

THESIS TITLE : CRANIOMETRIC AND CRANIOSCOPIC STUDIES OF SKULLS
COLLECTED IN NORTH - EAST THAILAND

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this investigation of the Thai skulls currently collected in the North-East Thailand is to establish the standard of physical characters of the Thais. The skulls examined were 77 in number. The sex and race breakdown was as followed : 48 Thai males and 29 Thai females. For each skull, 22 measurements were done, 16 indices were calculated, 21 discrete traits were observed and the cranial capacity was computed. The results are described.

The Thai skulls are rather broad and short, almost sphenoid shape in norma verticalis and arch shape in norma occipitalis. Scaphocephalia, Clinoccephalia, Chignon and Cribra orbitalia are less frequency found. The Thai skulls should be classified as Brachycranial by cranial index. Hypsicranial by length height index and Metriocranial by breadth-height index. The findings of this study were not different from that of the Central Thai skulls reported by S.Sangvichien, except Cribra orbitalia was not found in this series.

The facial part of Thai skulls collected in the North-East Thailand are rather short and broad, the broadest diameter is the bizygomatic breadth. The face should be classified as Mesoprosopic by facial index. These results are similar to the Thai skulls from the Central Part of Thailand.

The shape of the orbits of the Northeast Thai skulls are quadrangular-like, the height is about four-fifths of the breadth. The orbit should be classified as Mesoconch by the orbital index, but the Thai skulls from Central Part of Thailand should be Hypoconch. The multiple supraorbital and infraorbital foramina are less frequently found.

The nasal bridge is rather low. The nose should be classified as chamerrhine by the nasal index for the reasons that the nasal height is rather short but the nasal breadth is rather wide. The anterior nasal aperture shows Anthropine type. These results are not different between the Northeast and the Central Part Thai skulls.

The palate of Thai skulls should be classified as Leptostaphyline by the palatal index. The mandible is rather wide but thin which is indicated by low value of the mandibular ramus index. Multiple mental foramina is not found in the Thai skull.

The sutural bones are frequently found at the Lambda suture. The parietal notch bone, Os Japonicum, Inca bone and Metopism are rarely found in the Northeast Thai skull. The Torus Palatinus are often found enough to say that it is one of the physical characters of the Thai. The other two tori, Torus Mandibularis and Torus Alveolaris Maxillae which were observed less than 15 percent could not be considered as characteristic of the Thai skull. The findings in general are similar to the Thai skulls from the Central Part of Thailand.

Based upon these findings, the cranial capacity of the Thai skulls should be classified as Microcephalic skulls, and the capacity of the males skulls are greater than females. This finding in the male is different from the Central Thai skulls in its less capacity. The Central Thai males skulls should be classified as megacephalic skull was supported study. The other data are no different in the two groups.