

## ABSTRACT

### A Study of Extended Basic Education Models Tried in Chumpae and Phupaman Districts in Khon Kaen Province

Thai government has declared to extend 6 years compulsory to 9 years. At the beginning these another three years are not compulsory. The extended basic education will be tried in some provinces where economy and people are ready to accept. In order to convince people to support their children to further education, the Ministry of Education decided to try different models to extend basic education. A pilot model has been tried since 1990. A follow-up the models used in Chumpae where a pilot project was first tried in 1990. The schools in the same project in Phupaman were also studied because this district is economically and socially similar to Chupae. Then the principals, teachers, students and parents were samples. Questionnaires for students and parents were used to collect their opinions. The data about management, teaching and problems were gather through observations and small group talk. The data were categorized and presented in descriptive writing.

It was found that there was only one model tried in the districts. It was a model opening grade 7 in elementary schools. Normally grade 7 is taught in a secondary school as its first year. Parents supported the project. They were delighted that their children could study further near home and free of charge. However the parents concerned whether elementary schools could do as well as secondary schools. Therefore they expected the principals and teachers to work hard to keep up with secondary schools. The principals and teachers were confident and felt very competent to

carry on the projects. They needed facilitators such as laboratories for teaching science, texts for every student, a new furnished building, VDO players. While the parents and students needed vactional training, the schools emphasized teaching and learning subject matter.