Design Conceptual and Analysis of Tie and Knot Techniques in Product, Furniture and Decorative Art*

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Abstract

What factors retain the knotting and tie local craft heritage and valuable in daily life and economic benefit? The fishermen's lifestyles focused on the interest of living with muddy slopes along the seaside area. Such traditional skills and techniques of tying the rope with various knots to the bamboo trunk, which can absorb and withstand the natural wind and wave force, is a method preserved to create a catcher. Therefore, the decoding of ancestry wisdom and common routine practices, to combination of procedure techniques, and suitable materials, would require to create a contemporary craft design with sustainable products worthy of higher quality for future development. Since, handicraft variation in various regions is scattered with specific quality and market needs, the producer must develop to support the commercial growth and success for pertaining cultural preservation as well as responsibility for the environment. This research intended to develop contemporary art and design perception and value from a tie and knotting with an appropriate material such as bamboo ligament. The objectives have committed to investigating the original Knotting history and process. This paper used the Practice Led Research approach as the primary method for this dissertation with mixed research objectives. This research provided the method and process of used tie and knotting to create creative decoration furniture by divided into four phases: exploration, inspiration and ideate, implementation, and delivery. To clarify the relationship between handicrafts to contemporary designs and created the new design process model. This paper also demonstrates how to shifted local handicraft to contemporary designs. To sum up, this research will increase handicrafts in the local Thai community and preserve the Thai local.

Keywords: Tie; Knot; Hitch; Furniture; Handicraft

Introduction

The fishermen's lifestyles focused on the interest of living with muddy slopes along the seaside area. Such traditional skills and techniques of tying the rope with various knots to the bamboo trunk, which can absorb and withstand the natural wind and wave force, is a

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method preserved to create a catcher. As a daily routine by bringing food in the household, a learning culture combined with practices as if the crafts become a natural seasonal translation resulted in memories, records, adapting, applying methods, making different ways, and adapting as a tool designed to sustain a living. From living nature Come to life by producing four factors for sustenance Human beings, therefore, create "Crafts" (Crafts, Handicrafts) as a means of living (Kongkhunthian, 2020) . Toolmaking utensils are aligned with the notion of the catch. Using the terms for making sea life catchers, building shelter, fishing boat tether, making utensils for drying fish for storage or for preserving food. Moreover, making wreaths and bindings to make beliefs, medicine and faith until every four requisites is fulfilled (Kongkhunthian, 2020) .

From the direct experience in kite structure and tying technique, the Jula and Pukpoung kite artistry, became the choice of using simple knot and materials based on bamboo and rope. These two selected materials lead to further analysis in woven crafts, seaman netting, agricultural tools, as well as furniture. All mentioned hold an explorative possibility from the indigenous level to the development where the researcher demonstrated the methods and providing the materials categorization idea to the use of product reflecting the setting and the level of water. However, the way of employing bamboo for weaving basket and art pieces, must reconnect, described as the material choice, represent the valid structure when woven, bamboo is now targeted as wonder materials, with multiple purpose used by local in various manners of which comprised of different fiber structure and numerous characteristics. Not that bamboo becomes less effective in the design industry, but the core of its quality lies within the keen use of the fiber, thickness selection, where the spinning technique by the local will eventually reveal the bamboo true nature of its benefits.

Seaman's way of life pertains an interesting factor to be considered. The notion of life by the seaside, closed to sill and mud clay, bamboo shoot stock absorbing the harsh wind and ocean wave, thus methods in tying various rope fastened with selective bamboo stem for fish trap and netting that brought food upon household. As human continues this daily routine, cultural knowledge occurs along with the nature cycle of climate change that generate memory, records, and apply the ways of adaptive survival to make a living. "As human changes the way to live, rely on nature that alter to living with 4 life Factors, man then created arts Crafts, Handicrafts) as tools to make a living (Candy, 2006a). Seaman's life will pertain the relationship with rope tying, tool making, and ocean's life equipment by using various knots for such objects, for habitat construction, boat chain connector, fishing equipment, racks for drying fish, or preserving the cooked food, as well as woven talisman, medical case and spiritual beliefs until all 4-life factor is completed.

