

The Study of Ethical Characteristics of first year students, Faculty of Education of the Rajabhat Universities in the upper North-eastern region of Thailand

Thanunya Theeraakanit^{1*}

¹ *Human Behavior For Self Development, General Education Department, Udon Thani Rajabhat University, Udonthani Province Thailand*

*Corresponding Author: thanunya2020@gmail.com

Received 7 August 2015; Revised 31 August 2015; Accepted 1 September 2015; Available online 1 October 2015

ABSTRACT

This research aimed to study and compare the Ethical Characteristics of first year students, Faculty of Education of the Universities in the upper North-eastern region of Thailand. The total numbers of population were 2,310 students who enrolled in Udonthani Rajabhat University, Loei Rajabhat University, Sakon Nakhon Rajabhat University and Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University. The samples were randomized from 1st year students of Faculty of Education from Udonthani Rajabhat University (n = 119), Loei Rajabhat University (n=138), Sakon Nakhon Rajabhat University (n=143) and Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University (n=62). Therefore, the total of samples in this study was 462. The research instruments used in the study were the ethics questionnaires and ethics survey. It was found that for all four universities, the highest mean score went to the aspect of patriot and royal to religion and the king ($\bar{x} = 4.70$), gratitude ($\bar{x} = 4.61$), respect of self-acceptance and others ($\bar{x} = 4.52$), compassion ($\bar{x} = 4.50$), respectively. Comparative analysis of the ethics of first year students by sex was statistically significant different at the .05 level, while students with major subject had significantly the ethic characteristics difference at the .01 level.

Keywords: Education ,Ethical Characteristics

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, Thailand has changed dramatically that affected lifestyle and well-being of people in the society. With the popularity of materialism, and imitate too

much of the other cultures, this effects particularly to the level of ethics. So, Thailand is becoming a low moral society. (Commission of National Education, A. D. 2002 : 24). Because of ethics is considered as the basis of everything. Society will be glory

happily, people must have ethics as their life basis (chamlouengwutijan, A. D. 2002 : 77-79).

From the violence and sexual harassment of the adults to children, it indicated the low level of moral in Thai people as in the free TV news report about child raping and killing (www.youtube.com/watch January 17, A. D.2014) was an example of seriously violence and crime in Thailand. These kinds of violence against children might be the sign to show that the moral promotion in Thailand was deceased.

Moral crisis or a lacking of ethics are new phenomenon that change Thai people ethical characteristics. Such unrequired-behaviors of young people irresponsibility, lack of respect for the rights and freedom of others, spending money more than earning income, impatience, lack of discipline, lack of patience, corruption, rude, unkind, and injustice. Therefore, the efforts of society to create a feature that occurs due to various ethical, left to phenomena such unethical. Social Thailand is likely to lead to a decline in all areas.

From above problems, the government attempts to find out the solutions seriously as in the National research mission act 8 (A. D. 2012-2016) with the aim to promote knowledge building to be the basis of the nation's strength, to strengthen the

community, to develop people's quality of life and promote joyful of people. As a national research strategy No. 8 (A. D. 2012-2016) with the aim of strengthening the knowledge base, the country's security by strengthening the society, develop quality of life and the welfare of the people, putting efforts on research to improve the quality of education, self-learning, culture, health, quality of life, and welfare for life assurances, as well as good governance. Strengthening and creating immunity of the local society, focuses on youth disadvantaged, disabled and elderly development which relied on the National Economic and Social Development Plan No. 11. (A.D. 2012-2016) encouraged the society of lifelong learning sustainably.

(www.masscomm.cmu.ac.th/research/pdf/Policywww.youtube.com/watch January 17, A. D. 2014).

