

The Roles of Buddhist Ecclesiastical Officials on the Conflict Management in the Community*

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Abstract

This research has the objectives 1) to study the results of the conflict management in the community 2) to study the role of Buddhist ecclesiastical officials on the conflict management in the community, and 3) to propose the way to manage the conflict to be suitable for the community. This research combines the methods of both qualitative and quantitative methods, the qualitative method is implemented by the in-depth interview and the focus group with the 30 important informants consisting of 10 informants from the sub-district headman, village headman, and the officers in the local administration; 10 informants from the local community school teachers; and 10 informants from the monks, academic personals, the local developing Buddhism experts. The data analysis employs the content implication consisting of the translation from the questionnaire interpretation if the one who is the core to drive the community. The quantitative method is implemented by collecting the data with the questionnaires from the samples of 81 monks and 400 citizens living in the Phichit province, total sample is 481 people defining the sample size by the Taro Yamane formula methods and analyze the data with the means, standard deviation, and hypothesis testing by the multiple regression. The result found that

1) the result of the overview of the local conflict management is in the high level and when considering of each 3 management part is in the great level by ranking from more to less: the highest ranking is the conflict reduction following by the more using of the reasons to solve the problems, and the negotiation when having the conflicts respectively. 2) the roles of Buddhist Ecclesiastical Officials on the conflict management in the community has 3 roles which are the role of Buddhist Ecclesiastical Officials and community, the role to manage the conflicts, and the role of factors to solve the community conflicts consisting of 10 factors such as providing the knowledge following the dharma principles, being the developing monks, supporting and cooperating the community conflicts, participating, negotiating by Buddhism way, management, role, dharma, and disciplines at the statistically significant 0.05. Then, it can explain the variation of the roles of Buddhist Ecclesiastical Officials on the conflict management in the Phichit community at 69.00%. 3) the way to manage the conflict to be more suitable for the community is proposed with 5 important components, which are (1) It should have the network development of the prevention and manage the community conflicts in the form of house, administration, temple, and school to solve and heal the local conflict (2) the government should provide the budget and academic knowledge to the community (3) the government should establish the data and knowledge exchange center to prevent and manage the conflict in each area (4) It should have the pattern of the local community committee (the four noble truths) and (5) It should have the pattern of the problem solving of the local community committee (the four noble truths).

Keywords: Buddhist Ecclesiastical Officials, Management, Conflict, Community

* This article is a part of the dissertation of the role of the roles of Buddhist Ecclesiastical Officials on the conflict management in the community

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Introduction

Since the social trend that change from time to time has caused the management or the roles of Buddhist Ecclesiastical Officials on the conflict management in the community have changed as well. The administration of the monk clergy is called to be the heart of the clergy management with the community development supporting, dharma distribution educating, and assisting the citizen to have a normal happiness. In addition, the role of Buddhist Ecclesiastical officials on the conflict management in the community is an important role to instruct the society to have the harmony of the people in the nation. The research of Buddhist ecclesiastical officials' role is to study how the process of the community conflict management to accomplish the target.

Objectives

- 1) to study the result of the community conflict management
- 2) to study the roles of Buddhist ecclesiastical officials on the conflict management in the community
- 3) to study the way to manage the conflict to be more suitable for the community

Research Method

This research combines the methods of both qualitative and quantitative methods, the qualitative method is implemented by the in-depth interview and the focus group with the 30 important informants consisting of 10 informants from the sub-district headman, village headman, and the officers in the local administration; 10 informants from the local community school teachers; and 10 informants from the monks, academic personals, the local developing Buddhism experts. The data analysis employs the content implication consisting of the translation from the questionnaire interpretation if the one who is the core to drive the community. The quantitative method is implemented by collecting the data with the questionnaires from the samples of 81 monks and 400 citizens living in the Phichit province, total sample is 481 people defining the sample size by the Taro Yamane formula method and analyze the data with the means, standard deviation, and hypothesis testing by the multiple regression.

