

JINTANA KANCHANATAWAL : SOCIO-CULTURAL CHANGES IN KAREN COMMUNITIES:
A COMPARATIVE CASE STUDY OF BANRAIPA VILLAGE THONGPHAPHUM DISTRICT,
AND BANSANAEPHONG VILLAGE SANGKLABURI DISTRICT, KANCHANABURI PRO-
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The objective of this research is to make a comparative study of sociocultural changes in 2 Karen communities Banraipa, Thongphaphum District, and Bansanaephong, Sangklhaburi District, Kanchanaburi Province. The method used to collect the data is called "anthropological field work" or "participant observation" The hypothesis of this research are as follows :

1. Bansanaephong has a greater number of extended families than Banraipa.
2. Bansanaephong generally has larger size families than Banraipa.
3. The economy of Bansanaephong is more self-sufficient than that of Banraipa.
4. Bansanaephong has a smaller number of different occupations than Banraipa.
5. The residents of Bansanaephong use their right to vote less often than those of Banraipa.
6. Bansanaephong has fewer development projects than Banraipa.
7. The residents of Bansanaephong are less educated than those of Banraipa.
8. The majority of parents in Bansanaephong consider education as being of lesser importance than the majority of parents in Banraipa.
9. Bansanaephong has a greater belief in spirits and ghosts than Banraipa.
10. Bansanaephong has more supernatural rituals than Banraipa.
11. Bansanaephong has a greater belief in using supernatural powers to cure the sick; far more than Banraipa.
12. Bansanaephong uses birth control less than Banraipa.

The research result is that, every hypothesis is true except number six. Since Bansanaephong is more underdeveloped, therefore all government sectors in the village implement many more development projects. They hope to improve the quality of life of the Bansanaephong villages. And this is the reason why Bansanaephong has more numerous development projects than Banraipa.