

HANDMADE TEXTILE LEARNING CENTER DEVELOPMENT FOR THAI-LAOS KRANG COMMUNITY IN BAN PU NAM RON, DAN CHANG DISTRICT, SUPHANBURI PROVINCE

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Abstract

The purposes of this research are; 1) To study the existing learning condition of Ban Pu Nam Ron community, Dan Chang District, Suphanburi 2) To study factors relating to Ban Pu Nam Ron community, Dan Chang District, Suphanburi 3) To survey handmade textile weaving of Ban Pu Nam Ron community, Dan Chang District, Suphanburi, and 4) To develop a matching learning that will suit Ban Pu Nam Ron community, Dan Chang District, Suphanburi. The qualitative researching methods are applied in this research. Observation and Interview are used as the tools in gathering data from the key informants: the community leaders and the local authority officers. The data has been analyzed by using Content Analysis method. According to the research it founded that;

1. The members of the learning center are Thai-Laos Krang people who have traditionally inherited their weaving method, related with beliefs and customs, with unique texture from the past. Managing wise, it lacks of systematic and good organization: improper area distribution and unorganized equipment placing, insufficient government supporting budget and assistance, no wider channel of knowledge transformation.

2. Relevant factors for the existence of the learning center are community participation, learner competency, equipment, people attitude toward the learning center, and management. It found that the members have actively participated in learning plan and positively enthusiasm to learn the knowledge provided by expert informers who have good instructing skills, however; they need a good organization, proper and sufficient equipment, and effective learning supporting program.

3. Regarding to the intellectual asset of Thai-Laos Krang in handmade textile, it found that there are 10 textures having a right preserved, these textures are 1) Kabyai 2) Ko Kue Tem Dok 3) Ko Ma Wo 4) Ko Nak Kham 5) Kab Ko Kue 6) Ko Kue Yai 7) Mang Ka Bee (Ko Kao Dok) 8) Kab Ko Noi 9) Kab Ko Kom, and 10) Kum Kue Yai. The texture teaching in the learner center, with no right preservation, is Lai Kid.

4. The model for effective content and knowledge management of the Handmade Textile Learning Center for Thai-Laos Krang Community ought to be concerned with 7 factors; 1) Focuses on knowledge of type of pattern of the local pattern, 2) focuses on actual weaving practice, 3) focuses on learning for preservation of tradition and culture relating to handmade textile, 4) focuses on learning as occupation development for local people, 5) the class is close class type, or individual class for the learning of everyone in the community, 6) to be the learning center without limits and can be continually learned from, 7) to be the living learning center – learning between from individual to one another.

Keywords: Leaning Center, Local Textile, Ban PuNamRon, Supanburi

Introduction

A learning Center is a place where the locals or communities' group activities and process occur. It is a place where group activities are organized, along with being the place to continuously learn, resulting in creation of knowledge, ideas, and alternative options. The result is the change of local community becoming more self-dependent in learning under the circumstance of modern society; a world learning. In a world of local knowledge, it means that when the local organization, community, or individual make decision in any action, it requires information, new knowledge, and local knowledge to be a part of operation and method. The development of learning center to become the place to learn that will be congruence with each local context is an important strategy pushing the limit of the local community through continual mutual learning and integral codependency between individual, local, and community. This is done through learning center management guideline and modern technology to build a cutting edge learning center or an innovation that is valuable in itself, the local, or community so that the community becomes sustainable under the change of society (Kulthorn Lerdsuriyakul, 2005).

