

**Promotion of the Use of the Good Governance
in Subdistrict Administrative Organizations,
Manorom District, Chainat Province.**

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ABSTRACT

The study was designed (1) to investigate the promotion of the use of the good governance in subdistrict administrative organizations of Manorom District, Chainat province; and to compare the opinions of people with different personal backgrounds with regard to the promotion of the use of the good governance. 244 staff members working for the subdistrict administrative organizations comprised the sample of the study. The study tool was a set of self –administered questionnaires. The collected data were analyzed using a t - test and an F – test. The data analysis has unearthed the facts specified below.

1. The staff members (the respondents) were of the opinion that, holistically and separately, the promotion of the use of good governance was to be at a high level. The dimensions of the good governance promoted by subdistrict administrative organizations in descending order of degree were as follows: rule of law, accountability, participation, cost – effectiveness, transparency, and morality.

2. The staff members of the subdistrict administrative organizations with different personal backgrounds (sex, age, income, education, duration of public service) differed in their opinions toward the promotion of the use of good governance; the difference was statistically significant at the .05 level.

Keywords : promotion of the use of good governance in the work performance

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History and Significance of the Problems

The principle of good governance is one of the method used in various countries with regard to the public administration. Like other countries, Thailand adopts the principle of good governance; the principle of good governance is stipulated in the Royal Decree Concerning the Administration with the good governance B.E.2546. In essence, the public administration is required to use the Good Governance which includes the following elements: participation of all parties, transparency, accountability, justice, morality, public participation, and decentralization.

As for decentralization, it is of utmost importance in that people should be given more chance to participative in the public administration. As a result, the administration would be more effective and efficient, and various red tapes could be reduced to a considerable extent. With decentralization, people would be capable of participating in planning, offering ideas, and monitoring the work performance of the staff members in the public sector in order that the actual needs of the people could be satisfied. People's participation in decision making would result in the promotion of local development with efficiency and effectiveness. The local administrative organization is a legal person and has the responsibility in developing the local communities in terms of economic, social and cultural domains.

The Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand B.E. 2550 attaches importance to the local administrative organization in that the government is required to allow the local administrative organization to work independently in accordance with the principle of self – governance and self – determination. The local administrative organization is deemed as the principal, administrative unit in providing public services and in involving the people's participation for the purpose of solving problems in the locality. As far as the subdistrict administrative organizations in Manorom district are concerned, it can be said that the organizations perform the following functions: supervising, delivering public services, and determining various policies regarding administrative practices, personal management, and financial management. The organizations play dominant roles in solving local problems and providing public services.

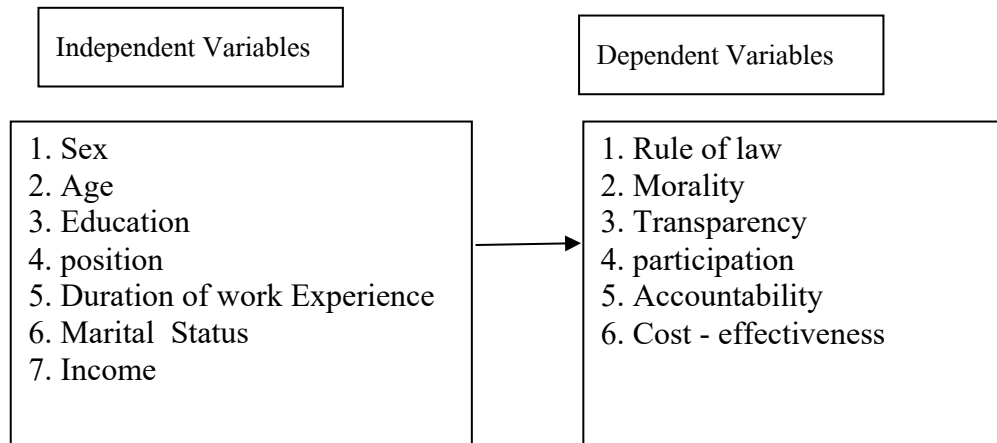
Although the administrative organization is small it can perform a wide variety of functions as stipulated by law. The organization is of great importance to the community in that it is an important mechanisms to administer at the subdistrict level. It has a great potential in rural development activities, it is the people's power, and it is close to the locals as well as local resources. For this reason, the organization is in a position to gain insights into the locals' problems and needs (Virat viratnipawan, 1993).

