

**Life and career of hired motorcyclist in Bangkok:
A case study at two points in Bangkok**

Santharn Homnan

Abstract

The objectives of this research is to study the situation and management of hired motorcycling business, reasons for entering hired motorcyclists, origin of this career and life of the motorcyclists.

The researcher used both primary and secondary data collection from two hired motorcyclists groups and their clients located at Soi Aphapirom and at Soi Suea Yai Utit. The researcher also conducted participatory observation and informal group discussions as well as tried the career himself.

The results of the study are:

1. Hired motorcycling businesses in Bangkok was set up and managed by private owners with no need of permission from the authority. Until May 2003, the business has become supervised by Bangkok Metropolitan Authority and police stations in each area.
2. Most of the sampled motor cyclists entered this career because of low education and self-employed.
3. The factors originating this career were socioeconomic changes driving rural people migrated to the cities like Bangkok, expansion of urban area, insufficient mass transit capacity and failure of education system.
4. This research recommended that the relevant authorities of Bangkok should be more active in setting up and implementing regulations concerning this career. Also, the government should provide sufficient education and occupational training for rural people in order that they will have more career choices.