

ABSTRACT

This study emphasizes on the case of community change in the market town Banglee on the Taa Cheen River. It is aimed to explore the relationship between political monopoly (for the position of M.P.) and changes of social structure in the community as well as the way of life.

From the study, political popularity and the history of economic interest are interwoven. In the past, members of parliament from the area had developed close relationship with local traders who campaigned for them in elections. In the process, these traders through patron and client relation as well as kinship relation established their own entourage of farmers, petty traders, and relatives in the adjacent countryside .

More recently, however, the similar process has been done through local politicians (at the province level), members of municipal council, committee of sanitary district and village headmans. In return, government budget has been allocated by such M.P. for the construction of physical infrastructure in their constituency and the adjacent provinces. Such rapid physical changes of the provincial infrastructure inevitably leads to market relocation, changes in local economic networks, and way of life.