The Opinions Of The Population Aged 13 And Over Who Have Practiced The Religious Doctrines

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research was to study the practice of five religious doctrines (Buddhism, Christianity, Brahmanism-Hinduism, Sikhism) among people aged 13 years and over and the implementation of religious doctrines. The population used in the research was people aged 13 and over who practiced all religions from the Religious Database from the Department of Provincial Administration, the Central Registry (2020), with a total population of 58,592,468. Additionally, the research sample was selected from representatives of each religion, a total of 5 religions in each region of Thailand. There were 3,000 people per area, total 6 regions and Bangkok area. Hence, the total of 21,000 people were sampled. The instrument used in this research was a questionnaire. The statistics used in the research as the basic statistics for data analysis are as follows: frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation -SD, t-test and F-test (ANOVA). The results showed that 1) The overall practice of religious doctrines of Thai people found that religious people practiced religious teachings infrequently/not regularly (mean= 2.25) or 94.49%. When considering by religion, Brahmin-Hindus have the highest level of adherence to religious teachings at 99.32%. 2) Implementation of religious doctrines, it was found that, in general, Thais practiced religious doctrines infrequently/not regularly (mean= 2.40) or 95.87%. When considering by religion, Brahmin Hindus Sikhism have the 100.00% level of religious doctrine implementation.

Keywords: Practice of religious doctrine, Implementation of religious doctrine

INTRODUCTION

The social situation has become more violent as a result of the society that lacks morality and ethics according to religious doctrine itself. Therefore, the behavior of people in the modern era are more likely to utilize force or violence. They are lack of restraint over violent temper, lack of good conscience and aggressive. This corresponds to the opinion survey on the situation of social moral issues by Center for Morality Promotion (Public Organization) (2017), which found that the moral crises in Thai society that should be solved consisted of (1) problems that the new generation's lack of courtesy and respect for older people; (2) problems with materialistic, consumerism, and insufficiency; (3) problems with lack of discipline and compliance of rules and laws; (4) problems on lack of public consciousness and social responsibility, and self-interest over the public interest; and (5) problems on corruption and lack of honesty. These problems arises partly from the lack of moral and ethical indoctrination according to religious teachings. As a result, the psychological qualities of human beings are hardened, not benignant or sympathetic enough to make the society a

supportive society, etc. The society should turn around to review and emphasize more on the invigoration and enhancement of the human mind by encouraging people to adhere to religious teachings and put that religious doctrine into practice.

Religion plays an important role and is very important to society and the nation. Accordingly, the importance of religion can be briefly summarized as follows: (1) it is crucial in various aspects to certain groups or nations in terms of culture, traditions, traditions, architecture, sculpture, literature, fine arts, and fellowship of that group or nation, or those of the same religion, Religions are integrated into the societies regardless of race, particular in the architecture. Most of the famous ancient buildings often belong to religions, such as the Pyramids, Wat Phra Kaew, and the Vatican Palace, etc.; (2) some religions serve as a tool to strengthen politics and government; (3) religion allows people to govern themselves, both privately and openly; and (4) religions improve the human into the perfect human being. Not a puppet or a machine and differentiate people from animals (Department of Religious Affairs, 2018). As religion is the center of thought, belief and influence on societies or nations, these attributes are collectively referred to as religious values. Religion offers variety of values The value of religion towards humans is a spiritual value, which is considered superior than the material value. The values of religion can be summarized briefly, for example: (1) It is the spiritual anchor or spiritual refuge for human mind, alleviating the loneliness; (2) being the source of unity for the groups including unity among all mankind; (3) being the source of education in both Buddhist education and moral education; (4) being the source of ethics, morality and virtue; (5) being the source of all good traditions; (6) it helps ease the pain and calm the troubled mind; (7) it is a beacon to illuminate a dark world; and (9) it differentiates humans from beasts. As animals have no religion (Chamaiporn Kanchanakitsakul, 2013). At the same time, religion plays a vital role in life, activities, including the coexistence of human beings in society.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Religious context
Religion is the center of thought, belief and influence on society or nation. These are collectively known as Religious values. There are several religious values. For example, religion represents the spiritual value towards humans, which is considered superior than the material value. The value of religion that can be assessed, for example, religion as a spiritual anchor of the human mind, to alleviate the loneliness, as the source of unity of the groups including unity among mankind, as the source of education in terms of Buddhist education, ethical education, and moral ethics, as the source of ethics, morality and morality, and as the source of all good traditions. Therefore, the role of religious institutions and the direction of Thai social development is a very relevant and interrelated matter, which can help pushing forwards the goal of sustainable development of the country. Such development requires the psychological basis of the individual in society. By applying religious doctrine as a tool to raise the mental quality of people in society, the society will become the society of goodness, where everyone adheres to goodness, correctness and mutual support. When it comes to religion in Thailand, which is a country that is open to the right to freedom to believe and practice the doctrine of each religion according to individual beliefs. Accordingly, religious institutions are the core and diverse institution that the people respect. It is believed that the doctrines of all religions are meant to uphold good morals, virtues and ethics, including maintaining a good social order and coexistence of individuals in society.

