

ABSTRACT

Thesis Title : State and Peasants: A Case Study on Resistances Against State
Power of Thai Peasants During 1973–1976

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The purposes of this research were following: 1) to study why Thai peasants moved to resist state power; 2) to study the pattern of such resistance; 3) to study the responses from the governments; and 4) to evaluate the success and failure of the movements.

The results were found in the following:

1. There were found prominent factors pertinent to the causation of the movements: the economic factors, the political factors, the instigation from the well organized college students who were active in political involvement, and the expectation form the peasants themselves to have better ways of life.

2. The resistance was expressed in various ways form bargaining, Demonstrating, and protesting to the establishing of a unified peasants organization-- The Farmers Federation of Thailand (FFT).

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3. The Rightists in alliance with the Government established various anti-leftist groups to counter the joint forces of peasants, students, labors and their supporters. As a consequence, several peasant labors were assassinated in many regions. These brutal instances brought about the decline of FFT; thereby, Thai peasant movement was deteriorated to the end after the decline of October 6, 1976.

4. Two Acts were launched: the Land Rent Control Act of 1974 and the Land Reform Act of 1976. These were seen as the achievement of the peasant movement.