

AJCHARA MUKCHAENG : EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS, PROBLEMS AND NEEDS FOR EDUCATION OF CHONG STUDENTS IN PRATHOM SUKSA FIVE AND SIX : A CASE STUDY OF WATTUNGSAPAN SCHOOL, MOOBAN TUNGSAPAN, TUMBOL PLUNG, AMPHOE MAKHAM, CHANGWAT CHANTABURI. ADVISOR : ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR CHANITA RUKSPOLLMUANG, PH.D. 208 PP.

This research study proposed to examine the educational condition, problems, and needs of formal and informal education of Chong students in Prathom Suksa five and six of Wattungsapan School, Mooban Tungsapan, Tumbol Plung, Amphoe Makham, Changwat Chantaburi.

The research findings revealed that the Chong community in Mooban Tungsapan was settled there for hundred of years and it retains hereunto various aspects of the Chong identity, in particular the traditional culture and certain beliefs. Given to their Thai nationality, the Chong are educated according to the 1978 Primary Education Curriculum in Wattungsapan School in the village. In educating the Chong students, the school emphasized basic vocational knowledge since the Chong students preferred not to continue their education at the secondary level pending to their family economic status. Accordingly, the kind of informal education which most of the Chong students obtained was the socialization of knowledge on vocation, traditional culture, religion and ethics as well as the Chong's beliefs ; by having the family performs the essential role in such socialization. Problems generally encountered in the educational process were that school faced the problems in implementing the educational goals formulated by the government and it was noted that the school had not much adapted the curriculum to the local environment; and that parents due to the economic reasons, had not enough time to discipline and cultivate warm relationships with their children. As regards the educational needs it was found that students wished their school to emphasize on the teachings of skills and character development, particularly in insetting the matters of the Chong and the local. Additionally, it was also shown from the aspect of informal education that the students demanded more knowledge on public health for quality of life improvement as well as the knowledge on horticulture tradition was also required with particular emphasis given to the Chong's marriage ceremony and 'Tung' merit-making ceremony.