

THE ROLE OF CHINESE COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATIONS IN SUPPORTING NEW CHINESE
SOJOURNERS IN
BANGKOK : A CASE STUDY OF THE THAI-GUANGXI COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATION



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จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

บทคัดย่อและแฟ้มข้อมูลฉบับเต็มของวิทยานิพนธ์ตั้งแต่ปีการศึกษา 2554 ที่ให้บริการในคลังปัญญาจุฬาฯ (CUIR)
เป็นแฟ้มข้อมูลของนิสิตเจ้าของวิทยานิพนธ์ ที่ส่งผ่านทางบัณฑิตวิทยาลัย

The abstract and full text of theses from the academic year 2011 in Chulalongkorn University Intellectual Repository (CUIR)
are the thesis authors' files submitted through the University Graduate School.

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of Master of Arts Program in Southeast Asian Studies
(Interdisciplinary Program)

Graduate School

Chulalongkorn University

Academic Year 2017

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บทบาทของสมาคมการค้าจีนในการให้การสนับสนุนชาวจีนโพ้นทะเลใหม่ในกรุงเทพฯ: กรณีศึกษา
สมาคมการค้าไทย-กวางซี



วิทยานิพนธ์นี้เป็นส่วนหนึ่งของการศึกษาตามหลักสูตรปริญญาศิลปศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต
สาขาวิชาเอเชียตะวันออกเฉียงใต้ศึกษา (สหสาขาวิชา)
บัณฑิตวิทยาลัย จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย
ปีการศึกษา 2560
ลิขสิทธิ์ของจุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

Thesis Title THE ROLE OF CHINESE COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATIONS IN
SUPPORTING NEW CHINESE SOJOURNERS IN BANGKOK
: A CASE STUDY OF THE THAI-GUANGXI COMMERCIAL
ASSOCIATION

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Field of Study Southeast Asian Studies

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ชง จิน เหวิน : บทบาทของสมาคมการค้าจีนในการให้การสนับสนุนชาวจีนโพ้นทะเลใหม่ในกรุงเทพฯ : กรณีศึกษาสมาคมการค้าไทย-กวางซี (THE ROLE OF CHINESE COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATIONS IN SUPPORTING NEW CHINESE SOJOURNERS IN BANGKOK : A CASE STUDY OF THE THAI-GUANGXI COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATION) อ.ที่ปริกษาวิทยานิพนธ์หลัก: ผศ. ดร. จีระ นุชเปี่ยม, 77 หน้า.

ประเทศไทยมีความสัมพันธ์อันดีกับจีนมาตลอดระยะเวลาที่ยาวนานในประวัติศาสตร์ ไม่ว่าจะเป็นในด้านวัฒนธรรม การเมือง เศรษฐกิจ สังคม การท่องเที่ยว และอื่นๆ ในช่วงไม่กี่ทศวรรษที่ผ่านมา โดยเฉพาะเมื่อมีการพัฒนา นโยบาย “หนึ่งแถบ หนึ่งเส้นทาง” ของจีน ชาวจีนที่เป็นผู้พำนักชั่วคราวจำนวนมากขึ้นทุกทีก็เลือกประเทศไทยเป็นถิ่นพำนัก ในลักษณะดังกล่าวของตน อย่างไรก็ตาม เมื่อย้อนกลับไปในอดีต ก็จะเห็นว่า ผู้อพยพเข้าเมืองรุ่นก่อนๆ ส่วนมากเดินทางมา ประเทศไทยเพื่อประกอบอาชีพ โดยเป็นทั้งนักธุรกิจและผู้ใช้แรงงาน ในช่วงนั้นสมาคมการค้าจำเป็นต้องมีการจัดตั้งขึ้นเพื่อช่วยเหลือซึ่งกันและกัน (ในช่วงแรกๆ สมาคมการค้าดังกล่าวเรียกว่า “หอการค้า”) บทบาทแรกเริ่มของสมาคมการค้าจีน คือ ช่วยให้ชาวจีนโพ้นทะเลได้รวมตัวกัน และให้ความช่วยเหลือในเรื่องธุรกิจ แต่ปัจจุบันนี้ผู้พำนักชาวจีนมาจากมณฑลต่างๆ และมีภูมิลำเนาอาชีพหลากหลาย คนเหล่านี้ต้องการจัดตั้งสมาคมการค้าของเมืองที่เป็นท้องถิ่นของตนเพื่อให้การติดต่อสื่อสาร กันสะดวกยิ่งขึ้น งานวิจัยเรื่องนี้เลือกศึกษากรณีสมาคมการค้าไทย-กวางซีในรายละเอียด ซึ่งเป็นเรื่องน่าสนใจและควรได้มี การศึกษาไว้เพื่อให้เห็นว่า ความสัมพันธ์ระหว่างชาวจีนใหม่ที่เป็นผู้พำนักและสมาคมการค้าใหม่เป็นอย่างไร รวมทั้งบทบาท ของสมาคมการค้าในการสนับสนุนผู้พำนักชาวจีนเหล่านี้



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สาขาวิชา เอเชียตะวันออกเฉียงใต้ศึกษา

ปีการศึกษา 2560

ลายมือชื่อนิสิต

ลายมือชื่อ อ.ที่ปรึกษาหลัก

5887510220 : MAJOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES

KEYWORDS:

ZHONG JIN WEN: THE ROLE OF CHINESE COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATIONS IN SUPPORTING NEW CHINESE SOJOURNERS IN BANGKOK : A CASE STUDY OF THE THAI-GUANGXI COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATION. ADVISOR: ASST. PROF. THEERA NUCHPIAM, Ph.D., 77 pp.

Thailand has always maintained friendly relations with China throughout long history, which include relationship in the cultural, political, economic, social and tourism areas, among others. In recent decades, especially following the development of the Chinese “one belt, one road” policy, more and more Chinese sojourners have chosen Thailand as their sojourning destination. However, looking back to the history, we will see that most old Chinese immigrants moved from China to Thailand to make a living as businessmen or labor force. During that period, commercial associations needed to be established, so that these Chinese immigrants could help each other, (such an association was then called a chamber of commerce). The original role of these Chinese commercial associations was to help the overseas Chinese people to get together and to provide support for their business activities. But nowadays, Chinese sojourners are from different provinces and occupational fields, and they would like to establish their own hometown commercial association to facilitate communication among themselves. This thesis has chosen the Thai-Guangxi commercial association as a case study. This can be regarded as a typical case of this kind of commercial associations and thus should be studied in detail. It is worth, in particular, to explore the relationship between new Chinese sojourners and this Chinese commercial association, as well as the role of the association in supporting the new Chinese sojourners.



Field of Study: Southeast Asian Studies

Academic Year: 2017

Student's Signature

Advisor's Signature

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I'm so excited to finish my thesis successfully in the end, it is one of the vital step of my graduation. Then , I would like to express my high gratitude to my Thesis ad-visor PhD. Assistant Professor Theera Nuchpiam of Southeast Asian Studies programme , Graduate School of Chulalongkorn University, who always supports and corrects my paper with patience and encouragement. Besides, I would like to express warm thanks to another two professor in the thesis committee gave me some valuable suggestion, and the help by the working staff in the SEA office.

In addition , I would like to take this opportunity to appreciate my family members to support my whole study in financial and spirit, help me to finish the Master degree.

Finally, it is so lucky to meet the classmates and friends in Chulalongkorn University, and spend the happy time and establish the precious friendship in my school life.



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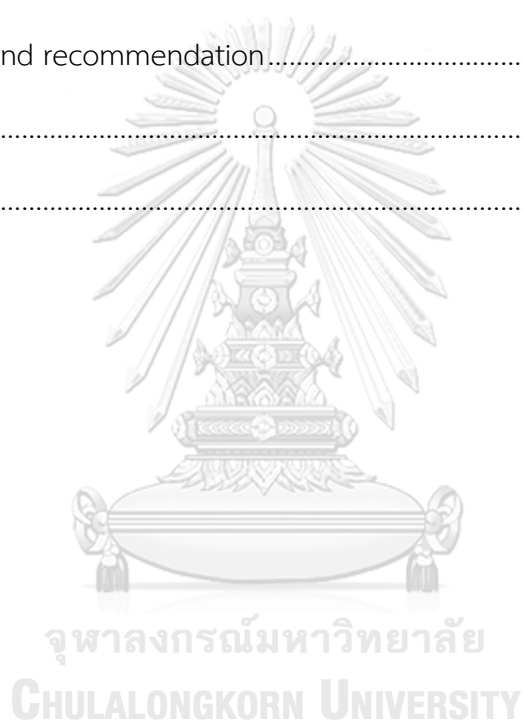
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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 Main History

The Chinese and Thai people are not recent acquaintances. For centuries, as wave after wave of Thai migrated southwestern from their original home in what is now southwestern China, the Chinese have followed them like their own shadows. They have become as much a part of Thai national life as the growing of rice.

The presence of overseas Chinese in Southeast Asia can be traced back to the early centuries of the Christian era, if not before that. In modern times, beginning with the 17th-18th centuries, several waves of Chinese migration to this region can be detected, including the Ming loyalists who came to Vietnam after the fall of the Ming dynasty in 1644 and many others who came thereafter. Most of these people came to settle in southern Vietnam. This period is sometimes called the “Chinese Century”, when not only trade between China and Southeast Asia experienced a new boom but an important phenomenon became evident, i.e., the extension of Chinese economic frontiers to this region, most notably in present-day eastern Thailand and southern Vietnam.

This phenomenon continued well into the 19th century, when many Chinese communities emerged in southern Thailand as well as the Malay Peninsula, who mostly engaged in mining there. In the 20th century, both before and after World War II, Chinese migration continued. Today the ethnic-Chinese population of Southeast Asia has become the region’s major economic force contributing to its spectacular growth in the post-World War II period.

Dating back to the immigrant history, a great flood of Chinese immigration occurred in the second half of the nineteenth century and the first quarter of the twentieth century. These later immigrants were mainly impoverished farmers

who provided a source of needed labor for the Thai. Starting mostly as unskilled workers, some of the immigrants never bettered themselves and either returned home with nothing to show for their venture abroad or lived out their days as common laborers in Thailand (Harvey H. Smith, Bernier et al. 1968). Due to hard-working and diligent efforts, a great number of Chinese immigrants who decided to stay in Thailand were struggling to change their working environment, improve their social status, and achieve a transition from the laborers to the businessmen.

After a period of time to change their state of life, the ethnic Chinese started to take action to organize some of their own communities. The Chinese expert (Guotu 2010) has claimed that in fact, the overseas Chinese organizations had been the main pillar for the survival of their own societies before the 20th century. Although clan worship, religion, business, Chinese education, public welfare and even the political purpose could be used as a basis for forming Chinese communities overseas, it was the shared domicile towns in China that became the most important factor contributing to the cohesion of such communities. Even the differences among the Chinese secret societies in Southeast Asia were based on their different hometowns.

Later, with the refinement of the communities, different organizations came to have different duties, and most Chinese emigrants who started their career in Thailand as businessmen saw the need to rapidly set up the chambers of commerce. In these early years there were seven commercial associations in Bangkok from seven countries. Besides, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce also published a Trade Directory of Thailand in Chinese, Thai and English for their members (Harvey H. Smith et al, 1968). **The Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Thailand (TCCC)** was founded in 1910 so now it is more than one hundred years old. Meanwhile, following the termination of tributary relations with China in the reign of King Rama IV, Thailand resumed a formal relationship with the Republic of China only in 1946. This relationship continued until the country established diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China in 1975. China reached agreement in not recognizing dual nationality for any Chinese nationals in Thailand in manner of furthering the process of Thai-Chinese naturalization to enjoy the rights of Thai citizens. In the 1970s the

Thai-Chinese Community, TCCC, the crucial local overseas Chinese group, was transformed into the Association of Overseas Chinese (AOC). (Huifen 2014)

The Chinese community in Bangkok during the second half of the 19th century had grown expanded as a result of several huge immigration of the Chinese to Bangkok since the early Bangkok period, and also because of favorable social-economic conditions and the Thai government's policy which welcomed them (Bunnag 1991).

