

## ABSTRACT

Thesis Title : Villagers and Alternatives to Environmental Problems :  
A Case Study of Nam Pong District, Khon Kaen Province

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Major : Political Science

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The main purpose of this research on “Villagers and Alternatives to solve Environmental problems : A Case Study of Nam Pong District, Khon Kaen Province” was to explore and study the alternative solutions to environmental problems, which affected Nam Pong Villagers. The issue was raised since Phoenix Pulp and paper Company was accused of polluting cultivating lands and water many years ago. However, although the issue seemed to be subsided, the polluting consequences still linger on.

This study relied on the use of in-dept interview with villagers, community leaders, academicians, leaders of local organizations, and bureaucrats. The results of the finding are as follow:

1. Villagers' participation could partly solve the problem, but as for the remaining problems, villagers organized themselves in order to strengthen their bargaining power and to seek alternative solutions.

2. The formation of demands by villagers was affected by both internal and external factors. The internal factors consisted of the plight of villagers and community leaders, while the external factors were state agencies, academicians, and autonomous organizations.

3. Solutions to the environmental problems, which were caused by Phoenix Pulp and paper Company, required mutual consultation between villagers and the company, and state agencies had to assume the role of impartial mediator.