

C210861 : MAJOR LINGUISTICS

KEYWORD: TONES / THAI DIALECTS / PHETCHABURI

APINYA PORNISIB : TONES IN PHETCHABURI THAI. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO,
PROF. MR. KALAYA TINGSABAKH, Ph.D. 253 pp. ISBN: 974-583-883-7

This thesis is a study of tones in Phetchaburi Thai spoken in six amphoes : Tha Yang, Muang, Ban Lat, Cha-am, Khao Yoi, and Ban Laem in Phetchaburi Province. The aims are to compare both the tone systems and the phonetic characteristics of tones among the six amphoes, and to study the result of using more than one informant per location.

Eighteen informants selected according to a set of criteria were interviewed, three from each amphoe. A wordlist consisting of 100 monosyllabic words was used in this study. The recorded data were analysed using the DSP Sona-Graph Workstation Model 5500.

The study shows that as far as tonal variation among the six amphoes is concerned, the tone system of every amphoe is the same, i.e. each consists of six tones. The phonetic characteristics of each tone, however, vary from one amphoe to another making it possible to divide Phetchaburi Thai into sub-dialects.

Concerning variation among the informants from each study location, there is no variation in the number of tones but there is variation in the distribution of some tones in checked syllables. It is also found that at least two out of three informants in each location have the same or similar allotones.