

Buddhist Social Protection For The Aging Society At Sub-District Level In Nakhon Sawan Province

Akkaradecha Brahmakappa¹, Phraratratdhanavedhi²,
Phrakru Srisudhammsnivit³ and Phramaha Hai Thammamethee⁴

¹⁻⁴Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, Thailand

Corresponding Author's Email: akkaratv8668@gmail.com

Abstract

This research on “Buddhist social protection and support for the aging society at the sub-district level in Nakhon Sawan Province” aims to develop 4-dimensional Buddhist social protection to support the aging society at the sub-district level in Nakhon Sawan Province. It is a participatory practical research analyzing the content in a descriptive manner, with the composition of the database from the development drive and evaluated through a review or after the activity using AAR techniques. The results showed that to develop social protection in the four dimensions of the Buddhist way to support the aging society at the sub-district level in Nakhon Sawan Province, there are 3 parts to drive development, namely the part that is the mechanism to drive development, the part that is driving development activities, and the part that is the goal of driving development as follows:

1. Income development to support the Buddhist community savings system: There is a development drive with workshops in 5 sets of activities, namely online marketing and mobile photography techniques, analysis and business design with BMC, making steering wheels from loincloth, adding value to flowers and the expansion of the refrigerator next door kitchen medicine cabinet.
2. Development of the Buddhist environment: There are 3 sets of activities driven to develop, namely, the development of a suitable living environment for the elderly, environment development, especially areas that promote physical and mental health, and the development of the environment within the community.
3. The development of Buddhist community caregivers: It has driven and developed 4 sets of activities, namely health promotion. health protection, maintenance, and restoring health

4. Creation of a Buddhist community happiness policy: There are 7 steps in the process: establishing a sub-district level mechanism, review of the common goal of the district, drafting the Buddhist Community Happiness Charter, review and revision of the Draft Constitution of Buddhist Community Happiness Certification of the Draft Constitution of Buddhist Community Happiness, Announcement of the Buddhist Community Happiness Statute, and a review of the propulsion of the Buddhist Community Happiness Statute.

Keywords: Buddhist social protection, aging society at sub-district level, Nakhon Sawan Province.

Introduction

Nakhon Sawan Province, it is a province located between the lower northern and upper central regions of Thailand. It has an area of approximately 9,597 square kilometers. It is considered the second largest city in the North after Chiang Mai. Currently, there are 1,059,887 people in total (Royal Gazette, 2020). There are 209,688 people aged 60 years and over, accounting for 19.78 percent, the 15th highest in the country (Nakhon Sawan Provincial Statistical Office, 2021), which is more than the average population, older people in the whole country with only 19.2 percent. When considering the population with Thai nationality and whose names are listed in the household registration by age group in 2022, it was found that there were 159,991 people aged 0-14 years, representing 15.41 aged 15-60 years, 682,567 people or 65.77% aged 61 years or more, a total of 195,211 people, representing 18.81% (Department of Older Persons, 2020), which will find that the childhood and labor population decreases, the aging population increases. climb (Nakhon Sawan Provincial Office Strategy and Information for Provincial Development Group, 2021), for example, at Nong Nom Wua Sub-district, Lat Yao District, Nakhon Sawan Province, there is an elderly population with an average of 23.23 percent (1,188 elderly out of a population of 5,115 people). It is a completely aged society. Because there is an average of more than 20 percent (Nong Nom Wua Subdistrict Administrative Organization, 2022), the situation, structure and population proportion has become a completely aging society. The increasing situation of the elderly means an increase in the burden of the state, society, community and family in health care and living expenses, and taking care of both the living environment, the quality of life of the elderly at an ever higher level, resulting in receiving social welfare provided by the state and social welfare provided by local people (Pisit Chombunruang, 2013).

