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Issues And Challenges Of Single Fathers In The Era Of Covid-19 In Malaysia

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This study aims to examine the issues and challenges of single fathers in continuing to survive in the era of the Covid-19 pandemic in Malaysian context. The group of single fathers is not discussed much in government agencies or NGO bodies compared to single mothers, not to mention there is very little empirical research on this group. The issue of single fathers should not be taken lightly and is increasing day by day. Various challenges faced by single fathers have indirectly affected their well-being. Therefore, an empirical study is very necessary to study and explore the issues and challenges faced by single fathers in Malaysia, especially in the era of the Covid-19 pandemic that is sweeping the world. This study will focus on single fathers who have lost their wives and are unmarried and manage their own households. Next, this study examines how these single fathers face these challenges in order to continue survival especially in the era of Covid-19. This study utilizes a qualitative approach and a semi-structured interview session as a data collection method. The selection of study respondents is through purposive sampling. The data obtained were then analyzed using thematic approach analysis. Next, the results of this study are expected to provide a meaningful and appropriate interventions to government agencies and NGOs in dealing with the issues and challenges faced by single fathers. It is can further assists this group to achieve social functionality and further improve their wellbeing.

Acknowledgement: This research is funded by the National Population and Family Development Board Malaysia (NPFDB). An agency under the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development Malaysia.

Understanding Linguistic Repertoires of Emergent Multilingual Salespeople: A Sociolinguistic Study within The Grand Bazaar Context

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Abstract

With the backdrop of İstanbul having hosted people from different language backgrounds throughout its history, Kapalıçarşı (Grand Bazaar) has always been a remarkable linguistic landmark with its unique social landscape whereby approximately 56 languages are spoken by its multilingual salespeople and international visitors. The present study aims to bring sight into how local salespeople who mostly have encountered a wide range of foreign languages for the first time at Kapalıçarşı could learn to speak those languages for various purposes rather than selling their goods. Data coming from 6 multilingual salespeople through in-depth interviews of around 3 hours in total and field observation notes have revealed that their language learning is fostered by individual, affective, and context-specific social factors such as personal interests, colleague and community support and self-satisfaction. Furthermore, thematic analysis of the data suggests a cyclical learning pattern established on this triad as follows: Observation, modelling, collaborative and cognitive reflection, modified language use, reflection-in-action, and reconstructing the language in line with theories such as experiential learning (Kolb, 1984), constructivist learning (Bruner, 1960), and sociocultural learning (Vygotsky, 1978). Overall, this study sheds light on the language learning processes of salespeople with a tendency to contribute to prospective language teaching practices.

Key Words: Multilingualism, collaborative learning, linguistic landscape

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Teachers' professional crisis at the end of the covid pandemic

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Abstract

Various studies have been conducted on the experiences and feelings of teachers during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the prolonged impact of the pandemic on teachers in Israel has not been examined. This study was carried out at the end of the pandemic. At this time of covid-19, the fifth and final wave has been characterized by a return to frontal or hybrid learning.

A total of 58 elementary school teachers were interviewed for the study. The interview analysis revealed a low sense of self-efficacy among the teachers due to a load of changes, a multiplicity of children's emotional and social problems, and the fact that Teachers' teaching skills were not aligned with what was required by the situation.

The findings seem to reflect the need for a long-term change in teaching and learning processes in the classroom and in the teacher's profession. The results are discussed in light of theories of engagement and organizational competence among employees. Recommendations are presented for the future professional development processes among teachers.

Keywords: Covid-19 Pandemic, School Teachers, Teachers' Self-efficacy, engagement.

Exploring the Decline of Tibetan Buddhism in Exile: A Case Study of Three Big Monasteries in South India

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Abstract

This research paper investigates the decline of Tibetan Buddhism in exile, with a focus on three prominent monasteries in South India. Drawing on ethnographic research and empirical data, this study examines the factors contributing to the decline of Tibetan Buddhism in these three monasteries, including the challenges of maintaining traditional practices and beliefs in a rapidly changing cultural and political context. The paper analyzes the impact of demographic shift, the challenges of modernization and globalization, and the impact of political instability in Tibet. The research findings reveal that the decline of Tibetan Buddhism in three prominent monasteries in South India is complex and multifaceted, with a range of factors interacting to shape the current landscape. The study concludes with recommendations for strategies to address the challenges faced by Tibetan Buddhism in exile, and to support the preservation and promotion of this unique spiritual tradition.

Presentation Proposal For Wei Conference At Rome

Mushtaq Ahmed Chowdhury

Abstract

With a population of more than 20 million people, Dhaka city is badly cramped with severe traffic congestion. Traffic jam is a common phenomenon wasting hundreds of man-hours and causing huge economic loss. The city is filled up with indiscriminate type public transports. During chief Muslim festivals, people tend to leave the urban area for a family gathering at their respective rural homes. Millions leave by road and waterways from the capital for the purpose. It used to be chiefly public buses for quick movement but owing to this exodus, roads get severely clogged and transportation becomes a crisis at this stage. To avoid congestion and save time, new way of outlets were introduced by offering bike-rides in the recent times. Bike riders took people in long drives to remote areas. Though not a viable solution with a normal two-wheeler but this time at least two million bikes were used to transport more than ten million riders out of the city. This brought concerns of safety and security of the passengers while bus owners found a dent in their business having less number of commuters.

In order to bring discipline and address the situation, Urban Planners got busy finding ways to keep the riders safe and make the bus service stable and broadly to introduce larger road networks along with rail and steamer service. Social thinkers are also in unison with this idea as to how best a capital city and its dwellers could be offered the best option.

The Integration of the Literature and Performing Arts; the Case Study of “Dr.Looktunk”.

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Abstract

The novel named “Dr.Looktunk” a pseudonym of Boonlua, by Prefessor M.L. Boonlua Debyasuwarn. It reflects the complication of the human psyche, which leads to conflicts and various decisions.

The development of the novel named “Dr.Looktunk” to a contemporary performing arts is the integration of the literature and performing arts. The researcher has objective to research about theme, especially on duality which is the main message for representation and design in various elements in performing arts, for value added in performing arts and for communicate with nowadays audiences in various culture. The creation process include (1) conceptual framework (2) target population (3) dramatic communication (4) theatre elements (5) production design (6) creation (7) evaluation. It has been developed into a solo contemporary performing art presented on-line, leads to the knowledge development in performing arts, through the creative research and the article from the international academic cooperation according to research objectives.

Keywords Contemporary Performing Arts, Contemporary Playwright, Dr.Looktunk

Introduction

The novel named “Dr.Looktunk” a pseudonym of Boonlua, by Prefessor M.L. Boonlua Debyasuwarn. It reflects the complication of the human psyche, which leads to conflicts and various decisions.

The plot focus on the autobiography of Miss.Kaewkrow Kokri, her nickname is Luakkaew, the only daughter from the elite family in Thailand which play as a main role in history and has closed relation with the royalty. Luakkaew was in love at the first sight with Dr.Krit Mena during their performing official duties as civil servants in New Zealand. They agreed to get married soon. Dr.Krit moved in her house in Bangkok because his lineage is in countryside and he can not afford any house in the capital.

Luakkaew always has marital problems from miscommunication, unrealistic expectations, lack of privacy and finally dishonesty.

The development of the novel named “Dr.Looktunk” to a contemporary performing arts is the integration of the literature and performing arts. The researcher has objective to research about theme, especially on duality which is the main message for representation and design in various elements in performing arts, for value added in performing arts and for communicate with nowadays audiences in various culture. The creation process include (1) conceptual framework (2) target population (3) dramatic communication (4) theatre elements (5) production design (6) creation (7) evaluation. It has been developed into a solo contemporary performing art presented on-line, leads to the knowledge development in performing arts, through the creative research and the article from the international academic cooperation according to research objectives.

