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ROJANA CHOMMANARTH : A STUDY OF NUMBER FROM A TRANSLATED VERSION OF *MANY LIVES* BY MEREDITH BORTHWICK. THESIS ADVISORS : LAKANA DAORATANAHONG , DOCTORAT DE L' EHESS., SUKHUMA-VADEE KHAMHIRAN BA, MA., SUJARITLAK DEEPADUNG PH.D., WACHIRAPORN WANDI. B.A., M.A. 124 P. ISBN 974-664-882-9

The objective of this study is to analyze how the number of Thai nominals is interpreted and translated into English. This is a case study of a translation from Thai of *Many Lives* by Meredith Borthwick , a Thai contemporary novel หลายชีวิต written by M.R. Kukrit Pramoj.

Number of nominals is a universal concept in all the world languages. However, the number of nominals is indicated differently from one language to another, explicitly in some and implicitly in others. Such discrepancy can pose difficulty in cross-cultural translations.

The study in this thesis shows that the number of nominals in *Many Lives* can be classified based on its actual numeric value into 4 groups : plural group, singular group, zero group, and ambiguous group. The finding of this study indicates that in English, the number of nominal is marked explicitly by plural suffix "s " or "es" along with the optional quantifier. In Thai, the data demonstrates that the number of nominals in some cases can be marked explicitly by the use of classifier and quantifier. However, sometimes the number of nominal is left implicit when a bare nominal is used as a head noun. With regard to the translation of the number of Thai nominal, the data demonstrates that the number of nominal in the translation corresponds to that used in the Thai. Also in Thai , the number of nominal can be determined from the grammatical structure, referential meaning, organizational meaning and sometimes cultural background of the translator.