

Civic Education through the Process of Creating a Citizenship in Democracy of Thailand

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Abstract

Citizenship is an important part of government activities. It is important so governments in Western societies pay attention and be concrete. There are academic contents published in the Western society extensively. Democratic citizenship process has a role and significance in government activities in Western societies such as the Federal Republic of Germany where there are successes in the process of creating citizenship. Germany case sets example for analyzing the process of citizenship by using a learning process based on educational innovation called "Citizen Education", having youths as the main target groups that have learned about democratic citizenship and using the integration of spatial work with the general citizen group. The concept of the process of creating democratic citizenship in Thailand is still limited. However, there is a continuing study of the work under the domestic political situation with political factors in terms of social inequality. Thailand still has to study the effects of such factors continuously in order to correct the situation, to be an opportunity, to reach the status of citizens, to develop citizenship process and to create a democratic social atmosphere in society.

Keywords: Civic Education, Citizenship, Democracy

Introduction

"People" who will be hopeful in solving the problems of the country are not the people who made their own livelihood but must be a citizen who elevates himself to be a "citizen"-a participant in democratic development. They have a public mind to see the common benefits rather than personal interests and have responsibility and ready to be a leader of change at all levels. This is a "citizen" which is an important factor in the progress of democracy. The study of the importance of civil politics in current conditions shows the participation from the people. The public forum is a way to draw citizens to participate in solving problems that affect them. People took part in determining the direction of the social community for policies that are suitable for the area and that are in line with the needs that are different from people in the area. Politics that received attention is the politics with a voice of citizens. These things are essential in Thai democratic society. What the regime will gain from citizen participation is the strength of citizens to strengthen the regime.

The process of creating democratic citizenship is therefore a deep hope for Thai society to bring democracy out of the political vicious circle. We cannot say that creating citizenship had never happened in Thai society. But why, over the past 56 years, this course does not

create citizens to develop the country in concrete ways. Many of the problems were discussed in Thai education. Various contextual situations of education are obstacles to citizen development. There is educational management both in the system and outside the system and both public and private sectors, independent organizations, academic institutions, etc. The atmosphere of a democratic society may not be able to compete in the economic competition or social security with many countries. The model is therefore important in bringing successful processes to be suitable for our political situation or social conditions. Civic education is a course developed from Germany where the economy was recovered after breaking the Berlin Wall in 1990. Even though the social conditions still have some problems in the development gap and the emergence of a social crisis that has been divided and created a lot of problems, Germany is still stepping up to become the economic leader of the European Union. Citizenship course, such as Civic education, is a part that develops German citizens and is recognized around the world.

Differences: Ratsadon, People, Citizen

Citizenship of Thai people can choose to study in a variety of contexts but "Democracy citizenship" is suitable for education in the context of democratic political learning. As Aristotle said "Man is by nature a political animal. People outside the state, if not more than humans must be low that humans" (Crick, 2002 cited in Jittruet, 2014: 11-15). In Thai society, cultivating citizenship often comes in the form of education but education cannot reach the status of citizens in bringing democratic ways to be a part of the Thai way of life. The political situation that is violent is not mentioned in order to learn in a society like the country that develops democracy like the West. The political foundation of the past with absolute monarchy still has an effect under the expression of citizens until now.

When referring to the word "citizen", these three words may be said in the overall image of the person. The meaning and role of the person from the above three words are significantly different because the Thai society in the past ruled in the monarchy for a long time. Under the Western colonial situation caused Thai rulers of the past to have the power to be judged by the king's heart or Absolute Monarchy. A need to adjust to the modernization of Thailand came from the reign of Rama III and IV by King Rama IV who studied English deeply and used the word "Siam" to indicate the territory under his supervision. The people at that time had almost no participation or recognition from the word "Siam" to indicate their nationality or even among intellectuals. The nobles and lords were still confused with the word "nation" (Nation) that whether it is significant and how is it significant. Because only the national leadership class had ideas flow to start developing the country. Administration was concentrated in the palace with the continued use of slave labor for the people. The way of life of the people at that time was only to look at the ground. (Sriyakul & Jermstittiparsert, 2017: 19-31) National development or participation in state affairs of the people can only spend in the small market system that is free of folk that has little impact on the national economy. This type of labor was to be developed for the country and for your own boss to increase the rank. This is just one contextual view that citizenship cannot be achieved in Thai society at that time because there is still oppression. The Siam Reform took place seriously during the reign of King Rama V. and this reform came from avoiding the colonization of the colonial country at that time. (Sethabuttra, 2014: 43). The definition of a state with four elements began in this reform. Sovereignty was in the care of the absolute monarchy. There was a government in the palace to guarantee visitors and a center of power in the administration of the country. (Theerawekin, 2000: 134-137).

