

การก้าวหาย-orange รัฐผ่านพิธีกรรมสละเลือดของคนเสื้อแดง

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RITUALIZING IDENTITY-BASED POLITICAL MOVEMENT: CHALLENGING THAILAND'S POLITICAL LEGITIMACY THROUGH BLOOD-SACRIFICING RITUALS*

This article offers a sociological perspective to investigate the structure and mechanism of the Red Shirts' blood-sacrificing rituals. It argues that the blood-sacrificing rituals functioned to challenge the legitimacy of Thailand's socio-political order – one that is directed by the network monarchy. The article suggests that (1) these rituals served to embody the different fragments within Red Shirts' umbrella, as well as to translate them into a powerful symbolic collective action, and (2) these rituals derived their powerful imaginare by embodying a two-part ideology – one that used the language of 'democracy' and 'justice' proposing an alternative political ideology and the other that used the language of 'blood' and 'sacrifice' drawn upon the sacred cultural habitus to marshal the politics of identification to further strengthen their demand. This article concludes that through their demand for full-fledged citizenship, the Red Shirts' blood-sacrificing rituals can be best understood as a vehicle of change posing a serious antistructural force to an existing socio-political order.

* บทความนี้กำลังจะตีพิมพ์ในวารสาร [Michigan Journal of Asian Studies](#) Vol. 1 issue 2 (2012)