The creative research methodology

The contemporary performing arts “Dr. Looktunk” is a creative research. It was recreated from the novel named “Dr.Looktunk”, which was created during 2019 – 2022. It was supposed to present as a solo stage performance in April,2019.

Due to the ongoing global pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019, during that time, the pandemic had a significant impact on the performing arts. Especially, the physical distancing strongly required. The rehearsal and stage performance had been cancelled. The researcher adapt this stage performance to the recorded productions,

v.d.o arts, length 18.43 mins, broadcasted on- line through social media sites and platforms as follows; Facebook, YouTube and Instagram.

The creation process to integrated the literature and performing arts

(1) Conceptual Framework

- Data Collection

Data Collection for this research uses the qualitative data collection methods, mainly on secondary data, for create the contemporary performing arts, including basic theory, playwright, directing, production design, etc.

- Context Analysis

The context analysis from data collection determines the form and style of the contemporary performing art. The reseacher aims to recreated the production, not only reproduction.

The conceptual framework through the integration of literature and performing arts to create the solo performance, length 18.43 mins. The playwright follows the plot from the novel, which is all situations happened and related to point of views of the main character, Miss.Kaewkrow Kokri.

(2) Target Population

Due to the pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019, this stage performance was adapted to the recorded productions, v.d.o arts, length 18.43 mins, broadcasted through social media sites and platforms as follows; Facebook, YouTube and Instagram. The target population, then became for general public.

(3) Dramatic Communication

The dramatic communication presents through the symbolism in playwright, for example, leaves signifies living, falling leaves refer to disappointments and the tree growth means the mature manner of Miss.Kaewkrow Kokri, the main character.

The researcher has objective to research about theme, especially on duality which is the main message for representation and design in various elements in performing arts.

(4) Theatre elements

Theatre elements, mostly, consider on the representation and design in various elements in performing arts.

The contemporary performing arts “Dr. Looktunk” presents as a solo performance, by using outside – in acting technique from Micheal Chekhov (1891 – 1955).

To expand more knowledge in performing arts, theatre elements had to be concerned about following condition;

The stage performance present in the form of V.D.O.

The researcher focus on basic recording techniques, by mainly using medium shot (MS) and medium close-up (MCU) for story telling.

When the character is depressed or disappointed, close up (CU) or extreme close up (ECU) would be applied. The positions the camera angle directly at the eye level of the character and the audience for the effective communication.

The editing emphasizes on the basic type of cut, as follows; standard cut, continuous editing and match cut. Scene transitions and insert techniques was rarely found.

When the character is desperated, cutting on action follow hands or eyes movements will be used.

The appropriate representation and design for the recorded productions (V.D.O).

The contemporary performing arts “Dr. Looktunk” was adapted to the recorded productions, v.d.o arts, broadcasted on-line through social media sites and platforms. All of theatre elements as follows; setting, costume, light and sound was designed for realistic. The researcher minimized the ideal of production design for assist the audience to focus on acting and its theme.

The audience perception by broadcasted through social media sites and platforms.

The novel named “Dr.Looktunk” a pseudonym of Boonlua, by Professor M.L. Boonlua Debyasuwarn is a long book, full of settings and characters. The playwright follows the plot from the novel, which is all situations happened and related to point of views of the main character, Miss.Kaewkrow Kokri, so , the audience audience perception by broadcasted through social media sites and platforms can understand the main message/theme, easily.

Production design

The production design ia aware of various elements in performing arts as follows; (1) plot (2) character and characterization (3) thought (4) diction (5) song (6) spectacle

The integration of the literature and performing arts; the case study of “Dr.Looktunk” found as follows;

Plot

The contemporary performing arts “Dr. Looktunk” is a one – act play. The Storyline sequences from each

situations related to point of views of the main character, Miss.Kaewkrow Kokri.

Character and Characterization

The Integration of literature to solo performance the focuses on the main character, Miss.Kaewkrow Kokri which is a round character. She is generous, optimistic, reasonable, compromising, patient. Meanwhile, she always has questions about life and the meaning of life.

Thought

The researcher has objective to research about theme, especially on duality which is the main message as follows;

Conscience ; Right or Wrong

Reason or Emotion

Responsibility or Ignorance

Rich or Poor

Diction

The develop of this playwright draws inspiration from the novels named “Dr.Looktunk”, hence, the language usage mostly follow the style in the novel.

The playwright was recreated by rearrange the sequences and wording from dialogue to monologue for solo performance. The stressed pronunciations need to be very clear for effective communication.

Song

The develop of this playwright aims to use the song by various percussions, refers to the natural flow of sound, to emphasise the sound form the verbal communication.

Spectacle

The spectacle refers to the physical features of the performance that are designed for communicate to the audience.

The playwright is intended to exaggerate all of production designs, particularly in (1) costume (2) lighting and special techniques (3) setting (4) V.D.O Editing.

(6) Creation

6.1 Pre - Production

6.2 Production

6.3 Post - Production

(7) Evaluation

The evaluation by focus group, group interview of selected twelve people for in-depth information. The overall satisfaction level is good.

The Result and Conclusion

The Contemporary Performing Arts “Dr.Looktunk” had been recreated into a contemporary performing art and successfully achieved the objectives as follows:

One creation of “Dr.Looktunk” Contemporary Performing Art.



Figure 1 : QR Code for the Contemporary Performing Art : “Dr.Looktunk”
From ; Dr.Pawaris Mina, 2022.

The synthesis of knowledge for producing art creation through an academic article titled “The Integration of the Literature and Performing Arts; the Case Study of “Dr.Looktunk”.

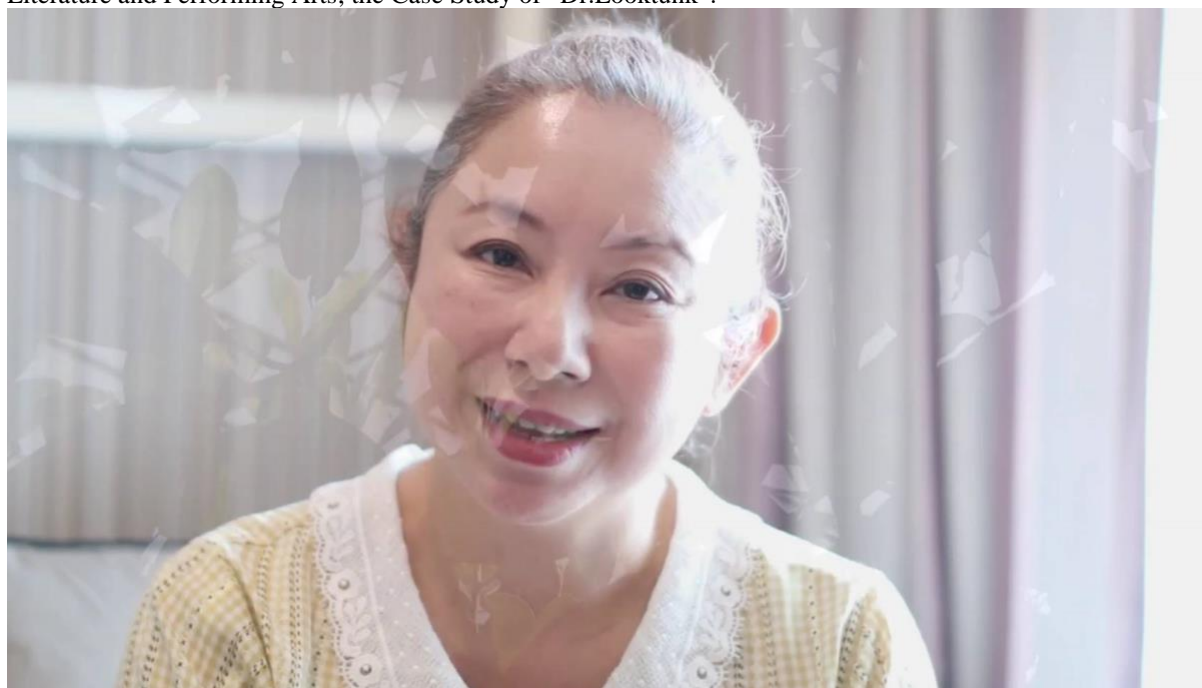


Figure 2 : Miss.Kaewkrow Kokri introduced herself.
From ; Mr.Gaan Phittayakornsilp, 2022.



