Title: A Study on Conflict Between The Local Communist

Government and Local Churches in Zhejiang Province, China

Researcher: Fan Xiao Shuang

Degree: Master of Arts in Christian Theology
Advisor: Assot, Prof. Dr. Satanun Boonyakiat

Approval Date: 18th April 2016

Institution: Payap University, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Number of Pages: 45

Keywords: Communism, Christianity, Three-Self Churches, Home

Churches, Modern China

ABSTRACT

Christians are growing fast in Mainland China for a while. When Christianity is expanding in the new China, it meets many issues and challenges. Now one of the biggest issues is the conflict between the local government and the local Three Self-Churches in Zhejiang province. The local government started a campaign to tear down the local Three-Self Churches' roof crosses and to raze some illegal churches' buildings to the ground. This campaign began at the beginning of 2014. It is still going on now. This conflict caused my curiosity to find what reasons lying behind this Church-State conflict in Zhejiang. So the main purpose of this paper is to find what reasons lie behind this conflict in Zhejiang.

Several different disciplines are used in my paper. The field research work and interviews in Zhejiang and in Hong Kong will be in the first part. I will present different scholars and pastor's opinions on this conflict. Christian historical literature in China and the analysis on how those historical events connect with the current conflict will be the main part in this paper. I will present some interesting analysis on

the intimate relationship between the government's policies and the fast Christian growth in new China. Finally, I will give some suggestions based on my analysis and some concerns on the conflict. In this paper, the most interesting part will be my analysis on my interpretation between the fast Christian growth the current conflict in Zhejiang province.