

Thesis Title            Indigenous Forest Resource Management:  
A Comparative Study between Lowlanders and  
Highlanders in Northern Thailand

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M.S.                      Geography

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### Abstract

The study "Indigenous Forest Resource Management: A Comparative Study between Lowlanders and Highlanders in Northern Thailand" was conducted for the aims of 1) study the development of indigenous forest resource management, 2) study the patterns and methods of forest resource management in the study area and 3) compare the difference of the factors affecting the indigenous forest resource management in the study area. Field survey, using the interview guideline and questionnaire, was the used method. Sample populations were Ban Long Santi Suk's 41 households and Ban Nong Lak's 142 households. Data analysis were the t-Test and descriptive statistics.

The result of the study indicated that the development of indigenous forest management was originally organized from the belief

of spirit. Its major change in management came after 1972 as a result of declaration of Khun Mae Li National Reserved Forest area. There were similarities in forest management patterns between the two groups. However, the methods of the forest management were slightly different. The methods of management of the lowlanders were affected by non-government organization, whereas of the highlanders were influenced by internal factors such as cultural strength and village organization strength. The analysis of the factors affecting the indigenous forest resource management between the two groups indicated that the internal factors such as cultural strength, village organization strength, way of production and physical characteristics and the external factors such as influence of urbanization, role of non-governmental organization and resource competition were significantly different. However, economic status factors, politics and current of environmental conservation, and the role of government in the forest resource management were not significantly different.