Figure 3 : Miss.Kaewkrow Kokri always found marital problems.
From ; Mr.Gaan Phittayakornsilp, 2022.

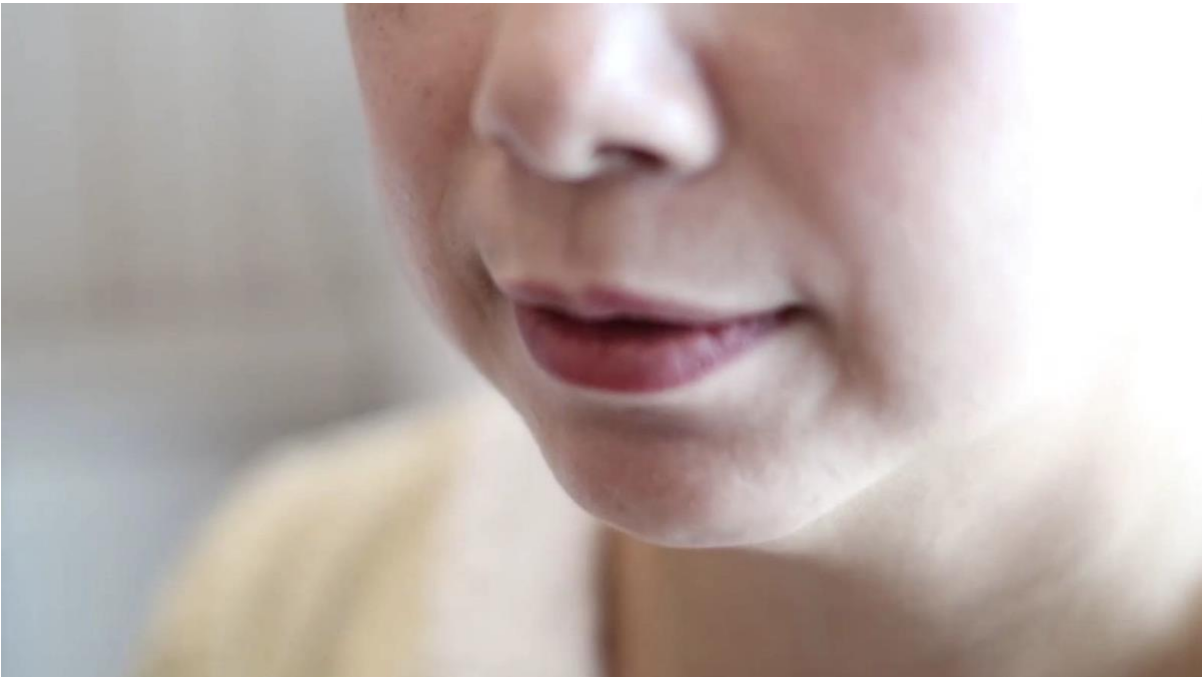


Figure 4 : Miss.Kaewkrow Kokri found out her husband was cheating.
From ; Mr.Gaan Phittayakornsilp, 2022.



Figure 5 : Miss.Kaewkrow Kokri got confused by the situation.
From ; Mr.Gaan Phittayakornsilp, 2022.

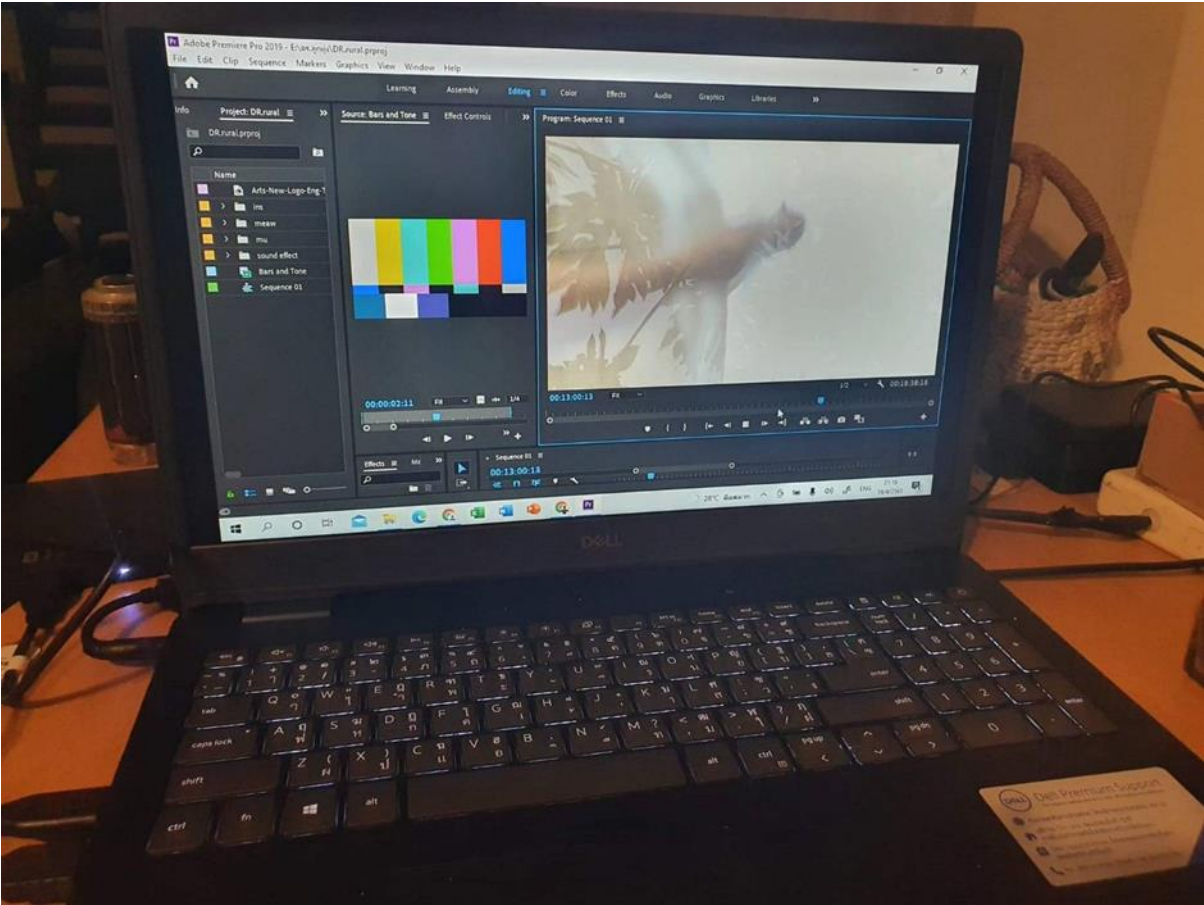


Figure 6 : The editing; cutting on action.
From ; Mr.Gaan Phittayakornsilp, 2022.



Figure 7 : The Program of "Dr.Looktunk"
From ; Miss.Crownkarat Phittayakornsilp, 2022.

However, the creative researcher has a suggestion to develop, and continue the creation of "Dr.Looktunk" - The Contemporary Performing Arts at the next international level in other countries to synthesize the result in conveying the message/theme to the audience.

Moreover, as a researcher, I found the Integration of the Literature and Performing Arts; the Case Study of "Dr.Looktunk", the playwright was recreated and developed to the solo performance which is very interesting for using as an exercise to improve acting skills for drama student and to expand more knowledge.

