

**CONCERNS ABOUT DEATH-DYING AND COPING
AMONG AGING THAI BUDDHIST MONKS IN BANGKOK TEMPLES**

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research was to determine the relationship between concerns about death-dying and coping among aging Thai Buddhist monks in Bangkok Temples. Another purpose of the study was to evaluate and compare their sub-concerns about death-dying and coping. The study also aimed to determine the difference between the demographic variables of age, length of monkhood, present position, education level, and current health problem of aging Thai Buddhist monks with concerns about death-dying and coping behavior.

The respondents were 130 aging Thai Buddhist monks. The three instruments utilized were: 1) Personal data questionnaire, 2) The Concerns about death-dying questionnaire (CADD), and 3) The coping questionnaire (C). The data were analyzed by using the Chi-Square and Krukall Wallis Test of variance. The findings suggested that:

1. There was a significant difference for concern for death-dying for different ages, with concern for death-dying highest for participants 60-70 years old and lowest for 91 years and above.
2. There was a significant difference for concern for death-dying for different lengths of Buddhist monkhood, with concern for death-dying highest for participants 40 rains or less and lowest for 61 rains and above.

3. There was a significant difference for concern for death-dying for different present position of Buddhist monkhood. Concern for death-dying was highest for participants who had no position and lowest for lord and no abbot.

4. There was a significant difference for concern for death-dying for different Dharma educational levels. Concern for death-dying was highest for participants who belonged to the category of no Dharma and lowest for the category Dharma aek.

5. There was a significant difference for concern for death-dying for different Pali educational levels. Concern for death-dying was highest for participants who had no Pali education and lowest for 7-9 levels of Pali education.

6. There was a significant difference for concern for death-dying for different state educational levels. Concern for death-dying was highest for below a Bachelor's degree and lowest for those with a Master's degree.

7. There was a significant difference for concern for death-dying with different severities of medical problems. Concern for death-dying was highest for people with serious medical problems and lowest for no medical problems.

8. There was no significant difference for coping for different age levels. Likewise, it was found that there is no significant difference for coping for the following: different lengths of monkhood, different present positions, different levels of dharma education as well as pali education, and for different medical problems.