



# **Conflict of multiracial to nationality decision making using exploratory factor analysis: Multiracial Thai-Japanese in Thailand**

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## **ABSTRACT**

**Objective** - When a major problem in governance policies creates great difficulties for the development of the global community, this has an influence of society's awareness of concepts such as racism, discrimination and conflict issues which have an impact on the decision making process of future generations of multiracial and foreigner migrants. Identity of nationality can also be used to explain changes in the structure of a county. This research aims to: (1) study the variables of nationality decision making factors among multiracial Thai-Japanese groups in Thailand; (2) categorize the factor extraction of Exploratory Factor Analysis on nationality decision making of multiracial Thai-Japanese groups in Thailand; and (3) explore the relationships between important factors of nationality decision making factor units among multiracial Thai-Japanese groups in Thailand.

**Methodology/Technique** – There were 685 valid respondents obtained using an online purposive sampling questionnaire survey in acknowledgement of organizations (Bangkok, Chon Buri & Chiangmai). The results indicate there are 3 factors of Thailand and 4 factors of Japan categorized for nationality decision making using exploratory factor analysis. Furthermore, the significance of each factor of Thailand and Japan affects nationality decision making.

**Finding** - As a result of the binary logistic regression analysis, social structure, individual stability and country structure developments were identified as having a primary role in nationality decision making (Thai/Japanese/ and not decided or dual nationality).

**Novelty** - The results enable an understanding of the Thai and Japanese international community transformation and development from the perspective of nationality decision making.

**Type of Paper:** Empirical.

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**Keywords:** Exploratory Factor Analysis; Thai-Japanese; Nationality Decision Making.

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## **1. Introduction**

Identity value and nationality status are typically very sensitive issues which have the ability to cause significant social and cultural issues within a community. Further, social awareness, racism, and discrimination are, still, major problems within the international community.

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Some countries such as Thailand and Japan gather data on the prevalence of these social attitudes and present their findings in an official report because of the complexity of their national policies and to raise social awareness of those issues. Meanwhile, the number of people who experience racism or discrimination of some kind usually increases with the number of long-stay tourists and refugees enter those countries, particularly through marriage to a national in the relevant country. According to the Tokyo Legal Affairs Bureau, Japan does not allow its citizens to hold dual citizenship. According to Japan Times (2019), a survey of 1,449 multiracial Japanese recipients in Japan showed that 76.8% refused to renounce their citizenship, 76.8% were using 2 passports, and 93.2% thought that the national laws on dual citizenship should be amended. These issues can have a significant impact on a given country as well as on the international community. In contrast, in Thailand a person is allowed to hold a dual citizenship subject to certain conditions. Furthermore, Japan's economic stability (or lack thereof) is one of the primary reasons why Japanese citizens emigrate to Thailand.

From 1954 to present, Japan and Thailand have been in alliance in most economic agreements. They have remained among the top 3 countries in almost the last 10 years in terms of investment in business, forming a manufacturing hub in South East Asia among SMEs in Thailand (BOI, 2010-2019). The number of long-stay tourists in Thailand is now over 60,000 and the number of permanent residents is now over 15,000. This number is likely to double in the future (Japan Embassy, 2018); so too will the number of multiracial Thai-Japanese tourists. Hence, research regarding multiracial Thai-Japanese tourists living in Thailand is crucial for both the Thailand and Japanese governments.

The objectives of this study are:

To identify and examine the variables of nationality decision making factors among multiracial Thai-Japanese tourists in Thailand including push and pull factors in tourism and migration issues.

To categorize the factor extraction of Exploratory Factor Analysis on nationality decision making among multiracial Thai-Japanese groups in Thailand.

To explore the interaction between important factors of nationality decision making factors among multiracial Thai-Japanese tourists in Thailand.

The various Japanese Associations in Thailand and closed groups of Japanese societies online, long-stay agencies, and the Japanese Embassy in Thailand are acknowledged as providing vital support to this research by providing the research data for examination.

