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PRIN SAREEPONG : ACCEPTANCE BY ABBOTS OF THE USE OF THE COUPLE CHAMBER CREMATORIA IN BANGKOK METROPOLIS. THESIS ADVISOR : WILASINEE ARNOMASIRI, B.Ed., M.A. (ENVIRONMENT) PRAKAIKAT SUKUMALCHART , B.A., M.S., PANNIPA BURAPHACHEEP LL.B.(2 CLASS HONS), LL.M., 168p. ISBN 974-589-631-4

The purpose of this research is to study the level of the acceptance, the factors which affect the acceptance and problems, the obstacles and suggestions from abbots about the use of the couple chamber crematoria in Bangkok metropolis. The study was carried out by using both quantitative and qualitative research. The samples were abbots or persons who were assigned to administrate the funeral rituals in Bangkok. The sample size in quantitative terms was 169 and the sample size in qualitative terms was 6 persons.

The research results show that: I) the level of acceptance by abbots of the use of the couple chamber crematoria in Bangkok metropolis is moderate; II) the results of ANOVA analysis indicate that cremation income per year, number of cremations per year, knowledge of crematorium pollution control, awareness of the couple chamber crematoria and knowledge of characteristics of this type of crematorium were significant factors affecting the acceptance of the use of the couple chamber crematoria at the statistical level of 0.001, the product life of crematoria is a significant factor affecting the acceptance of the use of the couple chamber crematoria at the statistical level of 0.05; III) The results of multiple classification analysis show that the sample group expect the cremation expense to be 1.51-3.00 million baht, the number of cremations per year is 161 and higher, the product life of a crematorium is 10 years and lower, they have a high level of knowledge about the pollution control system of the crematorium and have a high level of awareness of the crematorium and they are more likely to accept the use of the couple chamber crematoria than others sample groups.

The obstacles are that: I) the lack of abbots' understanding about pollution control; II) the abbots' comment about the couple chamber crematoria occasionally being unsuitable for use in rarely used funeral houses. The suggestions are that: I) the Bangkok administrators should provide pollution control information to abbots; II) the Bangkok metropolis should provide an alternative pollution control system for crematoria in rarely used funeral houses.