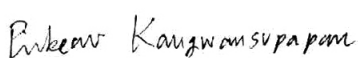
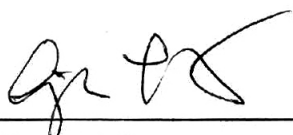


Pinkaew Kangwansupapan 2007: A Contrastive Study of Thai Tones between Khmer-Thai Students and Native Thai Students: Students in Prathom 1, Ban Kae Yai School and Mattayom 6, Sripataisamun School, Surin Province vs. Students in Prathom 1 and Mattayom 6, Kasetsart University Laboratory School. Master of Arts (Applied Linguistics), Major Field: Applied Linguistics, Department of Linguistics. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Apiluck Tumtavitikul, Ph.D. 196 pages.

The two objectives of this research are to study the acoustics of the Thai tones as spoken by Khmer-Thai students in Surin province and, to compare the Thai tones spoken by Khmer-Thai students in Surin province with that of Thai students in Bangkok who speak Thai as their mother tongue.

The data was collected from sixty students in Surin province and in Bangkok. The study contrasts the Thai tones spoken between Khmer-Thai students in Surin province and Thai students in Bangkok, both male and female. The samples are groups of students aged 6-7 years and 17-18 years.

The result of the study revealed that some Thai tones spoken by Khmer-Thai students in Surin province differed from those spoken from Thai students in Bangkok. Statistically, the following tones differed significantly at the level of 0.05 and 0.1: the mid-tone of male groups aged 6-7 years; the mid, falling, and rising tones of male groups aged 17-18 years; and the mid-tone of female groups aged 17-18 years. The outstanding different tones of the 6-7 year Khmer-Thai students may have been affected by their mother tongue, but those of 17-18 years in both male and female groups may have been caused by hypercorrection and/or development of local identity.

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Student's signature	Thesis Advisor's signature	