In order to cope with the aging situation in Nakhon Sawan Province, the Nakhon Sawan Provincial Health Assembly was organized in 2015 by including an agenda on "Preparing the population before aging and driving the integrated aging network" in the organizing of the Provincial Health Assembly and the members of the Nakhon Sawan Provincial Health Assembly have reached a total of 10 consensus on item 4. It was resolved that "for local government organizations to cooperate with local governments (kamnans, village headmen and village committees) together with various mechanisms such as the provincial branch of the Thai Elderly Association, the private sector, and volunteer groups. which is responsible for driving action for the local elderly to establish a system development committee, create a mechanism for pre-aging preparation and drive a network to care for the quality of life of the elderly by supporting from public and private organizations in all sectors in a closely integrated form that is not separated from each other and to be prescribed as a regulation of local government organizations for holistic care of the elderly with social measures or rules and/or establishing a common health constitution for people in the community" (Nakhon Sawan Provincial Health Assembly Committee, 2015).

At present, Nakhon Sawan Province has become a province with a higher proportion of the elderly than the national average. Therefore, to develop the province in line with the 2nd National Aging Plan (2002-2022), which has set the vision of the plan that "The elderly are the pillars of society", every network organization in Nakhon Sawan province must jointly drive and develop a variety of activities and projects at the sub-district level in a systematic way. This is to ensure the protection and care of the elderly in all four dimensions: economic, social, health and environment as designed by the National Reform Council/ Therefore, this research on "Buddhist way of social protection to support the aging society at the sub-district level" focuses on driving development.

Research Methodology

It is a participatory action research (Participatory Action Research: PAR) using the following research methods.

The preparation phase consists of 1) coordinating the target area to clarify the details of the research project. Coordinating the cooperation builds a good relationship, trust and acceptance, including introducing concepts, important principles and participatory action research, 2) community meetings at the sub-district level to understand the development of social protection in the Buddhist way and support the aging society at the sub-district level, and 3) setting up activities or projects to bring to drive development in the area

The implementation steps consist of 1) income development activities or projects to support the Buddhist community savings system, 2) Buddhist environmental development activities or projects, 3) Buddhist community caregivers development activities or projects, and 4) Thammanoon or Charter Development activities or projects for Buddhist community happiness

Stages of evaluation, observation, follow-up and lesson transfer consists of 1) observation, follow-up and expansion of social protection and support for the aged society at the sub-district level, 2) evaluation by evaluating community processes by community leaders and community manager, evaluation of researchers' observations and co-researchers at the local level, 3) social protection review, and 4) reflection or return to the community and take lessons from work using AAR techniques.

Conclusion

The research on Buddhist Social Protection in Four Dimensions for Supporting the Elderly Society at Sub-District Level in Nakhon Sawan Province has found that important factors that will lead to success in driving development, essential for sub-districts or communities to have important mechanisms for driving development, consisting of

1. Leaders - Community Managers - Mentor Team, especially the spiritual leaders who are the main religious leaders and the heart of the Baan Wat Rongrian Network that will help drive development activities in various areas such as campaigning and explaining the news, caring and giving encouragement to the elderly, children and people in the community, permission to use the temple area for public works of the community, and creating participation in various activities that make the people in the community believe, believe and accept to drive activities in other areas, causing "Belief, Like, Help" and achieve common goals in the community. Meanwhile, community managers and mentoring teams which are community leaders with volunteering spirit, public spirit, and strong sacrifice who participate in every process, activity and in every development drive to become community leaders and volunteers who can open their hearts and dare to express their opinions, accept the pros and cons as areas for improvement to seek ways to improve collaborative processes.

2. Mechanisms for participation at the community level from community leaders with volunteer spirit, strength, processes, activities, and approaches to drive with goals that directly affect the drive of activities. But the community volunteering leaders must be of good quality. Performance as well driving various activities must go through the

process of community management and driving community development with shared responsibility. and be able to mobilize decisions and distribute resources for proper management, have common goals, have the same spirit, dare to think, dare to do, dare to improve, change when various limitations arise.

3. Mechanism of having strong social capital with social context and kinship. As a result, wisdom, ideas, good attitudes were passed on among people of 3 ages in the sub-district, as well as a strong cultural capital and a network from outside the sub-district to support various activities that are always held. Therefore, in driving community development activities, it must consist of elements of good people, good jobs, and good communities, including participating in driving everything at the same time. Therefore, sacrificing participation, mutual respect, respect for the rights and ideas of colleagues, coordination of people in the community and having a community agreement create an atmosphere of exchange, learning, sharing, and transferring for the benefit of the public and strengthening the community.