## **2. Concept and Literature Review**

### **2.1 Multiracial Concepts and Situations (Japan-Thailand)**

Identity is one of the seminal factors among multiracial groups. Identity includes:

Singular Identity: one nationality;

Boarder Identity: dual nationality;

Protean Identity: nationality could change in situations; and

Transcendent Identity: international citizenship.

(Rockquemore & Brunnsma, 2002)

The impact of multiracial identity may explain changes within a country both at a domestic and international level. The United Nations (2016) proposed that "It is now understood as a type of citizenship that transcends what is purely national, is unrelated to a specific identity and/or territory, and embraces a

constantly evolving global ethic". This statement broadens the ideology of future societies and the problem of territory (state authorities) and global ethics who could become a future population in countries.

Moreover, family and community factors are the primary factors influencing self-identification (LaBarrie, 2017). Radina and Cooney (2000) found that when communities did not accept of one or all races, individual multiracial persons could suffer from not feeling accepted by their community and not having the opportunity to choose the nationality they wanted. In particular, safety concerns are a real risks factor for prevention between multiracial and monoracial communities (Choi, 2006). Japanese culture has recently experienced a transformation from homogenous to international due to the ageing population, labor shortages in both skilled and low skilled workers and international policies inviting foreigners to migrate to fill those gaps (Japan Times, 2019). Meanwhile, the number of migrant workers has increased across the last 10 years between 2006-2016 and the number of international marriages between foreigners and local residents have also increased.

Marriages between Thai migrants and Japanese citizens are now one of the top 4 marriages occurring in Japan (MHLW, 2016) which means that Thai-Japanese multiracial citizens will become dual citizens in Japan. Individuals can remain dual citizens until they reach the age of 22 according to the Nationality Act, which differs from Thailand where the ability to hold dual nationality is conditional. The issue of merged nationality is important to the development of identity, and the human rights of those people holding dual citizenship is a key interest among researchers and policy makers (Viager, 2011). Country policies could play a part of shaping societal attitudes and developments (Newland, 2017). As racial background grows in importance, policy makers should consider the societal impact this has on those holding dual citizenship, such as issues of racial vilification and discrimination (Pew Research Center, 2015). To address this issue, one must examine the impact of the current situation to identify the possibility of nationality issues that could lead to an increase in the prevalence of racism, discrimination.

## 2.2 Tourism and Migration Concepts to Multiracial Factors

The factors affecting tourism development include:

- Political turmoil crisis
- Epidemic disease
- Economic fluctuation
- Crime and drugs
- Demographic changing
- Language and technology

(Thitthongkorn, 2010)

In addition, the role of the government could play a part in security, public involvement and giving the control of community decisions (Ardahaey, 2010). Further, a statement of migration development has been proposed by the Migration Policy Institute (2020) as follows:

- Governance structure for country growth and stability status.
- Migrant protection standards.
- Global governance and state cooperation.
- Frameworks for migrant return and reintegration.

Moreover, education could support growing diversity in the homogenous perspective (Maruyama, 2019). The same perspective of tourism and migration are involved with acceptance of international race and social diversity. Nevertheless, push and pull concepts have been used to identify the two sides of the negative

(push) and positive (pull) probability of situations. Studying tourism push and pull factors focuses on strengthening the possibility of migrants revisiting a country while migration focuses on increasing opportunity, labor, society, economics, political and returning possibility (Mohammad, 2010). The time that a migrant remains in a destination country could possibly be extended if they wish to remain in that destination for leisure or further opportunities. Asako Kajiura (2008) proposed that the push and pull factors of Japanese migrants fall within 4 broad categories, being:

- economic conditions
- education
- cultural change
- social structure change

It is clear that the perspective of the international community requires the integration of a country's own system, governance system, social system, and individual cooperation (Renn, 2008). Furthermore, the definition of 'mixedness society' is to be adjusted to cross-disciplinary research because it is impractical for a person to choose their identities easily, flexibly in the equal rights and context situations (Törngren, 2019). In 1990, multiracial status became an important issue in the US Government. Minority change could impact immensely on country management and consumption systems (Williams, 2017). In terms of governance, global governance in the third sphere is grounded in both bilateral and multilateral engagements which demonstrates the need to determine a global policy of 'national interest' (Maley, 2016). Multiracial race could be a big factor of future populations, meaning studying this group is integral to the transformation of each country both domestically and internationally.