In addition, Wiboon mentioned that wicker technique is considered a local wisdom deemed for importance for living sustainment for people. In supportive way of life and moral value from the existing aesthetic, the articulate practices and the notion of indigenous

connection that would bring the pride to the broader spectrum and capability to extend career for further achievement (Leesuwan, 2015).

To provide a context of Thai craft and folk arts, wisdom of knots and tie also to clarify the relationship between handicrafts to contemporary designs. This research goal needs an appropriate design process to demonstrate the value of wisdom from ancestors and step by step manufacturing processes until it can be passed on to knowledge that the future generations can apply in contemporary design. In addition, how to preserve traditional crafts? Form the research problems the main approach for crafts conservation it can be possible in two ways together.

Firstly, served to maintain knowledge with the understanding of the importance of keeping knowledge as self-worth regardless of the immediate benefits that can arise, for example, this approach has been applied in a manner worth mentioning in Japan. The government recognizes the historical value of activities such as drama, music, techniques, crafts, which guarantees protection and legal preservation. Artists and craftsmen with unique skills are recognized as They are "living national treasures" and receive annual compensation in order to continue managing their crafts and to train their successors and pass on the legacy. In addition, the state conducts workshops to ensure knowledge transfer between generations. Which is in the same style as Thailand.

Secondly, using traditional crafts to gain profit and to preserve the local craftsmanship. In this case, crafts are made for trade or tourism. This approach is applied in many places around the world t is clear that handling crafts for commercial purposes is often taken as a starting point, from the very beginning to the market demand. And draws on traditional social and cultural contexts as well as traditional qualities expressed in the form of design symbolic colors and more. Under this situation it is very difficult to maintain the validity of conventional wisdom. Although it is reasonable to keep the traditional way of working. In other words, even if the final product loses its traditional properties. But the manufacturing method may be similar to that of a traditional product. This claim is not true in all cases and raises the question of whether are " some similarities in manufacturing methods" enough to constitute a preservation of craftsmanship?

A preservation point of view gives importance to the conservation or innovation of traditional handicrafts for cultural values. In contrast, a commercial view emphasizes the adoption of traditional handicrafts for better production capacities for better economic sustainability. Unfortunately, these contradictory viewpoints appear to hinder sustainable development of the entire sector. Besides, both methods share a common problem, which is an unsteady demand for handicraft products

Therefore, the decoding of ancestry wisdom and common routine practices, to combination of procedure techniques, and suitable materials, would require to create a contemporary craft design with sustainable products worthy of higher quality for future

development. Since, handicraft variation in various regions is scattered with specific quality and market needs, the producer must develop to support the commercial growth and success for pertaining cultural preservation as well as responsibility for the environment.

Objectives of the Research

1. To investigate the original Knotting history and process including the related material for knotting such as bamboo, rope and paper.

2. To determine the Knotting techniques integrated with materials from Thai kite works, fishing nets, basketry handicrafts and furniture.

3. To construct the new design perception of creative decorations and design art from knotting techniques.

Research Methodology

The use of Practice Led Research approach as the primary method conducted for this dissertation with mixed research objectives. As Candy mentioned in Practice Led Research Practice-led Research is concerned with the nature of practice and leads to new knowledge with operational significance. The main focus of the research is to advance knowledge about practice or to advance knowledge within practice. In a doctoral thesis, the results of practice-led research may be fully described in text form without creating a creative outcome. Such research includes practise as an integral part of its method and often falls within the general area of action research. The doctoral theses that emerge from this type of practice related research are not the same as those that include artefacts and works as part of the submission (Candy, 2006).

Preecha Taothong, a national artist, also mentions that Practice-led and Practice-Based Research are defined as creative work by providing practice as a tool to lead to new knowledge in the field. That is expressed by the uniqueness of the creative design work or the development of knowledge in creative performance in a particular field. (Thaothong, P, 2011)..

This research design process of this research can be divided into 4 major stages: Exploration, Inspiration & Ideate, Implementation and Delivery respectively.