The Handmade Textile Learning Center of Ban Pu Nam Ron, Dan Chang District, Suphanburi Province, is a place that Ban Pu Nam Ron community had built on the Temple's pavilion. The learning there was casual and unorganized. People often come and go as they please for both knowledge teachers and learners. This disrupt the continuity and the motivation for coming and this instance is contrary to the initial purpose of the community and Temple's abbot which wish the place to offer systematical learning to support a life-time learning for the people of Ban Pu Nam Ron so that the place provides the opportunity for learning, passes on and share' knowledge and experience, and along with local knowledge. It is also to be the place that is provided for local community's activity that would suit the need of the people, focusing on learning process of the livelihood of people (Ministry of Interior, 2007). This is the opportunity everyone could enjoy the learning they want that would suit the opportunity and context. It is a provision of learning experience for learner to have quality learning, and fulfilling the Thai society to become a true learning society. As such, the good organization of learning center must be in accordance with the context of each local livelihood. (SanongLohitwiseth, 2001)

For this reason, the Handmade Textile Learning Center of Ban Pu Nam Ron, Dan Chang District, Suphanburi Province, is considered a very important local knowledge learning center because traditional textile weaving that has been passed on since the time of Lao ancestor is fading. However, Laos Krang Community in Ban Pu Nam Ron still shows respect to value of this local knowledge and continue to pass on this local knowledge through teaching, imparting, to create learning process and thus create the development of local knowledge. It is a preservation of local art that is an identity of Ban Pu Nam Ron community; creating the learning and understanding of the livelihood, value, beliefs, local tradition, culture, and identity of Ban Pu Nam Ron community that still links to the livelihood of people in community.

What is important in this moment is that there is no systematic learning center. This leads to problems and obstacles such as; 1) the imitation of textile pattern that is a unique identity of the Ban Pu Nam Ron community, that whether there is petition of intellectual property, it is still copied. Thus, this matter requires further dealings. 2) There is a claim that the handmade textile of Ban Pu Nam Ron community belongs to other community. This is a consequence of the mass buying incident of Ban Pu Nam Ron community's textile way and later claimed to belong to other community. This causes loss to Ban Pu Nam Ron community and damage to its identity. 3) There were purchases of Ban Pu Nam Ron community's textile for commercial distribution but the buyer in turn copy the pattern of the textile or use it as a base for their own textile and claim as their own. Some even produce the new product industrially. 4) The factors that can make Ban Pu Nam Ron community to become systematic learning center of textile weaving are still lacking, causing the obstacle to learning. 5) The learning model of Ban Pu Nam Ron community learning center is still not clear or suiting. Thus it requires further attention and development. (Venerable Sa-Ne (abbot of Pu-Nam-Ron Temple), 2015)

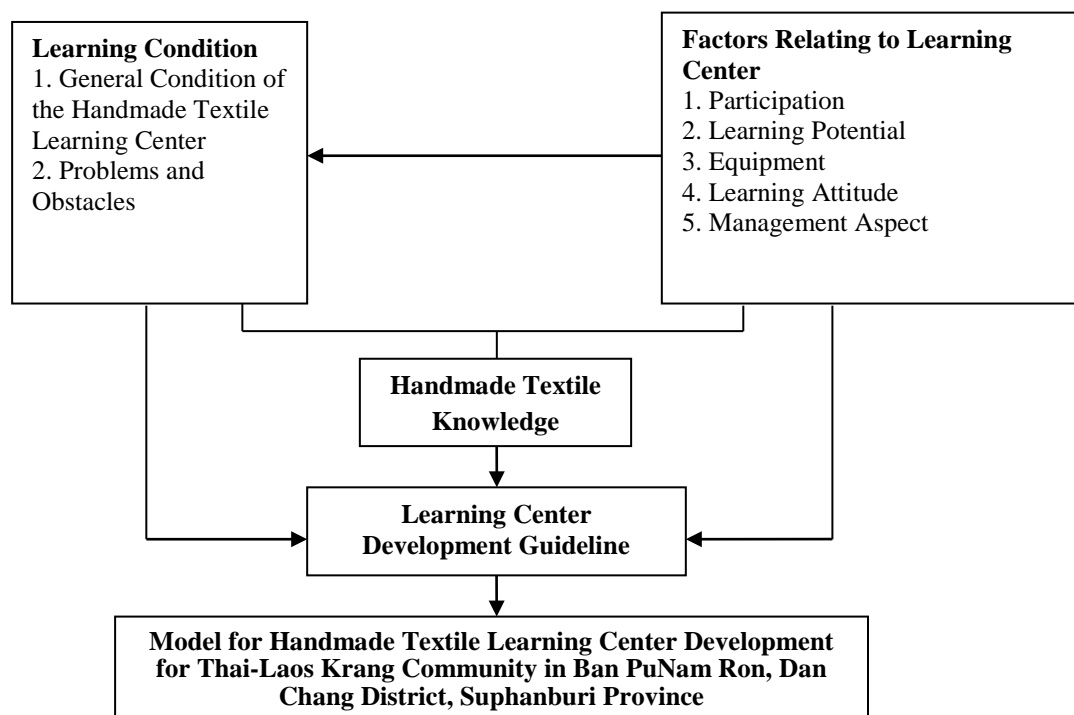
For these reasons, the researcher became interested to study Thai- Laos Krang Handmade Textile Learning Center of Ban Pu Nam Ron community development as PhranakhonRajabhat University had signed MOU with Suphanburi Provincial Administration and Master of Public Administration program had provided academic service in Dan Chang District and had met Ban Pu Nam Ron's Temple Abbot and local administrative officer where the Temple's abbot had asked for assistance for the design of Ban Pu Nam Ron community Learning Center to become the community's learning center and add to income for the people of the community henceforth.