In performing its function, the subdistrict administrative organization adheres to the principle of good governance which includes the following: the rule of law, transparency, accountability, cost – effectiveness, and people's participation. It is expected that people's participation in monitoring the administrative practices of the subdistrict administrative organization will help prevent the corruption practices to a great extent.

Objectives of the Study

1. To investigate the use of good governance in the administrative practices of subdistrict administrative organizations in Manorom district, Chainat province.
2. To compare the opinions of the people with different personal background regarding the promotion of the use of good governance.
3. To offer recommendations regarding the promotion of the use of good governance.

Conceptual Framework



Concepts and Related Theories

The concepts of the good governance was mentioned by ADB in 1995. ADB attached great importance to the principle of good governance. ADB defined the good governance as the use of authority in managing the economic and social resources for the country development (sujitra Boonyaratpant (2006). In a sense, it has direct relevance to the management and development process in the public and private sectors. According to ADB, the principle of good governance has four dimensions, namely accountability, participation, predictability, and transparency. The principle of good governance as defined by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) was an acid test for several countries in East Asia and Southeast Asia.

Concepts of the Good Governance

According to the regulations issued on August 10, B.E.2542 by the Premier Office on the creation of good governance and good society, the following practices must be followed: (1) create the rules and mechanisms for use in the governance of the country and society so that the responsible authorities can send warning signals to prevent disaster and can adapt the mechanisms to suit the situation. (2) Enhance academicians' potential in conducting research studies and offering recommendations for correcting the defects or shortcomings of the country governance. (3) Improve the decision – making process and administrative practices in the public and private sectors so that the service delivery can be timely, transparent, and fair. (4) Expand the opportunities of the people in their receiving of the information about the condition and development of the country so that they can collaborate with the government in solving the collective problems. (5) Eliminate all kinds of corruption practices and all kinds of conflict of interest.

Research Procedures

The population of the study consisted of 663 staff members working for various subdistrict administrative organizations of Manorom district, Chainat province. With the help of Krejcie and Morgan's table, 244 staff members were selected as the sample for this study. The study tool was a set of self – administrated questionnaires; the study tool had the reliability coefficient of .974. The collected data were analyzed by means of descriptive statistics (percentage, mean and standard deviation), a t – test and an F – test.

Research Findings

1. Holistically and separately, the staff members working for subdistrict administrative organizations opined that the use of good governance in the organizations was to be at a high level. The mean scores of various dimensions of the good governance as viewed by the staff members in descending order of degree (ranking from high to low) were as follows: rule of law, accountability, participation, cost – effectiveness, transparency, and morality.

2. The staff members with different sexes, ages, incomes, education, positions, durations of work experience differed in their opinions toward the use of good governance in subdistrict administrative organizations. The difference was statistically significant at the .05 level. Meanwhile, the staff members with difference marital status failed to differ in their opinions toward the use of good governance in subdistrict administrative organizations of Manorom district, Chainat Province.

Recommendations

1. Recommendations on Practical Use

1.1 With regard to the principle of morality, the subdistrict administrative organizations should perform the following roles:

1.1.1 The organization should prepare a code of ethics or ethical standards for the staff members and methods of punishment in the case of violation.

1.1.2 The superiors should be fair in administering the ethical standard by adhering to what stipulated by law.

1.2 “Participation” is of great importance to local administration. So people should be strongly encouraged to participate in all stages of the organization’s administration. To achieve this end, the subdistrict administrative organization should take the following steps:

1.2.1 The subdistrict administrative organization should allow the locals to take part in monitoring and evaluating the work performance of the organization.

1.2.2. Development plans should be prepared – both the strategic plan and a 3 – year development plan, and the locals should be encouraged to take part in making these plans in the way of offering ideas and helping formulate the development plan.

1.2.3. The qualitative research to gain in – depth knowledge of the administrative practices of subdistrict administrative organizations should be conducted, and the findings derived from the qualitative research should be used for further improvement of the work performance of subdistrict administrative organizations.

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