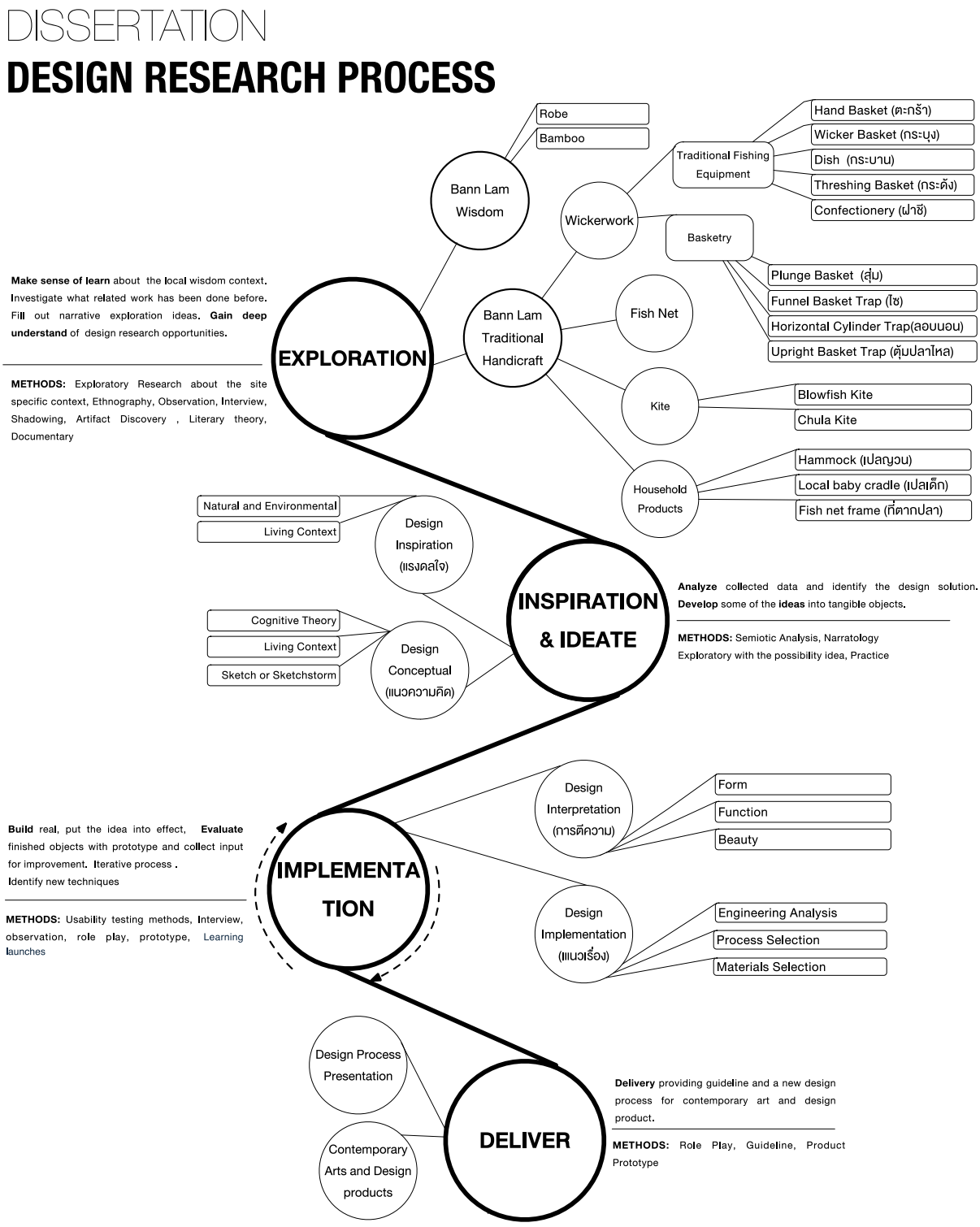


Figure 1 Dissertation Design research Process

To tackle the real research problem and figure out the feasibility of the design approach, the researcher begins the design process from Exploration, whose objective is to rationalize learning of the local wisdom context through investigation on what related pieces of work have been done before. This contributes to fill out of narrative exploration ideas and gain a deep understanding of design research opportunities. The methods that are used in this

stage include exploratory research through the site-specific context, ethnography, observation, interview, shadowing, artifact discovery, literary theory, documentary. To sum up, the exploration stage aims to develop concepts more clearly, establishes priorities, develops operational definitions, and improves the final research design. Moreover, there is a need to study new phenomena or situations. Exploration is often, however, given less attention than it deserves.

