

**“Propaganda of the Soviet Media in the Kingdom of Thailand during the Cold War,”** a Ph.D. dissertation in Media Communications and Journalism of St. Petersburg University, by **PALAHAN Nattanop**, is an excellent research with its objective to analyze the propaganda activities of the Soviet Union in Thailand in the Cold War’s ideological struggle. By presenting the hypothesis of the research that Soviet media successfully ran their activities in Thailand, despite the obstacles from Thai state, capitalist countries and Communist Party of Thailand, and achieved their goal in constructing positive image of the Soviet Union in Thailand through the dissemination of true information about the USSR and propaganda image of Soviet people’s way of life. Lenin’s concept of the press on propaganda, agitational and organizational functions was implemented in all activities of the Soviet media in Thailand. A positive image of Russia has been formed and develop mutual cooperation in education, cultural and scientific activities on the mutual respect and friendly relations.

As for the research methodology, Palahan clearly shows his academic abilities in this academic research by extensively surveying historical documents in Russian, Thai and English in order to give the previous body of knowledge concerning this topic and to clearly explain the historical contexts of the Cold War period in Thailand. Moreover, series of interviews with members of Soviet Union magazine in Thai language or APN’s editorial board in Thailand, Radio Moscow in Thai language and former employees of Novosti Press Agency are exclusively valuable sources which contribute to new information about the Soviet propaganda activities and Soviet influence in Thailand.

Another distinguished quality of this research is the explanation of the development and the differentiation of meanings of the concept of propaganda in

the three contexts: Russian, English or Western World and Thai. The key success of promoting Soviet ideology abroad and promoting a positive image of the Soviet Union is the application of Lenin's concept of journalism and the functions of the press as a collective propagandist, a collective agitator and a collective organizer. Palahan analyzed the success of the Soviet media in Thailand by applying this concept of propaganda and extensively explained in the Thai context.

This research is successful in contributing new body of knowledge about Soviet media activities in Thailand by analyzing a complex of various opinions from many sides in the formation process of Russian-Thai interrelations in the contexts of changing periods.

I appreciate the hardworking of the researcher in collecting all rare materials, archive materials, memoirs, propaganda materials, newspapers, magazines, books, research works, and interviews, both in Russia and in Thailand and in well-organizing all data into dissertation chapters with academic and historical analysis and strong conclusion to prove the hypothesis of this research.



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