Concept relating to religious doctrines
Religion refers to belief in the sacred supernatural, revered principles, institutions or traditions (Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, 2010). Religion generally governs and harmonizes human relationships in order to coexist peacefully. There are three schools of thought explaining the emergence and development of religion as follows: the first group sees religion as a man-made entity, the second sees religions gradually evolve into more and more states of truth, and the third sees certain religions as reality. Nakkasem (2007) describes religion as possibly consisting of the same or similar teachings, or different both in

terms of appearance and social functions. Nonetheless, they have the same purpose, which is to teach people to be good people, to allow people to fit in with society or to allow society to have a place to hold their minds to be unity, and to have a norm in practice. Moreover, it is also the gathering place of the supreme human faith and respect for their coexistence. Elements of religion consists of: 1) A founding prophet, with whom the prophet may be characterized as the discoverer of truth and guidance to save a person from suffering, and teach it to mankind; 2) A scripture, which contains all the doctrines that are directly attributed to the prophet or the teachings that have been taught by the prophets from God that people will respect, believe and follow; 3) The doctrine that is the ultimate goal of life. Each prophet may have similar or different goal; 4) Disciples of priests who are the successors to continue the existence of the teachings, or a group of people to act in religious conventions; 5) Religious ceremonies. Every religion has its own religious rites that are performed by the followers, each with a different purpose; 6) Religious place to use for ceremonies, which may be referred in similar or different names, such as a church for Buddhism, Brahmanism-Hinduism, and Christianity. As for Islam, it is called a mosque or a mosque.

Concept relating to the roles of religion

The role of religion has a profound influence on human beings and on society. Not only the ideas, beliefs, which influence the formation of the way of life of people in society, but religion also has an effect on changing the history of humanity at times. With the influence of religious teachings and the magnificent instance of the creator of religion, it has resulted in a better change in life and society. The role of religion has turned a society that was plunged it into its cataclysm into a peaceful society, with the members of society living with morals and ethics. However, in a contradictory event, the history has shown that religion also brings oppression, division, conflict and hostility into society. The different religions of people in society is a real phenomenon. A reason that could explain religious differences is that each religion was originated in a different place. While Bahmanism - Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism were born in present day India and Nepal, Judaism and Christianity Born in the

Tigris, Euphrates and Palestine basins. Meanwhile, Islam has a religious historical concept that it is a continuous evolution of Judaism and Christianity were born in today's Makkah, Saudi Arabia (Pantarakit, 2016)

METHOD

The population used in the research was people aged 13 and over who practiced each religion, all from the religious people database from the Department of Provincial Administration, Central Registry Office (2020), consisting of 54,706,002 Buddhists, 3,170,659 Muslims, 704,970 Christians, 3,976 Brahmin-Hindus, and 6,861 Sikhs. Therefore, the research has sampled from the total population of 58,592,468 people with religions. For the selection of the sample, the number of samples quota in each religion is determined by comparing the proportion of the population in each religion and the number of samples is calculated from the samples representing each of the five religions of each region of Thailand including Bangkok. The sample size is 3,000 people per area, including 6 regions and 1 Bangkok area. Hence, the total of 21,000 people were sampled. The tools used to collect data were questionnaires, which were divided into four parts: Part 1 is the personal data of the respondents, Part 2 is a questionnaire on the practice of religious doctrines, Part 3 is a questionnaire on good understanding between religions, and Part 4 is a questionnaire on the implementation of religious doctrines.

The statistics used in the data analysis consisted of the basic statistics for data analysis as follows: (1) frequency, (2) percentage, (3) mean, (4) Standard Deviation--SD, and (5) t-test and F-test (ANOVA).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Regarding the practice of religious doctrines, the study found that 94.49% of people followed the religious doctrines. When considered on each religion, it was found that Brahmins - Hindus showed 99.32% of adherence to the teachings of religion, indicating that Brahmins - Hindus have very strict adherence to the teachings of the religious doctrines. Followed by the Sikh religion, whose adherence to religious doctrines scored at 98.53%. Meanwhile, 92.53% of Muslims and 92.48% of Christians practiced the religious doctrines,

respectively. While 89.60% of Buddhists practiced the religious doctrines.

