

10.18686/neet.v2i5.4619

# An Effective Way to Integrate Chinese Culture Into Thai Language Teaching

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**Abstract:** With the continuous economic development of Thailand and China, strengthening foreign language teaching has become an important way to enhance our country's international influence. Based on this, the effective combination of foreign language teaching and Chinese culture has been paid attention to. At present, the economic and social exchanges between Thailand and China are increasingly close, and the Thai language is gradually used in a large area. In view of this, in-depth analysis of the necessity and possible implementation path of integrating Chinese culture into Thai language teaching can not only improve the quality of Thai language teaching, but also strengthen cultural penetration.

**Keywords:** Thai language teaching; Chinese culture; Fusion path

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## Introduction

Based on the development background of China's Belt and Road Initiative, China and Thailand are increasingly connected. At this time, Chinese has become one of the most popular foreign languages in Thailand, and the number of Chinese learners in Thailand has increased significantly. And the number of Thai learners is also increasing year by year. As one of the languages of the East Asian family, Thai can provide an important guarantee for the cooperation and exchange between China and Thailand. However, from the perspective of Thai teaching practice, most teachers lay emphasis on knowledge points, skills teaching and the explanation of foreign cultural background, ignoring the penetration and introduction of Chinese culture. At this time, there is a gap between the teaching effect and the expectation. Based on this, it is of practical significance to explore effective ways to integrate Chinese culture into Thai language teaching.

## 1. The necessity of integrating Chinese culture into Thai language teaching

### 1.1 Basic guarantee for improving students' learning efficiency

The Chinese nation has a long history and far-reaching influence on world history and civilization. According to the existing research, many contents of Thai language are closely related to Chinese. Therefore, in the process of learning Thai, introducing Chinese cultural content can not only help students better understand the knowledge and cultural background of Thai, but also greatly improve students' learning efficiency.

### 1.2 Improve the foundation of students' cross-cultural communication ability

Language is an important tool for communication. One of the goals of language learning is cultural exchange. Therefore, on the road of socialist construction in the new era, we should earnestly realize the important development goals of the Party and the country with cultural confidence. However, in order to realize cultural confidence, we need to enhance the cultural exchanges between China and other countries. To sum up, in the process of Thai language teaching, it is important to cultivate students' cross-cultural communication ability and enhance their language application ability. Teachers need to ensure cultural diversity and effectively introduce Chinese culture, so as to better cultivate students' cross-cultural communication ability<sup>[1]</sup>.

## 2. The challenges of integrating Chinese culture into Thai language teaching

China and Thailand have extensive exchanges and cooperation in the political, economic and cultural fields. With the deepening implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative, the powerful application value of Thai, as the official language of Thailand, has become increasingly prominent. In order to adapt to the needs of the Belt and Road Initiative, attention has been paid to cultivating talents with "Thai + professional skills". At this time, Thai language teaching was rapidly promoted. In the process of Thai language teaching, integrating Chinese culture can help cultivate students' cultural literacy and become an effective strategy. However, in the process of integration, it is inevitable to face challenges, which will be elaborated in detail next.

## 2.1 Lack of teachers

At present, based on the development needs of The Times, Thai language teaching has received attention. The number of Thai language teaching teachers is increasing day by day. But from a practical point of view, there is a problem of uneven ability of Thai language teachers. There are differences in teachers' ability levels, which will inevitably lead to differences in teaching quality and efficiency. At this time, some teachers with poor ability often find it difficult to achieve the expected goal when they integrate Chinese culture into Thai language teaching.

## 2.2 Unreasonable curriculum setting

The current Thai language curriculum in colleges and universities includes general courses and elective courses, generally including "Introduction to Thai", "Elementary Thai" and other course content, the class time is 1 semester, and the course content is mainly lightweight teaching. In the course of teaching, basic pronunciation, simple vocabulary spelling and reading are the main contents. In the above curriculum setting mode, there is a lack of integration with Chinese culture. Due to the disconnection between Chinese culture and Thai language teaching courses, many students find it difficult to understand the knowledge content<sup>[2]</sup> in a deep level during the teaching process.