1.1.2 Current Situation

The sojourning concept grew out of assumptions about the fundamental impropriety of leaving the Middle Kingdom, which has shown itself also in repeated prohibitions over the centuries against private trade or emigration. Sojourners were regarded as Chinese nationals by both the authorities in China and colonial governments in Southeast Asia until after World War Two. (Reid 1996)

With the development of One Belt One Road, more and more new Chinese sojourners will come to Thailand for different purposes. Definitely, the old migrants or ethnic Chinese have provided convenient conditions and help for these new immigrants to live and work in Thailand. In most cases, the ethnic Chinese are mainly engaged in industry and commerce; they are familiar with local laws and languages, so they can help new Chinese entrepreneurs to achieve cooperation with local Thai companies and even European enterprises smoothly. (Huayun 2012)

As Wang Gungwu has observed, **Sojourning** is today becoming a world-wide feature of elite-level population movement. While it has hitherto been regarded as a uniquely Chinese phenomenon, he suggests: "by including sojourning in the study of migration phenomena, we can better understand some underlying continuities between what has happened in Southeast Asia and what is becoming common again in the globalization of people movements. Today sojourning has become a global phenomenon." (Alilunas 1996)

The brief situation between Guangxi and Thailand

Guangxi and Thailand are friendly neighbors with an intimate racial and cultural relationship, and the communication between two regions has long history. Besides, the Zhuang languages (minority language) and Thai language belong to Zhuang-Thai languages, and both sides have similar customs. Guangxi and Thailand not only have cooperation in trade, but also very close folk communications.

Moreover, Guangxi is a province that has set up the Thai language as a major study program at the largest number among the Chinese Universities, and, meanwhile, students from Guangxi who study in Thailand represent the highest percentages. Thus, the new sojourners from Guangxi will be a new trend in the future.

The number of new sojourners who have come to Thailand for investment, setting up factories, establishing companies is increasing. However, there is no platform to organize these enterprises or sojourners with different kinds of occupation to get together. Hence, new sojourners from Guangxi have a strong will to be able to set up the Thai-Guangxi commercial association in order to help new immigrants to expand their business. At the same time, they hope there is an organization that helps the new sojourners get together for cohesion, nostalgia and deep communication.

1.2 Definition

1. Sojourner

There are two words in English to describe the people who move from one place to another, that is, “migrants” and “sojourners”. These words are similar but different. Migrants are people who change their place of residence. A migrant is usually understood to be someone who has, figuratively speaking, taken a one-way passage to a place and is there ‘for good’. A sojourner, on the other hand, is understood to be a temporary resident who is at his or her new place of abode ‘for the time being’. In fact, sojourners often end up by becoming settlers, as in the case of guest workers who stay on (Gungwu 2006). In this thesis, the sojourners will be used in place of “overseas Chinese”.

2. Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce (sometimes in capitals) is an organization composed mainly of local business people to promote, regulate, and protect their interests. It is an Association primarily of people in business, to promote the Commercial interests of an area.

Nowadays, Commercial Association are widely used in the organization to instead of Chamber of Commerce.

1.3 Rationale

The reason for choosing this topic

Southeast Asia is now experiencing a new wave of Chinese migration. However, this time the situation seems to be different in Thailand, in particular, now experiences the presence of Chinese sojourners as a fresh blood of Chinese who have come here and who now account for a large proportion of those who have come to this country. Some of them are now even playing a significant role in Southeast Asian society. There are many incredible social phenomena in ethnic-Chinese community in Thailand. Among the Southeast Asian countries, Thailand has been most successful in assimilating the Chinese into Thai society, and this success has accounted for the least racial tensions insofar as Chinese are concerned. Moreover, it is worthy of note that most Chinese people prefer to participate in social activities with some forms of communities or organizations. Chinese communities seem to have become a symbol for overseas Chinese in Southeast Asia. This phenomenon attracts the interests of numerous scholars and researchers from this region and other parts of the world.

Community is an important part of social life for any racial or ethnic groups living in a foreign country. In comparison with other foreign groups, it is no doubt that the ethnic-Chinese community is the largest in Thailand. Some early scholars and experts focused on studying the background of the ethnic-Chinese associations, or the

reasons for the formation of Chinese communities, analyzing the internal and external factors which contributed to the success of overseas Chinese communities.

Now there are thousands of new sojourners living and working or studying in Thailand. However, commercial associations represent one of the vital types of Chinese communities in the country, especially in Bangkok. This type of community serves a great platform providing opportunities to the new Chinese sojourners from different fields. How such associations are set up, how they operate and how they serve as a link between Thailand and China are issues of great interest to academics as well as national policy-makers.

1.4 Objective

The objectives of this thesis are as follows.

- 1) To study the background of Chinese communities in Thailand. This involves exploring the background and origins of ethnic Chinese commercial associations in Thailand. The exploration covers the traditional culture and social rules of Chinese commercial associations in Thailand, as well as social activities in commercial associations. The exploration will be a good point to help us to understand the development of the Chinese commercial associations in Thailand.
- 2) To survey the role of the new Chinese commercial associations in supporting the new Chinese sojourners, and try to find the characteristic and difference of new Chinese commercial association and sojourners.

1.5 Research Questions

1. What are the occupations of new sojourners in the Thai-Guangxi commercial association?
2. What is the difference between the old immigrants and the new sojourners?
3. Compared with other Chinese commercial associations, what is the advantage of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association in supporting the new sojourners?

1.6 Hypotheses

1. According to the research questions and background, the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association will give more advantages and support for the new sojourners from geographical factors and government policy.
2. Compared with old immigrants, the new Chinese sojourners are more knowledgeable.
3. The new sojourners have different demographic and social characteristics; the commercial associations serve as a good platform for the new sojourners to get together for deep communication, i.e. they are different in terms of gender, age, occupation, income, educational levels, marital statuses, and so on. However, they have been promoted to communicate with one another and to develop themselves by the support of the Chinese commercial association.

1.7 Methodology and Approach

This paper combines documentary research and case study, then to explore the results by empirical and multidisciplinary analysis.

(1) Document research: Literature from books, journals, articles, and accredited websites etc. related to Chinese communities in Thailand, and are reviewed, and some statistical materials are also cited.

(2) Field research: First hand data will be obtained from questionnaire survey.

(2.1) Survey area -- Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association in Bangkok

(2.2) Questionnaire Design

(2.3) Field survey Interviewees are selected from the members, working staff or leaders of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association. They are required to complete the questionnaire independently, and questionnaires are collected in this organization

1.8 The Reason of Choosing Case Study

Research on overseas Chinese communities has always been a hot issue for long time. However, it is impossible to study all of them. Choosing a case study will be a better way to analyze and illuminate issues such as indicated above. Among a lot of Chinese sojourners in Thailand, the Guangxi people are regarded as the third largest ethnic-Chinese population group in Thailand.

This seems to provide a sufficient rationale for a study of this ethnic Chinese group in Thailand. Insofar as the study of the specific immigrant groups in Thailand is concerned, the Guangxi communities have been a long-term research interest that has

already produced a number of research results. In their efforts to reconstruct the migration history of people from Guangxi, the scholars have used both Chinese and Thai documents as important sources.

Moreover, among the numerous Chinese commercial associations in Thailand, the Thai-Guangxi commercial association is not only the most distinguished, but also is a very typical case among ethnic-Chinese groups. This gives us a further rationale for the study of this particular group.

1.9 Research Procedures

- (1) Survey Respondents: the members of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association
- (2) Methodology: Documentary research and Field research, empirical and multi-discipline analysis approach.
- (3) Survey: Questionnaire survey conducted in Bangkok
- (4) Questionnaire analysis
- (5) Conclusion

Structure of the Thesis

This thesis is going to be divided into 5 chapters as written blow.

Chapter 1: Introduction

This chapter will introduce some background knowledge; including the brief history of Chinese communities. The development of Chinese commercial association is also discussed. Later, the question is pointed out and leads to the topic of the Chinese association in Bangkok. Related literature is reviewed in this chapter as well. Objectives, hypotheses, methodology, significance, research process, structure of paper, limitations will be given.

Chapter 2 : Establishing a the conceptual framework and methodology step of this research

The second chapter will demonstrate the factors to establish the questionnaire of the characteristic of the new Chinese sojourners, meanwhile, the step of collection the data will be given as well.

Chapter 3: A Case Study of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association and the Chinese sojourner's situation

Based on previous studies, this chapter is going to give a brief introduction to the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association, the rules and situation of this community will be demonstrated step by step, and the overview of Guangxi will be given in this section, too.

Chapter 4: Empirical analysis the factors of the questionnaire of the Thai-Guangxi commercial association in supporting new Chinese sojourners

The main approach of this thesis is investigated by the questionnaire, therefore, this chapter will analysis the result of the question with table and pie chart and will reflect the data clearly.

Chapter 5: Conclusion and Suggestion

This chapter concludes the findings from the methodology. Some suggestions and personal opinions will be given in this chapter as well.

Significance

Although there are thousands of research papers on overseas Chinese in Southeast Asia, the presence of the Chinese sojourners in this region is a new phenomenon. Not much literature on this topic is available. Moreover, given the unique position of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association, the phenomenon in general, and the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association in particular, require further study for better understanding. Equally important, this particular aspect of Sino-Thai relations will contribute to our understanding of the present-day development of Sino-Thai relations, which have become more complex and more multi-dimensional in character.

1. Theoretical Significance

Although there are countless studies on the Chinese communities in Southeast Asia area, especially in Thailand, the research of commercial associations is still rare.

Besides, the sojourners as a new conception should be paid attention to in scholarly research papers to promote migration study.

In addition, few academic articles or theses use questionnaires as methodology to investigate; document and literature research are the common approaches to appear in the migrant study. Thus, empirical researches will be a new angle of the research in this field.

This thesis will take the new sojourners of commercial association as special objective. It aims to establish the integral conceptual framework for investigating the living status of the new sojourners with the help of the commercial association. Then, among a lot of Chinese commercial associations in Bangkok, choosing a young organization, Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association for an investigation site, with some brief introduction of this new association with the help of disciplines such as sociology, economics, and political science will hopefully shed new light on the presence of new Chinese in Thailand. Firstly, the important point is trying to find some meaningful factors to prove the influence of the Chinese commercial association towards new sojourners from sociology, economy and other fields. Secondly it is based on the data collected from Chinese sojourners in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association directly and is evaluated via an empirical approach. Finally, the researcher will try to summarize the merits and shortcomings of the commercial association, and suggestions will be given at the end. The author hopes this thesis will

make a contribution to the migrant study, and enriches a relevant material as a reference in this field.

2. Practical Significance

The migrant study has been a hot issue in the Southeast Asian study, and in recent years, more and more new sojourners choose Thailand as a new destination to develop their career. Further study especially on the new Chinese sojourners is thus required. Hence, the composition of the sojourners' identity will illustrate a multiple trend, no longer as simple as before, like farmers and unskilled workers in early times. Now a great deal of investors and students are becoming the main force of the new Chinese sojourners nowadays, even some of them have come to Thailand for pension life after they retired. With the population of new Chinese sojourners is growing rapidly, the theoretical research should keep pace with this trend and provide theoretical support for practical demanding. Therefore, the situation of the new sojourners should be paid attention to.

What's more, "One-belt One Road" which was proposed by China also calls for much more communication with Southeastern area, including Thailand. China has set up diplomatic relationships with more than 40 years, not only at the government level, but also on the people-to-people basis. A Chinese commercial association is like a bridge, and the new Chinese sojourners are architects to make the connection among

two countries. With such a bridge, push of “One-belt One Road “will benefit from the development of cooperation between two countries and people .

Literature Reviews

1. (Alilunas 1996)

This is a very well researched, well written book, which give us a clearer definition and explanation in details. From this article, we can know that “sojourners” is not a common word or a part of the lexicon to describe migrant group. We can even say that the conception of “sojourner” is very vague before 1940. Now with a new global immigrant phenomenon all over the world, some scholars and experts start to take in “sojourner” as a new conception to refine the migration study.

Besides, it is interesting to mention that the sojourner is a prelude to eventual migration, which is like an experimental stay over long periods of time. In this article we will see that there are so many uncertain factors about whether they choose stay or return home in reality.

Furthermore, the Chinese have the idea of sojourner and not that of voluntary migration; that is, departing from one’s own country in order to find new home elsewhere in the earliest the period of the time. However, sojourners, who always had the option to settle or return, fitted not only Chinese official regulations and values,

but also local Southeast Asian expectations concerning foreign traders and their communities. The Chinese people are the first group to become sojourners in Thailand even the whole Southeast Asian country.

