THE STUDY OF HUMAN SETTLEMENT PATTERNS
A CASE STUDY: SAMUT SONGKHRAM PROVINCE

By

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ABSTRACT

Title of Dissertation : The Study of Human Settlement Patterns A Case Study: Samut Songkhram Province

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Samut Songkhram is highly capable to develop not only in the industrial sector but also in the commercial sector because of many factors, which impart for economic development. These factors are attractive for development in the area especially the expansion of the community’s settlement. The objective of this study is to learn about settlement pattern and the support capability of a residence’s settlement according to local resources. In addition, this study uses both primary information, such as survey, observation and interview, and secondary information, such as map, aerial photograph, statistical report and fundamental information at village level. (Kor Chor Chor 2.Kor) The analysis of village distribution is held by analyzed proximity ratio between average distance of closeness and average distance of random closeness. The research found that the pattern of village distribution in Samut Songkhram is to gather into a group along routes of water transportation. The result of the nearest neighbor analysis calculation R is equal to 0.59. Furthermore, the group is in a straight line from north to south. From aerial photograph translation and area exploration, it was found that the pattern of Samut Songkhram’s settlement went along with nature or geography and workplace. People chose to settle down close to the riverbank and the village style is horizontal. Moreover, people chose to build their houses near a river because they can travel by waterway. People also build a house in their own land and in the backyard of each house there is a garden. Besides, people who live along the seashore work in salt-fields and fisheries. Therefore, they settle down together as a group in relation to the geography of the area. They leave the
village in order to work in their own salt-field. In addition, transportation is one of the factors, which have an effect to settlement pattern. Water transportation is especially very important. On the other hand, the land transportation does not have a significant role in settlement because all of the roads were constructed after the settlement. The next factor that affects the settlement pattern is the economic factor. The area in Samut Songkhram is plentiful for both agriculture and fisheries. It is also a major source of employment. Then the society is unified, which relates to the similarity of occupation, daily life, opinion and behavior in the settlement. These similarities determine the settlement pattern. Moreover, the changes of settlement characteristics in Samut Songkhram are related to the level of agricultural activities and social development. When the agricultural activities change, society also changes. Then the settlement, which is suitable for new economic activities and society, will be established. Besides, the settlement pattern of Samut Songkhram is related to the name calling of the settlement’s location. Mostly, the name is consists of 2 parts, which is the general name and specific name. The general name is to clarify the important characteristics of location such as character and distribution of water source, geography and natural plants. The specific name for example means temple’s name and person’s name.

However, if the related government sector takes the result of this research into practice, the result should be considered as a possible evaluation.
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