

Salee Kaewtathip 2007: The Role of Buddhist Monks on Environmental Conservation of Ancient Monument and Relic in Changwat Nakhon Si Thammarat. Master of Science (Environment Science), Major Field: Environmental Science, College of Environment. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Saovakon Sudsawasd, Ph.D. 160 pages.

The objectives of this thesis were to study the roles of Buddhist Monks on Environmental Conservation of Ancient Monument and Relic in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province and to study the roles of Buddhist Monks related to the Ancient Monument and Relic in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province

The study sample were 111 monks from population of Buddhist monks in 19 ancient temples registered as ancient remains of the Fine Arts Department by using questionnaires as data collecting tool. Analyzed data by SPSS (Statistic Program for Social Science; social science research computer program). Statistics were percentage, mean, Pearson's coefficient, Chi-square and hypothesis were tested at 0.05 statistically significant level.

The results found that roles of Buddhist Monks on Environmental Conservation of Ancient Monument and Relic in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province were as follows; monks plays roles in conversation such as maintenance, restoration, rehabilitation to the ancient remains, antiques, create campaign to contribute the conservation projects in order to divulgate knowledge and consciousness to conserve ancient remains and antiques. Hypothesis testing results found that roles of Nakhon Si Thammarat Buddhist Monks related to their experiences on the other environment conservation, year of ordain, communication with the officers and other persons and information received from media.

The most important problem affecting Environmental Conservation of Ancient Monument and Relic was the lacking of budget followed by slow Conservation Management and lacking of Cooperation between temples and the related organizations. The important proposal of samples group are as follows; the Fine Arts Department should provide budget for conservation management. Conservation of Ancient remains and antiques was responsibility of all sections including Buddhist monks, people, other governmental organizations and especially the Fine Arts Department.

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