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SUPATTRA LOBLAMLERT : BUDDHIST SOLUTION IN DRUG ADDICT PROBLEMS : A CASE STUDY OF DRUG ADDICT TREATMENT OF BUDDHISM AT WAT INTHARAM IN SAMUTSONGKRAM PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISORS : SUBHADR PANYADEEP, Ph.D. BOON KETUDASSA, M.A. SUPALUCKMONDHALEE BHAIVABIUTANAN NA MAHASARAKARM, M.A. 132 P. ISBN 974-662-350-8

The purpose of this descriptive research was to study Buddhist solutions to drug addict problems. The population for the case study was a group of 96 drug addicted people who were treated at Wat Intharam in Samutsongkram province. Questionnaires were used to collect data from 90 subjects, and informal interview guide was used to collect data from 6 of them. Furthermore, 6 Buddhist scholar monks in Bangkok were also interviewed.

The findings of this study showed that most of the addicted subjects were 16-25 years of age. Eighty-five of the subjects were male. The most common causes of addiction were willingness to try-out and friends' influence; 90% of subjects had friends who were also addicted. The majority (65.6%) of subjects obtained drugs from friends. For 77.8% of subjects, drug trading took place near their homes. In treatment for drug addiction, herbal medicine is used together with a religious doctrine of Self-direction or Sacca. It is believed that religious doctrines can control the trisense-avenue causing of Moral Shame and Fear (Hiri and Ottappa). Moreover, religious doctrines can be mental refuges as well.

For Buddhist solution doctrines of the Threefold training (*Śīla*, *Samādi* and *Pannā*), Good friendship (*Kalyānamittata*) and Dwelling in a suitable place (*Patirūpadasavasa*) should be practiced. In conclusion, the religious principles, especially Sacca or Self-direction, cause better life and can protect people from the desire of re-addiction. Eventually a drug addicted person can become a good member of the society.

For solution of and protection from of drug problems, co-operation between family, school, societies, public media and religious organizations should take place.