

# **A Study the Effects towards Way of Life of Thai Buddhists from the Violent Situation in Area of the Three Southern Border Provinces**

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The objectives of this research were as follows 1) To study the causes of violent situation occurrence 2) To study the effect towards Thai Buddhists way of life 3) To study the survival life of Thai Buddhists from the violent situation in the three southern border provinces i.e. Patani province, Yala province and Narathiwat province. The instrument for data analysis from academic documents, interview, leader group discussion, questionnaire from the population were at 100 persons in each provinces, data analysis was carried out by arithmetic mean ( $\bar{x}$ ) and standard deviation (S.D).

## **The results found that:**

1. The causes of violent situation occurrence in the three southern border provinces which caused by terrorists fought with government officers, drug problems, black influences, and local influences, the enforcement of laws were not go along with local way of life of people, to conflict about interests with local influences, to dissemination of land. Almost of terrorists were young group which were under commanding of black influences in the area.

2. The effect towards Thai Buddhists way of life from the violent situation in the three southern border provinces found that, economic effective aspect i.e. economic animal aspect, agricultural aspect, enterprising aspect, tourism aspect and investment had more effective towards way of life of Thai Buddhists because of violent situation had effected to their security in life and wealth, the people got fear to work outside, lack of income, less of investment, both private and government sectors, as a result, un-employee and Thai Buddhists got feeling that they had no stability in life and wealth, as a result, they have to immigrate themselves to others, and Buddhism effective aspect found that monks and novices could not play any religious missions according to Buddhist principles as usual, i.e. arms around, dissemination of Dhamma, Sanggha duty and Buddhist ceremonies, all said was effected to tradition, customs and way of life of Thai Buddhist to be more and more, and sanitation effective aspect found that Thai Buddhists had happiness in the low level, immunization disease, communicable disease and tension disease in the high level, lack of doctors, medical personnel and nurses.

3. The survival life of Thai Buddhist from the violent situation in the three southern border provinces found that, the Thai Buddhists in the three southern border provinces must regard the problems or state of problems that caused by violent both inner and outside factors to fight for surviving from violent and security of life and wealth throughout tension that happening by Buddha methods i.e. the fold path and sympathy the way to get peaceful for way of living of Buddhists and becoming peacefulness in their life and safety.

## **Overview**

The violent situation in three southern border provinces which composed of Pattani province, Yala province, Narathiwat Province, there had been continuing as often, same hard or light that depend on situation at that time, but it is hard violence in January 4, 2004, burning school, stole weapons in the army, and fighting with battalion headquarters security, area 4, Somdej Phrasrinakarin Boromrajachonanee, Narathiwat province, which are effected as heavily to way of living of people in the area of three southern border provinces as the speech of the queen of Thailand in November 16, 2004 as following "... the sightseeing in living of Thai people in the southern found that they now are in anxious, either Thai Buddhist or Thai Muslim, they are killed everyday they still are killed in the present time,"<sup>1</sup> especially effected to Thai Buddhist as the purposive group that the terrorists had made the violent situation by body harmfulness, life, wealth and threatening to leave them as outcast from the three southern borders provinces.

At that time, the situation became extreme violence as continuously, either shot polices or harm to Buddhist Monks, novices, or bombard in the entertainment places, and government places, these are to make the troublesomeness and violence in the southern border, coming up to the bad situation in April 28, 2004, the terrorists had attached army and police checking points in the same time were amount 11 points in the area of Songkhla province, Yala province, and Pattani province, especially in the area of Kruese Mosque, as a result, found that the terrorists mere killed amount 107 persons, to be injured amount 6 persons, to be arrested 17<sup>2</sup> persons in the previous time of this situation in the name of government said it was like "inferior dacoit" and the local influence gang lost their interests and then they made the trouble happening but the situation had more increasing bad that because of government had shown that "It was clear that the land discrimination was existents"

From the state of violence and problems were effected towards way of living of Thai Buddhists as said, as a result, all sector was concerned they regard and try to solve the violent situation that happening increase again and again and looking forward it's going to become quite, the government had issued policies and criterions for stability and peacefulness making in the three southern border provinces, the researcher had regarded on significance and necessary as emergently from the said situation in the three southern border provinces, the results of the research will be data bases to government and relevant for determination of policies and criterions to be the way for work plan in problem solving which were effected to way of living of Thai Buddhists from the violent situation in the three southern border provinces in the future.

## **The research objectives**

1. To study the causes of violent situation emergence in the three southern border provinces.
2. To study the effect of Thai Buddhists way of life in the three southern border provinces from the violent situation.
3. To study the way to survive of Thai Buddhist for safety from violent situation in the three southern border provinces.

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<sup>1</sup> Matichon Weekend, on November 19 – 25, 2004

<sup>2</sup> Sangpet: The knot of history, Pattani state, Southern Fire id never extinct. Wanchana Printing, 2004

### **The scope of research**

To be aimed at the effect on way of living of Thai Buddhists from the violent situation in the three southern border provinces under circumstance of a study on the basis of way of living, a study on the basis of causes for happening of violent situation, a study of the basis of effect towards way of living, a study on the basis of the way for surviving to live of Thai Buddhists in the three southern border provinces which composed of Yala province, Pattani province, and Narathiwat province.

