

**A GEOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT OF THE DOMESTIC
USE OF WATER IN THANATPIN TOWNSHIP,
BAGO REGION**

PhD DISSERTATION

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ABSTRACT

Thanatpin Township is a lowland area, located at the estuary of Sittaung River. People living in this region have to face water problems. They have to depend on rainwater in the rainy season and tank water in the dry season. Groundwater, especially shallow tube-wells have high iron content with bad smell, yellowish colour and high salinity. The researcher tries to point out the water shortage problems faced by the local residence, especially during the dry season. The author tries to point out this problem by presenting “A Geographic Assessment of the Domestic Use of Water in Thanatpin Township”. In order to collect data and find out the local conditions, pilot surveys have been carried out at four different places. Based on the information from pilot survey, questionnaires are prepared. After setting questionnaires, a sample size is determined based on I.M, Sheskin method (1985). For each type of data, suitable graphs, diagrams are presented by using Microsoft Excel. Maps are produced by using GIS software. Population density, spatial variation of water consumption (per capita per day) and each source of water consumption are presented by maps using shading method. For drinking water, it is assessed by WHO water quality standard. According to “The United States (2000), State of the Environment in Asia and Pacific”, water consumption for domestic purposes range from 20 to 200 litres per person per day, depending on the level of affluence of users and the availability of water. Based on this range, the users are classed into two groups (1) below 20 litres and above 20 to 200 litres per head per day. To find out the number of households that can use only 20 litres of water per capita per day, the responses of 2802 households are based on. Those who can use less than 20 litres of water during the rainy season represent some only 5 percent of the total population, but 72 percent in summer. Therefore, it can really be said that Thanatpin Township has to face water shortage problem in summer. Finally, practicable means for the availability of sufficient, clean and safe water are recommended to somewhat reduce the shortage of potable water and its negative impact.

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