The developed guidelines under Article 3.4.4 strengthen Thai culture and values include:

1) strengthening moral values, Thai culture and democracy by giving understanding, instill values and the right attitude to people of all ages. From early childhood through the teaching and learning using community-based,

2) strengthening the main institutions namely family, religious and so on, because these institutions play a major role in shaping

young people. Also, raise awareness of people to recover good customary of Thailand and increase social values such as generosity, kind, respecting the elder and live with others under the variety of cultures.

(www.nesdb.go.th/Portals/0/news/annual_meet/.../BookYearend2010 January 17, 2014)

OBJECTIVE

: This research aims to study and to compare the ethics characteristics of the first year students, Faculty of Education of the Universities in the upper North-eastern region of Thailand.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

1. Population : The total number of 1st year students of Faculty of Education from Udonthani Rajabhat University Loei Rajabhat University Sakon NakhonRajabhat University And Maha SarakamRajabhat University on 2,310 people.

2. Sample : The Sampling procedures are as follows;

Step 1: Define the population. The specification were 1st year students of Faculty of Education of the Universities in the upper North-eastern region of Thailand consisted of 594 students from Udonthani Rajabhat University, 651 students from Loei Rajabhat University, 715 students from Sakon Nakhon Rajabhat University, and 310 students Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University.

The grand total of research population is 2,310.

Step 2 samples used in this study. The sample size has been estimated by using the table Krejcie & Morgan at confidence level of 95% (Krejcie & Morgan cited in Tirakanun, 2003: 200-201). 20 percent out of the total population were selected randomly. Then the first year students both male and female of any fields will be selected randomly using Simple Random Sampling.

Step 3 Random 1st year Education students from Udonthani Rajabhat University (n = 119), Loei Rajabhat University (n=138), Sakon Nakhon Rajabhat University (n=143) and Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University (n=62). Therefore, the total of samples for this study was 462.

The research instruments used in the study were the ethics questionnaire and ethics survey which was the open-ended questionnaire

In this study, data were analyzed and interpreted in terms of mean, standard deviation, F-test, One Way ANOVA, Scheffe technique.

3. Conceptual Framework : Dependent Variable:Features all 14 areas from review of literature and research.

Independent Variable :
1. sex
2. Department Branch

Dependent Variable: Features all 14 areas, including ethics, discipline, responsibility, honesty, perseverance, patience - tolerance, compassion, courage, self-sacrifice, gratitude, justice, economy - frugality, rationality, respect and acceptance of self and others, and the love and blessing of Holy Crown.

RESULTS

Udonthani Rajabhat University.

The ethical characteristics of 1st year student at the Faculty of Education Udonthani Rajabhat University, the sample of this study included male students (n=40) 33.64percent, female students (n=79) 66.36percent out of the total number of 119 participants or 100 percent.

Results of the study showed that Ethical characteristics of 1st year students, Faculty of Education, Udonthani Rajabhat University was in very high with ($\bar{x} = 4.58$) of royalty and patriot to religion and the king, ($\bar{x} = 4.57$) for responsibility, ($\bar{x} = 4.52$) for gratitude, and ($\bar{x} = 4.50$) for other and self - respects and recognitions, respectively.

Ethical feature	male		female		t	p
	\bar{x}	S.D.	\bar{x}	S.D.		
Honesty	4.33	.52	4.53	.43	6.017*	.016
Respect and acceptance of self and others	4.15	.69	4.64	.50	8.245**	.005
sum	4.29	.41	4.46	.33	5.20*	.024

* p< .05 ; ** p < .01

Comparative analysis of the first year student's ethical characteristics of Faculty of Education Udonthani Rajabhat University; the samples justified by their genders with t testing (t-test) overall were significance different at .05 level. Considering on each aspect found that in honesty aspect (p <.016) were significantly different at level. 05 significantly and in other and self - respect and recognition aspect (p <.005) were significantly different at level .01.