### 3. Research Methodology

#### 3.1 Sampling Selection and Data Collection Tools

A quantitative method was used to collect the data online between December 2019 to April 2020 from the top 3 destination (Bangkok, Chon Buri, and Chiangmai) according to the Japan long-stay statistics from the Japanese Embassy in Thailand, 2019. In particular, the majority of Thai nationals living in Japan were from Bangkok (53,000 out of 73,000, being approximately 72.6%≈73%). Bangkok was the main area of focus in this paper. There were (n)=685 valid respondents in this research according to Cochran (1953) sampling size to the infinite population of 95% confidence level of  $e=.05$  to  $n=449$  in the minimum of sampling. There is no data on multiracial or international marriage from the Thailand government official statistics so, an infinite population was used in the sample size.

Purposive sampling was used to choose sampling in specific conditions, including:

- Thai-Japanese multiracial citizens aged 18 years and over
- Living in Thailand and having a resident place in Japan
- Having a Japanese mother/father and/or a relative in Thailand
- Having or previously having experience living in Japan for purposes such as working, visiting friends and relatives, and studying

In addition, the item in the questionnaire for each item was between .60-1.0 which passed the standard of .50 of IOC validity score. The pilot questionnaire from the first attempt of 60 respondents was collected to test the reliability of the Cronbach alpha; the score passed the standard score  $\alpha = .816$ . Moreover, the questionnaire was comprised of 4 parts:

- Demographic data

Background of living in Thailand and Japan

Consideration of living in Thailand ( $\alpha = .949$  : 26 items in 7 Likert scales : 1 = strongly disagree to 7 = strongly agree) and Japan ( $\alpha = .952$  : 26 items in 7 Likert scales : 1 = strongly disagree to 7 = strongly agree)

Returning reasons and opinions

Furthermore, all of the information of the respondents was used only in this research. Appropriate anonymity and security measures were used.

## 4. Results and Discussion

### 4.1 Demographic Understanding of Respondents

The results show that 41.2% of the respondents were male and 58.8% were female. The vast majority of the respondents are aged between 24-41 years old. 41.6% of the respondents were single whilst 34.2% were married to a Thai national, 14% to a Japanese national and 6.7% to other nationalities. The education level shows to the majority of the respondents graduated in high education level of bachelor's and master's degree (83.8%). The occupation presents to over 60% working in a skilled labor level such as Officer Manager, skilled worker, and business owner (13.7%). The range of salary among the respondents is between 45,000 to 250,000 (52.4%). Furthermore, the Japanese first generation in Thailand in their family found that 38.1% are Japanese mothers, followed with Japanese fathers at 28.9%. Further, 95.3% have their principal place of residence in Japan whilst 100% have had an experience in Japan for a moment in time. Additionally, 97.7% use Thai language for communication, 85.7% are able to communicate in Japanese and 85.1% are able to communicate in English. Lastly, the possibility to return to Japan by reasoning found that 74.6% never thought about returning to Japan permanently, 49.6% returned for family reasons, 37.5% returned for relationship reasons, 27.7% returned for business reasons, 19.6% returned for education reasons and 12.6% returned for health reasons.

