

Thesis Title	A Study of the Distribution of Some Lexical Items in Phetchaburi Province
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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this thesis is to investigate the distribution of the Central Thai lexicon, the Southern Thai lexicon and the Phetchaburi lexicon in Phetchaburi province. A dialect map is produced from the results of the study. The lexical distribution is used to determine whether Phetchaburi should be included within the boundaries of Central Thailand. Also, the study of the influences of sex differences is done to see how they affect those lexicons.

An individual interview on the usage of thirty examined lexicons is taken as data. Seventy - eight locations, from ninety tambons (areas) which cover six districts and two subdistricts, the data have been collected. One hundred and fifty-six people, seventy-eight men and seventy-eight women, were studied.

From the result, the greatest usage of Phetchaburi dialect is found in the mountainous areas and west high land in Banlat district, Nongyaplong and Kaengkrachan subdistrict. The only use of the Central Thai lexicon is found in the northern part of the province in Bangkhaem tambon, Khowyoy district and Bangtaboon tambon, Banlat district. For the other parts of Phetchaburi, the mixture of Central Thai lexicon

and Phetchaburi dialect are observed. Moreover, the data from all studied locations show no areas of the Southern Thai lexicon being used. This means only a few groups of people use this lexicon.

Based on the lexical distribution, determining the language boundaries is difficult. This is because of the high degree of the mixture of Central Thai and Phetchaburi dialect. However, the percentage within these thirty lexical distributions of all studied locations show that Petchaburi province should not be included within the boundaries of Central Thailand.

Furthermore, the results also show that there are no influences relating to sex differences in the dialect usage.