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Changing in the Spatial Pattern and Landscape of the Urban Villages along the Mae Kha Canal of Chiang Mai, Thailand

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ABSTRACT

Chiang Mai, found in 1296, is a living old town in northern Thailand. It was surrounded by brick wall and moat in a square shape. Another layer of earthen wall and natural moat named Mae Kha Canal additionally encircle this square area from the northeastern to southwestern corner. After the wartime, people from nearby cities and mountains have gradually moved to settle in the city, especially areas along the earthen wall and Mae Kha Canal. They have settled, adjusted, and developed their community from subsistence dwellings on illegally occupied lands for more than 50 years to be villages in the mid of urban Chiang Mai at present. This research aims to clarify factors that influence transformation of these urban villages, transformation process and its effect on spatial pattern and landscape of the villages which by these understanding, lastly, proper directions for sustainable development for the area are suggested. The site surveys in the selected case study areas of Hua Fai and Kampaeng Ngam communities were made to map village structures and elements and interview with the inhabitants, along with review of previous studies and policies or development plans related to the areas. The research found that long strip areas along the earthen wall and Mae Kha Canal were arbitrarily occupied by low-income people who gradually developed their living places from subsistence self-build settlement to rural village-liked community in the middle of urban Chiang Mai. Among all communities, Hua Fai and Kampaeng Ngam communities have been far developed by regeneration projects which concrete walkways along both sides of the canal were built with underground sanitary sewer. Walkways along the canal not only provided a new access to the communities but also transformed back of the houses to be the front sides. At present, the areas have been changed to be a new tourist attraction of Chiang Mai, making the land rights problem more difficult to solve. Centralized unit for coordinating work plans from various responsible agencies should be established, while long term comprehensive development plan should be considered and prepared to provide secure housing with legitimacy for villagers.

KEYWORDS: Spatial pattern, Living environment, Urban village, Mae kha, Chiang Mai

Introduction

Chiang Mai, found in 1296, is a living old town in northern Thailand. The city has evolved out of existing natural elements, especially river and canals. The two main waterways of Chiang Mai city are the Ping River and Mae Kha Canal. In the past, the Ping River was a big river used as a major transport route between Chiang Mai and other cities in the south (Ayutthaya and Bangkok). On the other hands, the Mae Kha canal was a mainstream cultivating the city of Chiang Mai. As a fortified city, Chiang Mai was surrounded by brick wall and moat in a square shape. Another layer of earthen wall and natural moat of Mae Kha Canal additionally encircle this square area from the northeastern to southwestern corner. After the wartime, an original function of these protective elements had been finished, while people have gradually moved to settle in the city.

Areas along the earthen wall and Mae Kha Canal were the best places for the newcomers who immigrated from nearby cities and mountains. These immigrants are so various groups of people from the townsmen to ethnic groups who have settled, adjusted and developed their community from subsistence dwellings on illegally occupied lands for more than 50 years to be villages in the mid of urban Chiang Mai at present. Dwellers in these self-built communities mainly work in service sectors such as red truck (public transportation) driver, food stall seller, souvenir seller, cleaning staff, construction labourers and handicraft maker who struggle for living right under inconstant policies of area development plans from many related government agencies, to sustain and secure their living spaces, due to no legal

right on land. Besides poor physical appearance and disordered townscape formed by self-built structures without any control by building code, the communities also have socio-economic problems of drug, gamble, bootleg, pandemic, low income and etc. Solving these multifaceted problems needs cooperation among responsible government agencies from local to central level, long-term action plan and big budget. Therefore, only a handful of development projects were implemented, while shared policy to achieve the conformed result in both community scale and urban level has not been established yet. Along the process of Chiang Mai urbanization, without ownership of land, dwellers in these communities have also tried to develop housing standard and living environment within their community. At present, the settlements have evolved into urban villages with unique configuration formed by existing topography of the earthen wall and Mae Kha Canal, in the mid of urbanized Chiang Mai, while the city would like to preserve these urban heritages for suitable contemporary use and develop the housing areas to have better living standard and environment. Under these circumstances, in the last 10 years spatial pattern and landscape of these urban villages have gradually transformed. Meanwhile, waterways gradually lost their duty after motorization with increasing of people settling along the rivers and canals. As a result, the water is heavily polluted. Furthermore, the urbanization had effect on the ecology of the river spaces. Chiang Mai Municipality Office has become aware of this problem; however it does not mean only environmental change but a change of urban life culture also. In other words, culture of relation of a human being and water was lost. Hence, when the government proceed with the projects to improve the living environment of the areas, it is also important to understand the living environment and the community system along Mae Kha Canal. The study expects that by understanding the spatial pattern and landscape of peoples' living space and their transformation along the process of development from various plans in the past, practical recommends for suitable direction of areas development for contemporary urban use can be proposed.

Objective of the Study

From the above-mentioned introduction, therefore, the objectives of this study are investigation of space composition of village, utilization of canal and community system of inhabitants. This study also aims to clarify factors that influence transformation of these urban villages. The transformation process and its effect on spatial pattern and landscape of the villages will be discussed as well. Lastly, with this understanding, proper suggestions for compromising and sustainable development to achieve a better outcome will be made.

An Overview of the Study Area

Areas along the Mae Kha Canal have been much concerned from responsible government agency and many scholars of various fields, therefore, many study reports have been produced from time to time; from studies of Mae Kha canal from history, physical characteristics, polluted water problem and improvement plan, to study of community along the canal from social structure and problem, housing and living environments.

There are many studies about the water problem of the Mae Kha canal, and this matter means that it is an important element in Chiang Mai. For example, there is a study that investigated and analyzed metal in the Mae Kha Canal and the Ping River (Zhenbo, 1997). Besides, Gustavo (2005) studied an environmental project and political influence on Mae Kha Canal. Furthermore, there is another study of the relationship between environmental issues and communities in Urban Chiang Mai (Harmony, 2006). In this article, it is assumed that close relations of the government and community is important. Christie (2014) insists that it is necessary to recognize the cause of environmental corruption and an unofficial house. In addition, it is said to be important that we understand community characteristics (Apichoke, 2006). On the other hand, there is some studies about space recognition of the city, too. For example, it is a case study about the community of Wualai District (Umpiga, 2012). The other is a case study about the wide area of Chiang Mai city and discussed sustainable design (Elena, 2010). In the city that developed, there are many overseas cities having a problem with waterways and human living spaces. For example, there is studies of a waterway in Lijiang old city of Yunnan Province, China (Kuroyanagi, 2012) (Ichikawa, 2012). In sum, there are many studies of waterways in urban areas. However, this research concentrates on analysis of the relationship between human living space and the canal that has not much concerned in detail by previous studies, even it is so important for the security and quality of peoples' living house and environment along the Mae Kha Canal and urban development of Chiang Mai city.

The study area of this research is along a branch of upper reaches of the Mae Kha Canal (map in Figure 1; an area within the red line). The canal originates from Huay Chang Kian and Huay Keaw canals of Doi Suthep confluent area in the forest on the west of the city. The canal runs from the west through the city and flows out to the Ping River on

the east. In the past, Mae Kha canal was a beautiful clean stream connecting the west mountain vegetable farms and city together, so people could use the water to wash clothes and transport. An embankment was constructed in the north of canal; it was called an old city wall, the earthen wall. As the city grew, many people moved into that canal side. Then many houses and shops were built along embankment and canals. Furthermore, they set up strong communities along the canal. By the way, most people knew the importance of the Ping River, but they didn't know much about the importance of Mae Kha Canal. Therefore, Mae Kha Canal became an open sewer at the end as we have seen for several decades. As a result, the water flow has almost come to a stop but there seems to be still those communities.