Table 1
MEAN AND STANDARD DEVIATION (SD) OF THE PRACTICE OF RELIGIOUS DOCTRINES

Practice of religious doctrines.	Mean	SD	Meaning
Buddhism	2.22	.439	infrequently/not regularly
Islam	2.40	.489	infrequently/not regularly
Christianity	2.41	.507	infrequently/not regularly
Brahmanism – Hinduism	2.52	.430	Regularly
Sikhism	2.52	.419	Regularly
Overview	2.25	.452	infrequently/not regularly

Note: Average score of 2.50-3.00 means practicing according to religious doctrines.
Average score of 1.50-2.49 means that they practice religious doctrines infrequently/not regularly.
Average score 1.00-1.49 means that they barely practice/do not practice religious doctrines.

Table 2
PERCENTAGE OF PRACTICE OF RELIGIOUS DOCTRINES

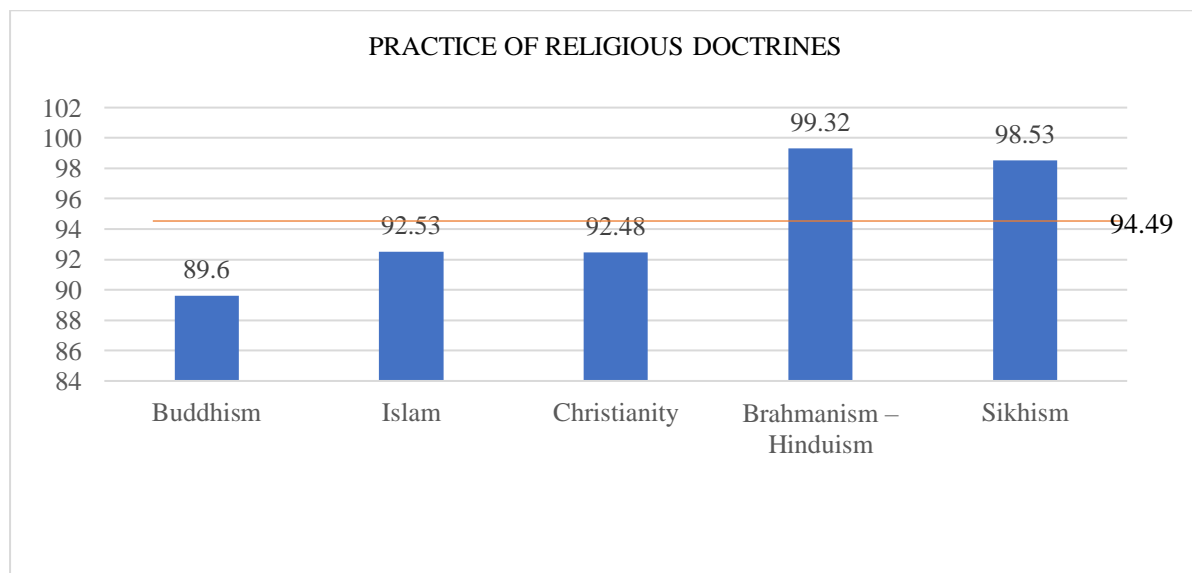| Practice of religious doctrines.	Overview all religions	Buddhism	Islam	Christianity	Brahmanism – Hinduism	Sikhism
Percentage of the practice of religious doctrines.	94.49	89.60	92.53	92.48	99.32	98.53

Figure 1 Practice of religious doctrines

According to a comparative test on the practice of religious doctrines classified by region, it was found that there were no statistically significant differences among the religion followers in each region at 0.05 (F-test = 0.97, p-value = 0.4636), which the result of practice of religious doctrines classified by region was presented in Figure 2.
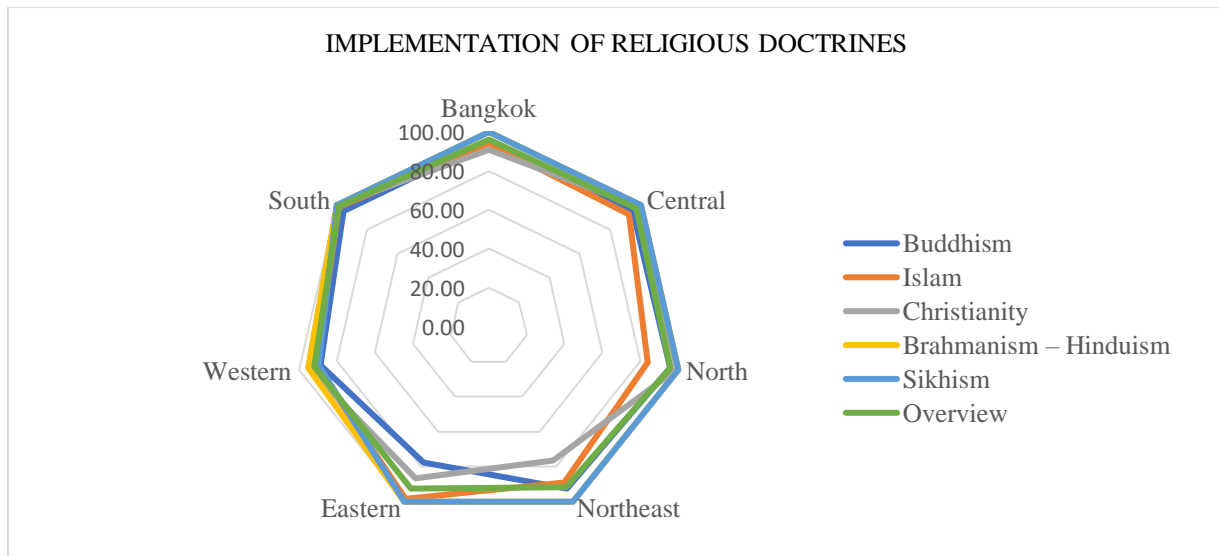
Figure 2 Implementation of Religious doctrines

