Thai Local Wisdom Related to Pandanus Leaf Mats and Pillows in Bangtoei, Sampran, Nakhonpathom

by

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Nakhonchaisri River:

The way of farming and the river communities



Nakhonchaisri River:

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Bangtoei, Sampran, Nakhonpathom is located along the Nakhonchaisri River. Nakhonchaisri River is The way of farming and the river communities.





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Along the riverside, there are a lot of pandanus.







Now, the life style of the people is changing from rural to urban.











Some people in Bangtoei have retained pandanus weaving skills but few continue to practice them as an economic viability because of the time and difficulty associated with collecting the pandanus, changing to commercial work.











The local wisdom related to pandanus leaf mat and pillow weaving indicates the way of life, social capital, cultural capital and the rich natural resources of the people in this region.











Pandanus

- **❖** The pandanus has the scientific name Pandanus *Kaida Kurz*.
- **❖It can be grown as an ornamental plant or fence line or for a wind break.**
- **❖It** can be used as a medicine for gonorrhea and kidney stones.
- **❖**Pandanus fruit can be eaten.
- **❖**Traditionally it is used for weaving and handicraft products.







The pandanus leaves used for weaving





Weaving pandanus leaf mats at home



Mrs. Pathum Kunawiwat







Weaving pandanus leaf pillows at home

Miss Warunee Saebu









They hope the young generation can inherit this local wisdom and know the value of this local wisdom so it can be preserved for the future.



Bangtoei Elderly Club: preserving local wisdom

The Chairman of the Bangtoei Elderly Club has made efforts to preserve this local wisdom. He supports some of the budget to encourage this wisdom by seeking out new markets for pandanus products produced by members of the Elderly Club.



Donwai School: pandanus leaf mats and pillows in the local curriculum



Wat Donwai school is the only school in the area that has been teaching the wisdom of pandanus leaf weaving as a subject for Thai students in Matayom Suksa III.







A student from Wat Donwai school



All local people and government agencies should make determined efforts to preserve this wisdom because the local wisdom of each area creates the foundation for local capital. This can then be used to fund local and national development.



Conclusion

Sleeping on pandanus leaf mats and pillows: still have sweet dreams



