



The Origin of Human Trafficking : A Case of MEA LA Temporary Shelter

Police Lieutenant Colonel Bandan Buadaeng¹

E-mail: kamphang.b50@gmail.com

Patcharin Sirasoothorn²

¹Chief Inspector of Den Lek Police Station, Uttaradit Provincial Police.

²Associate Professor, Ph.D., Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Faculty of Social Science, Naresuan University.

* ຂອບគ្មានភាពទាក់ <http://bit.ly/2ecClah>

Abstract

Because of the fighting between Burmese military and minority groups in Myanmar, people from more than 13 ethnic groups have to migrate to a “grey area” called the Mae La temporary shelter in Thasongyang district, Tak province. The operation of the temporary shelter is under an agreement between international organizations and the government of Thailand. This policy leads to poor socio-physical conditions. Problems include DPFs’ socio-economic dependency. These conditions push displaced persons from fighting (DPFs) who reside in the shelter to sneak out of the shelter to seek for better living conditions, hence becoming the victim of human trafficking. Therefore, Mae La temporary shelter has come to be an original station of human trafficking in Thailand. The objectives of this article are to uncover the status as origin of human trafficking of this shelter and to highlight the key major factors that turn DPFs into human trafficking victims. The authors adopted a mixed methodology including quantitative and qualitative research, coupling with the walking map by geographic social information system to explain routes of trafficking.

The results show that Mae La temporary shelter had status as the origin of human trafficking process which affected DPFs residents inside to be trafficked through 3 major factors: 1) low quality of life of “stateless people” in the “grey area” from the shelter’s poor management and without good governance; 2) The influence of consumerism in the outside society which still face with the lack of planning for proper and sustainable development; and 3) vulnerable status of DPFs as “stateless people” without cosmopolitan status and labelled as persons with illegal status. The authors suggested that to release Mae La temporary shelter of its status as the origin, it is crucial to reconsider the existence of the shelter’s management as special area for “stateless people” who should be considered as global citizen and has

universal human rights, the definition of “temporary” and empowerment programs for increasing a better living and human rights among DPFs should be a priority.

Keywords: Origin of human trafficking, Mae La temporary shelter, Displaced persons from fighting.

Introduction

The revolution in 1962 by General Ne Win in Myanmar which converted the socialism administration to Myanmar administration destroyed the contract for minorities' autonomy and has since caused disputes between the Burmese military government and ethnic groups. While the ethnic groups want to fight for their autonomy, the Burmese government wants to keep them in order. The fighting zone is in Shan state and Karen state. It takes place along the whole length of the border between Myanmar and Thailand which is approximately 2,401 kilometers. (Border Patrol Police Sub-Division 34, 2010).

The most violent fighting is the area opposite of Tak province in Thailand. The area belongs to Karen Nationalist Forces. The strong forces of the Karen ethnic group lead to the hope to gain their victory over the Burmese's army. Though the war zone is limited to within Burmese border, its impact crosses the border into Thailand. The flux of war refugees dispersing along border areas such as Mae Hong Son, Tak, Kanchanaburee, and Ratchaburee provinces corresponds to what are, in effect, war zones on the Myanmar side. Therefore, the Thai government has put up temporary shelters with support from the United Nations. However, these temporary shelters have been targeted by the Burmese military since they are located closely to the border. Therefore, the Thai National Security Council decided to move the temporary shelters at least 10 kilometers from the border and reduce

the number of shelters in Thailand to 9 locations since year 1996. Four of them are in Mae Hong Son province, 3 are in Tak province, and other 2 are in Ratchaburee province and Kanchanaburee province. Said areas were given a new name of “Temporary shelter” and residents of the area “Displaced persons from fighting (DPFs)”. (Mae La Temporary Shelter February, 2012)

Our additional study found Mae La Temporary shelter in Thasongyang district, Tak province have at least five policy issues and problems that make it more interesting than other shelters; 1) It has the vastest area of 1,150 Rai, 2) It has the biggest number of resident as in 8,449 households with 45,669 individuals compose of 22,783 registered and 22,886 new arrivals (Mae La Temporary Shelter February, 2012, Preeda Funtragulchai, 2012), 3) It has the highest density of resident; 1 person per 1 square meter, 4) It's surrounding community in 10 kilometers radius are also the most dense; 7 villages or 4,920 individuals (Maeramard District Office, 2010 and Thasongyang District Office, 2010) and 5). Impacts of the shelter on surrounding communities are the most varied and obvious environmental problems, common natural resource disputes problem and criminal problems (Montree Kijvirojkul, 2012)

Mae La Temporary shelter operates under agreement and conditions between international organization supporting consumables namely United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Thai Burma Border Consortium (TBBC) (Thailand Burma Border Consortium/TBBC., 2010), and the Thai government through office of Secretary of Ministry of Interior has given special characteristic to the area. There are exclusive regulations enforced only in the shelter while outsiders cannot enter the areas freely as might be otherwise within the state of Thailand unless formally permitted by office of the secretary to Ministry of Interior. Therefore, activities and information both within and about the shelter released to the public are limited.