Figure 1. Map of Chiang Mai and location of Study area (left) Earthen wall (middle) and Mae Kha Canal (right)

Methodology of the Study

The surveys of the site along the channel of Mae Kha Canal were made to map village structures (road, alley, passageway, walkway, canal and earthen wall) and elements (houses, shop, bridge, big tree, and etc). Interview with the inhabitants and observation of their usage pattern of spaces were also done along with the physical surveys, especially in the selected case study areas for detailed research. This field investigations were gradually done along the process of transformation and development of the study area which scheduled from April 2016 to January 2023. Along with these fieldworks, reviews of related area development plans and policies concerning the outcome of previous developments and future directions in both physical and social aspects were also done to attain profound comprehension of the study area in various dimensions. Then, the study selected Hua Fai and Kampaeng Ngam communities for intensive study cases because these two communities have been constantly improved by many related government agencies, and thus so far developed from the original living conditions comparing to other communities. The intensive surveys were conducted in these two communities to measure their spatial compositions. Interview with the inhabitant were also done to collect data about history, social structure, occupation, land rights, access to water/electricity/community space, community rule, demand to the government, etc. All collected data were explained their cause-and-effect relationship by content analysis method to clarify transformation of spatial pattern and landscape of these urban villages and suggest some possibility of appropriate future development for both communities and urban heritages.

Result of the Study

The research found that long strip areas along the earthen wall and Mae Kha Canal were arbitrarily occupied by low-income people who gradually developed their living places from subsistence self-built settlement to rural village-like community in the middle of urban Chiang Mai. Claim for adverse possession and right to use lands by dwellers are different in each community from having contract of rent from various government agencies, receipts for electricity or water supply bill payments, to no kind of documents, which is one of the main reasons that made each community has different process and outcome of development, and no walkway runs through all communities along the wall and canal (Figure 2).

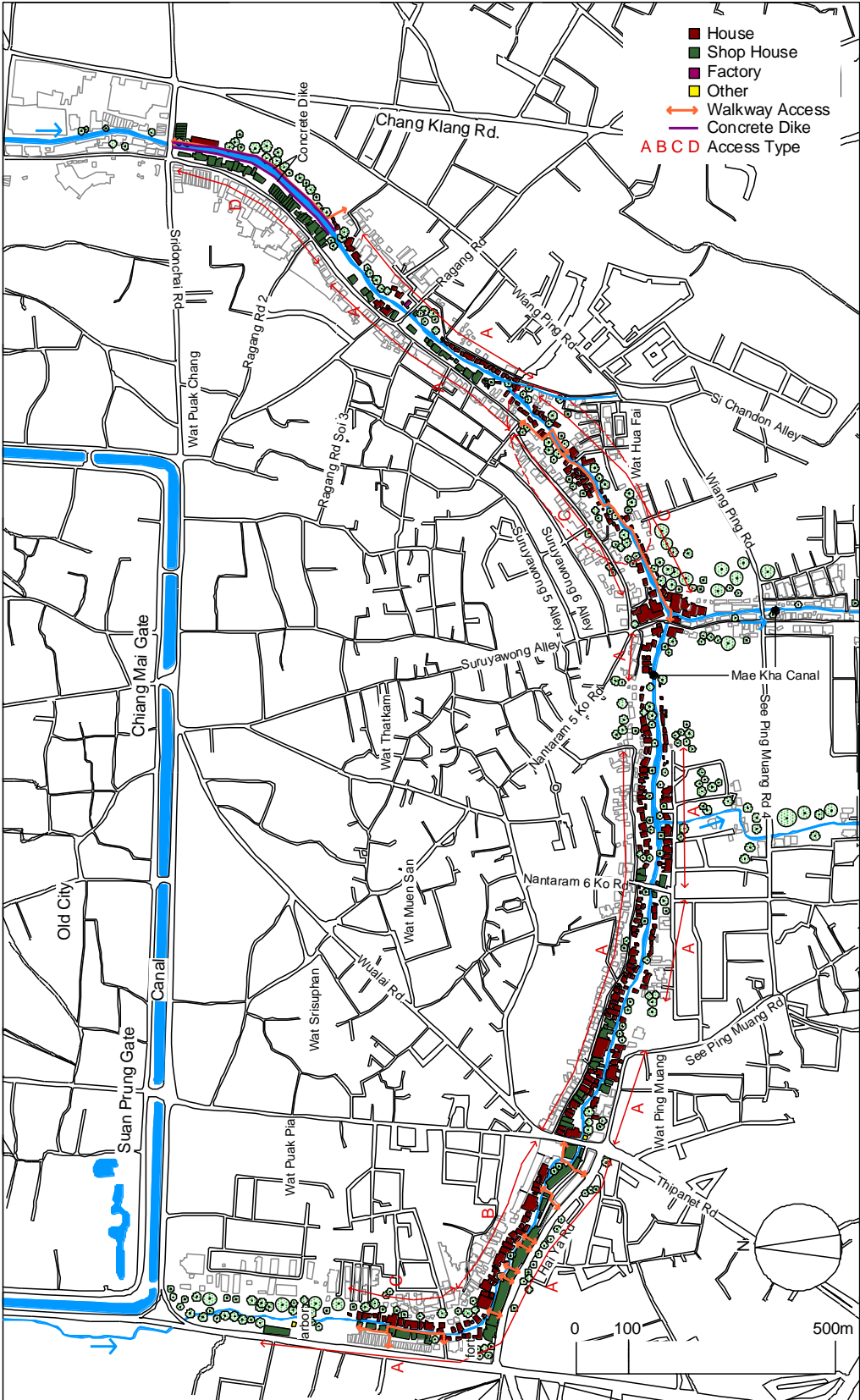


Figure 2. Building type along the Mae Kha Canal

Typology of building access and relationship with the canal

There are many houses and shop-houses located along the bank of the Mae Kha Canal and a narrow strip of land between the canal and earthen wall. There are few factories and other facilities, however public buildings and the temples do not exist along the canal, while access to buildings in the area can be classified into 4 types as follows (Figures 3);

Type A - Road facing: The buildings can be directly accessed from the front road, while canal is in the backside of the building. Therefore, the waterside is a private space. Most of the buildings in the study area belong to this type, while shophouses mainly face directly to the roads.

Type B - Crossing a bridge: The buildings can be approached by the bridge crossing the canal from the roads. The front waterside of the building is a private space used by dwellers of that house.

Type C - By walkway: There are walkways in the middle between the building and canal. Dwellers can enter their house directly by the walkway. Spaces in front of the house along the walkway are also used as the private garden of each house, therefore, the relationship between houses and the canal is quite intimate. However, dwellers in the same communities can walk through the walkway along the canal also. The front walkway of each house thus can be regarded as a semi-public space, which is an important element for maintaining relationships among people in the neighborhood. In other words, it is a community space.

Type D - No relationship with canal: This type is similar to type A that the buildings can be accessed by the front roads, but they do not have thing to do with the canal on the rear side of the buildings because the banks of the canal were paved with concrete and the water was also polluted. This typology of building access was found only on the northern side of the canal around the eastern end of the study site. Most of the buildings in this area are shophouses where dwellers do not make good use of the space beside the canal.

However, poor physical characteristic of temporary and permanent structures built by cheap and recycle materials, polluted canal water and remains of encroached earthen wall can still be obviously observed, there are no more houses protruding into the canal and on the earthen wall after many upgrading projects were implemented.