2. (Roy 2007)

The work by Edward Van also gives a profound perspective on the classification of the Chinese communities in early times. Owing to the existence lavish and sundry dialects in China, Chinese is divided into two main languages, Mandarin and Cantonese. Among Chinese immigrant speech groups in Thailand, it is no doubt that the Cantonese group has to be mentioned. Most of those who speak Cantonese come from Guangdong, Hainan province, as well as Hong Kong, but they cannot speak Mandarin very fluently and use traditional Chinese writing.

Meanwhile, this article also introduces the establishment of the Kwong Siew Association. In 1877, a group of Sampheng merchants and artisans from (Canton) province got together to form an association. With the aim of meeting the social welfare needs of their community, their two main intents are recorded in this chapter, one was to provide charitable services to needy members of Cantonese speech group, and the other was to establish a shrine dedicated to the deities protective of their well-being. A few years later, the organization registered with the Thai authorities and became officially recognized as an association under Thai law. It illustrates that the

Cantonese group as an ethnic Chinese began to possess legal awareness to protect their association.

The establishment of Cantonese association reflects the diversity of Chinese associations in Thailand. They evoke an aura of antiquity but actually simply recount the early history of the association and the shrine, including a list of their many benefactors.

Research limitations

(1) Due to the limitation of funding and time, this thesis only takes the new Chinese sojourners in Bangkok as the case and the field survey is based on 100 samples. The research region should be broader and sample size should be larger for the sake of examining the established conceptual framework of the members (the Chinese sojourners) in other commercial association in Bangkok for future study.

(2) The field investigation sets the new Chinese sojourners who have already live or work in Bangkok as the research object, which means this thesis attaches more attention on the current residents. Therefore, the old Chinese migrants will be mentioned less in the research part. In addition, taking into account the shortage of books and documents about sojourner study, there will be limited references in this thesis.

CHAPTER 2: ESTABLISHING THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND METHODOLOGY STEP OF THIS RESEARCH

In this Chapter, I will discuss the quantitative method as the main method and establish the conceptual framework for the analysis of how the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association provides support for new Chinese sojourners. Questionnaires will be used as the prime research method, which will be supplemented by simple interviews as an auxiliary method. The Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association is undertaken as a pilot study to determine the validity and reliability of this thesis.

2.1 Methodology of the research

2.1.1 Literature review

This thesis starts with a literature review of secondary references such as journals, magazines, books, news reports and other pieces of information from the Internet. The aim is to enhance understanding of the background and history of Chinese immigrants in Thailand. This helps us to know the reason why the Chinese immigrants have moved to Thailand. In addition, this thesis also aims to make a conceptual distinction between immigrants and sojourners.

But due to the limited references and books, Chapter 2, which deals with the situation of new Chinese sojourners, cannot say much about this. The main focus of the thesis is Chapter 4, which analyzes the factors accounting for how the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association has been set up to support the new Chinese sojourners.

2.1.2 Choosing one case for this pilot study

A case study is taken here as a useful approach to this pilot study. That is, as an approach, a case study is taken to help us understand the general situation of Chinese sojourners in Thailand. Having decided to use a case study for this pilot study, I was able to make the research steps comprehensible to the informants. Likewise, the practical problems have also been identified for the research procedures at the beginning, like preparing the questionnaire language in Chinese and English, since all the respondents are Chinese people. It is used as a pre-testing tool to check the hypotheses and establish the research questions, so that the research procedures have been altered and adjusted effectively.

2.1.3 Using a questionnaire survey is the main approach, brief interview as a supplement

I have chosen the quantitative method for this thesis in order to survey and collect data relating to the situation of new Chinese sojourners in the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association. The next step involves the design of the various questions with different sections with the aim of finding about the role of Chinese commercial associations in supporting the new Chinese immigrants in Thailand.

Since the subject of this thesis is a commercial association, it is here shown that an organization cannot be founded without an excellent leader and a competent staff. In order to grasp a full understanding of the phenomenon and know better about the situation of this organization, brief interviews of the representative leaders, members of the staff and/or members of this association as a supplementary method to fulfill and enrich the content of the thesis.

2.1.4 Data Collection

Primary Data and Information Collection

The first step of the data collection process involves collecting the information from books, journals, magazines or the Internet. In searching for relevant books and materials on Chinese immigration in Thai history or Thai society, attention has been paid to the key words “sojourner” and “commercial association” as targets in this search in the primary data to find some useful information. Intensive reading and fast reading has been used in this search. From intensive reading a vast majority of references and books, the concepts of immigrant and sojourner were distinguished and

made clear for searching the right information. As Thailand was a non-immigrant country, there were no a sound legal system and clear immigration laws in that period. However, a great number Chinese people moved to Thailand to make a living in early times. Now most of these old Chinese have changed their nationalities and names as naturalized Thai citizens in Thailand. They are now Thai-Chinese with their own Thai names and Thai nationalities and they can fluently speak the Thai language. Then, this group of old immigrants does not belong to the sojourner group that needs to distinguished, and which is not the research objective of this thesis. The new Chinese sojourners, to emphasize, are those people who come to Thailand for a short period and retain their national citizenship. A short summary of this new immigrant group has been given in chapter 1 after the intensive reading and literature review.

2.1.5 Secondary Data

Secondary data are derived from the questionnaire to new Chinese sojourners in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association and from interviews with the leaders, staff, and typical members in the commercial association. I have gathered a sampling of about 100 Chinese sojourners for the questionnaire survey: completion of all the questionnaires was required to be undertaken independently for research. It will ensure that the people from different ages and fields participated in this survey, providing more multiple types of data used in the analysis. Brief interviews with the leaders, staff and typical members are hoped to enrich the content in this thesis. More

details about the development or the behavior of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association in supporting the new sojourners also will be demonstrated in the last Chapter.

2.1.6 Linking and arranging the primary data and secondary data

In order to grasp and arrange the integrity of the thesis better, the information about new Chinese immigrants and sojourners were searched from references. It is called the secondary data in this thesis. The situation of new Chinese sojourners and Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association were inquired from the questionnaires and interviews. This part represents the primary data for the thesis. The relationship between the primary data and secondary data are connected with each other: the primary data has been used in Chapters 1 and 2; the secondary data has been used in Chapters 4 and 5. The main aim of this process is to help aid the understanding of the new sojourners in Thailand more deeply and establish the conceptual framework and the methodological steps for this research.

2.2 Pre-analysis of the Thai culture, social and economic factors contributing to the establishment of the conceptual framework for the questionnaires and interviews

The living environment is the key that affects the new Chinese sojourner move to Thailand, for instance, the social, economic political and culture factors. These factors, which were mentioned above, will help in considering and designing the

questionnaires and the interview questions, and in establishing the basic conceptual framework for the whole research.

Cultural factor

When a sojourner lives in a foreign country, the cross-cultural environment is a factor that cannot be ignored. He or she needs to possess a cross-cultural psychology necessary to live abroad. Cross-cultural psychology has demonstrated important links between the cultural context and the individual behavioral development. Given this relationship, cross-cultural research has increasingly investigated what happens to individuals who have developed in one cultural context when they attempt to reestablish their lives in another one. The long-term psychological consequences of this process of acculturation are highly variable, depending on social and personal variables that reside in the society of origin, the society of settlement, and the phenomena that both exist prior to, and arise during, the course of acculturation. (John.W 1997)The adaption and acculturation of cross-culture will affect the behavior and development of a sojourner in a foreign country. The cultural factor will be a challenging part of a new sojourner envision.

As we all know, Thailand is known as the “Land of Smiles”, which is largely attributed to Buddhism. Buddhism is the dominant religion in Thailand, where almost 95% of Thai are Buddhists. The belief system and values of Buddhism play a significant role in Thai people’s daily life, and deeply influence their culture.

(Xuanhong 2016) Meanwhile, although China is not a Buddhist country, most of Chinese are devout Buddhists. So there is a consensus on religious beliefs between the Chinese and Thai people. On the other hand, Zhuang culture of Guangxi and the culture Thai nationals are highly similar, so that the new sojourner group from Guangxi can be integrated into Thai society better. Therefore, it is particularly relevant to select this group as the research object.

Social factor

Chinese have been immigrating to Siam for at least six centuries. Assimilation is, of course, a social process. Since social interaction is based on linguistic communication, assimilation performance involves a command of the Thai language. Taking over the language of the society with which immigrants are in contact is but one part of acculturation, that is, the progressive incorporation of the way of life of the other society. (G. William 2011) If a sojourner wants to live in a foreign society conveniently, it is no doubt that language has become a necessary precondition for survival in a foreign society.

Thai society is devoted to creating an international region and attracting more foreign people to come to invest. Thai society also holds a positive attitude and provides a convenient and agreeable living environment for the new sojourners. For instance, numerous Thai Universities and language institutes are providing Thai language courses. In addition, Chinese language service is also seen in most of private

hospitals. These convenient social conditions are enabling conditions for thousands of new Chinese sojourners who cannot speak Thai, who want to temporarily to live comfortably in Thai society.

Economic factor

So far, however, many Thai people are used to paying in cash. The Thai bankers' association said that 97% of the transactions are completed by cash, and in other emerging economies the cash ratio was 94% on average, 62% in developed economies every year. When talking about the E-payment part between China and Thailand, the G20 economic summit of Hangzhou in 2016 has to be mentioned. During the summit, Thai Prime Minister Prayuth met Mr. Jack Ma who is the CEO of Alibaba company to discuss the development model of e-commerce and payment technology, hoping to promote Thailand's digital economy.

Since then, Alipay, which is a kind of Chinese E-payment are wildly used in Chinese group, has started entering into 7-11, some supermarkets, and department stores in Thailand. It has been 2 years since Alipay began to be used in the whole of Thailand, and We-chat pay has also entered later. This movement shows the development potential and value of Thailand's electronic payment market. Thailand is booming an e-commerce industry, and this will led to a reform of Thailand's electronic payments. Likewise, the E-payment does not only help to solve the

situation that Chinese tourists take too much cash, but also facilitate transaction for Chinese sojourners who are living in Thailand for long period.

Above all, in short, the cultural, social and economic factors are the main conditions for human existence in an environment.

2.3 Brief Summary

2.3.1 The study from the reference: Chinese immigrants and the situation of Chinese sojourners

1. Intensive and fast reading, choose useful information, literature review and choose a case study.

2. Determinate the quantitative method is the main approach (questionnaire), qualitative method is the supplement (brief interview).

2.3.2 Approach and factors

The General step of approach

The primary data is from reference, the secondary data is from quantitative and qualitative method. Linking the primary data and secondary data.

Pr-analysis the various factors

Analysis the cultural, social and economic factors in advance to help establish the conceptual framework of the methodology.

2.3.3 Access to the Informants

1. The questionnaire is required finished dependently by 100 respondents by E-

questionnaire from Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association.

2. The Interview will be given by the leader, working staff or typical members in the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association.

CHAPTER 3 A CASE STUDY OF THE THAI-GUANGXI COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATION AND THE CHINESE SOJOURNER'S SITUATION

It is a common phenomenon that Chinese sojourners can be seen in various countries all over the world, where they are playing different social identities and roles in the foreign society. Furthermore, with the policy of “One belt-One road” by current Chinese Chairman Mr. Xijiping, the Chinese government is encouraging Chinese businessmen and enterprises to go abroad for further development and search new careers vigorously nowadays. Thus, the Southeast Asian region is becoming a heat heaven for New Chinese Sojourners.

Besides, sending children to “study abroad” is also a great mass fever in China, but it is worth to know that some Southeast Asian countries have become the new destinations for Chinese parents currently. Thailand as a tourist country is known by more and more Chinese people. On the one hand, owing to the comfortable weather and low tuition fees, and as trade is growing fast between China and Thailand, a lot of language and comprehensive talents are needed. On the other hand, most Chinese students who have studied in western countries would like to choose to return to China for their future career after graduation. Taking the new situation and the low cost of studying abroad into account for most middle-class Chinese families,

Chinese parents are beginning to consider whether sending children study to a developing country will be a better choice for their future development.

Above these internal factors in China, it can be inferred that the number of new sojourners is rising and showing a trend of getting younger in the next decade. Whereas, the commercial association serves as a platform for providing information and helping outsiders, it's worth studying how it will help and support new sojourners, and exploring the ideas and needs of new sojourners which can help them develop and integrate into Thai society better. Meanwhile, new sojourners will bring the Chinese conception that keeps pace with the time of new era of China; it will be probably be a nice opportunity for Thai people who would like to know more about new China from the new Chinese sojourners in Thai society.

3.1 The History of Sojourner Situation in China

Dating back to trace Chinese own history, there will be some clues and similarities that are worth learning and exploring.

