

Lanchukorn Sriwimon 2007: A Transitivity Analysis of the Representation of Thai Muslims in Bangkok Post. Master of Arts (English for Specific Purposes), Major Field: English for Specific Purposes, Department of Foreign Languages. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Bussba Tonthong, Ph.D. 130 pages.

This study investigates the representation of Thai Muslims in Bangkok Post. The objective of the study is to conduct an analysis of language used in news articles about Muslims in Thailand. By using the transitivity analysis framework introduced by Simpson (1993), the study intends to answer the main research question: how is language used to portray Thai Muslims in Thailand?

The data of this study were 20 news articles about Thai Muslim teachers, Thai Muslims students, and ponoh schools published in the *Bangkok Post* between the years 2004-2005. The data analysis consisted of two main stages. For the first stage, data were analyzed using aspects of transitivity analysis: Material processes, Mental processes, Relational processes, and Verbal processes. For the second stage, a computerized concordancing program named “ConcApp Concordance and Word Profiler Version 4” developed by Chris Greaves (2005) was used for the analysis of the frequency of occurrence of words found within the processes.

The results of the research revealed that Thai Muslim teachers, Thai Muslims students, and ponoh schools were portrayed as being involved in violence in the deep south of Thailand. The results suggest that the newspaper might present a negative stereotype of Thai Muslims. By reading these kinds of news stories, readers might form the conceptual sense that Thai Muslims are harmful to society.

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