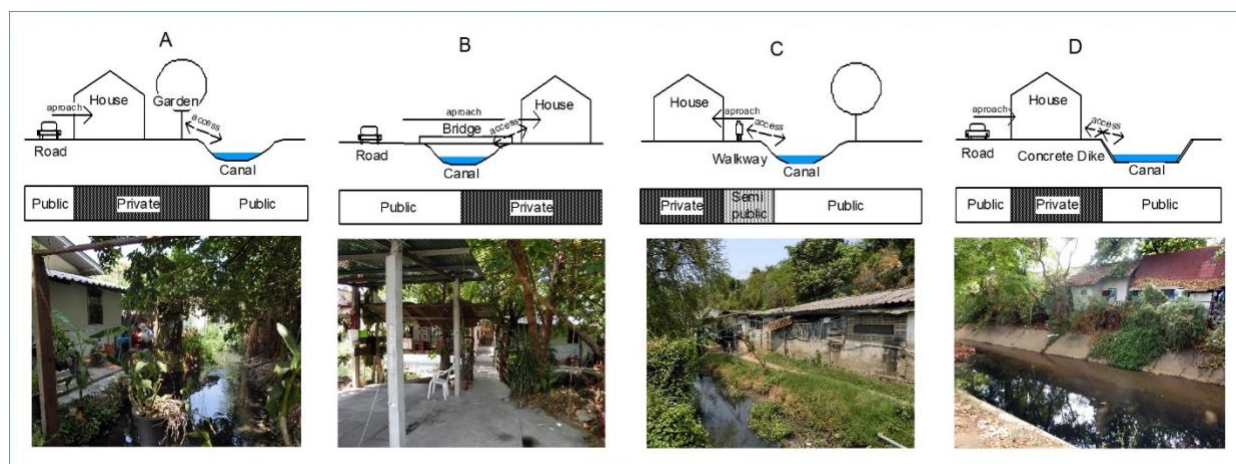


Figure 3. Typology of building access

Spatial pattern of the villages: The cases of Hua Fai and Kampaeng Ngam communities

Among all communities, Hua Fai and Kampaeng Ngam communities have been far developed by regeneration projects to upgrade villages' living environments, and to preserve the earthen wall and canal for public contemporary use as essential urban heritages of Chiang Mai. These two communities are located in the same section of Mae Kha Canal, where Hua Fai is on the southern bank of the canal and Kampaeng Ngam is along the strip of earthen wall and northern bank of the canal (Figure 2; an area within the oval red line). Almost all buildings in the area are houses. A typical access type to most buildings is by walkway (Type C). Therefore, the main elements of the villages are house, walkway, entrance, and shared space.

House

There are 40 houses in the case study areas. Each house faces the canal or to the small street which further connected to the walkway running along the canal. Houses can be divided into three types according to their height: One-story house, Soft first story house, and Two-story house, which various shapes of roof. The villages' townscape, therefore, is lacking in uniformity. Houses facing the walkway normally utilize the walkway as semi-private space for their outdoor living places (Figure 5; left).



Figure 4. Typology of house

Walkway

Width of the walkway is about 2 m. It is the access way by walking and motorbike from the area outside the villages to each house. Dwellers always use the walkway in front of their house as living space, service area and garden for their house. Walkway is normally maintained by dwellers in the communities.

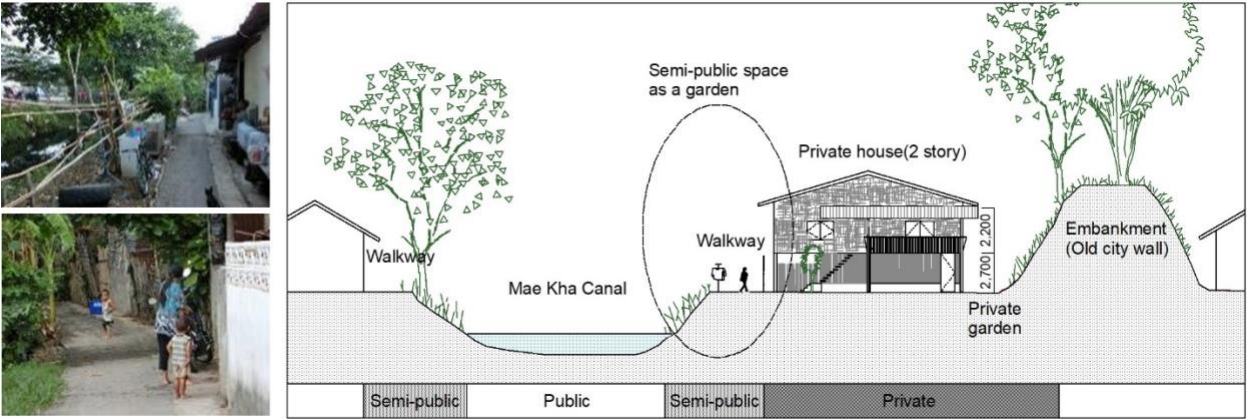


Figure 5. Walkway along the Mae Kha Canal in Hua Fai and Kampaeng Ngam communities

Entrance

There are three entrances from the outside area to the villages. There is a gate on the northwestern side and two bridges on the southern side which cars cannot go through, except by walking, bicycle, and motorbike.

Shared space

There are some small sharing spaces and shops dotted along the walkway beside the bank of the canal. They act as meeting points and social spaces, so conversation of dwellers is exchanged here. They do not only use the spaces but also help to maintain them together, which is one of the important characteristics of the villages.



Figure 6. Entrance gate and bridge



Figure 7. Shared spaces

Communities' consciousness

Twelve dwellers in the communities were interviewed to grasp the consciousness and the situation of their living conditions from history, occupation, community rule, usage of land/water/electricity, demand to the government, and etc. The living duration of interviewed dwellers of the villages is various from over than 50 years to around 1 year, from a variety of occupations from trishaw man, salesman, contractor, maker, office employees to souvenir maker and seller at night market.