### 4.2 Nationality Decision Making on Exploratory Factor Analysis Results

There are 52 items to the indicators which are separated into 26 items for both Thailand and Japan. An extraction method of Principal Component Analysis and rotation method of Varimax with Kaiser Normalization is applied to both groups. The results identified 3 component factors (15 items out of 26 items) of Thailand and 4 component factors (19 items out of 26 items) of Japan which all have communality (C.)  $>.30$  = acceptable to use the item in EFA. Following the extraction of the component, the factor loading (FL.) are chosen  $>0.6$  in each item. Lastly, indicator units are grouped into factors and names which affects nationality decision making differently.

The results of the Thailand Exploratory Factor Analysis are presented KMO. .919 (value between 0.8 closest to 1 are adequate) and Bartlett's test .000 at the significant level which means they are acceptable to use in the Principal Component Analysis. This can explain the variance of 64.514% from 3 component factors and the factor loading between .602 to .864. Specifically, the component 1 has  $\alpha=.921$  ( $>.70$  is acceptable) E.V. = 12.747 and variance = 49.027%, it is comprised of 7 items and constructed the name of "Structure macro issues concerned". The component 2 has  $\alpha=.902$  ( $>.70$  is acceptable) E.V. = 2.352 and variance = 9.046%, it is comprised of 6 items and constructed the name of "Social safety concerned". Lastly, the component 3 has  $\alpha=.718$  ( $>.70$  is acceptable) E.V. = 1.675 and variance = 6.442%, it is comprised of 2 items and constructed the name of "Individual stability concerned".

The results of the Japan Exploratory Factor Analysis are presented KMO. .897 (value between 0.8 closest to 1 are adequate) and Bartlett's test .000 at significant level which means it is acceptable to use in the Principal Component Analysis. This can explain the variance of 68.144% from 4 component factors and the factor loading between .632 to .856. Specifically, the component 1 has  $\alpha=.781$  ( $>.70$  is acceptable) E.V. =

12.106 and variance = 46.560%, it is comprised of 7 items and constructed the name of “Social macro issues concerned”. The component 2 has  $\alpha=.900$  ( $>.70$  is acceptable) E.V. = 2.357 and variance = 9.065%, it is comprised of 6 items and constructed the name of “Social safety concerned”. The component 3 has  $\alpha=.818$  ( $>.70$  is acceptable) E.V. = 1.776 and variance = 6.831%, it is comprised of 3 items and constructed the name of “Individual stability concerned”. Lastly, the component 4 has  $\alpha=.757$  ( $>.70$  is acceptable) E.V. = 1.479 and variance = 5.688%, it is comprised of 3 items and constructed the name of “Structure macro issues concerned”.

Table 1. Thailand and Japan Principal Component Analysis (EFA.) results.

