The Ethnic Ombudsman: Bridging the Language and Culture Communication Gap

International Conference on "Transborder Issues in the Greater Mekong Sub-region," 30 June – 2 July 2005 Ubonratchathni Province, Thailand

Associate Professor Chongchit Sripun Robert

1. The traditional ombudsman role

umbuds

"An office provided by the constitution or by action of the legislature or parliament and headed by an independent high level public official who is responsible to the legislature or Parliament, who receives complaints from aggrieved persons against government agencies, officials and employers or who acts on his own motion, and has power to investigate, recommend corrective actions and issue reports."

Mass Communication Research and Theory

The Dynamics of Mass Communication in the Digital Age, International Edition

Public Relations Cases

2. The Akha in Thailand

Plants and People of the Golden Triangle Ethnobotany of the Hill Tribes of Northern Thailand

Opium Crop Replacement Without Tears or Terror - The Case of Northern Thailand 1971-1989

3. The evolution of the AKHA Foundation

de facto *de jure*

4. Village-based Foundation activities

Crop production.

Reforestation.

Animal feed production.

Water systems.

5. Community-based Foundation activities

Health and nutrition.

Drug prevention and rehabilitation.

Nutrition Education Campaign and Survey, TG-HDP Nam Lang Project Area, Pangmapha Sub-district, Mae Hongson Province

Opium Crop Replacement Without Tears or Terror - The Case of Northern Thailand 1971-1989

Education.

Community development.

Emergency assistance.

Citizenship.

Development Agriculture and Education Project for the Akha (DAPA) 2001 Annual Report

6. Transborder Foundation activities

DAPA Tours.

Volunteer community development camps.

Development Agriculture and Education Project for Akha (DAPA) 2002 Annual Report

Development Agriculture and Education Project for the Akha (DAPA) 2003 Annual Report

Preservation of Akha culture.

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Preservation of the Akha Language.

7. Conclusions and recommendations

de facto

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Highlanders of Thailand

The Dynamics of Mass Communication in the Digital Age, International Edition

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Evaluation of the Development Agriculture and Education Project for Akha (DAPA)

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A Profile of Heifer International Thailand.

Nutrition Education Campaign and Survey, TG-HDP Nam Lang Project Area, Pangmapha Sub-district, Mae Hongson Province

2002 Annual Report Development Agriculture and Education Project for Akha (DAPA)

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