The purpose of research

1. To study the being of the Thai-Laos Krang Community learning center in Ban Nam Pu Ron, Dan Chang District, Suphanburi Province.
2. To identify the relevant factors to make learning center exist.
3. To study its intellectual knowledge in Handmade Textile.
4. To develop the model for effective content and knowledge management.

Research Framework

From the review of relevant literature, the study of Handmade Textile Learning Center Development for Thai-Laos Krang Community in Ban Pu Nam Ron, Dan Chang District, Suphanburi Province has the following framework.



Research Methodology

This research is qualitative, employing observation and interview method under following steps.

- 1st Step Acquire relevant documents, theoretical framework, and research
- 2nd Step Survey the preexisting Handmade Textile Learning Center and its obstacles accomplished by observation and interviewing related person
- 3rd Step Survey the knowledge and type of handmade textile that wants to be preserved for the later generation to study and learn from by interviewing related person
- 4th Step Analyze the data collected to develop a Handmade Textile Learning Center
- 5th Step Develop the model of Handmade Textile Learning Center

Sample and Key Individual

1. Population sample that is used in this research is Tha- Lao Krang of Ban Pu Nam Ron, Suphanburi.
2. The key individuals are listed as follows.
 - 2.1 Community Leader (Village Headman)
 - 2.2 Religious Leader (Ban Pu Nam Ron Temple's abbot, AjarnSaneh)
 - 2.3 Dan Chang District Social Developer
 - 2.4 Female weaver group of Ban Pu Nam Ron community's handmade textile

Total of 15 individuals

Research Tools

1. Observation form used for collecting observation details of Handmade Textile Learning Center's condition in respect of weaving condition, problems and obstacle, equipment, teaching method, and learning
2. Interview form which is an opened interview form used as interview guideline and for open forum under following topic;
 - 2.1 Factors regarding Learning Center
 - 2.2 Factors regarding knowledge and type of handmade textile that wants to be preserved for the later generation to study and learn from
 - 2.3 Model of learning Center that the community wants

Tool testing

The researcher had brought observation, interview form, and Learning Center model confirmation survey form that are developed for the purpose of this research to experts who are Doctoral students or Associate Professor in Public Administration or Library Science and Information Science to consider and suggestion for tool improvement which are interview form, and Learning Center model confirmation survey form before putting into use.

Data Collection

The researcher collects data by field study to personally observe and interview.

