

## On-site Education of Practical Languages for Area Studies Report in 2009

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Graduate School of Asia and African Area Studies

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### On My Research Theme

My research is to clarify the change and movement in Lao PDR, Luang Prabang using the view point of the sounds.

There was the ancient capital of lan san kingdom and Luang Prabang kingdom, past of Lao PDR. The central area of the city was selected as world heritage by UNESCO in 1995.

There have many kinds of sounds. Firstly, Khap Tum Luang Prabang, it's the folk song. It is performed in new year's day, Pi-Mai Lao by low land Lao. Secondly, there are the sounds of 34 temples in its area. It includes the sounds of the bell and wood bell in daily life, gong in special day, the drum and small gong hit followed by Luna calendar. These sounds have important meanings for monks and villagers. In recent years, the noise problem has developed because of Tuk Tuk and guest houses, since there was selected as world heritage.

And surrounding district of world heritage area is multiethnic. There are low land Lao, hill side and high land Lao. Each one has their original music. For example, Hmong, as high land Lao, play the pipe organs it's related Hmong language deeply.

I research about these sounds and mention the present situation of sounds, cultural diversity, movement of the inhabitant and society in its area.



[Photo3] New year of Hmong  
at Luang Prabang