The abolition of the commoners and slaves caused the people to have freedom in their occupation. Study and the birth of a professional military system can increase productivity according to the needs of international trade expansion. The country can see that the abolition

of the common system is more important than the abolition of slavery because it is the liberation of most people of the country to be truly independent. However, the characteristics of citizens who are involved in the activities of the state still remain stagnant because the government system holds constant absolute monarchy. Political activities are still concentrated in the power of the country's elite.

All of this shows the evolution of the role of the people in the country. People play an important role in development and are an important mechanism to drive the economy by linking the dimensions to see that the people are just a part of the elements of the state and not taking the role to participate in political activities. People develop themselves in their careers in order to seek comfort in their current lives by receiving benefits in the form of economic growth in the country which is currently important on the world stage. At present, the strength of the country may come from a solid economic foundation but democracy has to be stable and strong with more respondent needs of people. Citizens are the answer to the strength of democracy because citizens must have a role to play in government activities- Control the government's work until becoming a part of national development-. Citizenship must be politically active while simultaneously with his own life. At present, there is a need for a highly active citizen. Citizens have a culture and responsibility. Responsibility of citizens will include civic engagement, love for freedom, and assume that they have basic duties for the country together (Burikul et al., 2014: 375). There are the efforts from community to be self-reliant in solving problems from the cooperation of people in the community without waiting for support from government policies. This should not be interrupted by any group or organization and should expand the success of working together to the district level. Such citizens are among the citizens of the democratic regime (Laemtham, 2009: 165). All forms of local administrative organizations were established to serve the public to maintain and provide public services efficiently and effectively for the benefit and satisfaction of the people as well as to ensure that no matter which part of the public will receive public services in the same minimum standard resulting in a better quality of life for people. (Kalayanamitra and Ngramlamom, 2018: 172-193).

Influence of the Concept of Civic Education: Success Factors in the Process of Citizenship Creating

The concept of civic education from the Federal Republic of Germany has a great reputation for achieving citizenship. But there are other external factors that make the concept successful, namely the learning curriculum setting up by the German government. There are three characteristics of citizenship in Germany (Beaugrand, 2016: 581-596): (1) citizens who respect each other's ideas (2) common citizen joint responsibility and (3) a citizen with patience. The function of the course is to be able to create citizens in such a framework to achieve concrete results and spread out the work in various regions in the country to have systematic and serious citizen learning with supervision from government agencies to support the budget. This kind of learning in Germany focuses on young students who have already learned political history focusing on this democratic learning which can learn or can exchange more than the classroom. Youth is very popular in role play where democratic learning within the classroom talks about content history by only 20% with another 80% belongs to dialogue. There are many reasons that require citizens to learn to solve problems. One will be because a democratic society arises to solve problems with peace, therefore, civic education or education to create a citizen in a democratic society (Civic Education) is an important mechanism or process to create citizenship. The term civic education or education to build citizens in Germany or also known as political education, is a political education because education about civic education is that people, citizens, are taught to prepare to be built in order to protect or to have political rights. Civic education is a

pillar of democratic development for Germany where this process is used to drive the system continuously. It is a mission because the constitution specified this duty which state cannot be denied. State has to create a framework for the citizen profile that the country needs. The process is happening. The state must be a citizen builder. The state has to pay to support the creation of knowledge, skills and activities that enable democracy to build off-school skills. There are various projects .Many projects are outside the school for the general public.

Curriculum is developed through scientific processes under the context of a dynamic world society. The policy of creating citizens is therefore targeting new groups by giving priority to civil society citizens of general citizen of all groups that need more learning and have a need to solve problems that occur throughout society. Conceptual frameworks are still under framed but the guidelines of citizenship creation can be provided as followed;

1. Learning about social rights (Social rights)-The process is to set the stage in the manner of public issues both inside and outside the country. At present, the immigrant crisis from the Middle East causes German society to have problems and get ready to act in the dissemination of information without guidance what should the country do for immigrants? Just present the information, problems and proposals for German citizens to deal with immigrants on social rights that migrants rely on under the human rights framework. It should be about to allow citizens to learn about their problems and have their own guidelines and needs as well as academic information

2. Learning about skills in the form of empowerment with local governments and the role of world citizens-The issue of skills in using power with the local government is a new matter for German citizens because German society has ties to political history that has a central government as a moderator German citizens learn to use their own citizenship from many government agencies, support and drive the needs of citizens by listening to needs and using information and technology to listen to issues from all professional groups.