There was already a prosperous community of sojourners in early nineteenth century Shanghai, consisting of merchants from Guangdong, Fujian, and other coastal areas, who established at least twenty-six trade associations before the Opium War. As economic activities flourished beyond the walled country seat, a sprawling commercial suburb took shape in contrast to the orderly “Confucian urban core”. But there was no clear borderline between commercial and Confucian spaces. After the change and development for a couple of years, “Confucian” Shanghai was transformed by those sojourner communities and associations. Yet, until the arrival of the Western powers, this transformation had been gradual and within the control of the local authority. Moreover, the establishment of the foreign settlements not only raised Shanghai’s prosperity to a new level but also created for the Chinese sojourners a “foreign place”. (Y 1980)

From comprehensive literature on what was happening during that time, it seemed that the migration of sojourners promoted the cultural prosperity and diversity in a foreign country like China, for instance. And most sojourners preferred to choose coastal areas of a foreign country as their first destination due to the convenient traffic condition; this can explain why coastal cities tend to be more cosmopolitan than inland cities. Therefore, taking the reference function with the phenomenon of foreign sojourners in China, a group of aliens can add to the diversity of a country, the migration of the sojourners is also a manifestation of cultural fusion in a sense.

3.2 The First Chinese Sojourner: Overseas Chinese Business Activities since 1932 to World War Two in Thai Society

After the 1932 coup over of the absolute monarchy and the establishment of a more bureaucratic military-civilian regime, former Chinese tax farmers all lost their political patronage along with the changing power structure, but a new set of leading groups of Chinese merchants emerged and dominated in the rich industry after the 1920s. Former big rice miller Lee “Khun Seng” and “Guan Huat Seng” shut down operation after the worldwide economic crisis in 1930-1932, but some new Chinese families --“Big Five” family groups came into being in the rich industry and substantially dominated it throughout the 1930s and 1940s, and shifted into banking and other commercial activities. (Jing 2005)

The overseas Chinese immigrated into Southeast Asian can be divided into eight groups according to different dialects and sub-dialects. They are: Cantonese, Fuzhou, Hainanese, Hakka, Henghua, Hokkien, and Teochiu.(George T. Haley 1998)

3.3 Geographical advantages contribute to the migration of sojourners

In the long history of Chinese immigrants in Thailand, it is important to know that a host of original Chinese immigrants are from Chewchou in Guangdong province, it is located in the Southern region of Mainland China; they represented the

majority of the immigrants in Thailand. However, there are two provinces also on the fringes of Southeast Asia, namely Yunnan and Guangxi Provinces (which is an autonomous region for ethnic minorities, Guangxi zhuang autonomous region for full name, but it is used Guangxi province in most case). Guangxi Province is adjacent to Vietnam only among the ten Southeast Asian countries. Vietnam is located in the northwest of Guangxi from the map, therefore, taking advantage of geographical advantages, Pingxiang which is a border city of Guangxi Province, has close trade relations with Vietnam for a long period, and along the way, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand have also come into this relationship.

However, though there is no geographical connection between Thailand and Guangxi, the two countries always maintain a great number of trade business and cultural exchanges, most of Thai exports to China have gone via the Guangxi route. Vietnam and Guangxi have geographical advantages, but China and Vietnam had some political tensions in 2016, which led to trade tensions on the border of Vietnam and Guangxi. To sum up, the geographical advantage can promote the relationship between the two countries sometimes, but the political factor is a fundamental part that often determines the relationship between the two countries.



Source: HKTDC Research

3.4 Political factors faster the cooperation between Guangxi and Thailand.

With the globalization of the world economy and the integration of the regional economy, regional economic cooperation in East Asia attracts increasing attention from academic and political circles. However, the regional economic integration in East Asia is very difficult because of the diversities in political systems, history, cultures and the religions as well as the economic gaps between among the countries in the region and the complex relations among the major powers. So the sub-regional economic cooperation has come into being as an alternative for the Southeast Asian countries. Since the “SIJORI Growth Triangle” was launched, the sub-regional economic cooperation continues to be initiated and developed between Southeast Asia and China. In particular, the Greater Mekong sub-regional (GMS) cooperation initiated and dominated by the Asian Development Bank has made the greatest achievements.(Shishao 2011)

3.5 The Establishment of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association, the bridge connecting Thailand and China

Guangxi and Thailand are close neighbors. A large part of the new Chinese sojourners are from Guangxi, which has also been increasing investment in Thailand, operating companies and opening factories. In addition, Guangxi is the province with the largest number of Thai language programs among Chinese universities; it is also a province sending the largest number of students to study in Thailand. However, there was no organization to make these Guangxi's enterprises and people who live in Thailand together; therefore, these enterprises hoped to establish a Commercial Association that belonged to Guangxi itself to expand their business and help each other.

Nanning which is the capital city of Guangxi is the permanent city to hold the China-ASEAN Expo; once again, it is proved that Guangxi is a vital location among ASEAN countries. With the high expectation, on January 2013, the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association began to be organized and supported by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, the government of the Kingdom of Thailand, the government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, the General Commercial Association of China, and some organizations and Thai-Chinese from Thailand. On the 11th, July 2013, the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association was established. The famous entrepreneur Li Mingyu became the first Chairman, who is from Liuzhou city, Guangxi. The Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association has about 30 commissioners and over 200 members. (2016)

3.6 The Rules of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association

Constitution of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association

There are 5 main sections in the constitution: the general rules, the organizing principles, the membership system, financial management, and supplementary provisions.

The General Rules

The Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association is called สมาคมการค้าไทย-กวางซี in the Thai language; its headquarters were established in Bangkok. The Thai-Guangxi

Commercial Association was organized by the Guangxi people with Thai nationality, who are living in Thailand in accordance with the Thai laws and regulations. It was established as a voluntary nonprofit social organization; the Ministry of the Interior has approved it as a legal community in Thailand. The purpose of the commercial association is to unite the Guangxi people in Thailand, to safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of its members, and to promote the exchanges between its members, the members and the political and business institutions, enterprises and all sectors of Thailand and China.

Organizing Principle

First, the supreme authority of the Commercial Association is the General Assembly.

Second, the election committee is elected by the General Assembly.

Third, the executive committee consists of the chairman, the executive chairman, the vice-chairmen, the deputy secretary-general, the director general and the deputy director.

Fourth, the director-general shall be nominated by the executive committee and shall be appointed upon the consent of the chairman.

Fifth, the election committee is automatically terminated after the Chairman's election conference.

Membership System

Members of the Commercial Association are divided into four categories:
individual members, group members, friendly members and honorary members.

1. Individual members

People over the age of 18, who are from Guangxi Province and live in Thailand, can apply for membership of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association. The chairman must be a native Thai-Guangxi person or a person from Guangxi who lives in Thailand, with the age of over 35. The vice-president must be over 25 years old.

2. Group members

Under law under which the Association was set up, a Guangxi natural or legal person, other economic organizations which have established investment in Thailand, China-Thailand joint ventures and wholly owned enterprises and enterprises in Guangxi in the Thai representative offices or branches established in accordance with local laws may apply as group members. Besides, group members have the right to vote and to be elected, and will become the important members of the commercial association.

3. Friendly member

Any Chinese companies which have business or other individuals in Thailand, if they proved consistent support and care for the development of commercial associations in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association, and do not conform to the

conditions for individual members and those for group members (mainly are not the Guangxi people), can apply for the status of a friendly member, and can apply for the informal member according to the situation of contributing to the commercial association. After the application for this type of membership has been submitted for approval by the conference, the organizations can become permanent members.

4. Honorary members

The commercial association may invite some people who are Chinese-Thai social celebrities or individuals who have promoted the economic and trade relations between China and Thailand, individuals or groups who have made significant contributions to the friendship and development of the people of Guangxi and Thailand, to be honorary members of the commercial association after their consent. Honorary members have the right to participate in all activities of the commercial association, including the general assembly, without the right to vote or to be elected.

Financial Management

The objectives of financial management are to ensure the normal operation and strengthen the financial management, and to promote the building of a standardized, institutionalized and transparent organization. Moreover, the purpose is also to establish an explicit financial system, the standard annual fee collection and financial

management system of this group, in accordance with relevant regulations and requirements of the state.

Income: (1) Contributions (2) Annual fee (3) Sponsorship fee: The purpose is to encourage all members, executive committees, honorary chairmen, consultants and members of the community to provide cash or financial support to the social society. (4) Fee income for carrying out activities or services within the authorized scope of business, (5) Interest income from bank deposits, and (6) Other legitimate income.

Expenditure

The funds of our commercial association are in accordance with the principle of democratic financial management. They are taken from members and are returned to members in the form of certain benefits. Efforts are also made to minimize hosting expenses in accordance with defined business scope and development.

(1) the office expense (office space rental, office supplies purchase expense, printing fee, post fee, telephone and the presentation of the chamber of commerce and the catalogue and printing, website building maintenance, saving, etc.)

(2) Wages, allowances and benefits for full-time staff

(3) Meeting expenses (general meeting, executive committee, board of directors

and other meeting expenses in the name of the commercial association)

(4) Travel expenses for full-time staff

(5) Foreign affairs activities of the commercial association

(6) The commercial association organizes expenditures for activities in the service of its members

(7) Other normal expenses relating to the business of the commercial association

The annual budget and expenditure of the commercial association shall be settled in advance. At the beginning of the year, the annual budget report must be submitted to the executive committee in accordance with the implementation of the previous year's budget of the chamber of commerce and the needs of the work of this year.

1. The chairman may entrust the executive chairman to examine and approve the financial expenditure of the chamber of commerce.

2. The financial revenues and expenditures of the commercial association shall be subject to the supervision of the general meeting, executive committee and audit department

Supplementary Provisions

(1) The commercial association is a Thai social group and **does not participate in any political activities**

(2) The dissolution of the commercial association must be approved by the general assembly of the organization, unless there are other necessary legal reasons.

(3) A resolution to dissolve the commercial association must be approved by more than two-thirds (including two-thirds) of its members. Due to any reason, according to the general assembly, a resolution for the dissolution must make clear the settlement of all accounts, and all property must be handed over to the state of public benefits according to the process of national law or the legal representative of social welfare institutions.

3.7 Summary

About the study of how a Chinese commercial association can provide support for the new Chinese sojourners, I choose the case study of Thai-Guangxi commercial association for this research from among hundreds of Chinese commercial associations in Bangkok. In most research projects, the range of research is too wide so that objectives and questions cannot be analyzed in detail. Indeed, choosing a typical and new Chinese commercial association will be an excellent example by which to explore further details and research.

Guangxi is a special region for Thailand with in-depth interaction from different fields. Hence, the Thai-Guangxi commercial association will be a typical case as an example. Moreover, the case study is more useful for generating hypotheses, whereas other methods are more suitable for hypotheses testing and theory building. Besides, the case study will hopefully reflect some typical characteristics of the new phenomenon of Chinese sojourners.

CHAPTER 4: EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE OF THE THAI-GUANGXI COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATION IN SUPPORTING FOR NEW CHINESE SOJOURNERS

The situation of new Chinese sojourners reflects the way they try to adjust themselves to Thailand. The Commercial Association is thus a platform that serves to help and support these new residents in different aspects of their livelihood in this country. This thesis focuses on the study of the relationship between new Chinese sojourners and Chinese commercial associations, choosing the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association as a case study. The purpose is to show how the Chinese Commercial Association is supporting the new Chinese sojourners.

The thesis uses the quantitative method as the main approach, relying on the questionnaire as a tool for the survey of the various factors related to the commercial

association's support for the new sojourners. Tables and pie charts are used as the main techniques of demonstrating the research findings and analysis of these findings.

