

**LIVING WITH OPIUM: LIVELIHOOD STRATEGIES  
AMONG RURAL UPLANDERS IN SOUTHERN  
SHAN STATE, MYANMAR**



**ลิขสิทธิ์มหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่**  
Copyright© by Chiang Mai University  
All rights reserved

**GRADUATE SCHOOL  
CHIANG MAI UNIVERSITY  
DECEMBER 2014**

**LIVING WITH OPIUM: LIVELIHOOD STRATEGIES AMONG  
RURAL UPLANDERS IN SOUTHERN SHAN STATE,  
MYANMAR**

**KHUN MOE HTUN**

**A THESIS SUBMITTED TO CHIANG MAI UNIVERSITY IN PARTIAL  
FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF  
MASTER OF ARTS  
IN SOCIAL SCIENCE**

ลิขสิทธิ์เป็นของมหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่  
Copyright© by Chiang Mai University  
All rights reserved

**GRADUATE SCHOOL, CHIANG MAI UNIVERSITY  
DECEMBER 2014**

**LIVING WITH OPIUM: LIVELIHOOD STRATEGIES AMONG  
RURAL UPLANDERS IN SOUTHERN SHAN STATE,  
MYANMAR**

**KHUN MOE HTUN**

THIS THESIS HAS BEEN APPROVED TO BE A PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF  
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF  
MASTER OF ARTS  
IN SOCIAL SCIENCE

**Examination Committee:**

**Advisory Committee:**

..... Chairman  
(Dr. Ronald D. Renard)

*Pi Li* ..... Advisor  
(Asst. Prof. Dr. Pinkaew Laungaramsri)

*Pi Li* ..... Member  
(Asst. Prof. Dr. Pinkaew Laungaramsri)

*Aranya Siriphon* ..... Co-advisor  
(Dr. Aranya Siriphon)

*Aranya Siriphon* ..... Member  
(Dr. Aranya Siriphon)

1 December 2014

Copyright © by Chiang Mai University

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study would have not been possible without the assistance and guidance of many persons and organizations. I wish to express my great and sincere gratitude to the following people and institutions for their support in helping me complete my M.A thesis which is one of the greatest achievements in my life.

First and foremost, I wouldn't be able to pursue my study at Chiang Mai University without the financial support from Heinrich Boell Foundation (HBF) and its generous scholarship extension. Thus, I deeply appreciated HBF and its staff especially Manfred Hornung, Director of Southeast Asia Regional Office, and Rainer Einzenberger, Program Coordinator in Myanmar/Burma, for their support and encouragement.

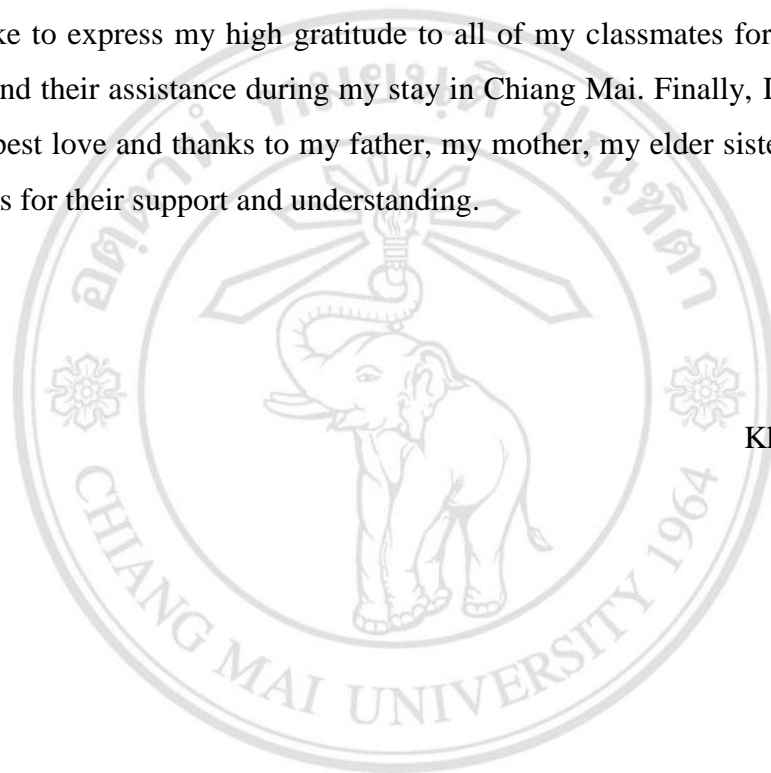
I am highly indebted to my thesis supervisor, Asst Prof Dr. Pinkaew Laungaramsri for her invaluable guidance, insightful comments and understanding throughout the whole process of thesis writing. I can never thank to my thesis committee members enough: Dr. Aranya Siriphon, and Dr. Ronald D. Renard for their helpful suggestion and support. I am sincerely thankful to Dr. Amporn Jirattikorn, my general advisor, for her useful consultation during coursework and thesis proposal development. My special thanks also go to my English editor, Mr. Lyn Vasey, who used to be my teacher and supported me for further study.

I would also like to show my deepest appreciation to all RCSD professors and lecturers who contributed their precious lectures and knowledge. My special thanks also go to all RCSD administrative staff and in particular Ms. Muttika Thungsuphuti (P Pong) and Mrs. Rungthiwa Hacker (P Ann) for their assistance, kindness and friendship throughout my study at Chiang Mai University.

I profoundly owe the Pa-Oh people in my research study village who accepted my presence in the village and gave me their precious time to respond to my questions and

share their experience and information with patience. Their hospitality, help, kindness and tolerance allowed me to achieve information that I needed to complete this study. For their safety and security concern, their names remain anonymous despite their priceless assistance.

This study would not have been possible without lifelong support and encouragement of Pa-Oh Youth Organization (PYO) and Kaung Rwai Social Action Network (KSAN). I also would like to express my high gratitude to all of my classmates for their friendly consultation and their assistance during my stay in Chiang Mai. Finally, I would like to show my deepest love and thanks to my father, my mother, my elder sister and my two younger sisters for their support and understanding.



Khun Moe Htun

ลิขสิทธิ์มหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่  
Copyright© by Chiang Mai University  
All rights reserved