



<b>Independent Study Title</b>	The Role of Thai Muslim Women in Managing the Household Economy: A Case Study of Thai Muslim Communities in Chiang Mai Municipality						
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<b>Degree</b>	Master of Arts (English)						
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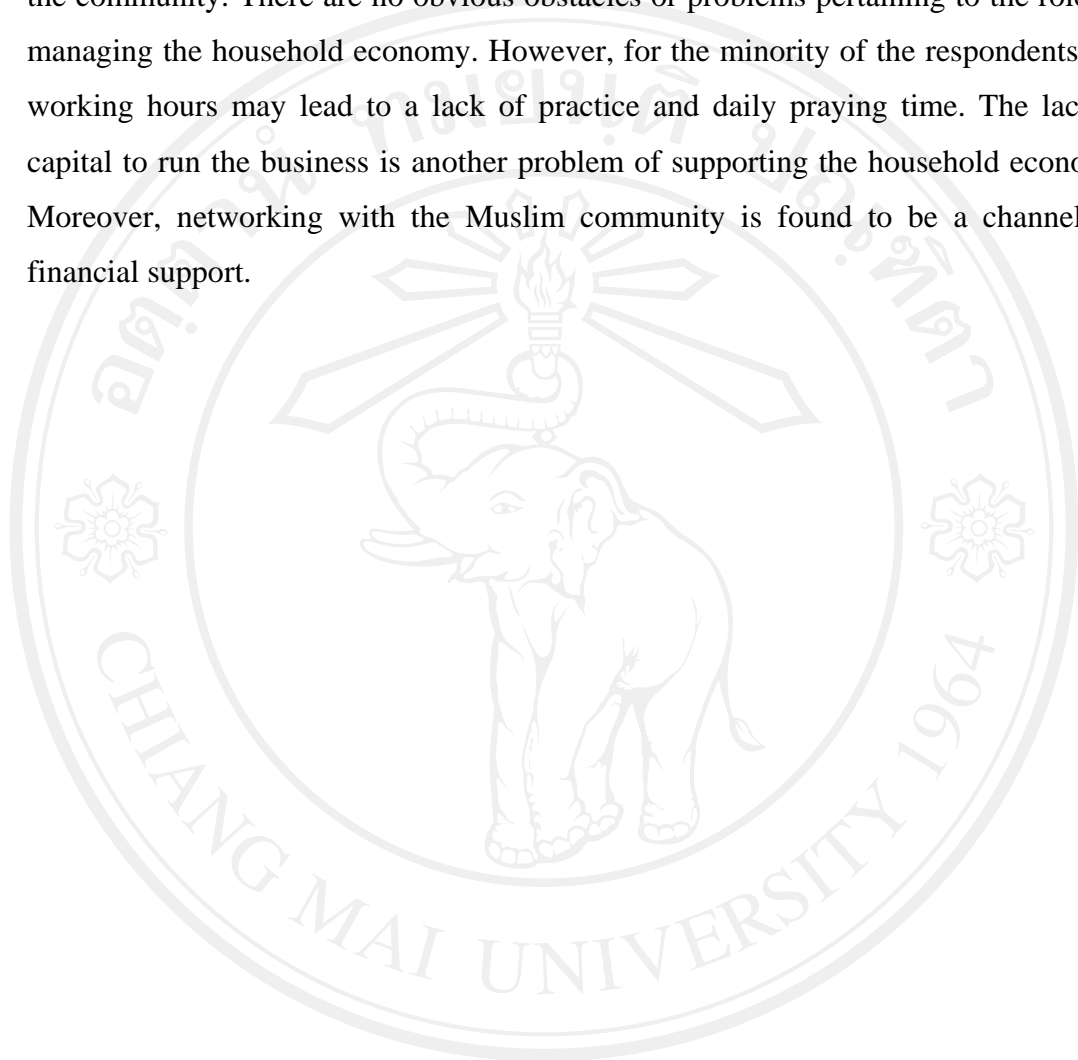
### **ABSTRACT**

The objectives of this study are to examine the present roles of Thai Muslim women in Chiang Mai municipality in managing the household economy as well as to demonstrate conditions, factors, obstacles and problems pertaining to the roles. The populations of this study are Muslim women in Muslim households in Chiang Mai municipality area. The data has been obtained from a sample of 266 Muslim women from the Muslim households in Chiang Mai municipality area using Taro Yamane's formula.

Most of the respondents are between the ages of 36 – 45. Their majority status is married and having 1 or 2 children. The level of formal education is mainly Bachelor's degree and religious education is Mutawasitah (level 5 – 7). The average income of the respondents is over 10,000 baht. The average number of people in the family whom the respondents have to support are between 1-3. Most of the respondents' role in the family is mostly as member of the family.

Interestingly, like all Thai women, Thai Muslim women in Chiang Mai municipality not only help manage the household economy but they also help budget

the household expenses and take part in the family decision-making. Most of the respondents work and earn income to help support the family and to be accepted in the community. There are no obvious obstacles or problems pertaining to the roles in managing the household economy. However, for the minority of the respondents, the working hours may lead to a lack of practice and daily praying time. The lack of capital to run the business is another problem of supporting the household economy. Moreover, networking with the Muslim community is found to be a channel for financial support.



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