2. Regarding the implementation of religious doctrines, the study found that, in general, 95.87 percent of Thais have applied religious doctrines. When considering by religion, it can be seen that Brahmins – Hindus And Sikhs have 100% implemented religious doctrines, indicating that the two religions are very strict in the implementation of religious doctrines, followed by 95.38% of Muslims who implemented the religious doctrine, while 94.72% of Buddhists and 89.24% of Christian implement the religious doctrine, respectively

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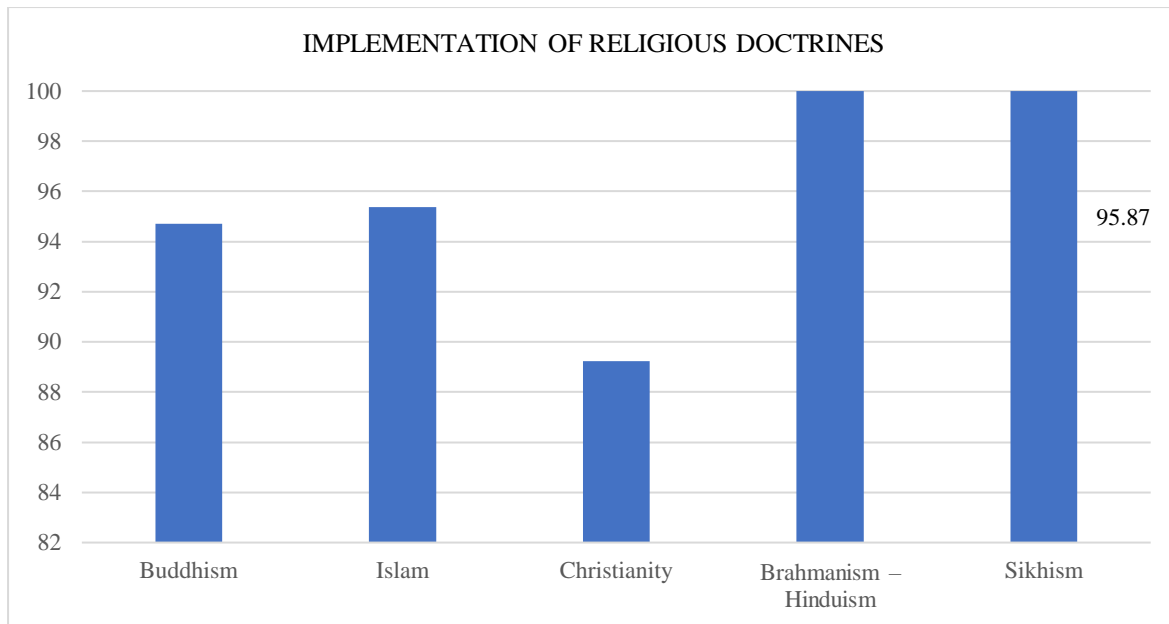| Table 3 PERCENTAGE OF IMPLEMENTING RELIGIOUS DOCTRINES CLASSIFIED BY RELIGION					
Implementation of religious doctrines	Overview all religions	Buddhism	Islam	Christi anity	Brahmanism – Hinduism	Religion Sikhism
Percentage of implementation of religious doctrines	95.87	94.72	95.38	89.24	100.00	100.00

Figure 3 Implementation of religious doctrines

Furthermore, implementation of religious doctrines includes four of the following implementation methods:

4.1 Religious doctrine is essential for life. Religious doctrine is believed to be essential part of life. Details as shown in Table 4.

