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KEY WORD : POWER MAINTENANCE/POLITICAL GROUP/THAI LOCAL POLITICAL SYSTEM

WORAPHAN SUWANYUHA : POWER MAINTENANCE OF POLITICAL GROUP IN THAI
LOCAL POLITICAL SYSTEM : A CASE STUDY OF THE "PALANG SANGKOM" GROUP
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This study aims at characterizing pattern of power maintenance of a political group in Thai local politics which functions under Thai type of patronage, allocation of interests, relationships between local and national political machinery, and relationships between local political group and local administrators. The study makes use of documents as well as interviews to get information needed.

The findings show that derivation and maintenance of power within the group depends largely on patronage system in Thai society, allocation of interests among local political actors in which leader of the group always has the final say.