

ABSTRACT

Thesis Title : Businessmen and Politicians : A Case of
The Bangkok Bank of Commerce Ltd.

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The aim of this thesis is to study the problematic relationship between politicians and businesses. Such relationship was highlighted, for the most part in Thailand: history, deriving the parliamentary debate on the case of the Bangkok Bank of Commerce Inc.

The result of this study indicated that high political competition led to the patronage system of linkage between politicians and businesses. Politicians needed political and maternal support from businessmen, while businessmen needed political protection and, in many cases, privileges of accessibility to key decision- making which might affect their infest. In fact, this linkage was greatly enhanced by the role of bureaucrats, who also constantly bought to defend their entrenched interest. The tri- partite relationship was therefore crucial in Thai politics and became one of the focal points for political reform.