4.1 Basic Demographic Characteristics

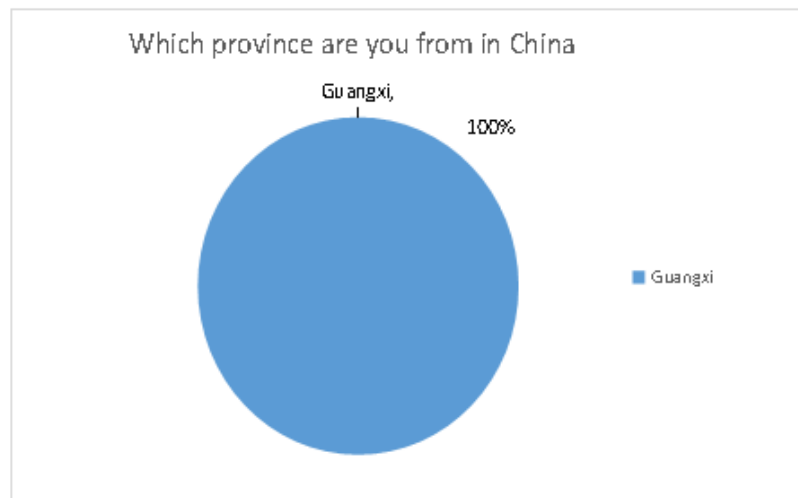
In researching on a group of people, it is indispensable to learn and survey the basic information about the group. This information will help further investigation. The sojourners' demographic characteristics are the most vital information for sojourners' situation to be shown in the study. The first section of this chapter compiles and analyzes the demographic characteristics of respondents to the questionnaires, who are the people from Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association in Bangkok.

The basic information includes the place they are from, as well as their age, gender, occupation, language level, income, educational level, marital status and the purpose of their being sojourners in Thailand.

Sources of the members of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association

4.1.1 Province that you come from

Pie Chart 1 Which province are you from in
China



This pie chart shows that all the respondents are from Guangxi province.

According to the rules of participating in the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association, all the people who want to participate in the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association are required to be Guangxi people only. For the convenience of management and communication, the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association has recruited members from Guangxi province. There is a 100% factual consistency with this requirement.

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4.1.2 Age

Table 1 Age

	Frequency	Percentage	Valid percent

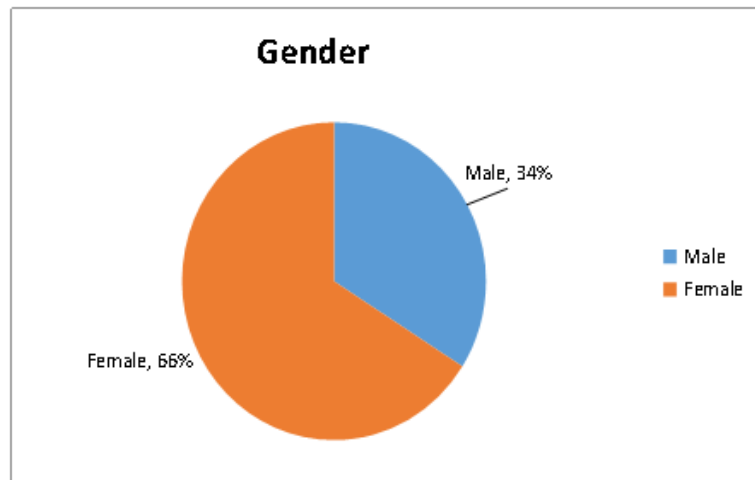
Valid			
≤ 18	0	0.00%	0
19-25	60	60%	60
26-35	40	40%	40
36-45	0	0.00%	0
46-60	0	0.00%	0
≥ 61	0	0.00%	0
Total	100	100%	100

As can be seen in this table, only two values appear in the table. There is no percentage appear on the first age group. No one is under the age of 18: a sojourner who is less than 18 years of age is too young to adapt to the environment of a commercial association. The age group of 19-25 represents the largest proportion of the people in the association, which accounts for 60%, while other age group, that of 26-35 takes 40%, none being in the 36-45, 46-60, and ≥ 61 age groups. There are more 20 people in group of 19-25 than those in group of 26-35.

It is also interesting to note that all the respondents to the questionnaire are not over 36 years old, it can be concluded that the new Chinese sojourners show a trend of being the younger generations of the population.

4.1.3 Gender

Pie Chart 2 Gender



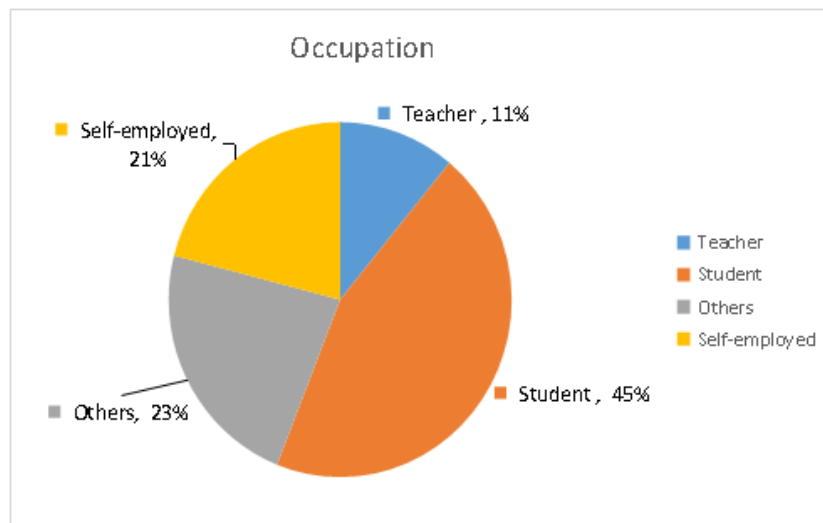
Pie Chart 2 indicates that the members of this organization are predominantly: women account for 66% of the membership, while the male membership represents only accounted for 34%. The male/female ratio of new Chinese sojourners in this association is approximately 1:1.94. This shows that more and more female are willing to participate in some business and commercial association to establish their interpersonal circle.

In earlier times, Chinese immigrants who moved to Thailand to make a living were mostly old immigrants. They came to work as laborers and opened small businesses, so the proportion of men was predominant, accounting for up to 80%. However, due to the fact that women have improved their status in society nowadays, according to the annual data, the proportion of Chinese female going abroad is higher than that of male every year. Referring to the previous table 1, we will see that the 19-25 age group represents a big percentage and, and that the younger trend is predominant as

well. In short, not only is the number of women increasing every year, but the age of women going overseas is also showing a younger trend.

4.1.4 Occupation

Pie Chart 3 Occupation



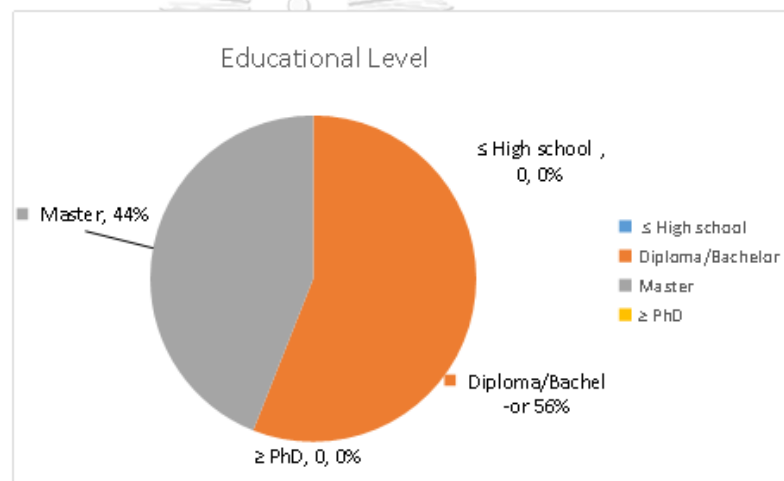
This Pie Chart demonstrates the various occupations of the new sojourners in the commercial association. Actually, businessman, housewife and company employee are among the choices in the questionnaires, but the result of this survey shows that businessman, housewife, company employee take a 0 percentage. Only those occupations with values can be showed in this pie chart. Among the respondents, students represent the largest proportion, which accounts for 45%; while teachers account for the smallest percentage, at 11%. Other groups constitute 23%, followed by self-employed, at 21%.

To some extent, occupation can determine someone's status in society, especially in a foreign society. However, from this pie chart, we can see clearly that students

share the biggest part in this section, and it is interesting to note that there is no businessman in this survey. Currently, a new form of commercial associations allows the people who are from different working fields and occupations to join in. Compared with the old commercial associations, the new commercial association seems like providing a platform to make new friends from different backgrounds.

4.1.5 Educational Level

Pie Chart 4 Educational Level



It can be seen that the majority of the members (56%) has a diploma or a bachelor degree, and the number of those who have a Master's degree accounts for (44%), ranking the second. There is zero percentage on two options, namely \leq high school and \geq PhD. The result shows that all the sojourners are diploma/bachelor degree holders and over 40% are Master degree holders. Clearly, all the members are well-educated.

Furthermore, it is also indicated that the new commercial association attracts those with a higher educational level to join in. This trend is different from the traditional model of the commercial association. It might be concluded that the new commercial association is not only focusing on business exchange, but also gathering some new talents and elite for further development.

4.1.6 Language Level

Table 2 Language Level

English=E Chinese =C Thai=T in this Table as below

	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent
Valid			
C only	25	25%	25
C & E	30	30%	30
C & T	30	30%	30
C & E & T	15	15%	15
Total	100	100%	100

In the previous Chapter, the author has mentioned that the language was a fundamental skill with which to live in a foreign country. According to this table, the percentage of new sojourners who can master 3 languages (Chinese, English and Thai) is 15%, which is an excellent ratio in an organization. This group is followed by C & T, constituting 30%; and finally C & E and C only at 30% and 25% , respectively.

To a certain extent, a high degree of education determines the ability of language learning. However, mastering the Thai language in Thailand will provide a great convenience for new Chinese sojourners.

4.1.7 Income Level

Table 3 Income Level (Thai Bath)

	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent

Valid			
0-10000	0	0%	0
20000-25000	15	15%	15
30000-35000	46	46%	46
4000-50000	20	20%	20
≥ 50000	19	19%	19
Total	100	100%	100

Among the respondents, five categories are distributed by the sojourners. The income level of 0-10000 is 0%, 30000-35000 and 40000-45000 take the high percentage among these five categories, at 46% and 20% respectively. The lowest percentage takes place in the income level of 20000-25000, which accounts 15%, while the 19% appears in the income level of ≥ 50000 .

4.1.8 Personal Status

Table 4 Personal Status

	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent
Valid			
Single or live alone	85	85%	85
Married, no children	13	13%	13
Married, have children under 18 years old	2	2%	2
Married, have children over 18 years old	0	0%	0
Total	100	100	100

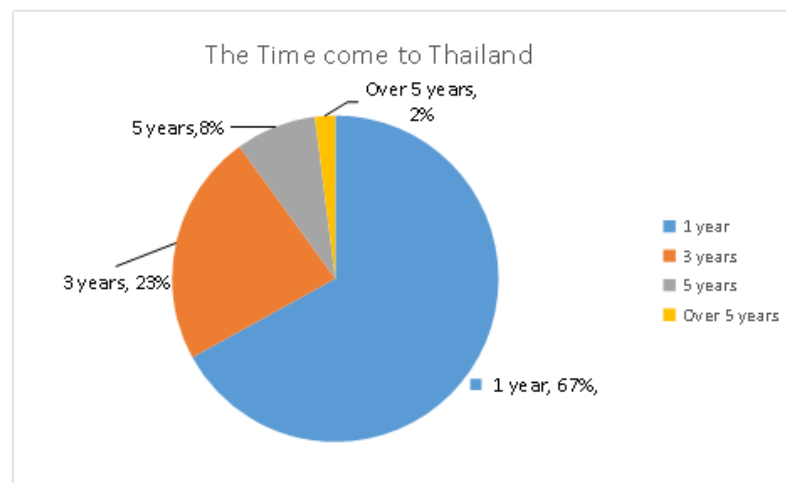
From this Table of personal status, there are four categories in this given table. It is obvious that the group of single or living alone accounts the huge percentage, the ratio reaching up to 85%. On the contrary, the married group having children under 18

years old accounts for only 2%. The married group with no children accounts for 13%. However, the married group having children over 18 years old accounts for 0%, since most of the new sojourners belong to 19-25 age group.

4.1.9 Duration of stay in Thailand

Pie Chart 5 Duration of stay in

Thailand



The Pie Chart above demonstrates the time the new Chinese sojourners have spent in to Thailand. It can be seen clearly that the biggest ratio is accounted for by the group of 1 year, followed by the group of 3 years, 5 years, and over 5 years, at 23%, 8% and 2%, respectively.

From the chart, one can see that most sojourners are still short-period residents in Thailand, i.e. staying for only about 1 year. A 3 year stay is a period required to know and live in a foreign society properly. A 5 year period is a transitional one, while staying over 5 years can integrate the sojourners into this society gradually.

