

## Abstract

This thesis aims to study the factors that affect retired Japanese long-stayers flowing in, establishing their communities and adapting themselves to the local at Muang district, Chiangmai province for living in local communities continuously. This thesis is a qualitative research. The data were collected by searching from documents, observing the local and interviewing retired Japanese who live in Chiangmai.

From the study, because of the changes of family structure, insufficient economic conditions and the value more open abroad in Japan, it has found that these Japanese people are motivated to stay long in Thailand, at the same time they are enjoying convenient services available from Thai and Japanese governments, private and Non-Profit Organizations.

By observing and interviewing, it has found that the retired Japanese tend to stay long at Nimmanhemin and Huaykaew roads. There are many businesses that offer services and goods for the Japanese. Moreover, there have physical communities. there also have network communities that can be divided into formal and informal network groups. Each group has different objectives and activities. The retired Japanese people apply for groups depending on their interests. Some of these interests include volunteering, receiving help, fulfilling their personal demands and increasing their value for living. Groups also can be a source of help for requesting assistance from the Thai society. Meanwhile, these Japanese gradually understand and adapt to living with the local. They also establish informal network communities in order to exchange information and offer aids to the local in the process of adaptation. However, there are still some obstacles: the condition of VISAs, language and age gap etc.

In conclusion, most of the retired Japanese choose Chiang Mai to stay long term to save on living expenses with the limited pensions. Meanwhile, Thais expects economy benefits from them. In the future, it is estimated that there will be more retired Japanese who stay long in Chiangmai. So we should make space for sharing between both cultures, increase more opportunities for exchanging information and establish an

equal relationship between Japanese and the local. Then a sustainable society will be established.