

**Research Title** : Culture and Law of the Ethnic Groups, Samoeng District,  
Chaing Mai Province

**Researcher** : Mrs. Pornsawan Jantawong

**Research Funds** : Chiang Mai Rajabhat University

**Research Duration** : ๑ year

### Abstract

The research title of Culture and Law of the Ethnic Group, Samoeng Tai Sub-district, Samoeng District, Chaing Mai Province, is a qualitative research, using anthropological research methodology. This research aims ๑) to study Culture Social of Tai Lue and Karen, and ๒) to study changes and reservation of belief and ritual of Karen. ๓) to study Law Enforcement with Karen

Research data were obtained by documents and interviews, they were presented as descriptive data. Research findings of the ๑<sup>st</sup> aim found that culture Social of the Ethnic Group comprised of ๕ Factors ๑) Social Institutes, ๒) Law and Culture ๓) Religion ๔) social belief and ritual ๕) Traditional of the Ethnic Group. These beliefs are still with Karen's living, which they strongly belief in spirit.

Research findings of the ๒<sup>nd</sup> objective found that Karen who have changed their spiritual belief to religion such as Buddhism and Christianity, have abolished some rituals due to the conflicts between rituals and religious teachings, other factors such as education and work also may cause these disappeared changes.

Research findings of the ๓<sup>rd</sup> objective found that the Law Enforcements of the Ethnic Group, does not work, Because of Karen ignorance in Law and do not trust the official. The suggestion is to learn the law and to understand the problem of Karen.