Data Analysis

The collected data is examined for completion of content before putting to content analysis. It is then summarized by major and minor findings points and explains using description for each purpose.

Research Conclusion

The research found that;

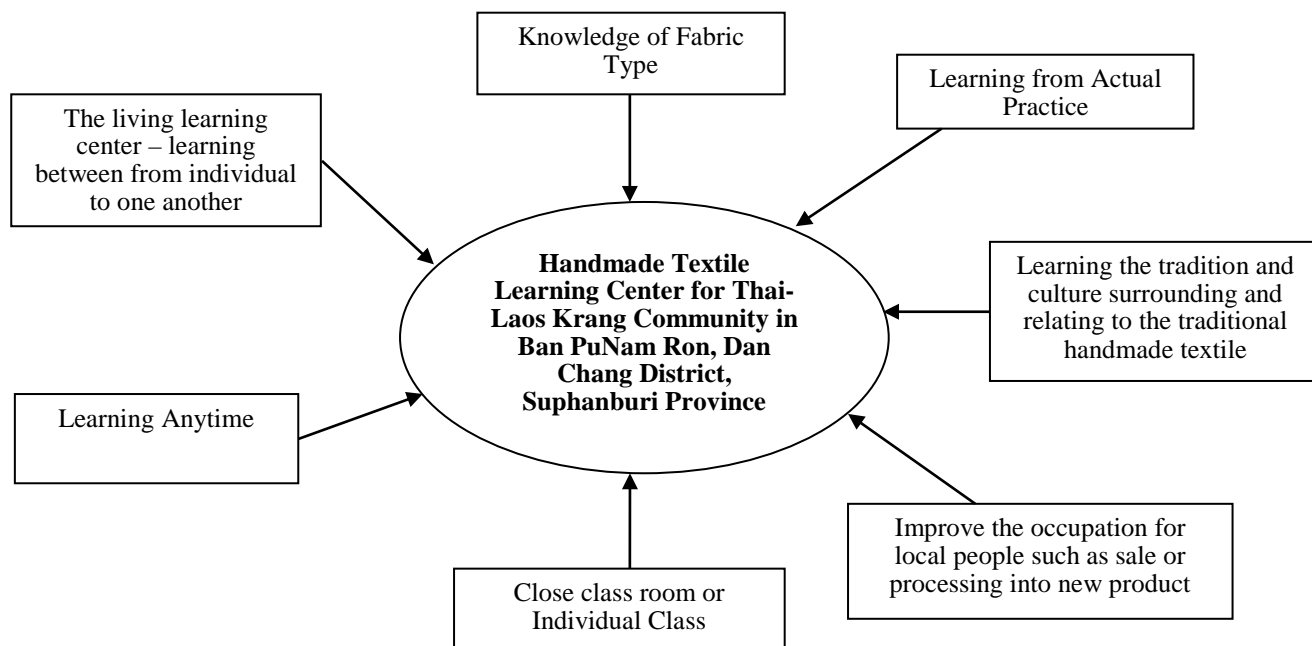
1. The condition of Handmade Textile Learning Center of Ban Pu Nam Ron Community has a local weaving of Thai-Laos Krang People which is the group which lives the traditional weaving livelihood. The textile is unique and the pattern possesses unique complexity. The weaving of the Ban Pu Nam Ron Community is also related to local beliefs and tradition. Currently, Ban Pu Nam Ron Community has no organized learning center. Such organizations are in term such as equipment placement where the equipment used in learning how to weave lacks appropriate placement, the interest group is limited, learning supporter both in respect of location and person still use Nam Pu Ron Temple's location and the Abbot is the teacher and main supporter. Another obstacle is lack of continual budget and assistance from relevant authority. The learning is still depending on current condition, lacking in tangible support from government agency. The knowledge stored within individual has not been translated and kept in other format and media that is easy to use. All in all, this make learning become very limited.

