

**Thesis Title** Economic Development of Bangpakong River Basin,  
A.D. 1876-1932

**Name** Sarunya Khanthacheep

**Concentration** History of Southeast Asia

**Department** History

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### **ABSTRACT**

This thesis is to study the economic development along the Bangpakong River basin during A.D. 1876-1932. Grain production including trade extremely increased during that period which caused the obvious changes in economy and society of this various community area from subsistence economy to market economy.

Before the year 1976, most of the economic development of the citizens living along the Bangpakong River basin was found just for sustenance and payment of tax. However, there was gradually change to marketing system ,in the other words, exchanging for goods but in a low level. The way of life was still not changed ; whereas , market economy was initiated in some areas of the Bangpakong River basin, that is, sugar manufacturing in Chachemngsao and Chonburi by the capitalists. They invested both in sugar cane agriculture and sugar manufacture responding to the demand of domestic and international markets. This investment brought about the expansion of tax farmer system, currency, as well as the devision of labour in producing process. The capitalism was initiated and developed to market economic more and more. These alterations were the prominent basis to encourage the growth of capitalism.

The modification of grain trading during A.D. 1876-1932 along the Bangpakong River basin was the vital factor which caused the change and the economic expansion in this area, the increasing number of communities due to enlarging agricultural areas, the various of nationalities and cultures of the labors, the growth of marketing and number of city communities as well.as the influence of currency on people's way of life.

The modification of grain trading during A.D. 1876-1932 was accounted for the market economy of the Bangpakong River basin . As the grain trading brought about the change both in economy and society, sugar - the important export of the Bangpakong River, was falling to produce only for sufficient consumption in domestic and export occasionally. The small size of factory, the using of man and animal labour, the low investment including non-support from the government caused the falling of sugar manufacture.

It's concluded that the result of the economic development along the Bangpakong River basin during A.D. 1876-1932 brought about the increasing number of city communities, the expansion of local trading and the fall of household industry. The government also gained tax income from the enlarging grain production. In addition, the local society and culture of this area became more varied and complex because of the move of the peoples to inhabit and grow rice of different community including the Chinese who played an important role in most labor manufacturer and dealer.