Literature Review

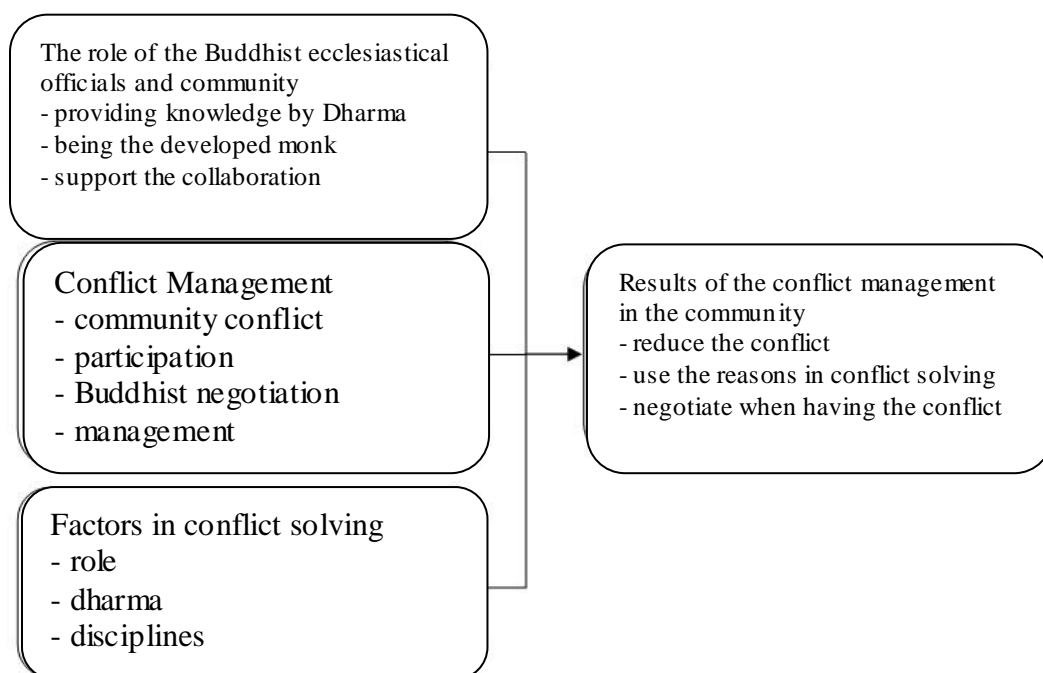
The research of the role of Buddhist ecclesiastical officials on the conflict management in the community studied the concept of the documents and can be summarized to be the conceptual framework as follows

- 1) The role of the Buddhist ecclesiastical officials: since the temple is the community center especially in the temple activities to serve the community for both religion and culture including the useful activities for the community. The monk who is the temple abbot has the duty to administrate the temple and duty by the clergy act 2505 B.E. (reform in 2535 B.E.) indicating that the abbot is the Buddhist ecclesiastical officials who govern the temple and mostly close to the citizen and community. Moreover, the Buddhism will grow because of the people faith. The abbot monk is the main machine of the Buddhism growth and the development of the temple to be the community center that has the objectives to upgrade the people mind and develop the material to be suitably sufficient. Thus, there is the definition of the role of the Buddhist ecclesiastical officials in 6 parts: 1. Administration, 2. Distribution,

3. Religion: management and teacher at the monk academy, 4. Education aid, 5. Services, 6. Public aid to be the community leader of the community development of the leader to solve the problems

2) The Buddhism's management principles and negotiation: This is the negotiation between focusing on the true need of the international and the way of Buddhism directly to the target. However, the Buddhism way has clearly strong points which are concentrating on the response of the satisfaction importantly. This is the creative way causing the real happiness and more sustainability different from attempting to response for the passion that sometimes may be only the temporary problem solving or hiding the problems or leaving the remaining problem that may be occurred in the future. Since even the conflict negotiation will be successful and settled, but the passion in the people mind cannot stop by the settlement so that there is the same way that is finding the true need of the conflict party.

