ABSTRACT

Thesis Title

: The Understanding of Islamic leaders toward the

Electoral system of the Members of Parliament

: A Case Study of Takbai District

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Degree Sought

: Master of Arts

Major

: Political Science

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This research wanted to study the understanding of Islamic leaders toward the electoral system of members of parliament and to study the factors which affected their understanding.

The sample choice of this study consisted of Islamic leaders in Takbai District, Narathiwat Province. They were selected from 33 mosques, consisting of 33 Imams, 33 Kotebs, 33 Bilans, and 396 mosques committees. Altogether 207 respondents were chosen from the population pool of 495 leaders in order to answer the formatted questionnaires. To analyze the collected data, a t-test and one-way ANOVA method was used.

The results of this research are as follows:

- 1. The understanding of Islamic leaders toward the single-member constituency electoral system for members of the house of representatives was affected by their general background. The distinction in their background led to the distinction in their understanding, except for the background status of being an examining official for the voters' list and an official for ballot tally.
- 2. The understanding of Islamic leaders toward the party-list electoral system for members of the house of representatives was affected by their general background. The distinction in their background led to the distinction in their understanding, except for the background status of being an examining official for the voters' list, an official for ballot tally, and a general official for the election.
- 3. The understanding of Islamic leaders toward the electoral system for members of the senate and their authority was affected by their general background. The distinction in their background led to the distinction in their understanding, except for the background status of being an examining official for the voters' list, an official for ballot tally, and a general official for the election.
- 4. The understanding of the Islamic leaders toward the ballot counting system was affected by their general background, except for their status of being an official to introduce the candidates to the public and an examining official for voters' list.