Ethical feature		SS	df	MS	F	Sig
Responsibility	Between	2.764	12	.230	2.598**	.005
	Within	9.399	106	.089		
	Sum	12.162	118			
Love and blessing of Holy Crown	Between	7.330	12	.611	2.139*	.020
	Within	30.274	106	.286		
	Sum	37.604	118			
The total average	Between	1.845	12	.154	1.165	.318
	Within	13.985	106	.132		
	Sum	15.830	118			

* p< .05 ; ** p < .01

The analysis result when compares the ethical characteristics of first year students at the Faculty of Education Udonthani Rajabhat University according to their discipline found that there was no overall difference in

statistically significant at .05 level. When it was considered by each aspect, it was found that. In responsibility aspect ($p < .005$) were found statistically significantly of different at .01 level, and in aspect of royalty and patriot to religion and the king ($p < .020$) were significantly different at the statistical level .05.

Loei Rajabhat University.

The ethical characteristics of 1st year student at the Faculty of Education Loei Rajabhat University, found that the sample of this study included male students ($n=36$) 26.08 percent, female students ($n=102$) 73.91 percent out of the total number of 138 participants or 100 percent.

Results of the study showed that Ethical characteristics of 1st year students, Faculty of Education, Loei Rajabhat University was in very high with ($\bar{x} = 4.75$) of royalty and patriot to religion and the king, ($\bar{x} = 4.69$) for gratitude and brave, and ($\bar{x} = 4.58$) for other and self - respects and recognitions, respectively.

Ethical feature	male		female		t	p
	x	S.D.	x	S.D.		
Gratitude	4.60	.44	4.73	.37	4.557*	.035
Rationality	4.30	.37	4.33	.61	6.642*	.011
sum	4.41	.30	4.52	.28	.984	.323

* $p < .05$; ** $p < .01$

Comparative analysis of the ethics of the first year students of the Faculty of Education. Loei Rajabhat University. Vocational by sex by t-test showed no overall difference was statistically significant at the .05 level. Considering it was found that. The Gratitude ($p < .035$) and Rationality ($p < .011$). Different level of statistical significance. 05.

Ethical feature		SS	df	MS	F	Sig
Perseverance	Between	6.304	14	.450	2.114*	.015
	Within	26.196	123	.213		
	Sum	32.500	137			
Rationality	Between	11.451	14	.818	3.235**	.000
	Within	31.097	123	.253		
	Sum	42.548	137			
The total average	Between	1.843	14	.132	1.635	.079
	Within	9.903	123	.087		
	Sum	11.747	137			

* $p < .05$; ** $p < .01$

The comparative analysis of the ethics characteristics of first year students at the Faculty of Education, Loei Rajabhat University divided by student’s majoring subject found no overall difference significantly at the .05 level. Considering in each aspect found that the aspect of diligence ($p < .015$) were significantly different at .05

level, and the aspect of rationalism ($p < .000$) were significantly different at .01 level.

Sakon Nakhon Rajabhat University.

The ethical characteristics of 1st year student at the Faculty of Education Sakon Nakhon Rajabhat University, found that the sample of this study included male students ($n=38$) 26.57 percent, female students ($n=105$) 73.42 percent out of the total number of 143 participants or 100 percent.

Summary of ethics characteristics of the year students, Faculty of Education, Sakon Nakhon Rajabhat University found that the aspect of patriot and royal to religion and the king is ($\bar{x} = 4.73$), Gratitude ($\bar{x} = 4.67$), Honesty ($\bar{x} = 4.59$), respect of self-acceptance and Others ($\bar{x} = 4.56$), justice ($\bar{x} = 4.52$), and compassion ($\bar{x} = 4.51$), respectively. It was the highest score among the group of participants.

Ethical feature	male		female		t	p
	\bar{x}	S.D.	\bar{x}	S.D.		
Love and blessing of Holy Crown	4.77	.34	4.71	.41	2.093*	.150
sum	4.47	.30	4.47	.30	.000	.988

* $p < .05$; ** $p < .01$

Comparative analysis of the ethics characteristics of students in the first Year, Faculty of Education, Sakon Nakhon

Rajabhat University identified by gender of participants with t test (t-test) had no overall different at a statistically significant at .05 level. When consider each aspect found that the aspect of patriot and royal to religion and the king ($p < .150$) were significantly different at .05 level.