4.2 Motivation and Time

4.2.1 The Purpose of coming to Thailand

Table 5 Purse to Thailand

	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent

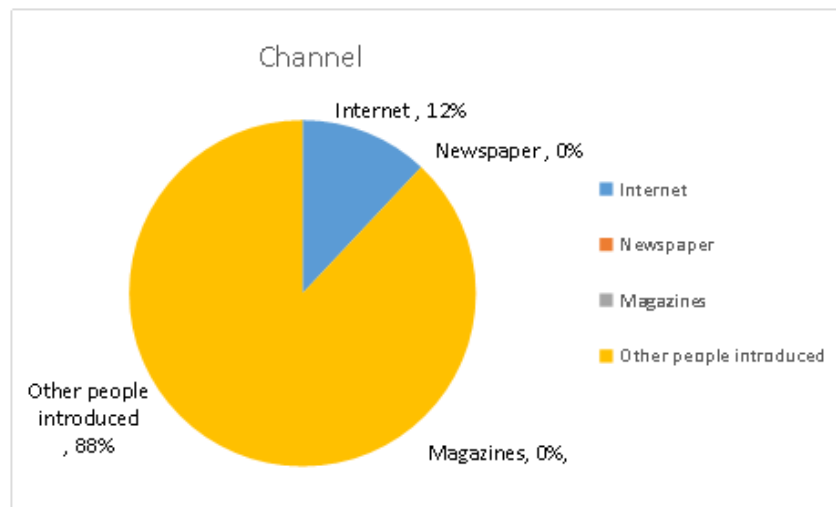
Valid			
Study	46	46%	46
Business	23	23%	23
Teaching	10	10%	10
Accompanying with family members	0	0%	0
Others	21	21%	21
Total	100	100%	100

As can be seen in this table, five purposes are showed in this table. The study purpose, which accounts for 46%, is the most predominant; then, the next purpose is business, which accounts for 23%. This percentage is followed by “others”, constituting 21%, teaching 10%, and “accompanying family members” 0%.

Among the respondents, study still takes the highest share, according to pie chart 3. Study is becoming a popular way for a new sojourner to choose for the purpose of living overseas at the beginning, as compared with the traditional way of old immigrants who moved to Thailand mostly for business. The former purpose may make it easier to enter a new foreign society.

4.2.2 Channels by which the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association is known

Pie Chart 7 Channels by which the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association is known



The results of the questionnaire survey reveal four channels through which the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association is known. According to the pie chart, it is noticeable that the biggest channel is “introduced by other people”, which accounts for approximately 88%, while the smallest one is the “Internet”, which makes up only 12%. However, no ratio for the channel of newspaper and magazine appears in the chart.

4.2.3 The basic purpose for joining in the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association

Table 6 The basic purpose for joining the commercial association

	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent
Valid			
For Business	25	25%	25
Making Friends	40	40%	40
Increasing Knowledge	20	20%	20
Asking for help			
Others	10	10%	10
Total	5	5%	5
	100	100%	100

This Table illustrates the purpose for joining the commercial association. Five categories are shown in this table. Among the sojourners, however, the purpose of making friends makes up the largest ratio, at 40%; the next is for business with 25%; this is followed by increasing knowledge, constituting 20%; and finally asking for help and “others” account for 10% and 5% respectively.

It can be concluded that new sojourners treat today's commercial association as a platform for making friends, instead of doing business currently.

4.2.4 The Length of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association membership period

Table 7 The length of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association membership period

	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent
Valid			
3 months	52	52%	52
Half a year	5	5%	5
1 year	22	22%	22
2 years	11	11%	11
3 years	3	3%	3
4 years	7	7%	7
Total	100	100%	100

This is a Table that shows the length of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association membership period of new Chinese sojourners. The total time in this table is classified into six sections as follows: 3 months, half a year, 1 year, 2 years, 3 years and 4 years.

Overall, the 3 month section has taken the largest proportion, which accounts for 52%, while the 3 year section has the smallest percentage, at 3% only. As can be seen in the table, other time sections also take different percentages, namely, half a year,

constituting 5%, which is followed by 1 year, at 22%, 2 years and 4 years, at 11% and 7%, respectively.

4.2.5 Other purposes for joining Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association

Table 8 Other purpose to join in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association

Reason	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent
Valid			
Experiencing something different	25	25%	25
Learning something new	25	25%	25
Meeting people from the same province in Thailand	22	22%	22
Providing a good platform to make friends	28	28%	28
Total	100	100%	100

According to the table on other purposes for joining Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association, it is clear that the purpose of experiencing something different and learning something new represents the same percentage, i.e. 25%, while the purpose of meeting people from the same province in Thailand has a less proportion (22%) than the purpose of providing a good platform to make friends (28%).

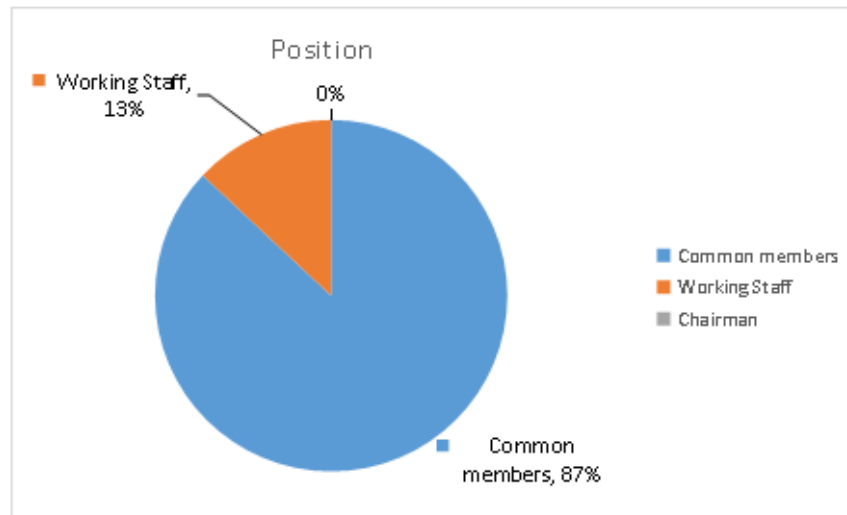
4.3 Information Sources from the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association

This section introduces information sources from Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association. Data from this part reflects the support of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association for the new Chinese sojourners to some extent.

From this section, we can also learn about the current form of help that the commercial association can provide for new Chinese sojourners and how to communicate with the new Chinese sojourners on a daily basis.

4.3.1 What is your position in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Pie Chart 8 Position in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association



This pie chart on the position in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association has only three options. Due to the special status of the Chairman of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association, and with a view to ensuring the authenticity of the investigation results, the Chairman participated in a brief interview only, not in completing the questionnaire. Therefore, the result of Chairman is 0%. On the other hand, the working staff accounts for 13%, the rest is the common members, making up 87% of all those who participated in this survey.

4.3.2 How did you get the information from Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Table 9 The Channel through which you get the information from Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association

Channel	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent

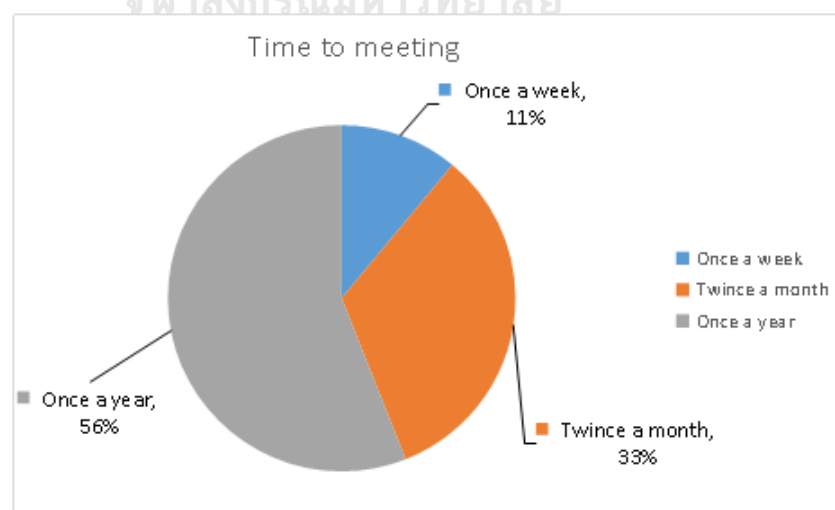
Valid			
Wechat Group	55		55
Regular meeting in periodical time	33	55%	33
Holding activities	12	33%	12
Total	100		100
		12%	
		100%	

As can be seen the Table above, there 3 channels of information from Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association: Wechat Group, Regular meeting in periodical time and holding activities. The Wechat Group makes up the biggest percentage at 55%, followed by regular meeting in periodical time, which accounts for 33%, and finally holding activities accounts for the smallest percentage, at 12%.

Compared with old commercial associations, the new commercial association has a more convenient and rapid way of communication; the application of Internet and chat tools has become the means of new Chinese commercial association.

4.3.3 How long do the members get together to organize the meeting?

Pie Chart 9 Time to meeting



The pie chart 9 shows the frequency of the meeting organized by the commercial association. The 3 options in this table show that once a week takes the smallest

percentage, at 11%; twice a month accounts for 33%, ranking second; finally, once a year takes the largest proportion, at 56%.

4.3.4 What kind of information about Thailand are you given most by the organization?

Table 10 Information from Organization provide most

Information	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent
Valid			
Language	8	8%	8
Culture and History	8	8%	8
Business and Trade			
Travel	55	55 %	55
Study	19	19%	19
Others	6	6%	6
Total	4	4%	4
	100	100%	100

As can be seen above, there are six categories in this table. Among the respondents, the information about business and trade still takes the biggest percentage, namely 55%, while the others account for 4% only. Language, culture and history make up the same ratio, at 8%; travel and study constitute 19% and 6% respectively.

4.3.5 What kind of activities do the organization often hold for the new sojourners?

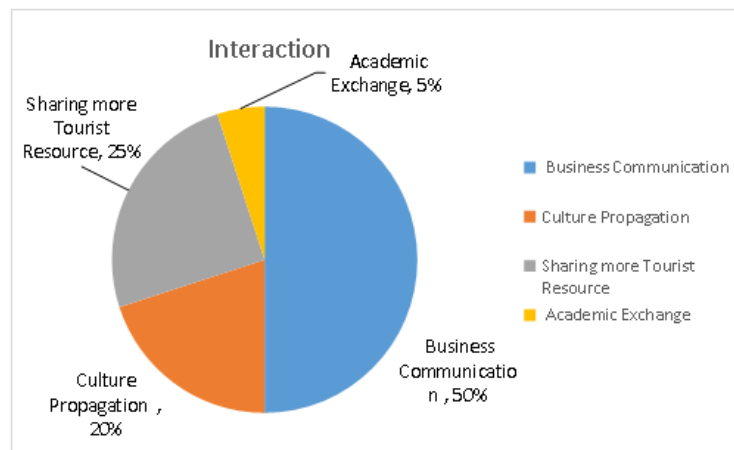
Table 11 Activities in organization to do for new Chinese sojourners

Activities	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent
Valid			
Business Discussion	20		20
Thai Language Learning	11	20%	11
Holiday Party	40	11%	
Thai-Chinese Culture exchange	29	40%	40
Total	100	29%	29
		100%	100

As can be seen in this table, which is about the activities organized by the organization for new Chinese sojourners, there are four activities. It is noticeable that holiday party has the largest percentage, making up 40%, followed by Thai-Chinese Culture Exchange, which accounts for 29%. Business discussion and Thai language learning constitute 20% and 11% respectively.

4.3.6 Which kind of interaction has the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association done in Thai Society?

Pie Chart 10 Interaction of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association with Thai Society



This is a pie chart that demonstrates the proportion of the interaction of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association with Thai Society. It is no doubt that the first interaction is business communication, which accounts for half the ratio, at 50%; tourist resource takes 25%, followed by culture propagation and academic exchange, constituting 20% and 5% respectively.