2. The factors regarding Learning Center are; 1) Participation – It is found that people participate in Learning Center in term of its design, in term of giving opinion of how to develop the Center, and in term of benefiting from the development of Tradition handmade Textile Learning Center. 2) Learning Potential – the learner is ready to learn and acknowledge the importance of Handmade Textile learning, the learner is responsible and has the discipline to learn. In term of teacher, the teacher is knowledgeable in traditional weaving, each having weaving teaching technique, and communication ability. 3) Equipment – every weaver, every spin, and equipment are made of wood. The materials are such as fabric that is found in local area. 4) Learning Attitude – both learner and teacher share positive attitude in term of feelings, idea, and expression that focuses in traditional weaving learning and the need for learning center. 5) Management – Handmade Textile Learning Center must manage in regard to planning of systematic development; change the learning control system from casual-as-wish, create motivation for learning, or develop strategy that would lead to continual learning such as weaving competition, finding outlet, or process traditional textile to other product.

3. Knowledge of handmade textile of Thai-Laos Krang in Ban Pu Nam Ron Community, Dan Chang District, Supahnบุรี Province, exists in 10 patterns that are petitioned. These are 1) Kabyai 2) Ko Kue Tem Dok 3) Ko Ma Wo 4) Ko Nak Kham 5) Kab Ko Kue 6) Ko Kue Yai 7) Mang Ka Bee (Ko Kao Dok) 8) Kab Ko Noi 9) Kab Ko Kom, and 10) Kum Kue Yai, and the pattern that is taught within the center which is the basic pattern called “Kid” which is not petitioned.

4. The model of Handmade Textile Learning Center for Thai-Laos Krang Community in Ban Pu Nam Ron, Dan Chang District, Suphanburi Province has following features; 1) Focusing on local handmade textiles 2) Promoting practical learning activity 3) Promoting traditional cultural and customary conservation activities 4) Providing learning activities for career development 5) Arranging individual or laboratory learning source 6) Creating continuing and unlimited learning process, and 7) Supporting interpersonal learning activities.

Which is summarized in to drawing as follows.



Research Discussion

The condition of Handmade Textile Learning Center for Thai-Laos Krang Community in Ban Pu Nam Ron is related to tradition and culture of the community. This shows that tradition and culture is an important mechanism in learning. If any community has its tradition and the local knowledge, then the people will have participation and have a role in sharing opinion and are ready to learn and preserve their heritage. This follows the concept highlighted by Prawes Watsri, 1999 saying that; for learning, if depend and relate with livelihood of each community, human will give it importance.

For the factor regarding the learning center that is important is the learner and teacher potential. If the learner shows positive learning attitude and the teacher is ready to teach, has skills to teach, learning will become effective. This matches the idea of Thammasat Sothiphan, 2005, saying that human resource is an important aspect that must be developed in order to create systematic learning.

Handmade Textile knowledge is mostly tacit knowledge. Therefore, the community should transfer this knowledge and store it systematically for the ease of learning and preservation so that it will not be lost. This matches the statement from Zack, Michael H., 1999; when knowledge is systematically synthesized and categorized, the said knowledge could be extract for the use of organization and community.

A good Handmade Textile Learning Center should be the learning center that the people want. It should be the center that benefit to people of the community where the community took part in its management and organization. This idea match the research of Narong Apitanang, 2008 which stated that participation of local community in managing learning center to match their context is an important aspect that will make people of the community become interested to learn.

Suggestion

1. Suggestion for the use of research to benefit

The development of learning center should give importance to participation where party of local community, government agency, and private sector took part in.

The Handmade Textile Learning Center must be relatable to the livelihood of the people in community. Therefore, the learning center should lead to benefit in term of income and occupational support for the people of community.

2. Suggestion for further research

The research could focus on sustainable life-time learning strategy for the people of community and in product development from handmade textile of that Thai-Laos Krung community.

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