Title: Appropriate Approach to Establishing at the Elderly School

According to local social and cultural space, the local community of

Jan Lan Sub-District, Kusin Narai District, Karasin Province

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Abstract

The objectives of this research were: 1) to study the community context and the local elderly's culture and 2) to study the appropriate approach to establish a school for the elderly according to the social areas and participatory culture in the local community, Janlan Sub-District, Kuchinarai District, Kalasin Province. The instrument of the study includes a questionnaire and interviews. The method of collecting the data is through meetings, group discussion, and interviews. The target groups include the village leaders, the elderly, the officers of the Sub-District Administrative Organization, and the staffs of Sub-district Health Promoting Hospital. Through the community's involvement process, the findings of the study are as follows.

The results were as follows:

- 1. The community context and the elderly's culture in Janlan Sub-District is traditional agriculture. Most of the elderly rely on the senior's welfare allowance and still have debts.
- 2. The appropriate approach to establish a school for the elderly includes the following factors.

In terms of the management, the elderly propose to have Sub-District Administration Organization provide the budget for the establishment of the school for the elderly.

In terms of the location, environment, and services, the elderly propose to have the school with good environment, safety, and transportation service.

In terms of the school activities, both questionnaire and in-depth interview show that the elderly prefers musical activities, vocational training, and social/cultural/religious activities.

In terms of the community's participation and network, the elderly propose to the Sub-District Administration Organization to provide social welfare and assistance to the elderly who are in need without sufficient resources such as blankets and prescription glasses. Sub-district Health Promoting Hospital should collaborate with the Sub-District Administration Organization to provide appropriate knowledge on health to the elderly.

Keywords: Elderly School, Social and Cultural Area, Participation by Local Communities