



Hai Tang Ma: Belief in sea goddess among Chinese ethnics group in Indochina

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Abstract

Another location that sailors hold in great regard is the Hai Tang Ma shrine. Those who are in distress at sea are said to constantly receive assistance from the goddess. Chinese fishermen's communities are where this particular style of shrine first appeared. An intriguing phenomena is the connection between daily occupation and the believe in god and goddess. Chinese people are a common ethnic group in Indochina. It's an intriguing cultural religious practice to worship Hai Tang Ma. In this article, the authors will explore and show a few prominent Indochina locations for Hai Tang Ma worship.

Keywords: sea, goddess, worship, Indochina.

Introduction

According to Chinese legend, Ma Zho Bo, Ma Zhou, or Hai Tang Ma (Chinese: Mazu) is the goddess of the sea. which is revered by the Hokkien, Chaozhou, and overseas Chinese who participate in sailing and fishing. In the early 10th century, during the Song Dynasty, Ma Zibo was a god that people adored. Currently, Ma Zhao Bo is revered everywhere. The most respected divinity in Taiwan is Ma Zhou Bo, who is worshipped in up to 3,000 shrines. It is thought that those who reside there would find tranquility when the Hai Tang Ma procession passes through. family harmony and personal success Along the process of this ritual, food is also served.Chinese people are a common ethnic group in Indochina. It's an intriguing cultural religious practice to worship Hai Tang Ma. Below, the authors will discuss and present some of the most well-known locations in Indochina for Hai Tang Ma worship.

Cases

A. Hai Tang Ma, Khao Sam Muk, Chonburi, Thailand

For a long time, this shrine has been known for its sacredness. Particularly with merchants' and fishermen's beliefs. Just before embarking on a voyage, they frequently pray for blessings

at the Sam Muk Shrine Young coconuts, spring rolls, and fruits are the most popular items. Those who have successfully acquired the outcomes upon request will be solved by lighting firecrackers and purchasing a pearl necklace to gift to the goddess's statue. There is a small seaside temple with plenty of monkeys in this location, and it is a very popular seashore report for the locals.

B. Hain Tang Ma, Bukit Mertajam, Palau Pinang, Malaysia

This temple was constructed in the traditional manner of temples in Southern China. It is painted a variety of shades of crimson. Four columns hold up the front porch's ornate roof. A person enters the outer prayer hall through the entryway, where Thean Hou's image is displayed and the words "Thean Hou" which translate to "Holy Empress of Heaven," are written on the altar table.



A. Hai Tang Ma shrine Khao Sam Muk



B. Hai Tang Ma shrine Bukit Mertajam

Figure 1. Some famous Hai Tang Ma shrines in Indochina

Discussion

Women in Asian culture have a paradoxical status: on the one hand, goddesses are worshiped for strength and prosperity, yet working women confront problems due to age-old beliefs and social conventions [1]. Sailors also hold high regard for the Hai Tang Ma shrine. It is claimed that the goddess always assists individuals in distress at sea. People from all around the world come to pray for safe sailing. Many also come to pray for love because it is thought that the goddess will shower them with happiness. This type of Chinese shrine developed in China's fisherman community. An intriguing phenomenon is the connection between daily occupation and the believe in god and goddess.

Typically, the Thais have political and administrative power while the Chinese are recognized to have abundant financial and commercial resources [2]. The Chinese are divided from the indigenous ethnic groups by their disagreements with the ruling class, which hinders their assimilation [2]. Power has been balanced [2]. The terms defining how the group as a whole and the members as individuals behave in regular social interactions should be taken into account while developing theories, not the terms of assimilation [2].

Conflict of interest: None

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