

Nalinee Amphin 2014: Toponyms in Buri Ram Province: A Case Study of Amphoe Phutthaisong, Na Pho and Ban Mai Chaiyaphot. Master of Arts (Thai Language), Major Field: Thai Language, Department of Thai Language. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Somkiat Rakmanee, Ph.D 298 pages.

This research has objectives to study the origin and meaning of villages' name, method of village naming, change of village naming, and local identity reflected through villages' names in Phutthaisong District, Na Pho District, and Ban Mai Chaiyaphot District of Buri Ram Province.

Population used in this research was the names of the villages in Phutthaisong District, Na Pho District, and Ban Mai Chaiyaphot District of Buri Ram Province. The Researcher studied the information of all 188 villages' names as appeared in the local directory of Phutthaisong District, Na Pho District, and Ban Mai Chaiyaphot District.

The results of the research were as follows: 1) Regarding the studied of the origin and meaning of villages' name, there were found that the names of the villages in Phutthaisong District, Na Pho District, and Ban Mai Chaiyaphot District of Buri Ram Province were originated from 12 categories of meaning. The category of origin that originated the names the most was geographical characteristics and the next was variety of plant, legend or story, direction, location, place, original native place, misunderstanding of the government of new generation, animal, size, object, belief, person and occupation, respectively. 2) Regarding the studied of method of village naming in Phutthaisong District, Na Pho District, and Ban Mai Chaiyaphot District of Buri Ram Province, showed that there were 2 most used methods of village naming, i.e., Thai words usage :- word compounding and basic words; and borrowed words usage, respectively. 3) Regarding the studied of change of village naming in Phutthaisong District, Na Pho District, and Ban Mai Chaiyaphot District of Buri Ram Province, showed that there were 3 natures of village naming change which were most adopted. The most adopted nature was change to a new name, and the next was vocabulary change, and phonetic change, respectively. Similarly, 4) The studied of local identity reflected through villages' names in Phutthaisong District, Na Pho District, and Ban Mai Chaiyaphot District of Buri Ram Province, it was found that there were 11 types of relationship to local identity, i.e., geographical characteristics; variety of plant; habitation near water resource; direction; location or outstanding character of the villages; misunderstanding of the government or new generation; trace of ancient civilization; variety of animal; importance of forest area; belief in fortune; importance of person; and occupation, respectively.

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Student's signature

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Thesis Advisor's signature