THE DEVELOPMENT OF THAI MUSIC THEORIES FOR THAI QUALIFICATION FRAMEWORK FOR HIGHER EDUCATION: CASE STUDY OF RAJABHAT UNIVERSITIES IN BANGKOK

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Abstract- The objectives of the research, entitled the development of Thai Music Theories for Thai Qualification Framework (TQF) for Higher Education: A case study of Rajabhat Universities in Bangkok, are: to study the framework of Thai music theories in Rajabhat universities’ curriculums and to develop the contents of Thai music theories for Thai Qualification Framework for higher education. This study is qualitative research. Data was collected through in-depth interview 7 music instructors in 4 Rajabhat universities in Bangkok and content analysis. The research results are as follows 1) the framework of Thai music theories in Rajabhat universities curriculums of Rajabhat Universities in Bangkok consists of three main issues. The first issue is the elements of Thai music such as: sound system, rhythm, melody, form etc. The second issue is background of Thai classical music. The last issue is the feature of Thai music; Thai musical instruments, Thai hands and Thai songs. 2) The contents of Thai music theories for Thai Qualification Framework for higher education have five issues from six standards of learning dimensions include 1) moral and ethical behavior, 2) knowledge, 3) intellectual skill, 4) personal relations skill, 5) mathematical analysis skill, communication skill and information technology application skill and 6) music skill. There are the elements of Thai music, the background of Thai classical music, the feature of Thai music, music technology and Thai music researches or creative projects. In addition, the students should learn about subjects related to the music in their daily lives and careers as well.

Keywords- Thai Music theory, Thai qualification framework, Rajabhat Universities,

I. INTRODUCTION

The teaching management in music division has to be run in Thai Music Theory, Western Music Theory, Thai Music Skill and Western Music Skill. Each subject has been important in producing music scholar within the management system to handle education in Bachelor, Master and Doctorate levels of the higher education under government and private intuitions.

By setting up standard to maintain the same quality system, the Office of Higher Education has managed to gain the national educational standard in each subject division. Thus, the direction to develop high standard curriculums that could possibly be compared to music education in ASEAN countries. (Office of the Higher Education, 2009)

In Bangkok metropolitan, there are variety of music program studies offered by Chulalongkorn University, Mahidol University, Kasetsat University, Rajabhat Universities, Bunditpatanasil institute etc. Each university has to establish its strong point in order to differentiate the educational issues and choices for learners. Rajabhat University has raised up its educational status by managing to offer the music degree program in 33 university campuses, 4 universities in Bangkok which are Chandrakasem Rajabhat University, BanSomdejchaophaya Rajabhat University, Pranakon Rajabhat University and Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.

Teaching of Thai Music Theory is the main subject for Thai music student major. The objective is to educate student to understand principle and theory of Thai Music in order to enhance them in performance music skill. But Thai Music Theory has not yet been reached an analytical standard and using Western Music system to be base in study.

In this research, the study of body of content in Thai Music that has been touched in Rajabhat Universities by doing analysis, making conclusion and propose to be the national standard in teaching Thai Music Theory in higher education. And to set up the national education standard which can be compared to music institutes throughout ASEAN.

The research objective is to study the needs in the content on the Thai Music Theory subject that is part of the Rajabhat University’s music curriculum. In order to develop and set up standard of the national educational criteria.

II. METHODOLOGY

The quality research is using the documentary research by analyzing music curriculum of the 4 Rajabhat Universities. Bangkok Rajabhat University has offered Thai Music course that included the field work as part of their study. The In-depth Interview of 7 related people who teaches Thai Music Theory. By 4 of them are from Bangkok Rajabhat University and examined, founding documents and presenting research result.
III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The research result has shown that the 4 Rajabhat Universities in Bangkok area that offered Thai Music Theory courses are using the similar course description but in different name courses. The course descriptions are contented by the following criteria:

Part I The Thai Music basic knowledge contains:
1) The principle structure of Thai Music such as Sound, Rhythms, Melody, Musical Form for example.
2) Historical background such as development of Thai Music, characteristic of Thai string ensemble, the combination of Thai Music Ensemble in different periods, artists and Thai Music composers plus their master works.
3) The characteristic of Thai Music such as rural ritual, their believe and ritual ceremony, traditional practice and custom in Thai Music, paying respect to the masters and gods, and the relationship between Arts and Music.
4) The disciplinary practice for each Thai instrument and ensemble.
5) The structure of different feature of Thai Music, Rhythmic patterns, and musical repertoire for performances.
6) The sound system of Thai Music, Quality of sound in each musical instrument.
7) Thai musical notation, the musical shape of Thai Music notation, and Thai Music dictation.
8) Folk Music.
9) Contemporary Music.
10) Thai Instrumental repair and maintenance.
11) Thai Music critic.
12) Performance technique of Thai Music.
13) Thai Music analysis and composing.

The music subjects in this first category might simultaneously be done alongside the music skill in order to make better understanding.

Part 2 Ethnomusicology or Musicology contains:
1) Introduction to social stereotypes about music.
2) Anthropology principles for music and Ethnomusicology.
3) The role of music relation to human life, society and culture.
4) The scope of Musicology.
5) The development of music in the academic and performances.
6) Relationship between music and life.
7) Relationship between Thai music and Western music.

Part 3 Academic research and Creative research contains:
1) Field study for academic research.
2) Collecting data.
3) Academic research and Creative research reports.
4) Presentation.

Part 4 Music Technology contains:
1) Computer for music works.
2) Electronic music.
3) Production of computerized music.
4) Studio recording.