Policy makers determine that the rather poor conditions were because Thailand has not signed the 1951 United Nations Convention on the status of displaced persons. DPFs' living here were based on "temporarily concept". (Mae La Temporary Shelter February, 2012). These conditions lead to their lack of quality of life, which consists of housing and income. Their houses are built from unreliable materials (bamboos) and located with the highest density of resident; 1 person per 1 square meter, because their residence are temporary there is no income for residents in the shelter due to the unemployment and oppression from shelter regulations. Although they were supplied commodities from UNHCR and TBBC organization, it was not enough for living. Finally, the low quality of life on housing and income fronts pushed them to find jobs for better living outside the shelter and thus were trafficked.

Results from several studies on human trafficking found that economic issue or poverty is a crucial cause that led to voluntary relocation as it pushes the victims to human trafficking (Hans van de Glind and Joost Kooijmans, 2008, Finnegan William, 2008 and Asia Regional Trafficking In Persons Project, 2011). This article reveals the temporary shelter as a "grey area" since there had been no proper policy made for living quality. This situation allows the DPFs to become the "people in between". They are invisible from the development process. DPFs in the temporary shelter are restricted certain rights by shelter's regulations, leading to lack of freedom especially freedom to travel and to work. Therefore, this area similar to that of semi-closed society, hard to access, multiple problems take place and are tied into policy across border of Thailand.

Nevertheless, illegally leaving the shelter has become common among DPFs. Although they are protected under the UN's course of humanity, leaving the area denounce that right and protection. They become criminals

that can be apprehended and sent back to their country of origin. Only two conditions for them to be able to leave the temporary shelter legally are for medical treatment and to perform non-political ceremony. (Mae La Temporary Shelter February, 2012). Those with other reasons has no right, thus they sneak out illegally which automatically labels them the illegal immigrants punishable by law. This particular trait is the weak point of being DPFs. This situation gives opportunity to criminals who exploit them through many means especially trafficker. Hence, Mea La temporary shelter has become the origin of human trafficking of which DPFs living in the shelter were victims.

Objectives

This research has 2 objectives: 1) To identify victims of human trafficking and 2) To investigate the major key factors of human trafficking among displaced persons from fighting (DPFs) who are resident in Mae La temporary shelter.

Research Methodology

The authors employed mixed methods including 1) quantitative research by adopting questionnaires survey. Then, the information about quality of life of DPFs was investigated. The data collection application was firstly submitted to the Chief District Officer before studying (at present the application must be submitted to Ministry of Interior only). Once obtaining the permission, the author conducted social assessment survey on 430 samples. By using stratify random sampling; residential zone was divided into 3 strata, with 28,922 labor-age residents of 15 years and older (Mae La temporary shelter, February 2012). Simple sampling was employed for all zones. Sample groups consist of 105 individuals from “zone A”, 135 individuals from “zone B” and 190 individuals from “zone C”. Research tools included

open-ended questions which focus on quality of life of DPFs who residents in the shelter. All samples were both directly and thoroughly interviewed with interpreters present. Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics including frequency and percentage. Then, the qualitative research was employed. Key informants were selected from the interviewees who appeared to be the victims of human trafficking in the questionnaires. Each victim was later interviewed in-depth. The framework of human trafficking as defined by law and scope of this study was applied. Human trafficking victims here referred to those who have originally been living in the Shelter.

The authors adopted triangulation method to process the data before analysis under at least four objectives: 1) to ascertain validity; 2) to reduce bias; 3) to confirm the data and; 4) to elaborate the data (Benja Yoddamnern-Atttig, 2009) between data on the same issue but retrieved from different sources i.e. data from interview and survey. Furthermore, the authors also gathered information concerning social geo-graphical mapping by using GSIS (Geographic Social Information System). By this, locations, problems, the Shelter's designation were displayed. Victims' housing, administrative offices, boundary, public facilities were located in the Map. Data was analyzed by using content analysis, before synthesizing conclusion of the study.