Ethical feature		SS	df	MS	F	Sig
Discipline	Between	3.095	13	.238	1.892*	.037
	Within	16.230	129	.126		
	Sum	19.325	142			
The total average	Between	1.614	13	.124	1.369	.183
	Within	11.698	129	.091		
	Sum	13.312	142			

* $p < .05$; ** $p < .01$

Comparative analysis of the ethics characteristics of students in the first Year, Faculty of Education, Sakon Nakhon Rajabhat University identified by majoring subjects found no significant difference at the .05 level. Consider it in each aspect found that discipline ($p < .037$) was significantly different at .05 level.

Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University.

The ethical characteristics of 1st year student at the Faculty of Education Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University, found that the sample of this study included male students

(n=25) 40.32 percent, female students (n=37) 59.67 percent out of the total number of 62 participants or 100 percent.

Ethical Characteristics of 1st year students, Faculty of Education, Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University found that samples were 25 percent male students and 37 to 40.32 percent female ones, from total 59.67 percent of 62 participants or 100 percent. Summarize the result of studying Ethical Characteristics found that the ethics characteristics in highest scores were aspect of patriot and royal to religion and the king is ($\bar{x} = 4.74$), and gratitude is ($\bar{x} = 4.47$) respectively.

Ethical feature	male		female		t	p
	\bar{x}	S.D.	\bar{x}	S.D.		
sum	4.28	.38	4.35	.35	.001	.979

* p < .05 ; ** p < .01

Comparative analysis of the ethics characteristics of students in the first Year, Faculty of Education, Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University identified by gender of participants with t test (t-test) was significantly different at .05 levels.

Ethical feature		SS	df	MS	F	Sig
Discipline	Between	15.805	10	1.581	11.101**	.000
	Within	7.261	51	.142		
	Sum	23.066	61			
Ethical feature		SS	df	MS	F	Sig

Responsibility	Between	7.909	10	.791	3.805**	.001
	Within	10.599	51	.208		
	Sum	18.508	61			
Perseverance	Between	8.338	10	.834	3.165**	.003
	Within	13.433	51	.263		
	Sum	21.771	61			
Compassion	Between	5.352	10	.535	2.242*	.030
	Within	12.176	51	.239		
	Sum	17.528	61			
Courage	Between	7.195	10	.720	2.217*	.031
	Within	16.555	51	.325		
	Sum	23.750	61			
Self-Sacrifice	Between	9.364	10	.936	3.142**	.003
	Within	15.198	51	.298		
	Sum	24.561	61			
Justice	Between	8.322	10	.832	2.333*	.024
	Within	18.189	51	.357		
	Sum	26.511	61			
Economy-Frugality	Between	10.183	10	1.018	4.741**	.000
	Within	10.954	51	.215		
	Sum	21.137	61			
Rationality	Between	9.286	10	.929	2.579*	.013
	Within	18.363	51	.360		
	Sum	27.649	61			
Respect and acceptance of self and others	Between	8.590	10	.859	2.998*	.005
	Within					
	Sum					
Ethical feature		SS	df	MS	F	Sig

	Within	14.613	51	.287		
	Sum	23.203	61			
Love and blessing of Holy Crown	Between	2.830	10	.283	2.324*	.024
	Within	6.211	51	.122		
	Sum	9.041	61			
Ethical feature		SS	df	MS	F	Sig
The total average	Between	4.234	10	.423	5.550**	.000
	Within	3.891	51	.076		
	Sum	8.125	61			

* p < .05 ; ** p < .01

Comparative analysis of the ethics characteristics of students in the first Year, Faculty of Education, Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University identified by majoring subjects found was significantly different at .01 levels. Consider it in each aspect found that discipline (p < .000), responsibility (p < .001), hardworking (p < .003), sacrifice (p < .003), cost saving (p < .000), respect of self-acceptance and Others (p < .005) were significantly different at 01. compassion (p < .030), courage (p < .031), justice (p < .024), rationalism (p < .013) patriot and royal to religion and the king (p < .024) were significantly different at .05 level.

