

Abstract

This thesis entitled "Stone Bargeman in the Lower Mae Klong Basin" is the study of a group of people whose work is to carry stones for constructing in the Mae-Klong River, from the pier to the place where all trucks could not reach.

The Objective of this thesis that is raised to understand these people has two main points. The First point is to study the changes in the lower Mae Klong basin during the period of King Rama IV until now. The second point is to study the life of Stone Bargeman in the lower Mae Klong basin, especially the changes of their life and the way they adjust their lifestyle. All the points is expected to see the evolution of the Stone Bargeman's work that continues together with the changes in the lower Mae Klong basin. Furthermore, the expectation is to understand the Stone Bargeman's life that seems to be different from people who use the road.

From the objectives above, The analysis was based on both library documents and anthropological field data. All documents are related to the history of the lower Mae Klong basin, the work and community in this area, and the places where the Stone Bargeman pass.

The evolution and being of the Stone Bargeman related the changes of the lower Mae Klong basin shows that Mae Klong River has been used to be the way of transportation since the period of King Rama IV. When Thailand faced significant changes such as economic crisis, many people changed their career and the transportation was also stagnated.

The Stone Bargeman have adjusted their way of life, firstly, when they came to work. Secondly, to face the changes that happen in the river resulted from changing of Thai society especially economic change. Lastly, to create relationship with many groups of people for the advantage of their work.