Result

1) The process of identifying human trafficking composed of 3 steps.

1.1) First step was searching for primary identification of human trafficking's victims. For the identification; the authors believed that low quality of life is the main cause of human trafficking, therefore the quality of life surveying method to search for human trafficking's victims in the shelter was employed. We had to separate the samples with questions regarding

working outside the shelter and invaded human rights because persons will not be human trafficking's victim unless both factors are present. First step consists of 3 items which are:

(a) Social characteristics of DPFs in the shelter. The results showed; Most of samples groups are female (63.1%), age group is 15-25 years old (35.8%), resident in zone "C" (44.2%), they are Karen (87.2%), Christian (51.1%), settled in the shelter because of the treat of fighting in Myanmar (66.7%) and they have lived in the shelter between 1-10 years (Table 1)

TABLE 1 : Social characteristics of DPFs in the shelter.

Social characteristics	Frequency (person)	Frequency (%)
1.Sex		
Male	159	36.9
Female	271	63.1
2.Age group		
15-25 years old	154	35.8
More than 25-35 years old	138	32.2
More than 35-45 years old	77	17.9
More than 45-55 years old	40	9.2
More than 55 years old	21	4.9
3.Zone of residential		
Zone A	105	24.4
Zone B	135	31.4
Zone C	190	44.2
4.Ethnicity		
Burmese	43	10.0
Karen	375	87.2
Others	12	2.8

TABLE 1 : Social characteristics of DPFs in the shelter. (Cont.)

Social characteristics	Frequency (person)	Frequency (%)
5.Religion		
Buddhism	199	46.3
Mohammedanism	11	2.6
Christianity	220	51.1
6.Cause of residential in the shelter		
Treat of fighting	287	66.7
Treat of political	25	5.8
Treat of poverty	46	10.7
Treat of oppressed	15	3.5
Follow relatives	57	13.3
7.Period of residential		
1-10 years	292	67.9
More than 10 years-20 years	109	25.3
More than 20 years-30 years	18	4.2
More than 30 years	11	2.6

Source: Pilot survey result, March 2012

(b) The number of DPFs who used to work outside the shelter and whose rights had been invaded while working. There were 105 individuals who used to work outside the shelter and 27 individuals whose rights had been invaded while working. Among them, 63.0% are invaded in economic rights such as unfair labor wages and unpaid labor wages, 48.1% in cultural rights such as belief, costume, tradition and religion, 22.2% in social rights such as access to public health and aggregation rights, 14.8% in survival rights; necessary for life such as the access to food, cloth, residence and medicine and 14.8% in safety rights such as violence, abuse, assault, torture victim, and killed. (Table 2).

TABLE 2 : 105 individuals who work outside the shelter and were invaded human rights

Human rights had been invaded	Frequency (person)	Frequency (%)
1. Human rights had been invaded during working		
had been invaded	27	25.7
hadn't been invaded	78	74.3
Total	105	100
2. Type of Human Rights had been invaded		
Survival rights	4	14.8
Safety rights	4	14.8
Social rights	6	22.2
Culture rights	13	48.1
Economic rights	17	63.0
Total : 27 answer more than one choice		

Source: Pilot survey result, March 2012

(c) Jobs which DPFs work outside the shelter which were; labor 29.5%, contractor 26.6%, housekeeper 22.8%, construction work 11.5%, work in factory 5.7% and fishing 3.9% (Table 3).

TABLE 3 : Jobs which DPFs work outside the shelter.

Type of jobs	Frequency (person)	Frequency (%)
Fishing	4	3.9
Housekeeper	24	22.8
Factory	6	5.7

TABLE 3 : Jobs which DPFs work outside the shelter. (Cont.)

Type of jobs	Frequency (person)	Frequency (%)
Labor	31	29.5
Contractor	28	26.6
Construction work	12	11.5
Total:	105	100

Source: Pilot survey result, March 2012

1.2) Second step is in-depth interviewing 27 individuals who were primarily identified through the questions based on basic principal of human trafficking as defined by Thai law named Human trafficking prevention and suppression Act, B.E. 2551, consist of 3 components which are 1) An action (What traffickers do) consisting of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons; 2) By means of (How they do it) threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or position of vulnerability giving or receiving payments or benefits to achieve consent of a person having control over another; and 3) For the purpose of (Why they do it) exploitation including, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others, or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, forced to beg, slavery or practices similar to slavery, practices similar to rip off persons, forced into servitude or the removal of organs. Following Thai law, there were 13 individuals who were not counted as human trafficking victims because all of them weren't exploited by trafficker. While they were invaded on human rights, some human rights weren't the exploitation indicated by components of human trafficking law. Therefore at this step there are only 14 individuals who had been trafficked and were ready to give information.

