

Thesis Title	Language of Persons' Names in Lanna : Chiengrai Province
Name	Charoonsri Moonsawat
Degree	Master of Arts (Linguistics)
Thesis Supervisory Committee	Suwilai Premsirat, M.A., Ph.D. Sukhuma-Vadee Khamhiran, M.A. Phaiboon Duangchand, M.A., D.E.A.
Date of Graduation	25 June B.E. 2535 (1992)

Abstract

The study of person's names in Chiengrai covers the study of the registered name, nickname and characterized name. The type of language used as person's name (local Thai, Pali or Sanscrit etc.), structure of the word used as the name and the meaning of the name have been analysed. The study of registered names has been done by samplings in 13 villages of Tambon Pa-o-donchai, Amphur Mueng, Chiengrai Province. The data are divided into 4 age groups : over sixty, between forty one to sixty, between twenty one to forty and between one to twenty. The obtained data have been analysed in order to find out their characteristics, social value, belief and way of life of the people whereas the nicknames and characterized names were collected from those whose registered names have been analysed and from the old and respectable people in the village including the author.

From the study, the language for naming a person of the Lanna people has been changed from the local Lanna to Pali, Sanskrit, Khmer and English gradually according to different age groups. The number of syllables has been increased from one to two, three, four even five syllables. The meaning of the names reflect not only the Lanna people's social value concerning the prosperity, the relationship to the nature and environment, but also their simple way of living and their generosity in society.

It is obvious that social value, belief and surrounding environments play important roles in people's thoughts, and reflect in the use of language.