Table 4
THE RESULTS OF THE ANALYSIS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RELIGIOUS DOCTRINES IN IMPLEMENTING RELIGIOUS DOCTRINE AS ESSENTIAL PART OF LIFE. COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Religious doctrine as essential part of life.	Necessary		Not sure.		Unnecessary	
	Number (person)	Percentage	Number (person)	Percentage	Number (person)	Percentage
Buddhism	15,048	83.65	2,416	13.43	526	2.92
Islam	1,619	88.96	176	9.67	25	1.37
Christianity	867	82.57	113	10.76	70	6.67
Brahmanism – Hinduism	44	89.80	4	8.16	1	2.04
Sikhism	89	97.80	2	2.20	0	0.00
Total	17,667	84.13	2,711	12.91	622	2.96

Table 4, the overview of the country found that 17,667 people or 84.13% saw religious doctrine as essential for life. 2,711 people, accounting for 12.91%, were unsure whether religious doctrine was necessary for their lives. And 622 people, or 2.96%, said religious doctrine was not necessary for their lives, respectively. Following the results of the analysis of the implementation of religious doctrines as essential of life, the result in country overview is shown as a visual chart in Figure 4.
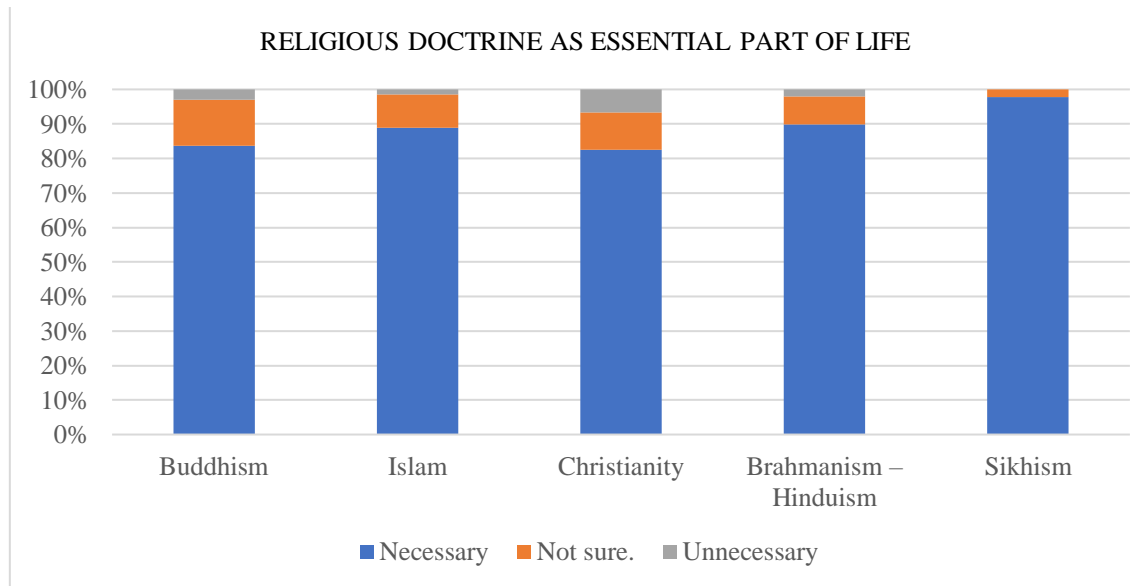
Figure 4 The results of the analysis of the implementation of religious doctrines as essential of life in country overview.

4.2 Advising or educating family members to practice the religious doctrines.
Details as shown in Table 5.

Advising or educating the family members to follow religious doctrines	Yes		Not sure.		Never.	
	Number (person)	Percentage	Number (person)	Percentage	Number (person)	Percentage
Buddhism	11,694	65.00	4,765	26.49	1,531	8.51
Islam	1,287	70.71	391	21.48	142	7.80
Christianity	645	61.43	248	23.62	157	14.95
Brahmanism – Hinduism	38	77.55	10	20.41	1	2.04
Sikhism	78	85.71	12	13.19	1	1.10
Total	13,742	65.44	5,426	25.84	1,832	8.72

Table 5
THE RESULTS OF THE ANALYSIS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RELIGIOUS DOCTRINES IN THE ASPECT OF ADVISING OR EDUCATING FAMILY MEMBERS TO FOLLOW THE RELIGIOUS DOCTRINES IN THE COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Table 5, from the country overview, it was found that 13,742 people used to advise or teach the family to follow the religious doctrines, representing 65.44%. 5,426 people were not sure that they have ever advised or educated their family to follow the religious doctrine, which accounted for 25.84%. And 1,832 people or 8.72% never advised or taught family members to follow the religious doctrine.