The population for this study were Thai Buddhists in the three southern border provinces, the samples were amount 300 persons by dividing 100 persons in each province namely, 100 persons of Pattani province, 100 persons of Yala province and 100 persons of Narathiwat province.

### **The specific definition**

1. **The Way of life** : Means the way to live in daily life which composed of eating, sleeping, dressing, dwelling, controlling, behavioral conduct throughout belief and faith.
2. **The effect to life** : Means the state of exchange in to bad situation because of violent situation emergence in the three southern border provinces.
3. **The three southern border provinces** : Means Pattani province, Yala province, and Narathiwat province.
4. **The way to service** : Means the quality of life in the aspect of dwelling at the present for security.
5. **The Buddhist way of life** : Means the way of living and surviving of Buddhist people who were related and closed up the temple since their birth

### **The Methodology**

This research, the researchers had divided the processes into two parts as follows

#### 5.1 Qualitative research

#### 5.2 Quantitative research

The population for this research were divided into three provinces i.e. 1). Pattani province composed of 100 persons 2). Yala province composed of 100 persons and 3). Narathiwat province composed of 100 persons, including sample was 300 persons

Then bring the variables from 5.2. For designing the questionnaire which divides into six sections as follows.

**Section 1.** The general statuses which are the open end questions.

**Section 2.** The people's opinion on causes of violent emergence in the three southern border provinces, the questions were designed in closed end questions in three alternatives i.e. agree / uncertain / disagree are amount 20 questions which composed of positive questions and negative questions in three points rating scale.

**Section 3.** The people's opinion on effect towards living in the three southern border provinces, the questions were designed in closed end questions in three alternatives i.e. agree / uncertain / disagree are amount 25 questions which composed of positive questions and negative questions in three points rating scale.

**Section 4.** The people's opinion on surviving to live in the three southern border provinces, the questions were designed in closed end questions into two alternatives i.e. ever / never are amount 6 questions

**Section 5.** The people' opinion on living as safety from violent situation in the three southern border provinces, the questions were designed in closed end questions in two alternatives i.e. ever / never, are amount 9 question

**Section 6.** The obstacles, problems and suggestions of people on effect of Buddhists way of living, the questions were designed in open end questions

To be taken the completed questionnaire for finding out the validity and reliability by using of SPSS computer program, Cronbach's alpha coefficient at 0.96, after collection of data then to be taken for carrying out by SPSS computer program to find out the arithmetic mean.

### **The Research Results**

#### **Summarize of qualitative research.**

#### **1. The causes of violent situation emergence in the three southern border provinces.**

Firstly, the un-stability which are happening by terrorists attached in daily because they try to fight with government staffs.

Secondly, drugs addiction, to be settle down of black influences and local influences, the law enforcements were not go accordance with way of living of local people, to conflict about interests with local influences, the land discrimination in the southern area.

#### **2. The effect on way of living of Thai Buddhists from the violent situation in the three southern border provinces**

Briefly say, the violent situation in the three southern border provinces, there were effected to economic sector, especially on occupations, animal farm as a results, decrease of animal farm because of insecurity in life and wealth, agriculture sectors which are the famous occupation as a results, they got fear to go out for doing, enterprise which are important to people and economic of the southern border provinces as a results, they were effected to incomes of local people more and more, because of they got fear to be enter the red area to buy the fruits, they got lot of worry to their lives, tourism from the happened situation as a results, decrease of tourists, it likes a empty town, the tourists who ever come in the south, now they leave to other provinces which were effected to the enterprise and local people as a results, unemployed, stop enterprising for waiting to see the situation as continuously and extremely, this is effected to local people in term of living in daily life which can not avoiding, especially Thai Buddhist people, they got fear to live without security in their lives and wealth as a results, they immigrant from the three southern border provinces into other area.

Moreover, still effecting all the southern area, the violent situations which were happening as continuously and extremely, it's had effected to Buddhism in many ways as following,

1. The Buddhist monks must change the arms around timing which in the previous they go for arms around in the early morning but now they changed timing on sun shining time.

2. Lots of Buddhist monks leaved the temple and start living in other temples in the southern provinces excepted in Pattani province, Yala province and Narathiwat province.

The violent situation which are happened, it is effected too much on education of people who live in the three southern border provinces.

The government staffs were lost their morale and will power in duty performance, the schools were often closed, lots of school could not provide the learning and teaching as sufficiently as a results, too bad of education some of parents leave their children out of the area, some school was burned as a result, they lost their morale and afraid to violent situation that happening, the students could not study properly, continuously and not full of standard.

The violent situation which are happened, it is effected too much on public health in the three southern border provinces this lead to increase a lots of chronic, and disease and happening of strained disease in higher shock, lack of physicians and nurses as a result, the public health services could not serve properly, the public health personel in the health center were not enough and going to decrease, the basic of sanitation for people, the health promotion, education, and protection of disease were also decrease.

