

Abstract

The thesis "*The Formation of One-dominant Party Government in Thai Politics; A Case Study of the Thai Rak Thai Party*" aims at studying the formation of a one-dominant party government, and the main factors in the formation of this one-dominant party government under the Thai Rak Thai Party.

It was found that regarding the formation of the one-dominant party government under the Thai Rak Thai Party two meanings can be studied for the two periods of time that it governed.

The first meaning is about the one-dominant party government which occurred after the election of the Member of Parliament B.E.2544. The Thai Rak Thai Party won the election and was the top party that was able to form a coalition government with many parties. Also the Thai Rak Thai party administrated a full session of four years from 9th February B.E.2544 till 8th March B.E.2548.

The second meaning concerns the one-dominant party government as a single party government. It was occurred after the election of the Member of Parliament B.E.2548 when the Thai Rak Thai was able to install a single-party government by itself from 9th March B.E.2548 until 24th February B.E.2549 when it administrated only 11 months because the party leader, Mr.Thaksin Shinawatra, had announced to dissolve the parliament and set a new election scheduled for the 2nd April B.E.2549.

The formation of a one-dominant party government under the Thai Rak Thai Party B.E.2544 has four factors.

One factor is the historical circumstances which derived from economic crisis and the political reform B.E.2540.

The second factor is the party leader, Thaksin Shinawatra, who had the right vision for governing the country and who had also the economic capital in the party which was known for other political factions in that period of time.

The third factor is the party policies which were concrete in reality.

The last factor considers the weakness of the opposite political parties after the election of B.E.2544. These parties were weak themselves while the Thai Rak Thai Party took over some opposite party members to join the Thai Rak Thai Party. Such members came from the Democrat Party, the Chartthai Party, the New Aspiration Party and the Chart Pattana Party.

Afterwards, the formation of the single-party government factors under Thai Rak Thai Party B.E.2548 came from the formation of one-dominant party government factors B.E.2544. Thus, the formation of the one-dominant Party Government factors in a case study of Thai Rak Thai Party are

The political party leader, Thaksin Shinawatra; a strong prime minister who was able to limit the power of the ministers, members of Parliament, senators, government officials, scholars, NGOs and mass media. He was able to use the mass media directly to all the people.

The second factor discusses that the Thai Rak Thai Party policies were modified in such a way that the public policy agenda became popular with many kinds of people.

The third factor is the weaknesses of the opposition after the election B.E.2548 which became weak. Such parties are the Democrat Party, the Chartthai Party and the Mahachon Party while the Thai Rak Thai Party took over the opposite party members from parties like the Liberal Dharma Party, the New Aspiration Party and the Chart Pattana Party.