Part 5 Relevant Knowledge contains:
1) Music business.
2) Music marketing.
3) English for music.
4) Ethics music.
5) Practical experience in music.

By documentary research and in-dept interview, there are 3 criteria of the theory of music as follows:
1) The elements of Thai music contains some topics from the Thai music basic knowledge: The principle structure of Thai Music such as Sound, Rhythms, Melody, Musical Form for example. The sound system of Thai Music, Quality of sound in each musical instrument, Thai musical notation, the musical shape of Thai Music notation, and Thai Music dictation, Thai Music analysis and composing.
2) The background of Thai classical music contains some topics from the Thai music basic knowledge such as Historical background such as development of Thai Music, characteristic of Thai string ensemble, the combination of Thai Music Ensemble in different periods, artists and Thai Music composers plus their master works, The characteristic of Thai Music such as rural ritual, their believe and ritual ceremony, traditional practice and custom in Thai Music, paying respect to the masters and gods, and the relationship between Arts and Music and Ethnomusicology or Musicology.
3) The feature of Thai music; Thai musical instruments, Thai bands and Thai songs contains some topics from the Thai music basic knowledge such as the disciplinary practice for each Thai instrument and ensemble, the structure of different feature of Thai Music, Rhythmic patterns, and musical repertoire for performances.

According to Thai Qualifications Framework for Higher Education (TQF 1-draft), it states the topic of music includes music performance, music conducting, theories, history, creativity, music technology, and aesthetics in music. Music theories are as follows:
1) Classical and traditional music history.
2) Music theory.
3) Creative in music.
4) Music technology.
5) Music research.
6) Practical experience in music.

Thai Qualifications Framework for Higher Education (TQF 1-draft) group the content into 3 groups: core subjects, specific subjects and major. Core subjects consist of classical and traditional music history, specific subjects consist of music theory, creative in music and music technology, music research and practical experience in music are major.
Table 1: Comparison between the contents from TQF 1-draft and Rajabhat in Bangkok curriculums

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>content</th>
<th>TQF 1-draft</th>
<th>Rajabhat in Bangkok curriculums</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classical and traditional</td>
<td>Thai music, Traditional music, Western music, Contemporary music, World</td>
<td>Part I The Thai Music basic knowledge Part 2 Ethnomusicology or Musicology</td>
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<tr>
<td>music history</td>
<td>music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music theory</td>
<td>Classical and traditional music theory</td>
<td>Part I The Thai Music basic knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative in music</td>
<td>Composition, Music creation</td>
<td>Part I The Thai Music basic knowledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music technology</td>
<td>Technology in music</td>
<td>Part 4 Music Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music research</td>
<td>Music research and presentation</td>
<td>Part 3 Academic research and Creative research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical experience in music</td>
<td>Pre and practical experience in music</td>
<td>Part 5 Relevant Knowledge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 found that music contents in Rajabhat in Bangkok curriculums covers contents from TQF 1-draft.

From in-dept interview in part 3-5 (Academic research and Creative research, Music Technology, Relevant Knowledge) the music instructors suggested that the other contents are general music knowledge for all music students. According to Thai Qualifications Framework for Higher Education (TQF 1-draft), it states the learning outcomes as follows:

1. **Moral and Ethical Behavior** are honesty, discipline and responsibility to oneself, society, open-mindedness, public consciousness.
2. **Knowledge** are well-equipped in Fine and Applied Arts and another related study, an ability to find and solve problems and develop Fine and Applied Arts, systematically, knowledge in the art relating to contexts of wisdom society and culture, knowledge relating to standards and practices in Fine and Applied Arts profession.
3. **Intellectual Skill** are collecting and evaluating sources of information discretely, analyzing, synthesizing, and propose solutions creatively, integrate knowledge into another study in order to create academic and professional works creative and witty in creating works.
4. **Personal Relations Skill** are leadership and good interpersonality, roles and responsibilities, and open-minded, responsibility for ones’ tasks and able to work with others efficiently, able to express opinions logically and straightforwardly and respect to different opinions.

Table 2: Relativity between learning outcomes and content of Thai music theories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Thai music theories</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moral and Ethical Behavior</td>
<td>Academic research and Creative research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge</td>
<td>The background of Thai classical music</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The elements of Thai music</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intellectual Skill</td>
<td>The feature of Thai music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Relations Skill</td>
<td>The feature of Thai music</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematical Analysis Skill</td>
<td>Music Technology</td>
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<td>Communication Skill and</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Information Technology Application Skill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Skill</td>
<td>The elements of Thai music</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 shown that subject in music curriculum of Rajabhat universities in Bangkok be covered learning outcomes by the Thai Qualifications Framework for Higher Education.

**CONCLUSION**

The framework of Thai music theories in Rajabhat universities curriculums of Rajabhat Universities in Bangkok consists of three main issues. The first issue is the elements of Thai music such as: sound system, rhythm, melody, form etc. The second issue is background of Thai classical music. The last issue is the feature of Thai music; Thai musical instruments, Thai bands and Thai songs. 2) The contents of Thai music theories for Thai Qualification Framework for higher education have five issues from six standards of learning dimensions include 1) moral and ethical behavior, 2) knowledge, 3) intellectual skill, 4) personal relations skill, 5) mathematical analysis skill, communication skill and information technology application skill and 6) music skill. Therefore teaching and learning in Thai music theories in Thailand should be covered by the Thai Qualifications Framework for Higher Education (TQF 1-draft) and within the following learning outcomes.
are the elements of Thai music, the background of Thai classical music, the feature of Thai music, music technology and Thai music researches or creative projects. In addition, the students should learn about subjects related to the music in their daily lives and careers as well.

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REFERENCES


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