The aspect of morale and will power of physician personel i.e. they feel unsafe and worry about family members as a result, they could not live properly in daily life, the effect of medical personel forces i.e, lack of physician, dentist, pharmacist, and nurse especially in the group of physician and dentist found that they were lack in 50% that was too high

### **3. The suggestions for surviving from the violent situation in the three southern border provinces.**

Summary : The concepts for surviving from the violent situation of Thai Buddhist people can be summarized as follows.-

1. The determination of suffering awareness problem which is happening in daily life from outside that is caused for compulsion in suffer as a result, they have to service for running away from those sufferings, It can be occurred into two ways i.e. physical and mental
2. The awareness of the causes for problem occurring what is the main causes for the suffering
3. Cessation of suffering, after well known about suffering and then treat to cease for suffering by getting free mind.
4. The path leading to the cessation of suffering, get to follow the path leading to the cessation of suffering for noble life, just has only one way, that is noble eightfold path.

#### **The summary on quantitative research :**

##### **The data of population and samples.**

Almost of samples were male, during ages 40 – 49 years, degree of B.A., single status, live in the specific area more than 30 years and government's staff belonging.

##### **The people's opinion on causes of violent situation emergence in the three southern border provinces,**

The causes of violent situation emergence in the three southern border province occurred by drugs addiction. To be settle down of black influence and local influence, conflict on interests of local influence, racism, religionism, and mother land of land discrimination movement, poverty, low quality of education, unemployed, no justice from government sector, impetus of the youth gang, to fail down of policy into performance, the law enforcement was not accordance with way of life of local people, the bad behavior of government staffs. Politics playing, the discrimination of

land in the three southern border provinces, terrorists, illegal enterprising, point of view on local history, oversea backup, religious conflict, to be repealed of the administrative center of southern border province.

### **The people's opinion on effect of way of living in the three southern border provinces**

#### **The Economic Feedback.**

The feedback on drawing Para milk, enterprise, fruit farm, rice farm, and animal feeding

#### **The Social Feedback.**

There is no security for life and wealth, no sincerity, the feedback on relationship between temple and community, the feedback on peacefulness of people in the society, the feedback on virtues and ethics.

#### **The Religions Feedback.**

The feedback on Sangkha's mission, the feedback on Sangkha's administration, the feedback on religious personel, the feedback on religious ceremony.

#### **The Educational Feedback.**

The educational personel lost their morale and will power on duty performance, not going on of learning and full criterion as a result, the students had lost of morale and they got fear to violent situation which is happening, lots of school closing, burning of schools.

#### **The Public Health Feedback.**

The feedback on morale and will power of medical personel i.e. to feel unsafe, worry about family members as a result, it was effected on way of living in daily life, lack of physician and nurse, unbelievable of higher compressive disease as a result, they could not serve public health service system as properly, the public health personel in each health center would be decreased.

### **1. The people's opinion on way of living in the three southern border provinces.**

Summarize the respondent's opinion on way of living in the three southern border provinces found that.-

1. The respondents got news about the violent situation in the three southern border provinces from television, radio, news paper, discussion with others ex. government officers, neighbor, seminar, training, magazine, line phone.

2. The respondents carried news about the violent situation in the three southern border provinces from many sources to tell others, family, neighbor, relatives who live in the other area and government officers.

3. In the case of awareness of the said news how do you feel about the violent situation in the three southern border provinces which happened in your area found that they got more interesting, let it be, and never interesting.

4. In the present time, the publishing of news on the violent situation in the three southern border provinces from mass media had more or less, found that there was at moderate level, less level and more level.

5. In the case of getting more news in the three southern border provinces how do you think for publishing as follows; Television, radio. document, paper, training, news paper, magazine, other (Line phone).

6. The specific news about violent situation in the three southern border provinces which you like to know more i.e. the feedback of violence on local people, the concepts for surviving of Thai Buddhist people, the concept for way of living, the causes of suffering, others, respectively.

**7. The people's opinion on surviving from the violent situation in the three southern border provinces**

It was found that when the violent situation happening they ever think to make a unity and harmony, they ever apply the Buddhist principles in the real life both own self and society, they ever follow the performance of Trisikkha (The threefold training) for achievement i.e. happiness, purification, enlightenment, and calmness, and to be free in real life by performance according to middle way (Majjhima Patipada), they ever join each others in social solidarity for protection community member to safe from violent situation.

**Criticism.**

The respondents need as follows.-

1. The government officers should be servants of people, do not be rulers.
2. The police man should be looking after people, do not annoy people or playing game with people,
3. The soldiers should protect of enemy, do not be powerful with people
4. Decentralization of government must be there especially to people, not to personalize.
5. The government should promote and look after way of living of Thai Buddhist people in the three southern border provinces.

**Suggestions / Recommendations.**

1. There should study the life quality / way of life of Thai Buddhist people during un-peacefulness in the three southern border provinces.
2. There should study the attitude of Thai Buddhist people in duty performance of government officers in the three southern border provinces.
3. There should study the culture and exchange of Thai Buddhist people during un-peacefulness in the three southern border provinces.

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Sangpet : The knot of history, Pattani state, Southern Fire is never extinct. Wanchana Printing 2004.