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Article: Musical Instruments of the Ethnic Groups in Central of Laos (P.D.R.)

Abstract

The qualitative research on “The Musical Instruments of the Ethnic groups in Central Laos (P.D.R.)”, is aimed to investigate the various kinds of musical instruments and their functions among the ethnic groups in Central Laos (P.D.R.)

The field works were conducted in Sawanakheth province in Central Laos. These ethnic groups belong to the Mon-Khmer and Tai-Lao language family. They believe in the spirits in nature and their family spirits. In this study, the researcher found that the musical instruments of the ethnic groups in Central Laos (P.D.R.), consisted of aerophones, membranophones chordophones and idiophones. All of the musical instruments were made by the ethnic themselves. These included: Khean aerophone; klong hang, Kajubpi chordophone, long drum membranophone; and klong shaun, short drum. The people played their music in many occasions, such as Aroy, spirit ceremony as well as in the entertainments. Globalization and new technologies did not play much impact upon the ethnic music traditions. The people are proud of their own music traditions.

Keywords: musical instruments, ethnic groups, Central Laos (P.D.R.)

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