

## **ABSTRACT**

The study aimed at making understanding the role and policies of Japan toward North Korean nuclear crises. The situation in 1994 was compared with the 1998 crisis through documentary research and descriptive analysis. It was questionable why Japan participated in the multilateral negotiation, particularly the Six-Party Talks. Was it more effective than a bilateral approach? What were influential factors over Japan's policy toward North Korea's nuclear threat? These questions were clarified in each chapter.

Chapter One described the origin of the nuclear proliferation since the War to East Asia, the sources of nuclear crises on the Korean Peninsula, and the Non-Proliferation Policy of Japan. In addition, the research methodology and conceptual framework were also mentioned in this chapter.

Chapter Two basically discussed the role and policies that Japan implemented toward the first crisis during 1993 – 1994. In comparison, Chapter Three argued mainly about Japan's role and policies against the 1998 crisis. To some extent, both crises between 1994 and 1998 lessened Japanese policy makers to realize a new security strategy in dealing with North Korea nuclear ambition. In this light, Chapter Four mentioned about the changes of Japan's policy implementation toward the nuclear problem in the Twenty First Century. Finally, the study was concluded in Chapter Five.