4.3.7 What are the contributions have the New Sojourner done under the supporting of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Table 12 Contribution of new sojourners done

Contribution	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent

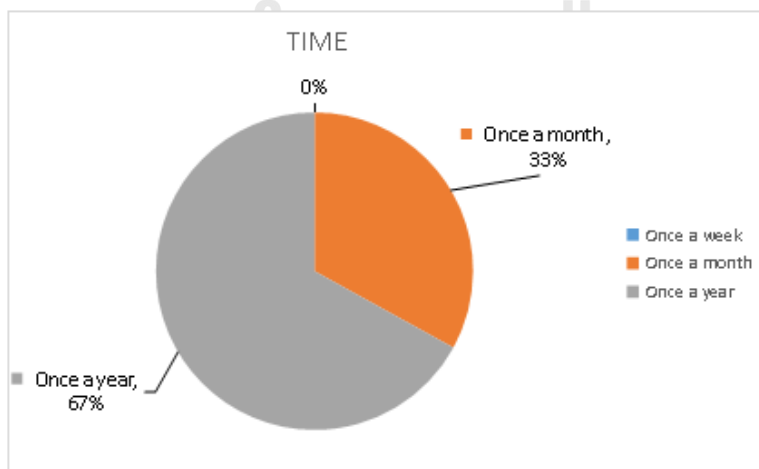
Valid			
Disaster Relief Activities	10	10%	10
A Charity Event	10	10%	10
Build a Platform for the excellent Talents between Thai-Chinese	80	80%	80
Total	100	100%	100

This is a table about the contributions the new sojourners have made under the support of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association. There are only three categories. Among the respondents, build a platform for the excellent talents between Thai and Chinese makes up the biggest percentage at 80%, while the disaster relief activities and a charity event account for 10% repetitively.

4.4 The feedback of new Chinese sojourners in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association

4.4.1 How often do you go to Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

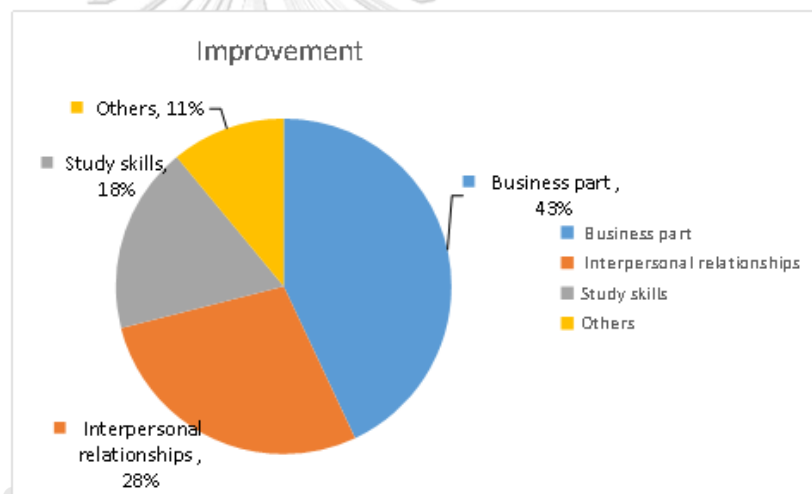
Pie Chart 11 Frequency of the visits to Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association



As can be seen in this pie chart, since the new sojourners are from different fields and occupations, they are busy for their own career and study; therefore, a once a year visit accounts for the largest percentage, at 67%, followed by once a month, which makes up 33%. However, a once a week visit take 0%.

4.4.2 What part have you improved after joining Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Pie Chart 12 Improvement from Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association



This pie chart shows that the improvement of the new sojourners after the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association. From the pie chart, the business part is taking the biggest proportion, at 43%, followed by Interpersonal relationships, which accounts for 28%. Finally comes study skills and others accounts for 18% and 11% respectively.

4.4.3 Compared with other Commercial Associations from different Provinces, what is the advantage of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Table 13 The advantage of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association

Advantages	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent
Valid			
Geographical Condition	11	11%	11
The Similarity of Culture and Customs	18	18%	18
Preferential Policy given by the State or local Government	22	22%	22
A great number population from Guangxi in Thailand		49%	49
Total		100%	1

In this table on the advantages of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association, there are four main items. The advantage of geographical condition has the smallest percentage, making up 11%, followed by the similarity of culture and customs, which represents the second smallest percentage, at 18%; then, preferential policy given by the state or local government 22%, ranking third; and finally the advantage of a great number of population from Guangxi in Thailand, representing the largest percentage, at 49%.

4.4.4 What is the difference from the old Commercial Association?

Table 14 Difference from the old Commercial Association

Difference	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent
Valid			
More young people from different field to join	77	77%	77
More new activities to hold	11	11%	11
More supporting by the State and Government	12	12%	12
Total	100	100%	100

As can be seen in this table, the comparison between the new commercial association and the old commercial associations shows that the difference of younger people from different fields who join take the biggest ratio, at 77%, followed by more new activities accounting for 11%, and finally more support by the state and government, which accounts for 12%.

4.4.5 If you can have a suggestion, what kind of information do you want to get from Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Table 15 Desired information

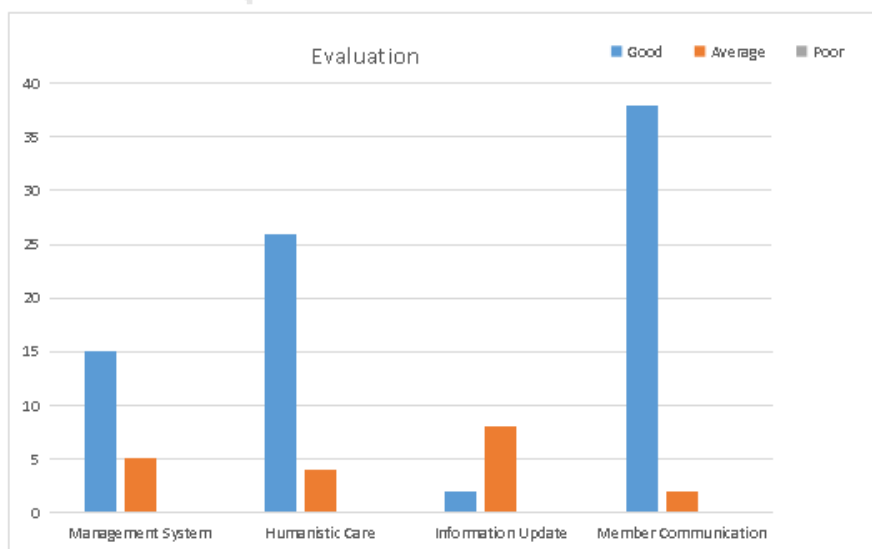
Desired information	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percent

Valid			
Thai Political News	2	2%	2
Thai Culture and History	3	3%	3
Thai Language			
Thai Health Care	10	10%	10
Thai Commercial Trade Information	20	20%	20
Thai Investment Business Law Information	39	39%	39
Total	100	100%	100

The table on the desired information shows what the new Chinese sojourners want to get from the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association. There are six categories in this table, among which the Thai commercial trade information has the largest percentage, which makes up 39%, followed by Thai investment and business law information, accounting for 26%; Thai health care 20%; Thai language 10%; and, finally, Thai political news and Thai culture and history 2% and 3%, respectively.

4.4.6 Evaluate the effect of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association for supporting the new Chinese Sojourners

Bar Chart The Evaluation from the new Chinese Sojourners



This is the bar chart that illustrates the evaluation by the new Chinese Sojourners of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association. The standards of this evaluation are divided into three levels: good, average and poor. It is shown on this chart with three different colors. There are four categories in this evaluation: management system, humanistic care, information update, and member communication.

In management system, there are 20 people who evaluated this part; 15 people gave a good evaluation, and 5 people gave the average evaluation. The next is humanistic care, 30 people participated in this part; 26 people evaluated the good level, and the rest of 4 people evaluated the average level. Information update was evaluated by 10 people only; 2 people gave the good level, and 8 people gave the average level. The last part is member communication, 40 people participated in the evaluation. This represents the largest number of people who evaluated in this part. 38 people evaluated good level; only 2 people gave the average level. It is also noticeable that there is no poor evaluation in this table.

4.5 Summary

This Chapter illustrates the result of the questionnaire in three ways: Table, Pie Chart and Bar Chart in details. The questionnaire is divided into four main parts to reflect the survey. The first part is basic demographic characteristics: it shows the basic information on each new sojourner. It includes the age, domicile, occupation, personal status, educational level and so on. These data can help us to have a preliminary understanding of the new Chinese sojourners in Thai society. The second part involves the motivation and time: this section allows us to understand the purpose and requirements of new sojourners to join in the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association clearly. The third part is about the information source from the commercial association: this section shows us how the commercial association supports and provides information to the new sojourners. The last part is the feedback of new Chinese sojourners in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association. This part is a vital part in this study; it reflects the requests and evaluation of the new sojourners so

that we can know how to support in a proper way, and what is the information they want to get from the commercial association.

CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This Chapter will conclude the result of this research and the suggestion will be given in this Chapter as well. This thesis took the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association in Bangkok as the Survey site, the new Chinese sojourners from the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association as the respondents. Questionnaire is used to the method of this research, brief interview as a supplement will be written in this chapter.

5.1 Brief Interview

The purpose of the brief interview is a supplement for knowing the development of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association in details, and choosing a typical individual for how the relationship between the commercial and a sojourner.

Summary of the interview:

The first interview is about the typical individual, the interviewee is a Master student who is a Thai language teacher currently. He has stayed in Thailand more than 5 years with high Thai language level and good educational level. In his mind, Guangxi and Thailand is a good neighbor, Thai and Guangxi have the same similarity in many cases. In Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association, he felt warm like in the hometown, can meet the people from the same province and help each other in daily life. He has joined in this organization 2 years, and hoped more business investment information can be learned from this organization. He enjoyed the life in Thailand and hoped to help more new Chinese sojourners in Thai language study in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association.

The second interview is about the working staff from Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association. It is so honor that the interviewee is the Vice Chairman of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association in this interview. He has been to Thailand more than ten years, the common problems of the new Chinese sojourners met in Thailand is the visa problems, and some members would to search the opportunities to invest in Thailand. Meanwhile, under the supported by the Thai and Chinese government, the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association will try their best to build a strong bridge between Guangxi and Thai. Besides, more and more young students join in the commercial association is a pleasant phenomenon, people are from different occupation to join in ,which will diversify the business circle of the commercial association and provide a wider communication platform for new Chinese sojourners. For the Thai Society part, for example, any major event in Thai society, such as floods, the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association leads its members in donating materials and help Thai society. Finally, he hopes any members need any help in Thailand. do not hesitate to find Commercial Association.

5.2 The result of the questionnaire

1. Basic demographic characteristics

Age

The variable of age reflects the new Chinese sojourners' state and living style. In other words, the young groups are more active than the old groups. Young people are more dynamic to challenge and learn different fields in a society, it means that more young people join in a society tends to be more pluralistic and multicultural. From this questionnaire, it is interesting to note that most of the new Chinese sojourners are trend to be younger age.

Occupation

It is an important factor usually reflects the income and economic condition. In a word, it will be understand that the higher income is, the higher contributor of the society will be. From this questionnaire, students take the biggest percentage in the commercial association. Thus, more and more different occupations join the commercial association, young students are predicted to be the main force in the commercial association nowadays.

Education Level

Education level impacts the society in two dimensions, namely the development and high-quality human resource. Since most of the member are students from the survey, they have well educational level. Compared with the old Chinese immigrants in Thailand, they are good learning skills and knowledgeable.

2 .Motivation and time

From the investigation, the new Chinese sojourners have been stayed in Thailand no more than 3 years, and joining the commercial association for making friends instead of business. With the demands of the new age group, the role of the commercial is also changing, from a single politics and business, turn to develop a multiple functions and, becoming a platform for making friends and make the sojourners from the same province to get together.

3. Information source from the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association

The Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association is an organization not only provide a platform for the sojourners, what is more important is to provide all kinds of economic, tourist and political resources. Still, the information of business trade are the largest demand by the new Chinese sojourners. Compared with other Chinese commercial association, with the supported by the Chinese government and geographical condition, the Thai-Guangxi commercial association is more advantaged.

4. The feedback of new Chinese sojourners in the Thai-Guangxi commercial association

In general, the Chinese sojourners' command to the Thai-Guangxi commercial association on good level. Although the Thai-Guangxi commercial association is a new organization, a large number of new Chinese sojourners are come from Guangxi which take the third number people in Chinese sojourners. It is still encouraged that the new sojourner group can participate in a organization with good relationship.

5.3 Findings in the questionnaire

First, the basic demographic characteristics include the basic information about sojourners: age, language level demonstrates over 50% new Chinese sojourners in commercial association are students, their educational level and language level at least in BA degree, most of them had knowledge of at least one language, and can speak Thai language well. Although some of new Chinese sojourners can not speak

Thai, but they can speak English as an international language, both language skill and educational background that they had already. Compared with the old immigrants moved to Thailand in earlier times, the old migrants are labour force and hawker who were no any language skills and educational level. In today's competitive pressure, the new sojourners are required to have more knowledge and skills to survive in a foreign societies.

