

PROJECT TITLE : PROBLEM AND OBSTACLES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE THAI
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES : A CASE STUDY FROM 1979-1983;
1983-1986; AND 1986-PRESENT.

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Abstract

The purpose of this research project is to study the problems and obstacles in the development of the Thai House of Representatives, especially from 1979 to present.

The two main topics of this study are : the external and internal problems in the development of the Thai House of Representatives, and their solutions.

This research has been conducted by gathering primary and secondary documentation, surveying the opinions of the deputies and Ramkhamhaeng University personnel.

Some of the main research findings are the following :

1. There is discontinuity in the Thai House of Representatives.
2. There is limitation on the House's powers by the Constitution.
3. There is a lack of confidence by the Thai government, officials and the people in the House of Representatives.
4. The great influence of the Thai bureaucracy over the lower house has proven to be one of the obstacles in the development of the Thai House of Representatives.

Some of the internal problems of the Thai House include the lack of power by the Speaker of the House, the quality of the deputies, the scheduling and organization of the lower house's meetings, lack of development of the permanent Committees of the lower house, lack of budget-making power, insufficient data collection and internal administration of the House.

Some solutions for overcoming the external obstacles in the development of the Thai House are : the amelioration of the relationship between the Army and the House, amendment of Article 125, Article 151 of the Thai Constitution, amendment of the information system, diminuation of the bureaucratic influence.

In order to solve the internal problems of the Thai House, there needs to be an amendment of Article 75 of the Constitution and more attention to the development of the quality of the deputies. The organization and scheduling of House meetings needs to be developed, along with improvement of the House's permanent Committees. The collection and dissemination of data, the internal administration, and the house's budget-making powers need to be improved and increased.

In conclusion, there are many areas in the lower House that need to be developed in order to enhance the power and influence of the Thai House of Representatives in the Thai political system, Before any improvement can be made, however, amendment of Article 75 of The Thai Constitution (1978) is imperative.