1.3) Last step is to in-depth interview 14 individuals from the definition framework of Thai law. Our in-depth re-interviewing helped defining the scope of this study, the special criteria of which human trafficking originated shows that human trafficking started from the shelter or the shelter has status as origin of human trafficking. Following the law and scope of this study, 9 individual victims were defined. Nonetheless, 5 individuals were trafficked before gaining resettlement in the Shelter which does not possess the special criteria of which human trafficking originated. Therefore, the number of victims of human trafficking was reduced to 9 individuals.

Victims of human trafficking in this study moved from Mae La temporary shelter for work, all of them were exploited in minimum one type of the exploitation as defined by law. In this study, 4 types were found; 1) the exploitation of the prostitution of others, 2) forced labour or services, 3) forced to slavery and 4) practices similar to rip off persons. Results are shown below:

Three of them (male) were persuaded from the same ethnic friend (Karen) and transferred to Smuthsakorn province and were exploited after they became slave labors in fishing business, all of them were exploited in 2 types of the exploitation as in forced to slavery and forced labour or services. According to speech text "...During the transferring period, middlemen navigated us to walk in the dark forest. Methamphetamines were mixed in drinking water for the longer walk. I seriously walked in the forest all day all night for 3 days..." (Mr. Boy, (Nickname), 2012). As for working in fishing boat "...I had to work daily for more than 18 hours, no recess even if I got ill. Heavily ill people will be killed by throwing into in the sea. Traffickers kept us working by brute force, threat, physical abuse, and reducing food portions. Because I worked in fishing boat I couldn't avoid or escape from the worst situation and no one would hear me..." (Mr. John, (Nickname), 2012).

Middlemen persuaded 4 of them (female) by manipulating or omitting truths regarding detail of the job and working condition in order to make them travel voluntarily. They then bound them using debt from transportation fees so that they would rather agree to travel free of charge and pay the debt by working later. They had to prostitute at “Karaoke shop” in Bangkok without consent to pay back their debt but their income were exploited by trafficker. All of them were exploited in 2 types of the exploitation as in the exploitation of the prostitution of others and practices as similar to rip off persons. As for the recruitment, it was stated in the document that “...someone familiar persuaded me to work at food shop as server, to get monthly salary of 5,000 Baht including residence near the workplace. In fact, at destination, I worked without salary and was forced to prostitute for a lot of money to release my 50,000 Baht debt that middleman has been taken from the shop owner...” (Miss A, (Nickname), 2012). As for transferring “... I was taken by middlemen from Mae La temporary shelter to Bangkok in exchange with transportation fees. They employed several means of transportation and transfer to avoid inspections and apprehension; these means included personal vehicles, public transportations, mixing the automotive means with walking on foot; resting in intervals and subsequent deliveries at checkpoints. Aside from this, they had also found dangerous means of transportation to avoid apprehension during the movement...” (Miss B, (Nickname), 2012). As for working at destination “...Traffickers employed several methods as controlling mechanism to keep us working without consent or from escaping. These methods are 1) by brute force, 2) by threat, 3) by physical abuse, and by detainment within work area. I was exploited and ripped off my money by trafficker...” (Miss C (Nickname), 2012).

One of them was a boy, he worked as a service man at a “Gay bar” in Bangkok, later he voluntarily prostituted expecting to earn a lot of money

for his family in the shelter. Finally, he could not get enough money because traffickers exploited him by rip off all of his income from prostitution. According to this speech "...I am sex worker, only prostitute for male or gay who want to get sex service from me. Following the agreement and conditions, my compensation from sex service for gay each time was 5,000 Baht and I'd receive 50% of them. Each month, I worked sex service on average 20 times, so I must get an income approximately 50,000 Baht. I prostituted there for a year so I think I earned money approximately 600,000 Baht but, I never received because the shop owner kept my money and promised to pay lots of them back to me later. Finally, he was arrested by Thai policeman and my money disappeared with him ..." (Mr. Jim, (Nickname), 2012).