Udonthani Rajabhat University, Loei Rajabhat University, Sakon Nakhon Rajabhat University, Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University.

The study of the ethics characteristics of students in the first Year, Faculty of Education; Udonthani Rajabhat University, Loei Rajabhat University, Sakon Nakhon Rajabhat University, and Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University. Participants included 139 male students (30.01%), and 323 female students (69.90%). They are 462 participants representing 100 percent.

It was found that for all four universities, the highest score went to the aspect of patriot and royal to religion and the king ($\bar{x} = 4.70$), gratitude ($\bar{x} = 4.61$), respect of self-acceptance and others ($\bar{x} = 4.52$), compassion ($\bar{x} = 4.50$), respectively.

Ethical feature	male		female		t	p
	\bar{x}	S.D.	\bar{x}	S.D.		
Discipline	4.34	.47	4.51	.38	5.801*	.016
Gratitude	4.53	.52	4.65	.45	7.587**	.006
Respect and acceptance of self and others.	4.42	.57	4.57	.49	9.167**	.003
sum	4.37	.35	4.47	.31	6.672*	.010

* p < .05 ; ** p < .01

Comparative analysis of the ethics of first year students at the Faculty of Education, Udonthani Rajabhat University, Loei Rajabhat University, Sakon Nakhon Rajabhat University, Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University. By t-test showed that the overall difference is statistically significant at the .05 level. Considering it was found that. The discipline ($p < .016$) were significantly different statistically, .05 and Gratitude ($p < .006$) and Respect and acceptance of self and others ($p < .003$) were significantly different at the statistical level. 01.

Ethical feature		SS	df	MS	F	Sig
Discipline	Between	6.145	18	.341	2.036*	.007
	Within	74.291	443	.168		
	Sum	80.436	461			
Responsibility	Between	5.721	18	.318	2.008*	.009
	Within	70.126	443	.158		
	Sum	75.848	461			
Compassion	Between	7.222	18	.401	1.752*	.029
	Within	101.477	443	.229		
	Sum	108.700	461			
Ethical feature		SS	df	MS	F	Sig
Courage	Between	9.370	18	.521	2.222**	.003
	Within	103.790	443	.234		
	Sum	113.161	461			
Gratitude	Between	7.697	18	.428	1.911*	.014
	Within	99.124	443	.224		
	Sum	106.822	461			
Economy-Frugality	Between	10.961	18	.609	2.020**	.008
	Within	133.552	443	.301		

	Sum	144.513	461			
Rationality	Between	14.992	18	.833	2.492**	.001
	Within	148.049	443	.334		
	Sum	163.041	461			
Respect and acceptance of self and others.	Between	10.695	18	.594	2.240**	.003
	Within	117.515	443	.265		
	Sum	128.211	461			
The total average	Between	5.083	18	.282	2.763**	.000
	Within	45.284	443	.102		
	Sum	50.368	461			

* $p < .05$; ** $p < .01$

Comparative analysis of the ethics characteristics of students in the first Year, Faculty of Education; Udonthani Rajabhat University, Loei Rajabhat University, Sakon Nakhon Rajabhat University, and Maha Sarakam Rajabhat University by their majoring subjects found that the overall was difference significantly at level. 01, considering it in each aspect found that the rationality ($p < .001$), the respect and acceptance of self and others ($p < .003$) were significantly different at level. 01, discipline ($p < .007$), responsibility ($p < .009$), compassion ($p < .029$), courage ($p < .003$), cost saving ($p < .008$) were significantly different at .05 level.