Next, it is noticeable to note that the age of respondents in the commercial association are not over 35 years old. The variable of age will reflect the new Chinese sojourner' state and living style in foreign society. In other words, the younger groups will be more active, energetic and have passion in participating some activities of the commercial association and social events. Young people are more dynamic to challenge and learn different things in the society nowadays, it means that the society will trend to be pluralistic and multicultural when the youth join in.

Third, this study found that most of the new sojourners' occupation are students , other occupations are also included as well like Chinese teachers, self-employed. Compared to the previous single hawker or labor force as occupation of old Chinese immigrants, a various kind of occupation also join in due to the demand of the the foreign society. Meanwhile, the occupation will determinate the income level, and it is also an vital factor usually to reflect the economic condition. In a word, it can be understood that the higher income is , the higher contributor of the society will be.

With the support by the commercial association , there will be a wider platform in Thailand to meet friends from the same province and to help each other in Thailand, Likewise, new sojourners breathed the fresh power into the new commercial association, Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association as a hometown organization that provide the information such as business, political, tourist, and support to the people who lived in Thailand from Guangxi. Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association is also a bridge connect China and Thailand. In short sum up, the relationship between Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association and the new Chinese sojourners are mutually beneficial each other.

5.3 Suggestion and recommendation

From this research, there are still some insufficient that need to be improved by the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association. The suggestions is going to be advice as below.

Suggestion: one hand, the commercial association can provide more historical, cultural and academic activities of Thai or Guangxi , this will make the commercial association become a more diversified platform. On another hand, interaction with Thai society can also increase cultural aspects, Thai students can be recruited as interns to the commercial so that provide Chinese and Thai students have the working experience.

Recommendation: This thesis hope can use to survey the study of the new sojourners in Thailand, or can use in the study of commercial association of other province from China as a reference. Furthermore, the author hope more and more people are able to monitor the situation of sojourners in abroad, the sojourners are play a role in bringing foreign cultures into a society so that make the society presents diversified elements, and can promote the policy, culture, tourism, business and other development of a society, as well as the the main two industries, employment and service.

Limitation: All in all, this study only take the one Chinese commercial association from one province as a case study, and due to the limited capital, time and references, please forgive the shortcomings of this study.

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APPENDIX

Questionnaire of the New Chinese Sojourners in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association in Bangkok

Dear the members of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association,

I am a Chinese student who is studying in Southeast Asian Study of Chulalongkorn University. I am conducting a survey related to the role of Commercial Association in supporting the new Chinese sojourners. Therefore, I would like to choose the new Chinese sojourners in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association as my respondent. This questionnaire will be divided into two types questions: Multiple choice questions and Short answer questions. All the information you provide will only be used for academic research. Thank you for your participation and wish you have a happy and comfortable life in Thailand. (o select only one option, * can select multiple option).

1. Which province are you from in China?
2. Your age : ≤ 18 19-25 26-35 36-45 46-60 ≥ 61
3. Your gender: Male Female
4. Your occupation: Teacher Student Businessman Self-employed Company employee Housewife Others
5. Your language level: Chinese Only English Only Thai Only Chinese and Thai Chinese and English English and Thai English, Thai and Chinese
6. Your monthly income is around (change into Thai bath)
 0-10000 20000-25000 30000-35000 4000-50000 ≥ 50000
7. Your educational level:

≤ High school Diploma/Bachelor Master ≥ PhD

8. Your personal status:

Single or live alone Married, no children Married, have children under 18 years old

Married, have children over 18 years old

9. What is your main purpose of staying in Thailand?

Study Business Teaching Accompany with family members Others

10. How do you know the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Internet Newspaper Magazines Other people introduced

11. How long did you join in the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

3 months Half a years 1 year 2 years 3 years 4 years

12. What is the basic purpose of joining in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association at the beginning?

For Business Making Friends Increasing Knowledge Asking for help Others

13. Except business, why do you want to join in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

(Check Box)

Reasons	Yes
Experiencing something different	*
Learning something new	*
Meeting people from the same province in Thailand	*
Providing a good platform to make friends	*

14. What part have you improved after joining Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Business part Interpersonal relationships Study skills Others

15. How long did you stay in Thailand as a new sojourners?

One year 3 years 5 years More than 5 years

16. How did you get the information from Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Wechat Group Regular meeting in periodical time Holding activities

17. What kind of information does the organization provide to you about Thailand most?

Language Culture and History Business and Trade Travel Study Others

18. How long do the members get together to organize the meeting?

Once a week Twice a week Once a month

19. How often do you go to Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Once a week Once a month Once a year

20. What is your position in Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Common members Working Staff Chairman

21. What kind of activities do the organization often hold for the new sojourners?

Business Discussion Thai Language Learning Holiday Party Thai-Chinese Culture Exchange

22. If you can have a suggestion, what kind of information do you want to get from Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Thai Political News Thai Culture and History Thai Language Thai Health Care

Thai Commercial Trade Information Thai Investment Business Law Information

23. Which kind of interaction has the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association done in Thai Society?

Business Communication Culture Propagation Sharing more Tourist Resource Academic Exchange

24. What are the contribution has the New Sojourner done under the supporting by the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Disaster Relief Activities A Charity Event Build a Platform for the excellent Talents between Thai-Chinese

25. Compared with other Commercial Association from different Provinces, what is the advantage of Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Geographical Condition The Similarity of Culture and Customs

Preferential Policy given by the State or local Government

A great number population from Guangxi in Thailand

26. Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association as a new and active organization, what is the difference from the old Commercial Association?

More young people from different field to join More new activities to hold More supporting by the State and Government

27. Please evaluate the effect of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association for supporting the new Chinese Sojourners as below:

	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Poor
Management System	*	*	*	*	*
Humanistic Care	*	*	*	*	*
Information Update	*	*	*	*	*
Member Communication	*	*	*	*	*
Culture Exchange	*	*	*	*	*

End

Thanks Again!

泰国广西商会中国新旅居者成员调查问卷

尊敬的泰国广西商会的各位成员：

我是来自泰国朱拉隆宫大学东南亚研究的一名学生。我正在做一个关于商会如何支持新旅居者的调查。因此，我选择泰国广西商会的中国新旅居者作为调

查研究对象。这份调查问卷分为2种类型的问题：选择题和简答题。所有调查对象所提供的答案仅用于学术研究。感谢您的支持与配合，祝您在泰国有一个舒心 and 愉快的生活。（○表示单选题 *表示多选题）

- 1.您来自中国的哪个省？
- 2.您的年龄：○ ≤ 18 ○ 19-25 ○ 26-35 ○ 36-45 ○ 46-60 ○ ≥ 61
- 3.您的性别：○ 男 ○ 女
- 4.您的职业：○ 老师 ○ 学生 ○ 商人 ○ 私人雇主 ○ 公司职员 ○ 家庭主妇 ○ 其他
- 5.您的语言水平：○ 只会中文 ○ 只会英语 ○ 只会泰语 ○ 中、泰语 ○ 中、英语 ○ 英、泰语 ○ 英、泰、中文
- 6.您的月收入（换算成泰铢）：○ 10000 ○ 20000-25000 ○ 30000-35000 ○ 4000-50000 ○ ≥ 50000
- 7.您的受教育程度：○ ≤ 高中学历 ○ 本科学历 ○ 硕士学历 ○ ≥ 博士学历
- 8.您的个人情况：○ 单身或者独居 ○ 结婚，无小孩 ○ 结婚，有小孩，未成年 ○ 结婚，有小孩，已成年
- 9.您留在泰国的主要目的是：○ 学习 ○ 商务 ○ 教学 ○ 陪亲属 ○ 其他
- 10.您是通过哪种渠道知道泰国广西总商会的？○ 网络 ○ 报纸 ○ 杂志 ○ 其他人推荐
- 11.您加入泰国广西商会多久了？○ 3个月 ○ 半年 ○ 1年 ○ 2年 ○ 3年 ○ 4年
- 12.您加入泰国广西商会的主要目的是什么？
○ 商业目的 ○ 交朋友 ○ 增长知识 ○ 寻求帮助 ○ 其他
- 13.除了商业目的，您加入泰国广西商会的其他原因是什么？
请从下列内容中选择，为多选题

原因	是
体验不同的事物	*
学习不同的事物	*
在泰国认识同一个省份的老乡	*
搭建平台结交新朋友	*

- 14.在加入泰国广西商会之后，您觉得自身有哪些部分是提高了？
○ 商业方面 ○ 人际关系 ○ 学习技能 ○ 其他
- 15.您作为旅居者来到泰国多久了？
○ 1年 ○ 3年 ○ 5年 ○ 超过5年
- 16.您是从哪个渠道从泰国广西商会中获取信息？
○ 微信群组 ○ 周期性的例会 ○ 举办活动
- 17.商会为你们提供哪方面的信息比较多？
○ 语言 ○ 文化和历史 ○ 商业和贸易 ○ 旅游 ○ 留学 ○ 其他
- 18.商会成员多久开一次例会？
○ 一周一次 ○ 一月一次 ○ 一年一次
- 19.您多久去一次商会？
○ 一周一次 ○ 一月一次 ○ 一年一次

- 20.您在商会中担任什么职位?
 普通成员 工作人员 主席
- 21.一般情况下, 商会为成员们举办什么类型的活动?
 商业讨论 泰语学习 节日聚会 泰-中文化交流
- 22.如果请您给个意见, 您最希望从泰国广西商会中获得什么的信息?
 泰国政治新闻 泰国文化与历史 泰语 泰国医疗保健 泰国商务贸易信息 泰国投资商业相关法律信息
- 23.商会与泰国社会有哪些互动方式?
 商业交流 文化传播 分享更多的旅游资源 学术交流
- 24.在泰国-广西商会的支持下, 新旅居者为泰国社会做了哪些贡献?
 救灾活动 慈善活动 为中泰优秀人才搭建平台
- 25.与其他省份的商会相比, 广西商会的优势是什么?
 地理条件优势 相似的文化习俗 国家或地方政府提供的优惠政策 在泰庞大的广西人口相互扶持
- 26.泰国-广西商会作为一个新的、活跃的商会, 不同于一些老商会的的特点有哪些?
 更多来自各行业年轻人的加入 更多种形式的活动举办
 更多来自地方政府甚至国家的支持
- 27.请对泰国广西商会如何支持新旅居者下列几项指标作出评价

	非常好	好	一般	低于一般	差
管理系统	*	*	*	*	*
人文关怀	*	*	*	*	*
信息更新	*	*	*	*	*
成员交流	*	*	*	*	*
文交换	*	*	*	*	*

非常感谢您的参与!

The Interview question list shows as below:

Interview question:

Questions for outstanding or typical individuals

- 1.What is your occupation in Bangkok?
- 2.How long did you stay in Thailand?
- 3.What is your language level?
- 4.Using a word to describe the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association in your mind, such as a warm home or organization, a strong supported platform.
- 5.Guangxi as a bridge connecting China and ASEAN, and Thailand is a good neighbour with Guangxi geographically, do you think Guangxi Sojourners live in

Thailand has more advantages compared with Chinese Sojourners from other provinces? What are their advantages?

6. With the support by the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association , what kind of trade are the most popular between Thai-Guangxi?

7. If you encounter some problems in Thailand, will the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association be your first choice to ask for help? How to seek the help from the Commercial Association ? How do they give you the suggestions?

8. Language is a big problem for foreign people in Thailand, How do the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association give the language help to the new sojourners?

9. Compared with old Commercial Association, what is most difference between new one and old one?

10. What kind of software or platform do they use for daily communication?

11. What type of information do the Commercial Association release to the members?

12. Any advice or comments to the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

Questions for working staff of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association:

1. What is your position of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

2. How long did you stay in Thailand?

3. What is your language level?

4. In general, what type of problems do the new sojourners encounter in Thailand? Take some examples ?

5. What is the responsibility at your present work unit?

6. What kind of activities or meetings do the Association hold for the new sojourners for communication?

7. Compared with other Commercial Association from provinces, What is the advantages or differences of the Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association?

8. What contribution has been made to the Thai society?

9. What have Association done to make the new sojourners better integrated into Thai Society?

10. Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association as an organization for a few years, any suggestions and wishes for Thai-Guangxi Commercial Association as a working staff ?

11. How to improve efficiency to help more new sojourners for getting better life in Thailand? Which part will be important firstly?

VITA

I am a Chinese student who is a Master student study in Southeast Asian study programme, I hope my topic can pay more people attention