One of them was a girl, she was a house work at a big house in Bangkok. Her friend, Karen ethnicity like her, recruited and gave this job to her. Although she earned few money (3,000 Baht per month) for house work but she worked with her consent. Later, she became slave labor, more than 16 hours of working every day and she was assaulted by trafficking. She was exploited in type of practices similar to rip off persons. According to this speech "... I had a lot of and heavy duties, it was increased after the increasing of the number of house members. I worked everything for all from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. including food preparing, dressing, house's cleaning and washing, no recess even if getting ill. I was locked in the house and forbade contact or communication with other persons. My boss always hit my back and pulled my hair hard when he felt displeased or angry. I was always trembling and in pain..." (Miss D, (Nickname), 2012)

2) The major key factors of human trafficking among DPFs in Mae La temporary shelter compose of 3 factors;

2.1 Push factor: the low quality of life in the temporary shelter included:

1) Unstable and insecure residential habitats which has a lack

of security and severe density both inside and outside of the houses because their resident depend on concept of temporary, so most houses were built from temporary material. According to this speech "...My house is going to tumbledown, Bamboos weren't enough supported, there are 9 individuals resident in my house, very crowded while we sleep..." (Mr.Man, (Nickname), 2012). As for the food supply, it was stated in the document that "...Many food such as rice, dried food, fresh food and garnish were misapplied by some groups before they were given out for DPFs. This is a corruption and show that the shelter managed without good government..." (Mr.Man, (Nickname), 2012). Almost all houses were built from bamboo (95.8%). It is very crowded inside the house as there are 6-10 members in most houses while space distributed for a house on average only 40 square meter (42.6%), and there is high population density outside because each house in the shelter are located less than 5 meters from each other (95.8%). (Table 4).

TABLE 4 : Quality of life in housing dimension.

Security and density of housing	Frequency (person)	Frequency (%)
1. Security of housing		
Concrete for building	4	0.9
Wood for building	14	3.3
Bamboo for building	412	95.8
Total	430	100
2. Number of house members		
1-5 individuals	132	30.7
6-10 individuals	183	42.6
11-15 individuals	64	14.9
More than 15 individuals	51	11.8

TABLE 4 : Quality of life in housing dimension. (Cont.)

Security and density of housing	Frequency (person)	Frequency (%)
3.Density outside the houses		
Far from next house less than 5 meters	412	95.8
Far from next house between 5-10 meters	10	2.3
Far from next house between 10-15 meters	5	1.2
Far from next house more than 15 meters	3	0.7
Total	430	100

Source: Pilot survey result, March 2012

2) Inadequate income and unemployment due to the temporary shelter's regulations. According to law and regulations of Ministry of Interior, the only source of income among the DPFs was the monthly relief supplies. Their income only shows unemployment and oppression from shelter regulations. Though some have income from taking small jobs inside and outside of the shelter (36.7%), it is not enough to meet the expense (75.8%). (Table 5).

TABLE 5 : Quality of life in annual income dimension.

Annual income	Frequency (person)	Frequency (%)
1.Household income		
Get income	158	36.7
No income	272	63.3
Total	430	100
2.Level of income		
Enough for spending	39	24.2
Un-enough for spending	122	75.8
Total	161	100

Source: Pilot survey result, March 2012

Housing and income problem become a factor that push shelter residents to find work outside the shelter area by taking on small jobs in surrounding villages and the state's inner area, such as Bangkok and Samutshakorn, in hope of better quality of life.

2.2 Pull factor: the short supply of lower-level or unskilled labor in Thailand leads to the surplus demand from outside the temporary shelter, especially those located in the city or industrial areas. Coupling with pull factors from outside the shelter such as shortage of labor supply among SMEs and repetition patterns from other victims.

2.3 Accelerate factor: the authors synthesized the Geographic Social Information System by adopting participatory creative innovation. 4 socio-physical elements were; 1) educational, religious, medicinal locations and the resettling model. 2) The basic commodities necessary to life such as water source, telephone, broadcasting tower, and career training center 3) the position of check points for the entrance along with the shelter. And 4) the position of victims' house. This study found that, almost all commodities follow by 1) and 2) are clustered together specially on the flat plain near to the road and entrance of the shelter. Consequently, further sites and highlands lack or have difficulties reaching basic commodities. For check points' position, the Shelter had only 13 check points which were not enough for the entrance along the shelter more than 3 kilometers. (Figure 1). For position of victims' house, the victim's house mostly was located on flat area and near to the entrance. (Figure 2). These are opportunity and convenience for sneaking out of the shelter, as well as information perception and contact from people outside the shelter.

