
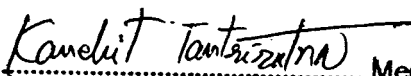


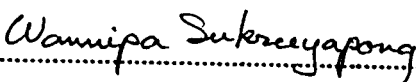
THESIS TITLE : THE DEVELOPMENT OF A TRAINING PROGRAM ON SOLAR ECLIPSE FOR
THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS' TEACHERS

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the present study was to develop a training program on solar eclipse for elementary school teachers. There were 3 steps involved in the process of developing the program as follows:

The first step involved a study of fundamental data for the development of a draft training program. This was done by studying documents and related research literature, interviewing experts and persons concerned with the organization of training programs for elementary school teachers under the jurisdiction of the National Elementary Education Office and surveying the need for such training program. Following that a first draft of the training program was developed by the present researcher himself. It was then reviewed and given further suggestions by curriculum experts and other experts on the content of the astronomical subject for greater suitability. At this point it was found that most of the components in the program were suitable and in line with the situation and existing necessity. The present researcher then adjusted the first draft program and prepared a new, adjusted one.

The second step involved a try-out of the first adjusted-program with 51 elementary school teachers under the jurisdiction of the office of Elementary Education of Khonburi District, Nakorn Rajasima Province. The try-out was purposely planned to investigate the flaws or problems which might arise as the training went on, to elicit the teachers' opinions on the training program and to do a try-out of the test for learning

achievement in solar eclipse in order to ascertain the quality of the test. The results of the try-out were then analyzed and applied for the revision of the test and some details of the program. The resulting second adjusted-program and new learning achievement test on solar eclipse were used in the next step of experiment.

The third step involved the implementation of the second adjusted-program with 40 elementary school teachers to ascertain their learning achievement in solar eclipse. A pretest-posttest research procedure was administered to the 40 trainees who were elementary school teachers under the jurisdiction of the office of Elementary Education of Choke Chai District, Nakorn Rajasima Province and to investigate the problems which might arise from the implementation of the second adjusted-program. The results of the experiment showed that the second adjusted-program was as effective as the prescribed criteria, i.e. the trainees' posttest mean score was significantly higher than their pretest one at the .50 level of significance.

After the third step of training, the program was readjusted once more which resulted in a final draft containing some major comments such as the rationale of the program, the aims, the content and activities, the training procedure, the evaluation and units of training. It also contained details of the components which embodied a complete knowledge of solar eclipse.