3. Modern democratic learning. The liberal society of the world changes, competition under the current high economic situation will use the role of scholarships for business learning and being private (Achavanuntakul, 2015: 12-17). The most desired thing is about the issue on new innovations and creativity in various electronic media technologies for further development of the country.

The process of creating citizenship in such dimensions is enabled Germany to have citizens effective for education in many countries. (Institute of Educational Policy under the Education Policy Promotion Foundation, 2014: 11-25) as well as under the political organization from a political party that has to rely on the role of social responsibility. It is found that the external factors that make the process successful are of significant importance as follows;

1. The factors from political history: It was found that during the time of World War II Germany had an important role in both world wars. There is an important part in the learning of citizens. Despite the presence of a leader of the Nazi Party (Lange, 2016: 53-65) that symbolizes the military dictatorship, the ability in the situation of national economic development being in line with the policies of the Nazi Party but the citizens learned that the use of force and the dictatorial policies until causing great damage throughout the country. (Schneider, 2005: 346-361).When combining the country with the power of citizens, learning about the sharing of Western citizens is very important in the development of the country. That is to say, sharing this is not only sharing the resources of help. The subsequent development is about sharing the value of faith and accepting differences that make civic education in Germany successful.

2. National development factors: When Germany integrated the country, the national reconstruction policy continues to be effective and efficient causing Germany to be the economic leader of the European Union. The policy after restoring the country that affects the way of citizens is Welfare state-a social system in which the state guarantees equal rights to

all people in the basic factors necessary for a good quality of life-. When the economic situation of citizens is stable, it should enable citizens to be able to cooperate with government activities and believe in a political system that can lead the country to progress

3. Technology factors: The development of technology in the Western is more developed than in the east. But overall, the West has more potential in developing a technology that has a definite positive impact on enough potential citizens. The process of creating a citizen of Germany continues its activities and use technology to allow citizens to quickly access development content under the information flow quickly through communication technology. For example, information on the number of immigrants from the Middle East that have destinations in countries that are ready to live better lives like Germany (Nordsieck, 2016: 89-90) allows German citizens to gather government inspections and reasonably demanding solutions.

Process that should be concrete in Thailand: A democratic social atmosphere

The process of creating democratic citizenship according to the concept or the theory of democratic principles that have a long history and development can be considered from the evolution of democracy in Germany since the rule of the Nazi Party (Vanichphetong, 2016: 3-5) which influenced the ideas from political thinkers and philosophers. Both from the old era that originated from the ancient Greek state and the new era in the 17th-20th century, including religious influences economic change and in the present, the context and concept of globalization with modern democratic society with the concept of working in a particular bureaucracy has resulted in a strong democracy in Germany and developed into a sequence that has become a demand for citizens in developing countries. However, the development of democracy in Thailand with a regime is confused by the political ideology of conflict and the old power of the military. In addition, developing a democratic system to be strong, stable and sustainable is not an issue that can be easily achieved. A political scientist who studies democracy in the new era, Adam Przeworski said that "The democracy is not that the state gives democracy and people want, and democracy can only happen. Democracy must have citizens who have the ability to exercise their rights and obligations." (Maier and Maier, 2000: 4) This may lead to the development of democracy in Thailand, conducting activities without direction and increasing problems for the country.

The process of creating a Thai citizen that is still considered a new matter and does not show any evidence in concrete development from researching the strengthening of the people found only in government organizations, such as King Prajadhipok's Institute (Tantisunthorn, 2012: 49-51), which is an organization of strengthening of democracy and has a duty to promote and develop in all aspects. The work of the King Prajadhipok's Institute is responsible for a large structure in the democratic development of the country. Strategies in the process of creating citizens for democratic development consist of: Starting from creating a network of political knowledge, allowing citizens to learn about rights through the civil politics center in each area, and Developing the potential of the center in the capacity of the leader or member of the center with continue to build a collaborative network.

Later, it was found that each area is different. Space development cannot use all the same processes causing the need to adjust the new work to choose a specific area of work to carry out all the capabilities of the institution in creating citizens and using various projects in direct access to areas and target groups.