## 2.3 Lack of teaching resources

At present, the duration of Thai courses is relatively short, and the total teaching time of the semester is generally 20-30 hours, among which it takes nearly 12 hours to complete the teaching task of Thai pronunciation, and students need to arrange their own time to practice after class, so that they can firmly grasp the knowledge content. This mode invisibly increases students' academic pressure. At the same time, Thai textbooks are relatively simple, especially those suitable for beginners and with strong practicability are few in number. However, Thai textbooks in line with the construction of the "Belt and Road" focus on business or economic teaching, which is not suitable for all personnel. As a result, many teachers lack selectivity in teaching materials. In addition, the scarcity of teaching resources, outdated courseware and lack of innovation are also major difficulties. Although most of the current teachers have the experience of studying abroad, they have little understanding of the domestic teaching environment and teaching mode, which makes it difficult to teach students according to their aptitude and easy to lead to the problem of excessive or lost time in the integration of Chinese culture.

# 3. Analysis of effective ways to integrate Chinese culture into Thai language teaching

## 3.1 Strengthen the construction of teaching staff and build a professional team

Teachers are the backbone of classroom teaching, and their ability level and comprehensive quality are bound to affect the quality of teaching. Therefore, in Thai language teaching, through a variety of means to promote the construction of teachers, for teaching to build a professional, comprehensive teacher team, can effectively achieve the goal. Based on the excellent teacher team, the ability level of the teachers can be greatly improved and the introduction of Chinese culture can be facilitated. In the process of teacher team construction, we should first attach importance to the selection of teachers, put professional knowledge and skills on the same footing as the level of Chinese culture in the selection, and select teachers with high cultural accomplishment to be responsible for Thai language teaching as far as possible. Secondly, in daily teaching, various types of activities are organized to guide teachers to participate in training, such as knowledge salon, special lecture, visit, etc. Through diversified activities, teachers can deepen their understanding of Chinese culture, which can promote them to better integrate appropriate content in teaching. Finally, with the help of modern Internet platform and advanced technology, we can recruit outstanding talents through multiple channels and provide a platform for teachers to improve. Through the above measures, it can be ensured that teachers truly integrate Chinese culture into Thai language teaching and lay a foundation<sup>[3]</sup> for cultivating students' literary literacy.

## 3.2 Add Chinese teaching content to the curriculum system

In the current Thai language teaching, the curriculum has neglected the integration of Chinese culture. Therefore, the first priority is to increase the content of Chinese teaching in the classroom. Through systematic analysis, the shortcomings of the existing curriculum system are sorted out, and then the curriculum system is scientifically optimized to ensure proper connection and reasonable integration of Chinese culture and curriculum. For example, when explaining Thai traditional festivals, appropriately add Chinese traditional festival content to the curriculum, and lead students to conduct a comparative analysis of Chinese and Thai cultures. Through this method, students can not only mobilize their enthusiasm for participation, but also effectively exercise their knowledge integration ability.

## 3.3 Integrate the culture with Chinese characteristics into the textbooks

In the process of Thai language teaching, to ensure the effective integration of Chinese culture, it is necessary to start from the differences between the two. Only by identifying the similarities and differences between the two cultures can we find the right starting point in teaching and fully mobilize students' learning enthusiasm based on their interest points. In this process, teachers need to deeply analyze the teaching materials, dig out the elements conducive to the integration of the two cultures, select the elements conducive to the mutual penetration of the two cultures, and then introduce them scientifically, so as to achieve the goal<sup>[4]</sup> of the deep integration of the two cultures.

At the same time, due to the small number of existing teaching materials, teachers lack of selectivity. Therefore, encouraging teachers to use the Internet and other channels to enrich teaching resources and absorb innovative teaching content is also an effective strategy. For example, in the teaching process, teachers write innovative teaching plans based on existing teaching materials, incorporate Chinese culture into the teaching plans, and add new knowledge with the help of the Internet, which can make up for the shortage of teaching resources.

#### 4. Conclusion

To sum up, Thai language teaching is not only a process of imparting knowledge and skills, but also a process of cultivating cross-cultural communication awareness and ability. Based on the actual situation, this paper explores the necessity and challenges of integrating Chinese culture into Thai language teaching. Finally, based on the challenges, the paper puts forward specific suggestions. It is hoped that this study can provide more references for the improvement of Thai language teaching quality.

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