4. Mechanisms for support from the government and network partners will cause support and reinforcement in various activities at the local level and if there is a local government organization that recognizes the importance and actively participates, this will result in participation, coordination, project management and development activities to achieve objectives and goals easier and more, especially if there is a network of private sector and civil society support. The further development will lead to more tangible results.

As for the development activities to create social protection in the Buddhist way in 4 dimensions to support the aging society at the sub-district level. If there is a drive to develop in accordance with the context and problem conditions of each community for strengthening the economy, the environment, health, and creating a picture of overall happiness in the community. It is considered an approach that should be promoted and supported. This is so that people or the elderly will have immunity in the above. Here are examples of activities that should lead to development in 4 dimensions in order to generate income development to support the Buddhist community savings system, development of the Buddhist environment, the development of Buddhist community caregivers and developing a community happiness statute in the Buddhist way and supporting the aging society at the sub-district level that are suitable for the community and not against the way of life, values, culture and good traditions of the community are as follows:

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1. Income development to support the Buddhist community savings system in order to result in the elderly or people in the district or community having to reduce unnecessary expenses, have extra income for households, savings, can be self-reliant, have economic immunity and food security. There may be activities to drive development, consisting of 1) workshops, online marketing, Mobile Photography Techniques, 2) Business Analysis and Design, Workshop with BMC, 3) Workshop making garland from loincloth, 4) workshop creating added value from flower fairs.

2. Development of the Buddhist environment in order to result in the elderly or people in the sub-district or community having good physical, mental and physical health, it is essential to focus on 1) hygienic organization in the home for the elderly, 2) development of areas to promote physical and mental health, whether in temples or public places, 3) increasing green areas for freshness, clarity and maintain shady beauty, and 4) adding traffic signs to encourage drivers to be more careful and take part in keeping the elderly safe in traveling both in the house, in the community or between communities.

3. The development of Buddhist community caregivers to result in the elderly or people in the sub-district or community having assistants full of volunteer spirit, public mind, and being an important force of the family or community in taking care of 1) Buddhist health promotion, especially in eating, eating, 2) exercise for strength and recreational purposes 3) first aid in terms of blood pressure monitoring caring for wounds caused by pressure or others, 4) health promotion for the elderly in the home and bed group, they may have difficulty in moving, traveling, or fear of socializing so that they can take care and help themselves as

much as possible, 5) health promotion for the elderly in the home and society group which must find recreational activities career development and mental or mental development, and 6) education on restoring good mental health.

4. The development of the Buddhist Community Happiness Charter in order to result in the elderly or people in the district or community having a mutual agreement based on moderation and in accordance with the way of life good cultural traditions of that community, which must be carried out as follows: 1) creating a constitution that will bring happiness to the community, 2) supporting, promoting and promoting the exchange of learning through a multicultural society and all genders and ages, 3) encouraging the school to drive the elderly to be a part of caring, 4) improving the health of the elderly in all dimensions; this is a Thai Buddhist way in which children and grandchildren must be the first to take care of, serve and heal all feelings of the elderly.

As for the common goal that everyone, all parties in the community or in the sub-district will participate in driving development to create social protection in the Buddhist way to support the aging society at the sub-district level in order to wish the elderly in the sub-district or community to live with their children or in every transition seamlessly or without problems, with the goal that 1) wanting the elderly to be happy (Health) on the basis of taking care of their physical health to have a strong and active body, 2) wanting the elderly to be happy and fun (Recreation) on the basis of Do activities that cause a happy mood, fresh mind reduce depression, 3) wanting the elderly to be happy (Integrity) on the basis of building self-esteem and self-worth, self-esteem, encourage yourself to be compassionate to others, have a generosity to share and participate in helping others in society, 4) wanting the elderly to have happiness and enlightenment (Cognition) based on rational thinking, communication, planning and problem solving; and 5) wanting the elderly to age of happiness (Peacefulness) is the ability to adapt to what is happening as it really is.

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