3) The concept and theory about the conflict means the status of the unpleasant occurred in the people or groups because they have their need or benefits different from their belief. They also have the difference in status, target, value, perception, attitude, belief that is different and hard to make decisions, and unfriendly or totally opposite interaction. Thus, it seems that the conflict is natural happening all places and time that must be managed carefully and thoroughly. The conflict management is necessary to the organization that wants to succeed in business during the present time to make the organization to survive from several problems and be useful from the conflicts. Thomas and Kilmann studied that in case of the people have to face the conflict, how can they manage that conflict. The result classified the methods to manage the conflict in 5 ways: 1) competition 2) accommodation 3) avoiding 4) collaboration 5) compromising



Research Results

The result found that 1) The conflict management in the community found that the monks has the conflict management at the good level and when considering in details found that providing the knowledge by dharma got the highest value 2) the roles of the Buddhist ecclesiastical officials on the conflict management in the community found that the Buddhist

ecclesiastical officials has the roles such as giving the suggestion to the teenagers who have the problems by finding the persons having the experiences, teachers, and parents must understand their conflicts and find the solutions. The severe emotional teenagers can be taught by dharma to reduce their emotion by establishing the projects to support the peaceful culture in the schools and develop the personal potential and have the way to reduce the conflicts compromisingly. The roles of Buddhist ecclesiastical officials are such as providing the knowledge following the dharma principles, being the developing monks, supporting and cooperating the community conflicts, participating, negotiating by Buddhism way, management, role, dharma, and disciplines at the statistically significant 0.05. Then, it can explain the variation of the roles of the Buddhist ecclesiastical officials on the conflict management in the Phichit community at 69.00% ($R^2=0.692$) and Adjusted $R^2=0.690$) 3) the way to manage the conflict to be more suitable for the community found that it involves the informing the conflict incidents in the community, negotiation appointment, study the cause and impacts of the conflicts, create the settlement before the compromising stage opening, the leaders of the negotiation and settlement, writing and reading the settlement agreements, talking to create the harmony, apology, or brotherhood and friendship to cause the peace in the society and community.

Research Discussion

The roles of the Buddhist ecclesiastical officials on the conflict management in the community found that the result of the overview of the local conflict management is in the high level consistent with Phra Maha theb Sukayachai (2007) indicating that the role of the monks in developing the moral and ethics of the children and teenagers in Khon Khan province is at the high level that the Buddhist ecclesiastical officials has the role to manage the conflict in the community by providing the suggestion to the problematic or uncontrolled emotion teenagers and having the projects to create the peaceful culture in the school and developing the personal potential and also having the way to solve the conflicts by compromising way in the community. This is consistent with the study of Phra Maha Somsak Pussavaro (2009) indicating that the monks should provide the mind suggestion to the people in the community, solving the uncertain things. The way to manage the community conflicts are creating the settlement before the negotiation stage opening, the negotiation leaders notice the settlement together, writing and reading the settlement agreements, talking to create the harmony, apology, or brotherhood and friendship to cause the peace in the society and community.

Recommendation

1) The conflict management in the community should have the solving problem process from the thinking process and solving implementation to be able to solve the problem efficiently by the four noble truths: the way to extinguish dukkha by starting with the problem or dukkha and try to understand and find the cause with the plan to solve the cause of problems, which are 4 processes: dukkha, samudaya, nirodha, and makkha

2) The roles of the Buddhist ecclesiastical officials on the conflict management in the community should have the development of the prevention network and the conflict management in the form of "HTS" to be the integrated work to prevent, solves, and heals the conflict in the community.

3) It should study the supporting factors and obstacles to the role of the Buddhist ecclesiastical officials on the conflict management in the community

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