Thailand: Principal Component Analysis		Japan: Principal Component Analysis	
KMO. .919 Bartlett's Test of Sphericity Appox.Chi-Square 16804.385 df 325 Sig. .000 Vr.=64.514%		KMO. .897 Bartlett's Test of Sphericity Appox.Chi-Square 16418.548 df 325 Sig. .000 Vr.=68.144%	
Ft.1:Structure macro issues concerned ( $\alpha=.921$ , E.V.=12.747, Vr.=49.027%)	FL.	Ft.1:Social macro issues concerned ( $\alpha=.781$ , E.V.=12.106, Vr.=46.560%)	FL.
19 Country safety and security(C:.856)	.864	18 Cost of medical treatment(C:.752)	.817 .665
3 Law enforcement ability(C:.816)	.853	23 Elderly care provided(C:.722)	.665
26 Drugs and illegal concerned(C:.797)	.841	3 Law enforcement ability(C:.800)	.653
14 Human rights(C:.650)		25 Criminal-poverty situations(C:.490)	.651
7 Land prices(C:.648)	.693	12 Japanese way of living(C:.692)	.634
9 Policy support of working(C:.698)	.670	26 Drugs and illegal concerned(C:.669)	.632
6 Tax rate payment(C:.757)	.643	13 Gender equality(C:.777)	.819
Ft.2:Social safety concerned ( $\alpha=.902$ , E.V.=2.352, Vr.=9.046%)	.615	Ft.2:Social safety concerned ( $\alpha=.900$ , E.V.=2.357, Vr.=9.065%)	.814
13 Gender equality(C:.750)		19 Country safety and security(C:.795)	.685
12 Japanese way of living(C:.764)	.799	20 Living safety concerned(C:.737)	.674
1 Political instability(C:.756)	.794	4 Social welfare stability(C:.802)	.662
25 Criminal-poverty situations(C:.707)	.682	14 Social responsibility awareness(C:.653)	.638
20 Living safety concerned(C:.857)	.657	21 Air pollution(C:.666)	.810
8 Unemployment situations(C:.674)	.651	24 Disability care provided(C:.786)	.806
Ft.3:Individual stability concerned ( $\alpha=.718$ , E.V.=1.675, Vr.=6.442%)	.602	Ft.3:Individual stability concerned ( $\alpha=.818$ , E.V.=1.776, Vr.=6.831%)	.782
4 Social welfare stability(C:.745)		8 Unemployment situation(C:.795)	.856
5 Low salary standard(C:.785)	.832	5 Low salary standard(C:.725)	.849
	.682	15 Human rights(C:.712)	.663
		Ft.4:Structure macro issues concerned ( $\alpha=.757$ , E.V.=1.479, Vr.=5.688%)	
		7 Land price(C:.852)	
		6 Tax rate payment(C:.838)	
		9 Policy support of working(C:.645)	

\*(SPSS version 25) : KMO.=Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy ,  $\alpha$  =Alpha Cronbach , E.V.=Eigen value , Vr.=Variance , C. =communality , Ft.=Factor , FL.=Factor loading

### 4.3 Influence of Binary Logistic Regression on Nationality Decision Making

The results show that there are 3 groups who decided to choose (1) Thai, (2) Japanese, and (3) Have not decided yet (Dual nationality). Moreover, the full indicators from the Thailand and Japan EFA results are statistically significant at 0.00 in the Omnibus tests.

Table 2. Thailand and Japan influence indicators results

Decision making	Thailand indicator in concerned		Japan indicator in concerned	
Thai THA=0 Other=1	FT1.	.000	FT1.	.000
	Human rights Sig.004 / Exp(B)1.452	omnibus test	Japanese way of living Sig.026 / Exp(B).762	omnibus test
	Tax rate payment Sig.016 / Exp(B)1.367	.071 Cox&Snell	Elderly care provided Sig.034 / Exp(B).631	.135 Cox&Snell
	Law enforcement ability Sig.024 / Exp(B).677	.140 Nagelkerke	FT2.	.267 Nagelkerke
	FT2.		Social welfare stability Sig.000 / Exp(B)2.084	
	Political instability Sig.004 / Exp(B)1.509	88.9% correctly classified	Social responsibility awareness Sig.048/ Exp(B)1.257	90.7% correctly classified
	Living safety concerned Sig.000 / Exp(B) .499		Disability care provided Sig.004 / Exp(B).458	
	FT3.-none		FT3.	
			Human rights Sig.013 / Exp(B)1.432	
			FT4.	
Japanese JP=0 Other=1	FT1.	.000	FT1.	.000
	Country safety and security Sig.010 / Exp(B) 2.919	omnibus test	Drugs and illegal concerned Sig.004 / Exp(B)7.016	omnibus test
	Land price Sig.018 / Exp(B) 2.102	.151 Cox&Snell	Cost of medical treatment Sig.021 / Exp(B)3.326	.180 Cox&Snell
	FT2.	.509 Nagelkerke	Gender equality Sig.005 / Exp(B).331	.608 Nagelkerke
	Japanese way of living Sig.000 / Exp(B)3.298		Law enforcement ability Sig.025 / Exp(B).169	
	Living safety concerned Sig.010 / Exp(B)2.328	96.5% correctly classified	FT2.	95.5% correctly classified
	Gender equality Sig.039 / Exp(B) .466		Country safety and security Sig.030 / Exp(B)3.396	
	FT3.		Air pollution Sig.026 / Exp(B)2.537	
	Social welfare stability Sig.013 / Exp(B) .301		Living safety concerned Sig.001 / Exp(B).015	
	Low salary standard Sig.000 / Exp(B) .091		FT3.-none	
			FT4.	
			Tax rate payment Sig.000 / Exp(B)41.522	
			Policy support of working	