The results of the analysis of the implementation of religious doctrines in the aspect of advising or educating family members to follow the religious doctrine in country overview is shown as a visual chart in Figure 5.
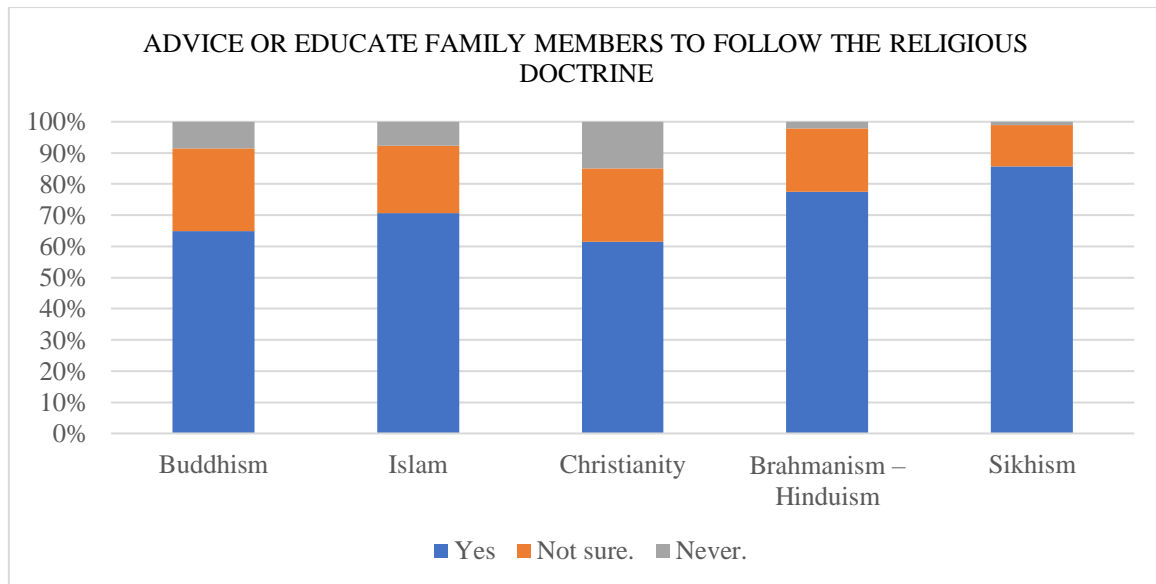
Figure 5 Advice or educate family members to follow the religious doctrine

The results of the analysis of the implementation of religious doctrines in the aspect of advising or educating family members to follow the doctrine in country overview.

4.3 Implementing the religious doctrine as a way of solving life issues.
Within the past year, the religious doctrine has been used as a solution to life problems. Details as shown in Table 6.

Table 6
THE RESULTS OF THE ANALYSIS ON IMPLEMENTING THE RELIGIOUS DOCTRINES DURING THE PAST YEAR AS A GUIDANCE TO SOLVE LIFE ISSUES, SHOWN IN COUNTRY OVERVIEW

In the past year, the religious doctrine has been used as a guide to solve life problems.	Every time.		Sometimes.		Never.	
	Number (person)	Percentage	Number (person)	Percentage	Number (person)	Percentage
Buddhism	5,083	28.25	11,604	64.50	1,303	7.25
Islam	905	49.73	791	43.46	124	6.81
Christianity	438	41.71	491	46.76	121	11.53
Brahmanism – Hinduism	28	57.14	20	40.82	1	2.04
Sikhism	51	56.04	40	43.96	0	0.00
Total	6,505	30.98	12,946	61.64	1549	7.38

Table 6, from country overview, it was found that 6,505 people used religious doctrines every time as a guidance for solving life issues, representing 30.98%. 12,946 people used the religious doctrine sometimes for solving problems in their lives, representing 61.64%. Finally, 1,549 people have never used the religious doctrine as a solution when facing life problems, representing 7.38%.