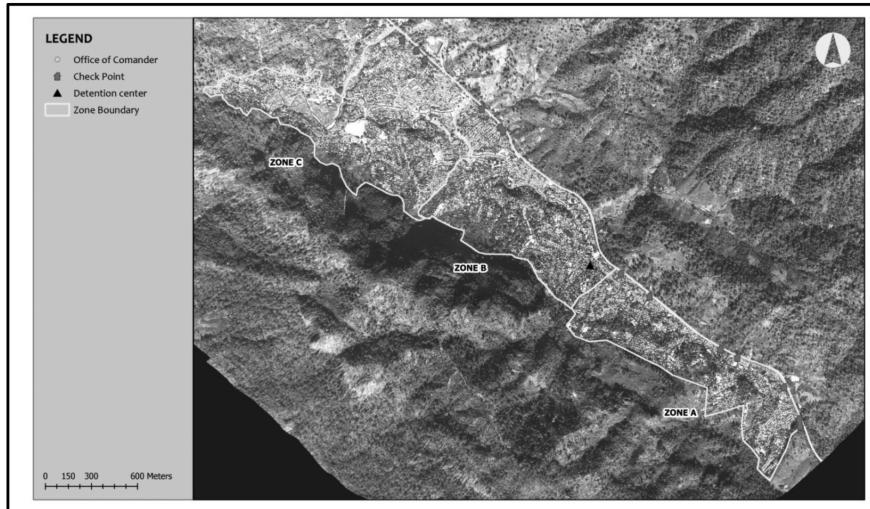


Figure 1: Position of checkpoints in the shelter

Source: Pilot survey result, March 2012

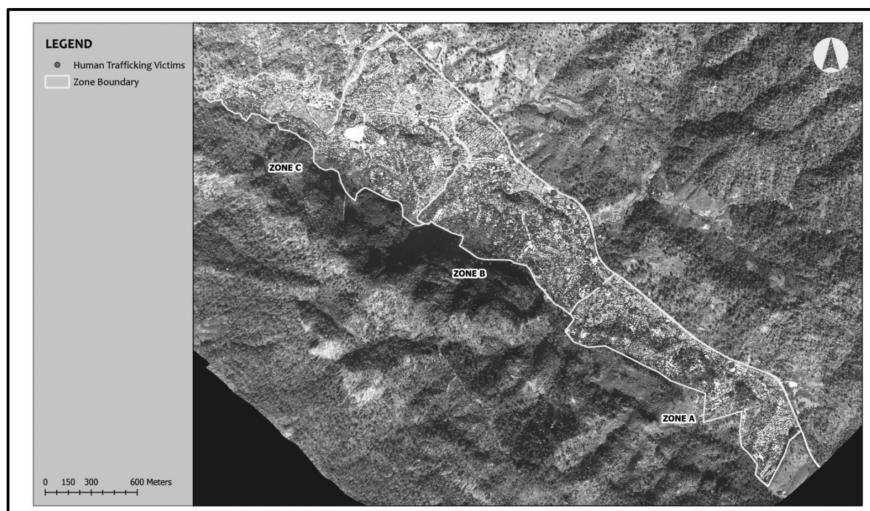


Figure 2: Position of victims' house

Source: Pilot survey result, March 2012

Additional finding; friendly persuasion from the same ethnicity as well as limited information and communication about human trafficking obstructed the DPFs from the serious problem about the trafficking. According to this speech "...I am Karen, we are rather crazy in ideology, trusting, negotiation and nationalism. I believed in my friend who was Karen like me. He persuaded me to find job in Bangkok. Most of Karen from the shelter work construction there with 200 Baht daily income. I consented to work by his information but at destination I was locked in a small house near the sea. There were 3 individuals living in this house before me, most of them are Laos. Finally, we became worker on a fishing boat in Thai and oversea. This situation took place because of my trust in Karen ethnicity like to me..." (Mr. Boy, victim of human trafficking, 2012).

