

## ABSTRACT

RESEARCH PAPER : Attitude of Subdistrict Heads, Village Headmen and Local People toward the Image of Subdistrict Heads and Village Headmen as Stipulated in the B.E.2537 Tambon Council and Tambon Administrative Organization Act

AUTHOUR : Mr.Muhadmad Ched-ohd

DEGREE : Master of Arts (Social Development)

YEAR : 2001

---

The study served the following objectives : 1. To find out the attitude of subdistrict heads, village headmen and local people toward the image of subdistrict heads, village headmen and members of the Tambon administration organization.

2. To investigate the contradiction between the image of subdistrict heads and village headmen as stipulated in the B.E. 2457 Local Government Act and the image of tambon administration organizations as stipulated in the B.E. 2537 Tambon Council and Tambon Administration Organization Act. An interview schedule was used to collect the data from 55 subdistrict heads and village headmen in tambons where there was a tambon administration organization. The data were collected in the monthly meetings. Also, 135 local people in the same tambons were interviewed. The total sample was 190.

The findings were briefly stated below : Most of the subdistrict heads and village headmen in the study were 41-50 years old. They finished primary school and were engaged in general employment. It was found that age, education and occupation had no effect on their attitude toward the missions stated in the B.E. 2457 Act and the B.E. 2537 Act. Also, difference in degree of interest in becoming a tambon administration candidate was found to have no effect on their attitude toward the missions as stipulated in the B.E. 2457 Act and in the B.E. 2537 Act. Most of the subdistrict heads and village headmen in the study were also found to agree with the missions of subdistrict heads and village headmen as stated in the peace-keeping were

considered. They, moreover, agreed with the missions of tambon administration organization members as stated in the B.E. 2537, especially the development mission.

Besides, those holding different work positions-subdistrict head, village headman and tambon administration organization member-were found to have a different attitude toward the missions of each position as stipulated in the B.E. 2457 Act and in the B.E. 2537 Act, in terms of administration, service and peace-keeping. However, they were found to have no different attitude toward the development missions. All these reflected the image of subdistrict heads and village headmen as stated in the B.E. 2457 in the eye of these in the position of subdistrict head and village headman. Most local people in the study were 41-50 years old. They completed primary school and were engaged in general employment. It was found that different in ages led to a different attitude toward the missions of subdistrict heads and village headmen as stated in the B.E. 2457 Act and those of tambon administration organization members as stated in the B.E. 2437 Act. Also, educational levels contributed to a different attitude toward the missions of subdistrict heads and village headmen in the 2457 Act but did not have an effect on their attitude toward the missions of tambon administration organization members as stated in the B.E. 2537 Act. Next, occupation was found to have no impact on their attitude toward the missions of subdistrict heads and village headmen in the B.E. 2457 Act and toward those of tambon administration organization members as stated in the B.E. 2537 Act. Regarding their interest in applying to be a member of the tambon administration organization, most people said that they had to take same time to consider the matter. However, the degree of interest in such application was found to affect their attitude toward the missions of subdistrict heads and village headmen as stated in the B.E. 2457 Act, but had no impact on their attitude toward the missions of tambon administration organization members as stated in the B.E. 2537 Act. As for the attitude toward the missions, people tended to agree with the missions of subdistrict heads and village headmen as stated in the B.E. 2457 Act when administration, peace-keeping and development were considered. Moreover, they organization members as stated in the B.E. 2537 Act. Further, people were found to

have a different attitude toward the missions of different positions as stipulated in the B.E. 2457 and in the B.E. 2537, when administration, peace-keeping and development were considered. On the contrary, they did not have a different attitude toward the service mission of the three work positions. All these reflected the image of subdistrict heads, village headmen, and tambon administration organization members in the eye of local people. With regard to the future tambon administration organizations the subjects learned that subdistrict heads and village headmen were not members of the tambon administration organization by position any longer. They wanted these with good education and enthusiasm in work to be members of the tambon administration organization. They agreed that subdistrict heads and village headmen should apply to be elected as members of the tambon administration organization. But when asked whether they would support these backed by their subdistrict heads and village headmen or not, they said that they were not sure. They wanted these aged 35-44 to be members of the tambon administration organization.

Recommendations : To create the correct image that is in line with the actual missions of subdistrict heads village heads, the government is recommended to state clearly that it wants the two positions to exist and that it will seriously promote local government. If the government wants to relation the position of subdistrict head and that of village headman, it should pass the law that clearly define the duties and responsibilities of such positions and should offer training courses for those in positions continuously. Also, the missions of other agencies should be distinctively stated to avoid overlapping with those of subdistrict heads and village headmen. If the government does not want to retain both positions, it should be legally abolished. Next, if the government wants to strengthen local government in the form of tambon administration organization, it is recommended allocate enough budgets and decentralize the authority to the organization. It must provide the members with training on the rules and regulations of local government. The Ministry of University Affairs should play a major role in this matter by continuously offering training to the group members and interested people in general. In doing so, the strength of local government will certainly result.