Decision making	Thailand indicator in concerned		Japan indicator in concerned	
			Sig.001 / Exp(B)4.610	
			Land price Sig.000 / Exp(B).004	
Dual nationality DN=0 Other=1	FT1.	.000	FT1.	.000
	Policy support of working Sig.007 / Exp(B)1.429	omnibus test	Criminal-poverty situation Sig.014 / Exp(B).801	omnibus test
	Law enforcement ability Sig.029 / Exp(B)1.389	.093 Cox&Snell	Cost of medical treatment Sig.001 / Exp(B).780	.166 Cox&Snell
	Tax rate payment Sig.019 / Exp(B).754	.159 Nagelkerke	FT2.	.284 Nagelkerke
	Human rights Sig.003 / Exp(B).714		Disability care provided Sig.002 / Exp(B)2.107	
	FT2.		Social responsibility awareness Sig.050 / Exp(B).824	
	Living safety concerned Sig.024 / Exp(B)1.455	85.5% correctly classified	Social welfare stability Sig.001 / Exp(B).575	85.7% correctly classified
	Japanese way of living Sig.000 / Exp(B).515		FT3.	
			Low salary standard Sig.009 / Exp(B).756	
			FT4.	
			Policy support of working Sig..003 / Exp(B).741	

## 5. Conclusion

The descriptive statistics show that the social status of living by working and salary wage is higher than the standard of local people in Thailand, meanwhile, the primary reason for return to Japan is the possibility of losing future populations in Japan because of the complexity in Japan's legal system. The different contexts of Thailand and Japan result in a wide range of different factors and variables. These factors can explain and generate from top to down country structure which is political and governance issues, economy and stability, working environment, society and culture, hospital and treatment, and country problems to human development. A big picture of exploratory factor analysis shows the benefits of government approaches and can be used to construct and possibility highlight macro issues among both society and individuals. The exploratory factor analysis indicates the possible factors that can be used to understand and integrate support and enhance government approaches to policy in this area and to raise international awareness of these issues. Likewise, binary logistic regression analysis indicates the possibility of each factor unit to interact with nationality decision making probability. The trend of factor units tends to expand from social structure and individual stability which is relevant to country structure development issues.

In terms of decision making for dual nationals in Thailand, policy support of working and living safety concerns are most important. Likewise, criminal-poverty, disability care (health care systems), low salary standards, and policy support for workers are of the highest concern in Japan.

The transformation to future societies with international citizenship (mixedness globally) is dependent on the many structures from the top to down. These macro issues and safety concerns need to be addressed in both Thailand and Japan. This is important to improve the standard of living for multicultural citizens living both domestically and internationally and could be integral to the push and pull factors contributing to the movement of international travelers around the globe, which has a flow on effect on global economies.

Previous studies have tried to identify the factors contributing to discrimination of multiracial citizens. In this paper, the results identify key macro issues and individual factors which could be the fundamental root of



inequality. If the state provides services equally to all citizens with safety and security as their main concern, this could have a considerable positive impact on the development of their community both domestically and internationally. This could also reduce inequality and conflict between monoracial (local) and multiracial communities. Future research should address approaches to other multiracial nationalities by using confirmatory factor analysis in the development of current issues and qualitative research to develop a model for a deeper understanding of these issues.

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