual level: referring to uses of astrology in everyday life: terminological principles and calculations of days, months, and years according to the Thai astrological calendar system; 2) Social level: referring to applications of astrology in accordance with certain goals or occasions for a group of people, i.e., Navagraha Prayer Ceremony, Rahu Worship Ceremony, Paritta Praying

Ceremony, etc. 3) National level: referring to uses of astrology to determine national attributes, such as overseeing the future of country and providing socio-

economic forecasts and political milestones. Owing to the close relationship between astrology and Thai people, it can be assumed that astrology plays the role of a condiment in the various recipes characterizing Thai identity. Therefore, understanding the astrological symbol system is another way to better understand Thai lives from the perspective of their beliefs.



Online-Lecture

via Zoom & in English

Asst. Prof. Dr. Prasirt Runra is an expert in Buddhist literature, astrological symbols, Thai Folklore and Pali language and is working as a lecturer at the Department of Thai Language and Eastern Language and Culture, Thammasart University. After his 15-year monkhood during which he successfully acquired the seventh level in Buddhist theology at Wat Phra Chetuphon Wimon Mangkhalaram Ratchaworamahawihan, he furthered his study of Pali-Sanskrit languages (MA) and achieved a Doctoral Degree in Thai Folklore at Chulalongkorn University in 2014. His public contributions are focused on the Navagraha ritual, Rahu, ritual symbolism, folk wisdom, Buddhist rituals and Thai beliefs.

Friday, 27th November 14h-16h *(CET)*

via Zoom: (copy the link into your webbrowser to join, you might be asked to download the software)

https://uni-hamburg.zoom.us/j/99234618746