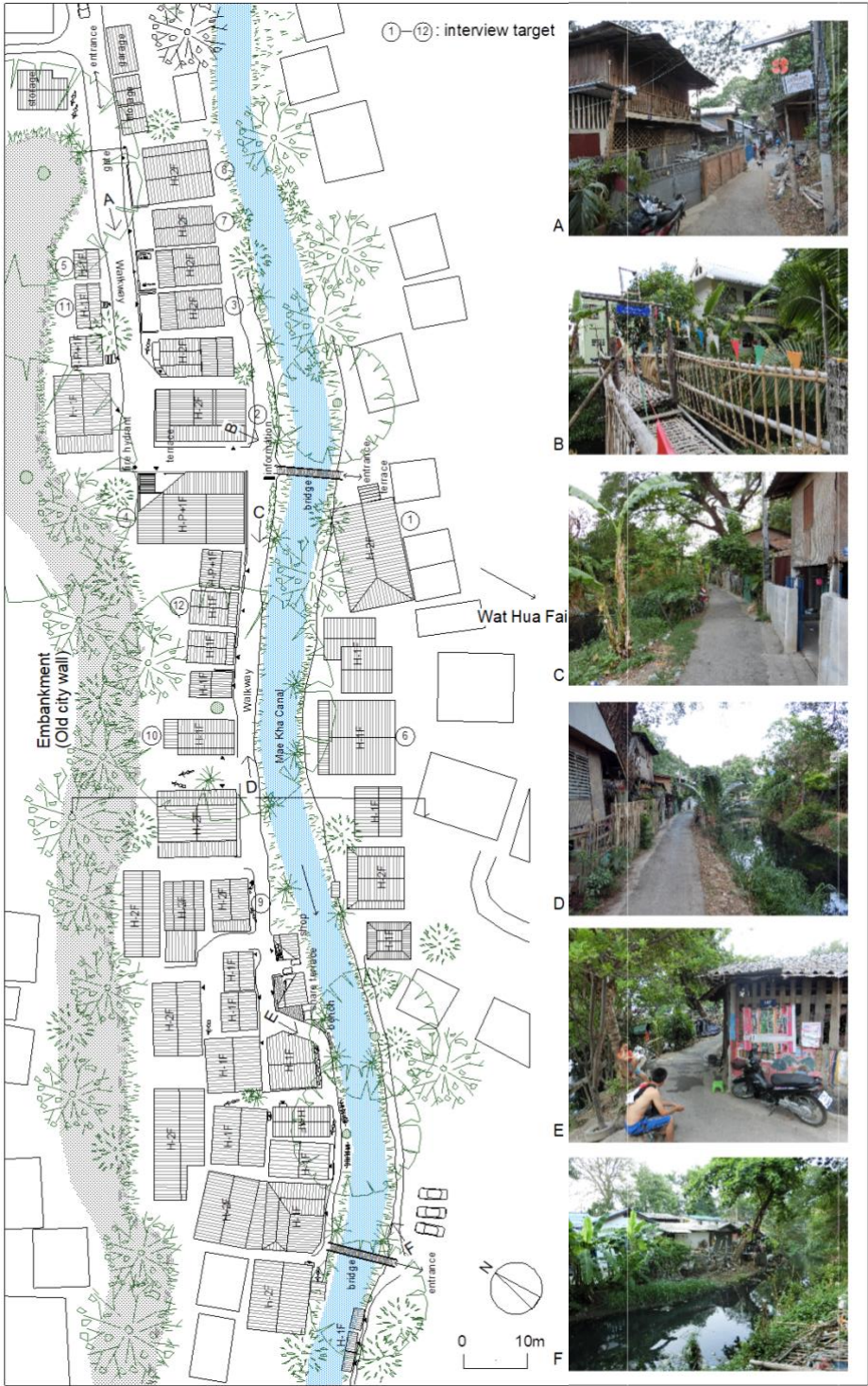


Figure 8. Spatial pattern of Hua Fai and Kampaeng Ngam communities

The communities were founded in 1967. Over the last 50 years, people from the rural area had come to settle along the canal. Many of them were hill tribes: Akha, Hmong, Mien and Lisu. The lifestyle of the dwellers who settled along the canal had ties to traditional culture, hence simple and dependent on nature which did not affect and cause further environmental problems. Originally, the whole community was called “Wat Hua Fai” but later changed and divided into two communities named “Hua Fai” and “Kampaeng Ngam” according to land right management by the responsible government agency. Therefore, some dwellers rent the houses from the Ching Mai Municipality Office, which the annual rent starts from just 2 baht per sqm, while some dwellers pay the rent to the other government offices. They also pay the cost of utilities, water, and electricity to the government. Most dwellers who work at home normally make handicraft souvenirs for selling at nearby Chiang Mai Night Bazaar. In general, their life pattern did not cause trouble for environmental problems, water, air, and noise pollution to the area.



Figure 9. Exchange facilities in the community:

Information board (left), Community office (middle) and House front terrace (right)

There are shared spaces inside the villages for dwellers to come to exchange. The main shared space is the verandah in front of the community office where dwellers, especially who work at home and elderly always come to meet and talk with the others. The community office is also a formal place for holding a meeting for community members and space for preparing festival, wedding ceremony or the funeral. The office also acts as a central unit to operate social welfare, subvention, and service from the government and outside organizations. Walkway spaces along the canal are also used as casual meeting places among community members. All households can access clean water supply and electricity as other urban areas of Chiang Mai, however, some households also use groundwater from artesian well at the same time. They do not use the Mae Kha canal water for any purpose at all because the water is heavily polluted, but they use spaces along the canal for service activities such as laundry and cooking and drain used water directly into the canal. Most dwellers hope that the responsible government offices should urgently solve the polluted water problem and improve the public facilities along the canal. Furthermore, they demanded the government dig or dredge the canal because water in Mae Kha Canal is shallow and static, so cannot drain the flood well during the rainy season. Simultaneously, dwellers have the campaign to hold Loy Krathong Festival (**release floating lanterns** on waterways) in the communities along the canal. In sum, almost all problems of the communities relate to the Mae Kha Canal.

In term of physical plan, Hua Fai and Kampaeng Ngam are the open communities, but the social system is close. All members in the communities know each other and they know who stranger is coming to the villages. This is also due to the linear structure of the communities running along the earthen wall and canal which controls the limited access ways to the villages and encourages people to meet each other along the pathways. At the same time, a lack of legitimate land rights also urges community members to uphold their good relationship to enhance bargaining power with the government who tries to find compromising solution for upgrading living security and standard of the communities, and improving physical environments, especially those of the earthen wall and canal, for public access and contemporary use.

In 2022 concrete walkways along both sides of the canal were built with underground sanitary sewer to receive wastewater from the communities, while canal banks were paved with hollow cement stepped blocks where vegetable and flower were planted into the hollow spaces. These new concrete facilities made Hua Fai and Kampaeng Ngam communities look tidier, cleaner and safer, and is easier to access by outsiders. Walkways along the canal not only provided a new access to the communities but also transformed back of the houses to be the front sides. Many houses changed their back spaces which used to be service areas of their houses facing directly to polluted canal to be shop spaces for selling foods, beverages, handicrafts, and souvenirs to the tourists who came to visit the communities by new walkways.



Figure 10. Transformation of the Spatial pattern and Landscape of Hua Fai and Kampaeng Ngam communities before and after improvement by Chiang Mai Municipality Office

At present, these squatter areas have been changed to be a new tourist attraction of Chiang Mai. It is famous among tourists as a Japanese-liked urban village because it is the image of canal town in Japan to some extent, while many newly opened shops use Japanese theme for their decorations and signboards. The advent of tourism gives inhabitants an opportunity to do business in their living places, and earns more income, while at the same time, the values of lands and houses in the communities go higher. This kind of situation made the land rights problem more difficult to solve, meanwhile other communities along the Mae Kha canal also asked Chiang Mai Municipality Office for the similar physical development wishing for equal business opportunity as Hua Fai and Kampaeng Ngam.

Conclusion

As an important waterway running through the City of Chiang Mai, transformation of the canal always affects the physical attributes of Chiang Mai. Thus, the canal is the main original urban element, but it has been polluted, and become an open drainage for a long time, while areas along the canal were illegally occupied by people from rural areas and other towns for building their houses. Their subsistence settlements have gradually developed to be canalside urban villages where people hardly have nothing to do with the canal at present. The intensive field studies at Hua Fai and Kampaeng Ngam communities revealed that piecemeal development plans and sectional implements yielded unsatisfied outcomes to the communities. Besides, the long existing housing and social problems will be more complicated due to the coming of business from outsiders and higher value on lands after improvement projects by the local governments are finished. To solve these multifaceted problems, centralized unit for coordinating work plans from various responsible agencies should be established, while long term comprehensive development plan should be considered and prepared to provide secure housing with legitimacy for villagers, and to promote public use of the earthen wall and the Mae Kha Canal in accordance with the demand from contemporary development of urban Chiang Mai.

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The effect of teaching methods of handling stress on changing bad stress to good one

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Azad University (North Branch)

Abstract

In the world of haste and waste, stress is an inherent part of humans' lives which can negatively as well as positively affect their being. Its importance and widespread influence have led it to become one of the hottest issues discussed among experts, scientists, and also people. Stress is a body reaction that can emerge so as to be a response to cognitive-intrinsic and environmental-extrinsic stimuli. The stimulus that triggers stress is called stressor. Further, the stressor can be simply a location, an image, a memory, a series of words, stories, movies, etc. One interesting point is that a person can handle these stressors and change the produced stress from having a negative effect to showing a positive one. That is why two terms are introduced; eustress, the positive stress which is created by skillfully and professionally handling of the stress which may improve one's life, and distress, the negative stress which can disrupt one's life and led him/her stray. Nowadays, everybody's life enjoys and suffers from eustress and distress. There are some methods which can change distress to eustress. This way, one has a new perspective of the situation which was previously stressful to him/her as it is not annoying anymore; so to speak, using these methods will make one strong in handling the bad moment and change it to a good one. This research sheds a light on how useful these methods are. To do so, a group of 50 persons were chosen and asked to fill in a 30-item questionnaire regarding their stressful situations. Then, their hidden stressors were found. Next, a one-month education including 18 hours of teaching were presented to them. After that they were again asked to fill in the same questionnaire. The results show that more than 80% of negative stresses had gone and feeling of confidence and self-satisfaction had been replaced

Utilizing Online Learning Tools By EFL Students At Jerash University

Prof. Yousef Aljaraideh
Prof. Ahmad Rabee
Jerash University

Abstract

The current study explores the utilizing online learning tools among EFL students of Jerash university. The sample of the study consisted of (130) students, using simple stratified random sampling from the department of English language and translation. A descriptive approach is adopted in this study. The results showed that English language students used virtual learning extensively. The results exposed that there are no statistically significant differences in the usage of online learning tools by EFL students at Jerash university specifically to the tested variables of gender and study year. The current study has recommended to policymakers at Jerash university that the online learning tools should be updated regularly.

