

The subject of this dissertation is the Taitung Amis, who are Falangaw Amis.

The focus of this study is different from previous studies, because it is concentrated on their history and their social and cultural changes. Much is due to political economics.

Falangaw Amis saw various government regimes. The cultural tendencies of Falangaw Amis are consistently related to agriculture. They cooperated with Puyuma who have high regard for the military *Wu Zu* 武族 and lived next to them, in politics and economy. More recently, Falangaw Amis are more deeply influenced by various government regimes. No matter what their economics, society, political roles, and cultural performances were, this tribe received more and more pressure about those.

This dissertation not only reveals long historical changes, but also studies cultural comparisons. In different periods, the changes of economic surroundings as well as the crowds led into Taitung by various government regimes, can revive the cultural performance of Falangaw Amis. The Puyumas have high regard for the military; the Amis stress agriculture. This can be a wide area of inquiry. These all affect the production, social status, political concerns, economic rights, and cultural life of Amis.

The first chapter in this dissertation reveals that we have enough evidence to show that the Falangaws had a long history. It also suggests that the Puyuma tribe and Ami tribe had a cooperative relationship in the Taitung plain. This history is the main topic in this dissertation. The following chapters will mention the different changes in the two tribes in each period. Finally, it emphasizes cultural characteristics of Falangaw Amis, especially the tradition of agriculture.

The second chapter shows that in the early period of Japanese rule, the aborigines who lived in the Taitung plain were more easily ruled by Japanese. Therefore, Japan adopted different ways to govern them, from others. With tax revenue, decrease of property rights, and forced labor, all evidence shows that aborigines had little time to adapt to the new government and be citizens. However, the government exploited the aborigines considerably in production work. The following chapter will discuss the sugar production industry.

The third chapter mainly treats the fact that the Japanese promoted the sugar production industry. This caused changes in ethnic relations in the Taitung plain. Under the process of organizing production labor, the government brought in some special populations, and at the same time increased the aborigines' labor burden and suppressed their property rights. Furthermore, economic development (the ditches) made the agricultural surroundings change. These are all keys that made the aborigines' economic life change considerably.

The fourth chapter shows that the Japanese brought in citizen politics and attempted to establish a class system. In this system some dominated others, including the aborigines. In cultural and economic status, the aborigines were inferior. Therefore it was difficult to get enthusiasm or support from aborigine leaders. No wonder that it's difficult to improve the social status of the aborigines by political means.

. The fifth chapter mainly treats in the postwar period the export trade of pineapple can production, another hot agriculture industry. KMT government made the aborigines be citizen and adaption. The aborigines worked for those pineapple factories. The young men moved to big cities for work and life. Their traditional agriculture, family organization and religion faced a baptism of fire. In 1970, when the pineapple can production was downward, Falangaw Amis seemed to be at the juncture.

Finally, as a ethnic history in politic economy compared research , the dissertation stress that the social culture should works well,then the economy development would have a steady foundation. Even the politics and economy can be successful. It is very important not to be shortsighted in **criticizing** history and culture.