From the results of the analysis on implementing the religious doctrines as a way to solve life problems during the past year, shown in country overview as a visual chart in Figure 6.
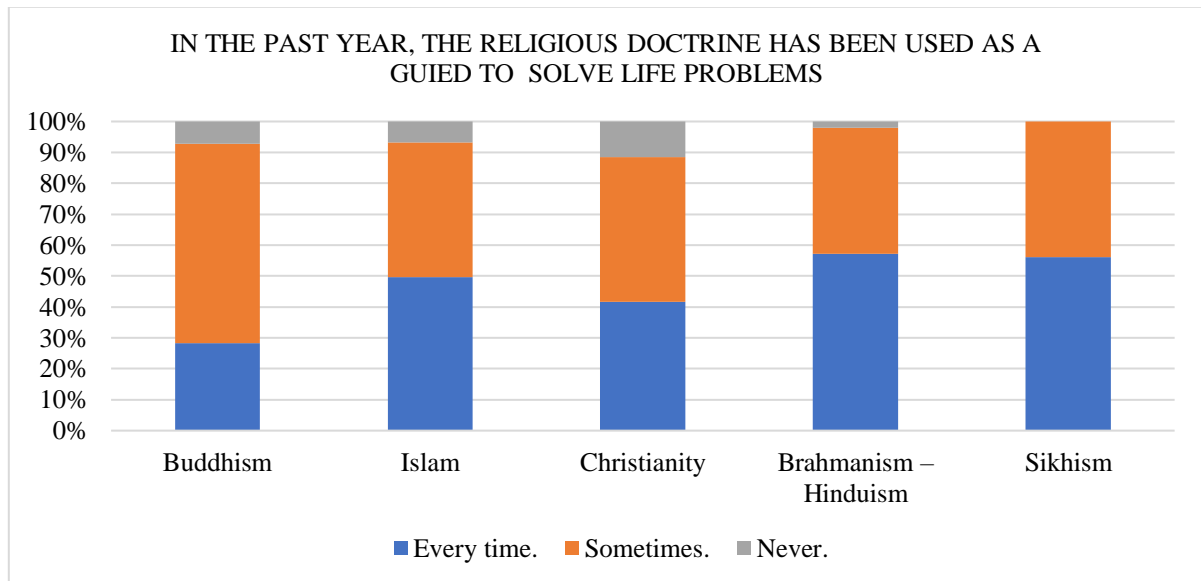
Figure 6 The Religious doctrine has been used as a guide to solve life problems

Figure 6, the results of the analysis of the implementation of religious doctrines in the past year for solving life problems, in country overview.

4.4 Implementing the religious doctrine as a guide to solve problems at work:
In the past year, the religious doctrines have been used as a solution to problem at works. Details as shown in Table 7.

Table 7
THE RESULTS OF THE ANALYSIS ON IMPLEMENTING THE RELIGIOUS DOCTRINES AS SOLUTION TO WORK PROBLEMS DURING THE PAST YEAR, SHOWN IN COUNTRY OVERVIEW

In the past year, the religious doctrine has been used as a guide to solve problem at work	Every time.		Sometimes.		Never.	
	Number (person)	Percentage	Number (person)	Percentage	Number (person)	Percentage
Buddhism	4,533	25.20	11,963	66.50	1,494	8.30
Islam	850	46.70	825	45.33	145	7.97
Christianity	405	38.57	496	47.24	149	14.19
Brahmanism – Hinduism	31	63.27	18	36.73	0	0.00
Sikhism	48	52.75	43	47.25	0	0.00
Total	5,867	27.94	13,345	63.55	1,788	8.51

From Table 7, in country overview, it was found that 13,345 people sometimes used the religious doctrine as a solution when facing work problems, representing 63.55%. 5,867 people, accounted for 27.94%, used the doctrine as a guide for solving problems every time when facing work problems. At last, 1,788 people or 8.51% have never used the doctrine as a solution when encountering problems at work.

The results of the analysis in implementing religious doctrines as a solution to work problems during the past year in country overview that is shown as a visual chart can be found in Figure 7.

IN THE PAST YEAR, THE RELIGIOUS DOCTRINE HAS BEEN USED AS A GUIED TO SOLVE PROBLEM AT WORK
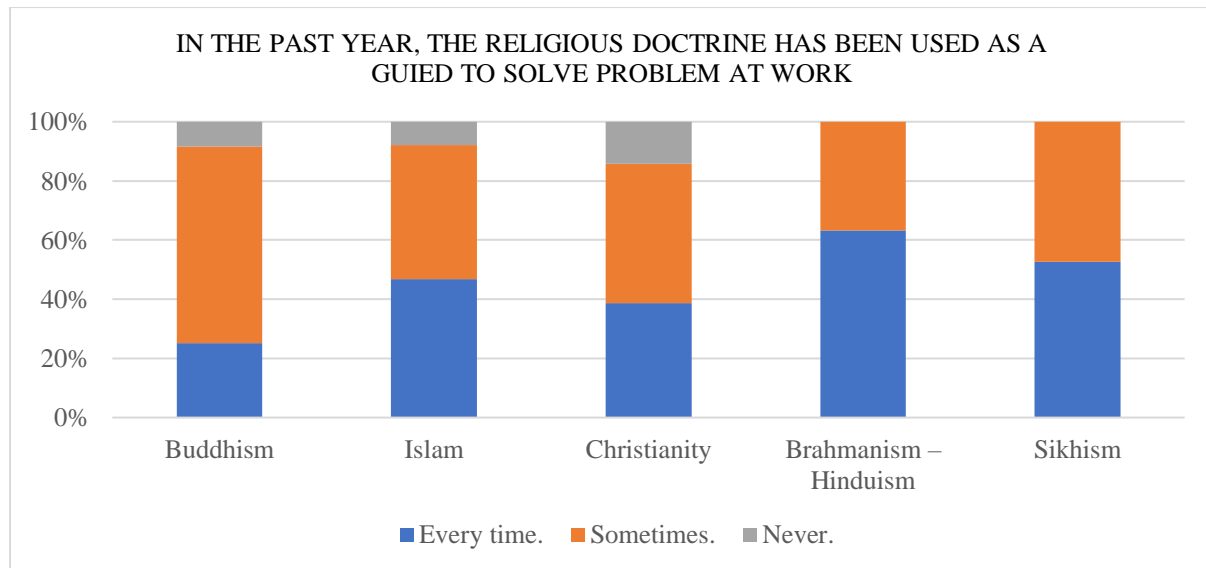
Figure 7 The results of the analysis in implementing religious doctrines as a solution to work problems during the past year in country overview.

