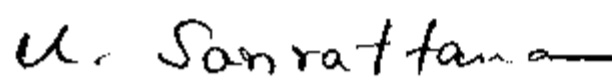


THESIS TITLE : THE STATE AND WAYS OF APPLYING LOCAL WISDOM TO
TEACHING AND LEARNING SOCIAL STUDIES IN SECONDARY
SCHOOLS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL EDUCATION,
UBOL RAJATHANI PROVINCE

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to investigate the sources of local wisdom and ways of applying it to the teaching and learning of social studies in secondary schools under the Department of General Education, Ubol Rajathani Province. The samples consisted of 459 school principals, academic division heads and social studies teachers in the secondary schools under the Department of General Education, Ubol Rajathani Province. They were selected by simple random sampling. The instruments used in the study included two questionnaires. One was used with school principals and academic

division heads and the other with social studies teachers. Both questionnaires were organized into three parts with the first part dealing with general background of the respondents, the second part with the ideas of the respondents concerning the sources of local wisdom, the problems or obstacles to the application of it to the teaching and learning of social studies, and the third part dealing with the sources of local wisdom within community that can be applied to teaching and learning. The data collected were analyzed by means of percentage, mean and standard deviation using a SPSS/PC computer program.

Most of the school principals and academic division heads were males, age between 41 to 45 years old, had a bachelor's degree and over 20 years of working experience. Most of them were administrators of medium-sized schools. Their opinions regarding the state and ways of applying local wisdom to teaching and learning were summed up as follows :

1. Regarding their support for the social studies teacher to apply local wisdom to teaching and learning on the following aspects :

- 1.1 local wisdom in connection with the teaching of the relationship among human beings which received their "moderate" level of support;

- 1.2 local wisdom in connection with the teaching of the relationship between man and his natural environment which received their "high" level of support;

- 1.3 local wisdom in connection with the teaching of relationship between man and his experience which received their "high" level of support.

2. Regarding the application of local wisdom to teaching and learning , they opined that the social studies teachers had done so at the "moderate" level.

3. They opined that the problems or obstacles to the application of local wisdom to teaching and learning by social studies teachers were at the "moderate" level.

4. They agreed with social studies teachers at the "high" level concerning the way of applying local wisdom to teaching and learning .

Most of the social studies teachers were females, age between 46 to 50 years old, had a bachelor's degree and over 20 year of working experience. They taught in

medium-sized schools, mostly Year 8 students. They had applied local wisdom their teaching-learning and had expresses their opinions regarding the matter as follows:

1. Regarding their application of local wisdom to teaching-learning activity:

- 1.1 They applied it to teaching of the relationship among human beings at the "moderate" level.

- 1.2 They applied it to the teaching of the teaching of the relationship between man and his natural environment at the "moderate" level.

- 1.3 They applied it to the teaching of the relationship between man and his experience at the "moderate" level.

2. The teachers had been in contact with the sources of local wisdom at the "moderate" level in their attempt to apply it to their teaching.

3. The teachers indicated that they faced the problems or obstacles to their application of local wisdom at the "moderate" level.

4. The teachers indicated that they provided the way of applying local wisdom to their teaching at the "moderate" level.