

## C250030 : MAJOR JOURNALISM

KEY WORD: PRESENTATION/NEWS/PICTURE NEWS/REVOCATION OF DECREE 42

MONCHANOK PATTANAPONG : THE PRESENTATION OF FRONT-PAGE NEWS AND  
PICTURE NEWS OF THAI DAILY NEWSPAPERS BEFORE AND AFTER THE  
REVOCATION OF DECREE 42. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO. PROF. SATIEN  
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The purpose of this study was to compare the presentation of front-page news and picture news of the quantity newspapers (Thairath, Daily News), semi-quantity and semi-quality newspapers (Naewna, Banmuang), and quality ones (Matichon, Siamrath) before and after the lifting of Decree 42. The study was conducted by means of content analysis and questionnaires completed by editors and heads of front-page news section.

The finding revealed that the presentation of front-page news and picture news of all those 3 types of Thai daily newspapers before and after the revocation of Decree 42 mostly showed no significant difference among them. This lead to the rejection of the research hypotheses based upon the journalists' claim that Decree 42 was a dictatorial code depriving the press of its freedom and restricting the public right of access to information.

According to the editors and heads of front-page news section, they, regardless of Decree 42, selected the news stories on the basis of truth and neutrality without violating individual rights.