

## ABSTRACT

Thesis Title : Effective Policy in Determining the Legal Status of the  
Highland People A Case Study of Mae Sod District Hill  
Tribes, Tak Province

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The main objectives of the thesis are:

1. To study the impacts of the legitimate order regime on the people in the highland as well as causes and motivations of the migration;
2. To examine in particular the issue and to analyze the factor, obstacles and also the essential elements in eliminating all forms of problems based upon theories, national securities and policy determinations;
3. To observe/analyze the social phenomena based on cultural framework;
4. To scrutinize documents of workshops/seminars and to observe/review the principles of rules of law, nationality act, and other relevant documents; and
5. To seek appropriate measures to tackle this vital issue.

If wasrecognized that the legalised status of the people in the plateau led to the currently consistent problems. The features that contributed to the problems are most complex under the status quo as clearly seen from theincreasing number of illegal migrants flowing into Thailand and the scourge of drugs. In addition, the unsettled ethnic minorities in the plateau created tremendous and widespread impacts to the thai people such as illegal labourers, the degradation of land and forests and finally the depletion of natural resources.

The main causes on the one hand arose from the government's policy of giving thai nationality to the ethnic minoritieswithout careful or well-conceived principles and the corrupted officials seeking benefits and exploitation from them on the other. This results in large amounts of ethnic minorities in the plateau entering into the thai soil the national borders hoping for thai citizenship the government would grant.

In conclusion, the government is urged to ensure permanent and effective law enforcement and to ensure that all thepeople in the plateau enjoy full human rights. It is also recommended that the government implement substantial and suitable policy and all agencies concerned well co-operate to approach this urgent matter.