This shows that not only the factor of low quality of life is the reason for the DPFs to venture into human trafficking, but there are other factors especially opportunity and convenience to sneak in and out of the shelter, as well as available information and contact from people outside of the shelter, that play a part in accelerating the process of human trafficking. These situations show the relationship of lifestyle between DPFs resident in the shelter and local people surrounding or in another shelter in inner area. Although the shelter is a special area characterized by hard to access, semi-closed society and activities and some information were limited but the modernization, globalization and borderless communication allow them to perceive social movement outside the shelter. A mobile phone isn't difficult to own with a cheap price. Telephone signals are readily available hence they can easily connect with ethnic friends in inner area. Finally they were persuaded from the person from the same ethnicity they trust by default. They're rather passionate in ideology, negotiation and nationalism, especially Karen group. Therefore, in borderless and modernized world, DPFs usually

are persuaded from people who had the same ethnicity and these are major factors which accelerate them to human trafficking.

Nevertheless, illegally leaving the shelter due to the push factor, pull factor and accelerator factor as stated above had made the DPFs illegal immigrants as only residents of the shelter are protected under the course of humanity, and leaving the area denounces that right and protection. They become criminals that can be apprehended and sent back to their country of origin since they would not have identification document or passport. This particular trait is the weak point of DPFs that force them to submit and leave them lacking negotiating power, giving opportunity to criminals who exploit them through many means especially trafficker. According to a DPFs who was a victim of human trafficking in this study "...He intimidated me. 'You are alien and you have invaded Thai law, stick yourself everywhere, you must not get out of this house and contact anyone. I was afraid of being arrested by policeman because I was an alien, I could only complied and worked in the house only ..." (Miss D, victim of human trafficking, 2012).

Discussion and Conclusion

Discussion:

Low quality of life is the main cause of human trafficking; the quality of life surveying method allowed the author to name the victim living in the Shelter. Qualitative method by in-depth interview helped deeply searched for identity, characteristics, and key factors of becoming the victims. Adopting the framework of Thai law named Human trafficking prevention and suppression Act, B.E. 2551 as well as the scope of this study, the victims revealed their socio-economic barriers after becoming DPFs. Unclear definition and time frame of the "temporary shelter" become the death-lock of the DPFs. Unable to control their own life in the Shelter, the victims jumped

into the trafficking business. Consequently, the DPFs are sold because of their search for a better living, freedom, and self-reliance. In borderless world of capitalist modernization, trust and friendship become exploitation mechanism adopted by the human traffickers. Problems of close environment, limitation of outside information, and communication skill of the DPFs have thus become the major tools of the traffickers.

The root of the causes of human trafficking include a lack of security, severe density both inside and outside of the houses, unemployment and oppression from shelter regulations. Though some have income from taking small jobs inside and outside of the shelter, it is not enough to meet the expenses. Being unable to solve the income problem, these DPFs became the victims. By sneaking to find small jobs in surrounding villages, and those in the state's inner area, such as Bangkok and Samutthakorn, the DPFs hope that they would be able to get a better quality of life. Couple with the problems of shortage labor supply in Thailand, poor human resource planning and corruptions has caused some of DPFs to be exploited. All forms of human rights were invaded, particularly civil rights, economic rights, social rights and culture rights. Due to their alien status, limited Thai language skill, race differences, and cultural preservation; the DPFs became the victims of modernization.

Although supporting commodities such as educational and medicinal locations are available and residents can approach them easily, some commodities such as water sources and broadcasting towers are clustered together on the flat plain, near to the road and entrance of the shelter. Consequently, further sites and highlands have difficulties reaching commodities, news and useful information. Moreover, the shelter has only 13 check points which are not enough for the entrance checking. Still, though areas that are flat and near to the entrance do have enough commodity

systems and resident near to the area can conveniently reach said commodities, this study found that home of those who had been trafficked, both current victims and those who were eliminated, are all in poor condition. This shows that not only the geographical factor of the resettlement, but the factor of low quality of life of the DPFs also pushed the victims into human trafficking business. There are also other factors involved, especially opportunity and convenience to sneak in and out of the Shelter as well as availability of information and contact from outsiders. These situations show the significant relationship between DPFs' living conditions and the increasing values of capitalism of local people surrounding the Shelter. The values are rising throughout the country as a whole. Although the Shelter is located in a remote area characterized by poor road condition, but the modernization brings borderless values of capitalism as well as human rights. This led them to the perception of worldwide social movement considering equality, freedom and human rights demands outside the Shelter. Several DPFs have personal mobile phone because of its cheap price with a promotion of long plan loan. To communicate with relatives and friends residing in their home country, however, good telephone signal is needed which operate under decades of policy limitation in Thailand. Searching for a phone's signal, some DPFs accidentally sneak out the Shelter. Finally they were persuaded from outsiders to work.

