

I have known Master Chua since I was 18 years old. It all started when I happened to pass by Master Chua's shop and pop in to take a look at his vast collections of Thai amulets and Buddha status on display. I then had a chat with Master Chua as he always greeted people with a friendly smile. During the chat, I found out that Master Chua, besides being an established geomancer and well versed in Taoist sect such as '閩山' and '六壬', his knowledge in Thai Buddhism is also deep and detail. I also found out that Master Chua at his younger days ever ordained as a Thai monk and trained under many famous Thai monks. Later on, he was trained as a white robe Archan who is able to perform Thai spiritual ritual such as blessing, cleanse and even Thai tattoo.

Knowing that Master Chua is the right master for me to follow into my quest of learning Thai spiritual rituals, I requested to become Master Chua's disciple. However, Master Chua did not want to take me in as he felt that I am still too young and he did not know me well enough to assess my character. Although I felt disappointed, after some thoughts, I realized that it is right for Master Chua to do so as Thai spiritual rituals can be a two edged sword; either I help or harm people with my knowledge.

Since then, whenever I am off duty or free, I will drop by Master Chua's shop and have a chat with him. I also volunteer my service to his temple during the celebration. Though Master Chua did not officially accept me as his disciple, along the way, he gave me tips on the Thai chanting and meditation.

One fine day, I happen to pass by one Thai amulet shop and saw many people waiting for their turn to be tattoo by a white robe Archan. I spoke to some of them and they claimed that these spiritual tattoo are powerful and can protect them from harm and accident. As my curiosity grew, I went to ask Master Chua's views on the Thai spiritual tattoos and requested him to do one for me. However, Master Chua refused and explained to me that the Thai spiritual tattoos are not permanent and the spiritual power will go flat if we do not practice the five precepts and continue to mediate.

Sad to say that the image of my body filled with the spiritual tattoos already occupied my mind and nothing can affect my thinking. Moreover, Thai Buddhism especially the power of the takrut and tattoos were widely promoted in term of movies and video clips posted online. The day after I spoke to Master Chua, I did not heed his advice and have my very first Thai

tattoo of a 'Phra Lersi' on my back by the white robe Archan at one of the Thai amulet shop. I never tell anyone including Master Chua about it. Few days after my tattoo session, suddenly, I felt very nervous and was having cold sweat. My body, teeth and hands keep on trembling and my mind seem to be in the blank at all time. Everything seems to go against me and these went on for a few days. Knowing that I might already got myself into trouble; I confessed to Master Chua and seek his help. Master Chua explained to me what caused these problems and advised me to 'get rid' of the tattoos as soon as possible.

Master Chua then taught me how to 'get rid' of the tattoos and told me to mediate everyday. Since then, I have been mediating for two years and everything went back to normal. Life seems to be getting better and I still can remember the soundly advices by Master Chua to me: "powers derive from a person's cultivation and determination and not from the spiritual tattoos or amulets. Thank you very much Master Chua

Yours  
Teo Wei Qiang, Jeremy

Sincerely,