

THE PRACTICE OF MAGIC-BASED DISEASE TREATMENT OF THE THÁI COMMUNITY IN THE NORTHWEST REGION OF VIET NAM

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Abstract: *To date, some diseases are still out of control of modern medicine for they were derived from cultural practices, beliefs, and religions. Examples include those whose causes are attributed to the people's offence of the spirits in the mysterious world and thus being "revenged" by them. In cases of these spiritual diseases, the effectiveness of the magic-based treatment is undeniable. In addition, this type of healing method represents not only a kind of medical practice but also cultural elements that make up the identities of the ethnic groups, especially the communities in the Orient.*

The article mentions in detail the conceptions of diseases, classes of traditional healers (Shamans), healing rituals and related cultural practices... of the Thái community in the Northwest of Viet Nam.

Keywords: *Thái ethnic people, spiritual diagnosis, Phi, Khoán, Tang lap, Păn pé...*

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