



## Comparative Study of Folklores in Asian Countries Talked in the Context of Lessons on Water Hazards

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### Abstract

This paper focuses on the fact that the traditional folklore that occurred in a certain area became a common recognition of people, and that they are talked in conjunction with lessons (precept). We conducted a comparative study of tradition in Asian countries (Philippines, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand, Japan). The main target of the survey is the a tradition that is related to water disaster. When the cause of a personal water accident (such as drowning) is difficult to identify, people sometimes express that "a supernatural existence has harmed the person." On the other hand, in the case of a wide-ranging disaster such as a tsunami, there are a lot of traditions suggesting behaviors to be taken to survive, that is, not repeating the same mistakes as in the past. Both traditions are the results of human's symbiosis with nature from ancient times. By comparing concrete examples of the tradition in each country, this work pursues the significance of folklore told in the context of lessons learned. The center of interest in this study is to compare the current status of the tradition in each country. It helps to pursue the importance of folklore told in the context of lessons learned. Moreover, it leads to a clarification of the feature in the private faith, the climate, and the preconception about the water place of each area. These achievements can be used when disseminating education on water accident prevention in each region of Southeast Asia.

**Keywords:** *Traditional folklore, water disaster, passing lessons, comparative culture*

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