

Paper title : **The influence of final consonant on some Vietnamese tones spoken in Udon Thani province**
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The influence of final consonant on some Vietnamese tones spoken in Udon Thani province

During the World War II, there are a lot of Vietnamese immigrated into the northeastern of Thailand. They crossed Mae Khong river which lies as border of the northeastern of Thailand and Laos (Thanyathip: 2005, 24-25). This Vietnamese immigrant group is about 46,700 people (Khachatphai: 1978, 10). Udon Thani, a province in the northeastern of Thailand, is known that it is the place where Vietnamese immigrant settle down the most (Sophana: 2005, 10). These came from all regions of Vietnam in which they speak their own dialect, North, Central and South dialect. In the case, they came from several places and speak several dialects when they have to communicate among community (Udon Thani province), what dialect they use. This paper will present some final consonants can induce the tone to be pronounced irregularly. It also shows the amount of tones spoken in Udon Thani, Vietnamese immigrant community, and it is able to find out the dialect is selected to use for communication.

The writer can find all 6 Vietnamese tones spoken in Udon Thani, but they can vary when they occur with some final consonants. The followings include some special phenomena.

A) Phoneme / m /, / n / and / N / influence tone “ngã”. Tone “ngã” is normally pronounced by having the starting point a little bit higher tone “huyền”, after that it falls, then pauses, and then starts rising again and ends at the same level of the starting point or higher. However phoneme / m /, / n / and / N / have an effect on the tone “ngã”, by changing the pronunciation of the tone. The procedure starts like the normal tone, but when it passes the middle of the syllable, it makes a glottal stop instead of a pause as in *mãn*, *lãn* and *bãm*.

B) Phoneme / p /, / t / and / k / influence tone “sắc”. Tone “sắc” is normally pronounced by starting at approximately the same point as the tone “ngang (không dấu)”. The smooth egressive air stream goes at the same level till the middle of the syllable and then rises up, and ends at the high level, as in *cái*, *máng* and *bé*. However phoneme / p /, / t / and / k / have an effect on the tone “sắc”, they change the pronunciation of the tone. The starting point is the same but it does not go out at the same level, it goes up immediately with the smooth egressive air stream, and ends at the high level as in *rót* and *nước*. If the main vowel of the syllable is a short vowel, the starting point must be higher than normal and can end with a glottal stop.

C) Phoneme / p /, / t / and / k / influence tone “nặng”. Tone “nặng” is normally pronounced by having the starting point at the middle level. The smooth egressive air stream goes out at the same level till it gets to the 3rd of the 4 parts of the syllable, and then goes

down a little bit and ends. If final consonants of the syllable are phoneme / m /, / n / and / N /, it can end as same as *lại, bị* such as *hạn tâm*. However phoneme / p /, / t / and / k / have an effect on the tone “nặng”, they change the pronunciation of the tone. The starting point is the same but it does not go out at the same level as it gets to the 3rd of the 4 parts of the syllable as usual, but it goes down immediately, and ends tightly. If its main vowel is a short vowel, it may end immediately when it goes down as in *ngạt* and *thật*.

In conclusion, there are three phenomena that occur with Vietnamese tone spoken in Udon Thani. The first one is a nasal final consonant influences tone “ngã”, it makes a glottal stop instead of a pause. The second one is a voiceless stop final consonant influences tone “sắc”, it makes tone “sắc” goes up immediately with the smooth egressive air stream, and ends at the high level. The last one is a voiceless stop final consonant influences tone “nặng”, it makes tone “nặng” goes down immediately, and ends tightly. These phenomena are the same as the appearance of tone spoken in Hanoi dialect in which Đoàn Thiện Thuật said in *Ngữ âm tiếng Việt* (Đoàn Thiện Thuật: 2004: 106-11). It is proved that the Vietnamese immigrant in Udon Thani community speak the North Vietnamese dialect.

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