

Thongsa Lasantu 2010: Opinions of People to Wat Laksi. Master of Arts (Social Development),
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Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Sirikorn Kanjanasuntorn, M.S. 240 pages.

This research aimed to study people's opinions about Wat Laksi including personal factors, factors associated with visiting the temple, merit-making, and social support. Comparative study of people's opinion regarding Wat Laksi was also conducted by personal factors, factors associated with acts of philanthropy and social support. The sample consisted of 246 people who came to Wat Laksi. Their opinion about the Temple's reputation, rites conducted by the Temple, and the Temple's environment was sought. This survey research utilized a questionnaire to gather people's opinion regarding the three aspects through accidental sampling. The data were analyzed with descriptive statistics. Comparative analyses were performed to establish the differences in opinion with t-test and one-way analysis of variance. Paired differences were tested with the Sheffé method. Statistical significance level was set at 0.05.

The results indicated that the people's opinion towards Wat Laksi was moderate (an average of 3.37). Opinion on the Temple's reputation in general was also moderate (averaged 2.99). But their opinion on religious rites was high in general (averaged 3.71). The opinion regarding the Temple's general environment was moderate (averaged 3.29). Hypothesis testing revealed significant relationship between different personal factors and their opinion regarding the Temple in general, at the 0.05 level of significance. People with different visiting factors had different opinion at the 0.05 level of significance. People with different merit-making activities also had different opinion at the 0.001 level of significance. And finally, people with different social support also had different opinion at the 0.001 level of significance.

The above results led to the recommendation as follows. On reputation, the Temple should encourage the people to come and pay homage to Luang Phu Khao more frequently. Rituals of worship should be more diverse in relation to customary tradition. The Temple should also provide doctrine study on every Buddhist holy day. On the Temple's environment, it was recommended that the Temple should put up billboards announcing monthly activities and to provide more direction signs within the Temple to facilitate better access for the people. Also, the Temple should support the monk's education continuously. Such recommendations could ensure the Temple's role as supportive for the people forever.

Student's signature

Thesis Advisor's signature