The process of creating citizenship becomes the importance of citizens in the current global society situation. It is unavoidable that citizens are important people and have high demand. However, various problems-Both political issues, economic problems, social sequel problems-lead to problems in accessing the education system. Even though everyone has

access to education, it is still a problem that Thai society still needs a big change. Many of these problems affect citizenship. However, the German society is experiencing these crises as well. Learning history and finding ways to use all of these situations for people to participate in learning. Thai citizenship process must study the strategy seriously and use the crisis period to create opportunities for the integration of previously contradictory ideas. We must find a way out in a peaceful way and learn to live together as a developed democratic society. The best practices for Thailand are as follows.

1. Promoting the development of curriculum for democratic citizenship in accordance with the concept of pluralism and modern democracy.
2. Promoting the process of creating citizenship to reach the target group with diverse needs and with different areas by consider studying the needs of citizens in each area seriously and by integrating with local government organizations in the area and making guidelines for the development of local government organizations to be stable and sustainable according to the principles of good governance in 1) Development of management competencies 2) Principles of public participation and 3) decentralization in management (Kalyanamitra et al, 2017: 65-67)
3. Promoting understanding of political activities that are not political guidance to reduce attitudes towards political ideology because the study found that the current process cannot make people learn the democratic way that is open to ideas If it still leads to what the institution wants to create

Regardless government or government agencies are serious in various policies, how the process has the direction to be possible? One of the conditions for enhancing citizenship is the democratic atmosphere in the country. Atmosphere of opinions, rights and freedom is an important part in the process of creating citizenship because if Thailand is lack of these atmospheres, the cooperation and interest of the people in cooperation with the process will not be possible because people may feel fear of participating in citizenship activities or may cause people to not be open to ideas and still have negative attitudes that may cause conflict. When the conflict from political ideology persists, listening to each other is the principle of democracy.

Conclusion: Influence from Body of Knowledge to Development

The trend of citizenship in Thailand is becoming a new issue and a solution for the political situation that remains. Along with the success of creating citizenship from many countries makes it more noticeable that strong citizens will be able to develop and build a stable democracy. Circulation of information in the era of globalization and modern democracy drives Thailand to have access to information and guidelines for creating citizenship with good direction .What is needed is only the clarity and seriousness of the government. Thailand could take the German approach that begins with defining the characteristics that the government wants to feature and use the learning process from youth development curriculum for teaching in the classroom in the form of a democratic principle and studying the civic education program to be used to find the strengths of Thai citizens. So if the economy is sustainable, society will be strong, coming from strong citizens and the link between the relationship system of social capital systems with sustainability. (Ngamlamom, 2016: 593-601) Sufficiency economy philosophy and participation from various social relationships that changes to a modern, capitalist style emphasizing economic growth while simultaneously and organizing a new society to facilitate modernization must meet (Kalyanamitra, 2018: 12-14)

Cooperation between organizations, the government, education agency, education expert and academic institutions will drive the whole system. Therefore it will develop a course that can make learning, building skills and real attitude to be inserted at all levels of education and

continuous practice. The details that differ between educational levels will make learning as a citizen continuously and will not make the curriculum to create citizenship as such as an extra activity. Increasing workload for young people create stress for learners and instructors. The study of appropriate details can be seen in all dimensions, including social, economic, political or cultural. The context in each area is different. Public and private organizations must create work that is integrated together. We have to create a democratic learning society for democracy to be a learning process. Concept of politics has to be developed. People cannot avoid the effects of political situations at the community or national level. The political situations that citizens face, they must have more than one perception and transform it into critical learning by adhering to the principles of the right democracy to practice through political activities (Civic action). Creating an atmosphere of open political dialogue in listening and finding out from various disputes (Public discourse) has to be done because it is inevitable that human society under democratic rule is based on the need to resolve problems with reason in the atmosphere of listening to each other. Experiences for citizens especially during the time when the political and administrative situation are dynamic and the citizens began to understand the politics as an inevitable relationship of people in society because politics will determine their existence and identity an important mechanism that has driven the society to be a learning society (Crick, 2008 cited in Jitruek, 2014: 16-20)

The development of knowledge and skills of the people has the opportunity to develop the country to be more stable than the number of sensitive economic developments. This is easy to change by beginning to look for possibilities in the process of creating democratic citizenship in Thailand when the country is facing this crisis of thought. It is considered that there is an opportunity to receive public attention if we create an atmosphere for exercising proper freedom of the civic education program from the Federal Republic of Germany which is appropriate in both principles and reasons to be a part of citizen development.

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