ปฏิสัมพันธ์ทางวัฒนธรรมและสังคมระหว่างคนไทยกับฝรั่ง พิจารณาจากความสัมพันธ์ทางการสมรส



เวโรนี้ก้า เจน ฮัมฟรี-สมิธ

วิทยานิพนธ์นี้เป็นส่วนหนึ่งของการศึกษาตามหลักสูตรปริญญาอักษรศาสตร์มหาบัณฑิต ภาควิชาไทยศึกษา (ภาษาอังกฤษ) บัณฑิตวิทยาลัย จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย พ.ศ. 2538

THAI-FARANG CULTURAL AND SOCIAL INTERACTIONS AS SEEN THROUGH MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIPS

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A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts

Thai Studies Program
Graduate School
Chulalongkorn University

1995

ISBN 974-631-589-7

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C511028 : MAJOR THAI STUDIES

KEY WORD: THAI-FARANG/MARRIAGE/RELATIONS/SOCIAL CHANGE/

CROSS-CULTURAL INTERACTION

VERONICA JANE HUMPHERY-SMITH: THAI-FARANG CULTURAL AND

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SOCIAL INTERACTIONS AS SEEN THROUGH MARRIAGE

RELATIONSHIPS. THESIS ADVISOR: ASSOC. PROF. JUREE VICHIT-VADAKAN, Ph.D. 241pp. ISBN 974-631-589-7

This thesis focuses on Thai-farang marriage relationships to highlight the reciprocal effects of Thai-farang cultural and social interactions and Thai social change.

As the first major study of its kind the research was based on indepth interviews with farang wives of Thai men. The interviewees were divided into two groups based upon the length of time the farang women had lived in Thailand; those who had lived in Thailand more than 20 years and those who had lived in Thailand less than 20 years. Agegenerational differences in the farang women's experiences revealed many areas of Thai social and cultural change, particularly in Thai family and gender-based roles. Thai social and cultural changes together with increased Thai-farang interactions over the past decades were seen to affect the position of and relations with farang living in Thailand.

This thesis provides valuable first hand data and analysis and offers an alternative view of the effects of Thai socio-economic development and socio-cultural changes as experienced and perceived by farang wives of Thai men. Questions were posed and material provided which would be useful for further research into Thai socio-economic development and social change, and the effects thereof upon Thai-farang relations, the position of off-spring, luuk-khrueng, in Thai society and comparative studies of cross-cultural marriage relationships.

ภาควิชา	ลายมือชื่อนิสิต
สาขาวิชา	ลายมือชื่ออาจารย์ที่ปรึกษา มาแน Vichit - Vardukan
ปีการศึกษา	ลายมือชื่ออาจารย์ที่ปรึกษาร่วม

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

would like to express my sincere thanks, admiration and appreciation to my advisor Dr generously for giving so her Vichit-Vadakan guidance, personal encouragement and professional valuable time. My thanks are also due to my committee William Klausner and chairperson, member, Dr comments their insightful Prasithrathsint for and suggestions which have been incorporated into the final Thanks also go to Dr Dhiravat na Pombej for information from the ancient Three Seals Law.

Much thanks and appreciation are extended to all who took part in the survey, and especially to those who agreed to be interviewed for their kind and enthusiatic cooperation without which this study would not have been possible. I hope they will find the results interesting.

For kindly assisting with data collection, I wish to thank Susy Trier, Christine Williams, May Anukrahanand and Jan Weisman. I am most grateful to my employer for the use of computing facilities and to my work colleagues for their assistance with computer errors and formatting, and especially to Michelle Abhasakun for proof-reading.

My deepest gratitude to Mr Anggoon Buttayotee for his endless patience and enabling me to gain the most from my academic and personal life overseas. To my great friends in England, thanks for all their encouragement.

Finally, my love and appreciation go to my parents and my entire family for their unfailing support. Without their love and inspiration I may never have ventured on these studies. I dedicate this work to them.



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