Conclusion:

Problems of Mae La temporary shelter's management have impact on human rights and quality of life of DPFs who's residential, and led them to escape to seek jobs outside and inner area for better living than in the shelter. Some DPFs fall into human trafficking process and become "victim". This phenomenon refers to an origin of human trafficking starting at the shelter. The major key factors of human trafficking among DPFs consist of

3 factors as follow; 1) Push Factor in the temporary shelter is the low quality of life, which consists of unstable and insecure residence because they are built from temporary material and inadequate income due to the fact that residents of the temporary shelter cannot be employed according to shelter's regulations, hence their only source of income being the monthly relief supplies. 2) Pull Factor consists of unskilled labor demands from outside the shelter especially the city or industrial areas, and successful examples of those who used to work outside the shelter. And 3) Accelerator Factor which is friendly persuasion from the same ethnicity as well as limited information and communication about human trafficking obstructed the DPFs from knowing the serious problem about the trafficking. Nevertheless, it is very difficult to find out human trafficking's victims residing in the shelter but we conducted survey in quality of life of DPFs to select key informants, suspected victims, coupled with in-depth interview on individuals as definable by Thai law and scope of this study that human trafficking must have an origin from Mae La temporary shelter or victims must be DPFs who reside in this shelter before being trafficked resulting in us being able to investigate 9 real victims in this study.

Suggestion from Research

To prevent and release Mae La temporary shelter from its status as origin of human trafficking in Thailand, the authors strongly suggest that 1) the existence of the shelter need to be reconsidered both in terms of the definition of "temporary" and the management plan because the shelter was established for more than 20 years without strategy and planning; 2) law and regulations concerning global citizens living under the stateless condition need to be highlighted by involving all concerning nations; and 3) empowerment programs to increase human rights among DPFs should be a major priority.

References

Asia Regional Trafficking In Persons Project. (2011). ASEAN Human Trafficking Investigation Training Programme (Reactive). n.d.: n.p.

Benja Yoddamnern-Attige. (2009). Qualitative Analysis: Data Management, Interpretation and Defining. Nakorn Pathom: Institute of Population and Society Research, Mahidol University.

Border Patrol Police Sub-Division 34. (2010). **Summary Lecture Reference Document**. n.d:n.p..

Finnegan, William. (2008). **The Counter traffickers: International Organization for Migration**.: The New Yorker 84 (12):44.

Hans van de, Glind and Joost, Kooijmans. (2008). Modern-Day Child Slavery: **Children and Society**. 22 (3):150-166.

Mae La temporary shelter. (2012). **Summary Lecture Reference Document**. n.d:n.p..

Maeramard District Office. (2010). **member in the house**. n.d:n.p..

Miss A (Nickname). Victim of human trafficking, Displaced persons from fighting in Mae La temporary shelter. Interviewed on November 6, 2012.

Miss B (Nickname). Victim of human trafficking, Displaced persons from fighting in Mae La temporary shelter. Interviewed on November 11, 2012.

Miss C (Nickname). Victim of human trafficking, Displaced persons from fighting in Mae La temporary shelter. Interviewed on October 27, 2012.

Miss D (Nickname). Victim of human trafficking, Displaced persons from fighting in Mae La temporary shelter. Interviewed on October 20, 2012.

Montree Kijvirojkul. Head of Mae La Local Administration Office, Mae La Local Administration Office. Interviewed on August 30, 2012.

Mr.Boy (Nickname). Victim of human trafficking, Displaced persons from fighting in Mae La temporary shelter. Interviewed on November 13, 2012.

Mr.Jim (Nickname). Victim of human trafficking, Displaced persons from fighting in Mae La temporary shelter. Interviewed on December 17, 2012.

Mr.John (Nickname). Victim of human trafficking, Displaced persons from fighting in Mae La temporary shelter. Interviewed on December 17, 2012.

Mr.Man (Nickname). Victim of human trafficking, Displaced persons from fighting in Mae La temporary shelter. Interviewed on December 19, 2012.

Preeda Fungtragulchai. Head of Mae La temporary shelter, Administration office of Thasongyang district. Interviewed on September 17, 2012.

Thailand Burma Border Consortium/TBBC. (August, 2010). **Burmese border refugee sites with population : April 2006-2010.** Retrieved September 29, 2010 from <http://www.answers.com/topic/social-security>.

Thasongyang District Office. (2010). **member in the house.** n.d:n.p..