REVIEW AND SUMMARY

The results of the study showed that in the aspect of discipline, gratitude, and respect and acceptance in self and other; female

students have got higher mean scores than the male ones. To consider aspect by aspect found that in aspects of compassion, courage, gratitude, and saving depend on student's disciplinary which is also depend on context and what they have taught as well. So, these morals are very appropriate to input to people since they were young until grow up. With their life experience and learning through their family, school, religion, and any kind of environment, the ethics is surround them. It is the basis of life, both social and individual ethics. It is a way of human adaptation to live with others with their thoughts, words, and actions.

Chamloueng Wutijan, A.D.1991 related to PranomSophinan (A.D. 2003) studied the development of the ethical behavior of students in Thaiwittayakhom School, AmpurKhuengNai, Ubonratchathani found that;From the moral education camping of students, student's behaviors have been changed from the original one. They are patience, sacrifice, and respect for the rule of the majority. It was clear that using various activities, games, music, students pay more respect to their teachers, and staff from other school.

Students are better organized, see the harms of drugs abuse, and accept the rules of the camp, be a good obedience of teachers, aware of self-development, dare to do good both in front of and behind the scene,

strengthen their mind and understand the results of their actions, and know how to become good son of parents and good student of teacher.

ChamlouengWutijan, (A.D. 1991) mentioned guideline to cultivate students with moral as follow;

1) Family; Parents and home are the first place to give love, education, and care to children. Children abilities recognition is one thing to allow children to express their opinions. Giving advice and assistance in the times they need. Another way of parenting is to give the ethics which will make youth behavior better. Also, prevent them from problems by giving concept of living so they can be developed the ethical characteristics.

2) Teachers are those who should be informed about the ethics. In order to seek help and manage the classroom, teachers should encourage the appropriate ethics and even greater level of it to students by setting learning environment In and out of the classroom as well as holding the extra activities, consistently and continuously, Support and guide, and develop ethical characteristics to young people in higher education levels.

To increase student's awareness and promote volunteer mind, and hold moral activities such as Dharma camp, increase the

attitude, aptitude, emotional quality, Intelligence Quality for students to develop a more ethical to cultivate and learn to be human that contains ethical.

DISCUSSION AND SUGGESTION

1. Further research should do the study and compare the ethical characteristics to other variables.

2. Should conduct the experimental study in guidance activity to grow up student's morals.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am grateful to research and development, UdonThai Rajabhat University for financial support.

REFERENCES

- Chamloueng,W. (1991).Principles of Virtue ethics to students. Bangkok: Master of Education Graduate School.
- Commission on Higher Education. (2004). The professional education. Bangkok: The Council of Teachers.
- Department of Education.(1996). A Guide to Creating Karma meter features. New York: Division of Educational Research. Ministry of Education.
- History of the tenth year 2002-2016. New York: The Teachers' Council of.Ministry of Education, Department of Education.(2001). Curriculum for Basic Education Act 2001.
- Ministry of Education. (2003). National Education Act of 1999, as amended. (No. 2) Act 2002 and related regulations and

- laws, education -Force. Bangkok: the transfer of goods and cargo.
- Office of National Education. (2002). National Education Plan (2002-2016 BC). Ed 2. New York: capsicum graphics.
- Office of the National Education Commission (1979). Seminar ethics in society.The symposium ethics in society in Thailand. Asian Institute of Technology.
- Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board (2006).Plan.
- Praghtglapajan.(2001). Ethicsand professional conduct. London: Yale Printing (1988).
- Prasitratthasin,S. (1996).Ethics academic. Bangkok:around Chiang.www.nesdb.go.th/Portals/0/news/annual_meet/.../BookYearend2010 January 17, 2014.
- Tangkaeo,B. (1996). Ethics.Edition 3. Bangkok:. S.
- Tangkaeo, B. (1998). Ethics and Life. Ed 6. New York: O. S.