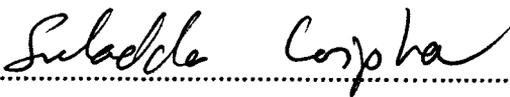
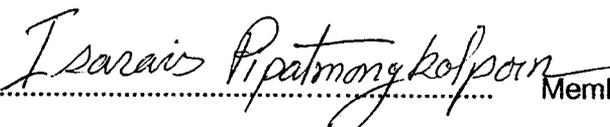


THESIS TITLE : A STUDY OF CURRENT STATUS AND PROBLEMS IN TEACHING  
AND LEARNING OF YEAR-5 MATHEMATICS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS  
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF VIENTIANE MUNICIPALITY, LAO  
PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

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#### ABSTRACT

The purpose of the present study was to investigate the status and problems in the teaching and learning of year-5 mathematics in the schools under the jurisdiction of Vientiane Municipality, Lao People's Democratic Republic.

The sample consisted of 270 year-5 mathematics teachers in the schools under the jurisdiction of Vientiane Municipality who were selected through the multi-stage sampling during the second semester of the 1999 academic year. The instruments used in the study included : 1) a questionnaire to be completed by the year-5 mathematics teachers, 2) a case-study interview form to be used with school directors, mathematics teachers and year-5 students and 3) an observation form for case study. The data collected were analyzed by means of an SPSS/PC+ to find frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation.

The findings on the status and problems in the teaching of year-5 mathematics showed that:

1. On the aspect of curriculum and subject content, the teachers had a sound knowledge and understanding of the rationale, aims and curriculum structure. However, they faced a problem of how to organize extra-curricular activities for lack of sufficient knowledge and experience.

2. On the aspect of preparation and planning for teaching mathematics, the teachers had studied the teachers' manual prior to their planning. They had searched for knowledge and clear understanding for the preparation and planning for the teaching of the subject. However, they faced the problem of preparation and utilization of the measurement and evaluation instruments for lack of knowledge regarding the measurement and evaluation procedure.

3. On the aspect of organizing teaching and learning activities, the mathematics teachers had taught their students on the utility of mathematics and urged them to apply it to their daily life. However, the teachers faced a problem of applying instructional media to their teaching of mathematics for lack of budget. They also lacked the "know-how" for the construction and utilization of instructional media.

4. On the aspect of providing remedial tutoring service for their students, the teachers, the school directors and the students all cooperated fully well in an effort to carry out such program. However, when it came to actual practice, the teachers still faced the problems of applying mathematical games to support the tutoring, the organization of diverse activities and the utilization of instructional media for the tutoring program for lack of sufficient experience in the organization of teaching-learning activities. Besides, the teachers were quite inexperienced in teaching mathematics, and there was also the problem of inadequate supply of teaching materials.