Keywords: Utilizing, online learning platform, Jerash University.

Introduction

Recently, online learning plays a vital role in delivering knowledge, skills and competences for both public and higher education students. During Covid period, most of educational institutions around world shifted traditional to virtual learning considering it is the only solution permits students to continue education. In this case, instructors should be aware about how to integrate online learning tools in order to meet students' individual differences (Sari & Putri, 2022). Online learning spread dramatically since Corona pandemic. Since then, most of the educational institutions are still heavily depending on online learning as learning and teaching process. In fact, online learning implements various platforms to facilitate teaching process as well as to clear the ambiguity that faced learner. These tools include print, Webcam, and social media (Bates & Poole, 2003).

Relevant literature review reported that students were highly motivated to learn English language by using eLearning, and they realize the benefits of this kind of learning on their learning, they also understood English language in proper way (Ja'ashan, 2020). Moreover, a study was conducted on Taiwan indicated that students in higher education were satisfied with online learning when they learn English for foreign language due to many reasons like; convenience and ease to use (Sung & Yeh, 2012). Schmidt (2004) suggested certain steps to create meaningful learning. The first step assesses learning style that means learning should meet students' preference as well as how content subject matter is taught. Second step is to reconsider students' learning style since student learn in differently, like; visual, audio and interactive. So, teachers should take consideration into students' learning style to grasp their intention and to enhance their motivation. The final step is selecting appropriate online tools, teachers who tries to create successful online learning should be able to choose a powerful tool which can improve students' cognitive content.

Sari and Putri (2022) identified six main tools were heavily used by Indonesian students when using online leaning. They are; online learning systems, evaluation devices, chatting, integrating multimedia for delivering content such as video learning, crating content, and video conferencing types. Attractiveness, flexibility, accessibility and easy are considered the main elements to assure the successful integration of online learning from teachers' point of view. Tanjung & Utomo (2021) conducted study to identify students' perception on online learning in higher education. The results revealed that students are familiar with using electronic resources and social media, so the learning effectiveness is strongly depended on the familiarity with the tools. The results also showed that improve online learning system could boost students' involvement in educational activities and instructional tasks.

Research Question

What is the degree of utilizing online learning tools among EFL students at Jerash University?

Are there any significant differences in the degree of utilizing online learning tools among EFL students at Jerash university based on gender and learning year variables?

Problem statement

Jerash University has taken important steps in integrating online learning in delivering educational content to their students. Online learning tools like; learning manage system, social media and certain application were implemented to face the rapid development in educational sector as well as to overcome the unexceptional situations occurred due to corona virus. Dealing with new innovations need special knowledge and skills, also students and teachers should change their attitudes, views, and perceptions toward new technologies. Previous studies indicate that there are many challenges in integrating electronic resources in teaching learning process (Aljaraideh,2014). Therefore, current study

comes to explore the utilization of online learning tools by EFL students at Jerash University.

Research Methodology

Descriptive approach was used in this study to explore the relationship between dependent variable and independent variables. Mean, standard deviation, t-test and One-Way-ANOVA were implemented to analyze the data of current study.

Sample of the study

The sample of the study consisted of (130) female and male students who are currently pursuing different studying year in degree program in department of English language, faculty of Art at Jerash university 2021-2022. They were chosen by using simple stratified sampling method.

Instrument

The questionnaire was developed based on related literature review and previous studies. It consisted of two sections. First section includes respondents' personal information; the second section consists of (20) items which measure the utilization of online learning tools among EFL students at Jerash University. Fifth likert scale was applied (1: strongly disagree, 2: disagree, 3: neutral, 4: agree, 5: strongly agree).

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Result related to the first question: What is the degree of utilizing online learning tools among EFL students at Jerash University?

Table (1): Means and standard deviations of the degree of utilizing online learning tools by EFL students at Jerash University

Rank	N	Item	Mean	Std. Deviation
1	2	I use zoom to watch the missed lectures	4.23	.906
2	8	I sign in to content, task and assignment in easy way	4.21	.807
3	7	I use online learning tools to contact my lecturer at any time and any place (flexibility)	4.20	.860
4	6	I use social media to contact my friends concerning teaching contents	4.17	.840
5	18	I obtain my grades and scores trough learning management system	4.17	.849
6	11	Using online learning tools improve my technological skills	4.14	.882
7	4	I use online learning to make presentation	4.04	.842
8	9	Integrating social media for educational purposes suits me	4.04	.905
9	17	I register, add and drop course through online management system	4.03	.800
10	3	I use zoom to exchange my views with both of my friends and lecturer	4.02	.939
11	14	Diversity in using online learning tools help me to maintain knowledge	4.02	.857
12	15	Using online learning tools provide me with the instant feedbacks	4.00	.810
13	5	I integrate web cam, mic and smart devices to perceive the content of subject matter taught	3.97	.874
14	1	I use zoom to submit my assignments	3.95	.991
15	13	Using online learning tools improve my self confidence	3.95	.946
16	10	Using online learning tools improve my English language	3.94	.950
17	16	I do my exams trough online learning management system	3.94	.950
18	19	My academic achievement increases through using online learning tools	3.94	1.081
19	12	Using online learning tools enhance my participation in classroom activities	3.93	.978
20	20	I am familiar with online learning tools compared to conventional methods	3.91	1.016
		All items	4.04	.626

Table (1) shows that Item 2 "I use zoom to watch the missed lectures" scored the highest mean (4.23), while item 20 "I am familiar with online learning tools compared to conventional methods" ranked the least with mean (3.91). This table also shows that the mean of the degree of utilizing online learning tools by EFL students at Jerash University as a whole is (4.04). The results indicated that overall students use online learning tools overwhelmingly, because of all educational institutions around the world have shifted from conventional into online learning. Moreover, social media, software and application were also developed and activated in teaching and learning process specially in the higher learning institutions.

Results related to the second question: Are there any significant differences in the degree of utilizing online learning tools among EFL students at Jerash university based on gender and learning year variables?

Table (2): Tow-way-ANOVA Results of the degree of utilizing online learning tools by EFL students at Jerash university due to gender and learning year variables

Source	Type III Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Gender	.053	1	.053	.135	.714
Studying year	1.633	3	.544	1.394	.248
Error	48.424	124	.391		
TCorrected Total	50.092	128			

Table (2) shows that: The results indicated no statistically significant effect on the gender and virtual learning ($F = 0.135$, $p = 0.714$) Since the significant value was greater than 0.05. Also, the results indicated that there is no statistically significant effect on the studying year and virtual learning ($F = 1.394$, $p = 0.248$), Since the significant value was greater than 0.05. This is due to both Genders from different studying year need to use online learning tools because it becomes compulsory in some course since it is a new learning experience for them.

Recommendation

In light of results of the study the researchers recommended that

Update online learning tools regularly by policymakers at Jerash university.

Improve technological skills for booth students and lecturers.

Conduct new studies about online learning using qusai experimental approach.

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