

ABSTRACT

Thesis Title : The Roles of Buddhist Monks in Conservation of Forest
Resources in Ratchaburi Province

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Major : Political Science

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The objective of the Thesis is to study the Roles of the monks in conservation of forest resources in Ratchaburi province, by doing documentary research and interviewing 10 monks from 10 temples in Rachaburi province.

The result are :

1. The monks in Ratchaburi province have their roles in Forest conservation by leading and pursuing the people to join together to do things for maintaining the forest resources. The monks teach preach make speeches and together with people grow trees in the temple area or other public area, including growing trees on the religious important day or on the official suggested days, as well.

2. The buddhist teaching and disclipline support monks to play important role in forest resources reservation. Monks have to behave according to the way of monk life which base on the secular laws and order and the 227 monk's rules, especially the article 60, 68, 110, 137 and 219 which prescribing monk's behavior toward the trees which in turn stimulate the monks in doing the forest conservation.

3. The important problems and barriers of the conservation of forest is that there is too scare temple area for growing tree, not enought plant or the plant is not such kinds that they want, the monks also have not enought knowledge for the forest-resources conservation and lacking of seriously and continuously cooperation from the people in the community

The conservation of forest resurce, directly or in directy, needs the cooperation from everyone. One must not treepass and cutting the trees in the forest, occpupy the forest-areas and smugglells cutting the tree on the other hand, one must be vigilant in protecting the forest, help to nuture the trees in the forest, and be alert for forest fire alam. If we could do everything as mentioned, the forest will persist and will be useful for the people forever