

**An investigation into the Melayu dialect spoken in
Bang Bua Thong, Bangkok and its origins.**

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Abstract

This is an investigation into the Malay dialect spoken Bang Bua Thong together with an attempt to investigate into its origins through its phonological roots. The Malay Community in Bang Bua Thong, Nonthaburi Province, North of Bangkok are descendants of Kedah and Pattani prisoners of war who were forcibly brought for resettlement to Bangkok some 200 year ago.

This is an ongoing follow-up investigation into the language and culture of Malays in and around Bangkok. The Bang Bua Thong Malay dialect has its own distinctive accent, not detected at other sites where Malay dialects are spoken by Bangkok Melayu. The focus of this investigations is on the potentials location of origin, assumed to be in Northern Malaysia or Southern Thailand (in the areas of former Pattani Kingdom).

The paper will present and discuss recent findings of this on-going research. This investigation, in addition to furthering knowledge on dialectology will also illustrate how the application of linguistic approach can support anthropological research.