

Language and Ethnic Relations - a case study on reverse situations : Thais as a minority in Kedah , Malaysia and Malays as a minority in Pathumthani, Thailand

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Abstract

The author developed understanding of the Kedah-Thai communities during her research on Thai dialects spoken in Kedah, Malaysia. This study examines how they co-exist as a minority group maintaining religious and cultural practices within the dominant Malay and Muslim society.

Several years later, the author undertook a reverse study on the Bangkok-Melayu communities living in and around greater Bangkok and reported on their assimilation.

This paper attempts to relate how a minority, the Thai and Malay communities, live alongside the dominant group, from the perspective of language and ethnic relations.