DISCUSSION

Issues for discussion of the study results consist of two main themes include the practice of religious doctrines, and the implementation of religious doctrines. The discussion results are presented as follows:

1. For the overall practice of the religious doctrines of Thai people, the research found that the followers practiced the religious doctrines infrequently/not regularly (mean = 2.25) or 94.49%. When considering by each religion, it can be seen that 99.32% of Brahmin-Hindus practiced adherence to the teachings of religion, indicating that the Brahmins - Hindus strictly practiced the religious doctrines. The second strictest followers are the Sikhs, which 98.53% of them practicing religious teachings. Follows by 92.53% of Muslims and 92.48% of Christians that identified their adherence to religious doctrines, respectively. While there was only 89.60% of Buddhists who practiced the religious doctrines. Due to the increasing number of followers who practice the religious doctrines now as an anchor of their spirits, therefore, the overall number of the followers who actually practice the religious doctrines are increasing. This is considered part of the life skills that can adapt to the changes. This finding is consistent with the research of Sodmanee and Chanpraset (2011) who studied the subject of "Moral and Ethical Development: From Concepts to Practices", which found that moral and ethical development through life skills process is an important process of socialization

based on sociological concepts through various socialization agents. Whether they are monks, teachers, parents, friends, etc. Hence, there should be various strategies developed to promote the increase of morals and ethics in society. This finding is also consistent with the research of Koh (2009) who studied and researched "The Development of Moral Reasoning in Singaporean Youths", which shows the need to implement strategies to promote moral development among youth in a collective encouragement that extended to overall Singaporean citizens and Moral Education Programme. With the rationale to equip students in matters related to different values and abilities, it can be a viable option amid the rapidly changing landscape of society. The project aims to develop core values such as respect, responsibility, morality, empathy, resilience, and unity using strategies designed for training on morality, knowledge of virtue and virtuous action in order to develop them into universal skills and values.

2. Regarding the implementation of religious doctrines, it was found that overall (95.87%) of Thai followers practiced religious doctrines infrequently/not regularly (mean= 2.40). When considering by each religion, 100% of Brahmin-Hindus and Sikh practiced the doctrines of the religion, indicating that the followers of both religions are very strict in the practice of religious doctrines. This is followed by 95.38% of Muslims and 94.72% of Buddhists who practiced adherence to religious doctrines, respectively. The implementation methodology can be adapted, partly due to the

changing social conditions, characteristics and lifestyles that have changed over time. However, the important value arose from implementing religious doctrines is the peaceful coexistence of people in society. This finding is consistent with the research results of Norachetto and Thonginchan (2019) who have studied the subject. "Coexistence of People in a Multicultural Society in Thailand," which the results of aforementioned study found that the principles on people coexistence in multicultural society in Thailand according to the religious doctrines practiced in Thailand, i.e., Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Brahmanism, and Sikhism, all have shared values regarding the coexistence in the society. The basic consensus on coexistence principle to bring peace into society includes coexisting with love, kindness, generosity, and respecting each other's differences. This finding is consistent with the research of AlDigs (2012) who studied research on "Religion's Contributions to A Peaceful World," which examines the idea of Buber, Augustine and Ibn Khaldun on resolving interreligious tensions that demonstrates a common value in expressing that the moral is a foundation of peace.

CONCLUSION

The role of religious institutions has a profound effect on society. Therefore, issues related to the practice of religious doctrine have been studied so that religious doctrine can act as a shield that outline the orderly behavior of people in society using the principles of religion. The study of interreligious understanding for the promotion of peaceful societies, especially those that are multicultural or multicultural, including a study of the application of religious doctrines, will affect the application and adaptation of religious doctrines practice and implementation in several aspects as follows: 1) In practicing and implementing religious doctrines as essential part of life; 2) In guiding or educating family members to follow the religious doctrines; 3) In applying religious doctrine as a solution to life's problems, and; 4) In applying religious doctrine as a solution to work problems.

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