Research Result

The design approach has to be ensured that the approach is contemporary, modern, and easily applicable for daily usage. In addition, it can be used for the area exhibition or symbolic work to create memories of the previous time that is still usable in the modern context. Therefore, bundling approach can be extended and differentiated from conventional way of home decoration. This includes self-doing or instructing handymen to build or adjust their techniques to create jobs in the community or academic purposes.

Using of skills, techniques, and methods that belong to communities, researcher utilized these techniques for creation and ideation of work, especially for product design and decoration. This has been done by the concept from nature and surrounding to create bundling technique to create shapes and forms. This is bundling and knotting are actually basic steps for community productions when leveraged the pieces of work can be used for decoration and for living in the modern societies. This can be used and the handcraft that gives different experiences.

Based on such creation approach, application of this can be utilized in societies and installed for the for use in the real areas. From the process that research worked to create products, researcher came up with opinions and feedbacks that can be used as the guidelines, such as; preparation of materials, production, and planning for logistics, edition, completion, travel to sites, and onsite installation. These processes contribute to the completion of work pieces with the considerations of surrounding communities to provide moderate illumination. The result can be summarized as table below.

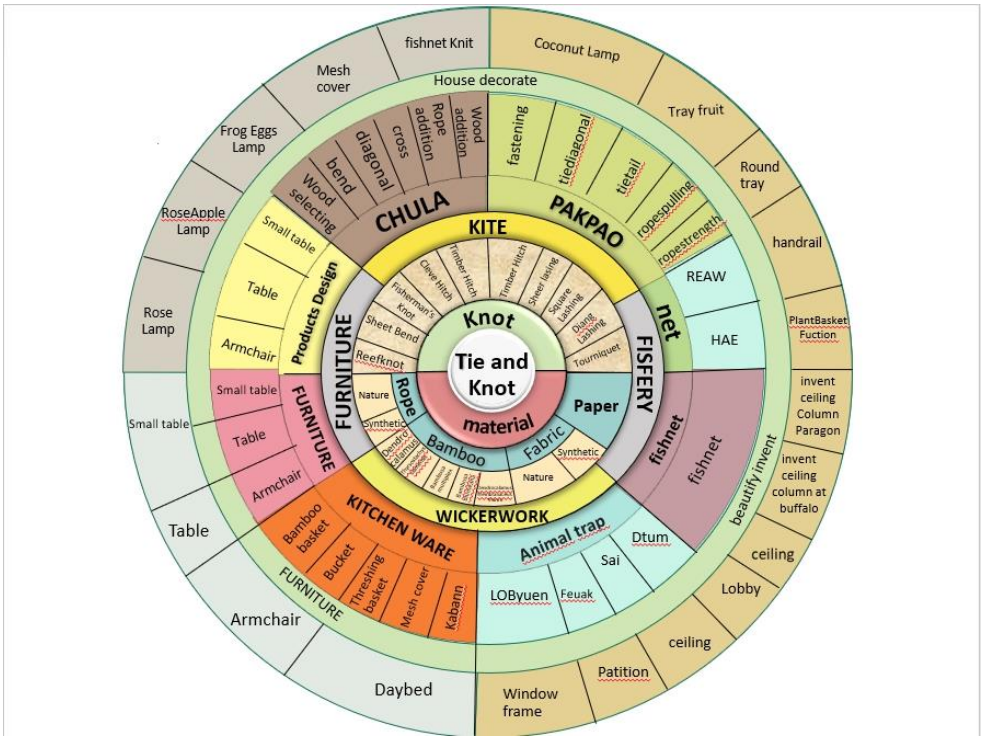


Figure 2 Dissertation Design research Process

In this journal, the author presents some research findings and designs from the thesis from a total of 3 groups by selecting one work per group, a total of 3 designs from a total of 16 pieces.

1) Art Object: Fruit tray TR001

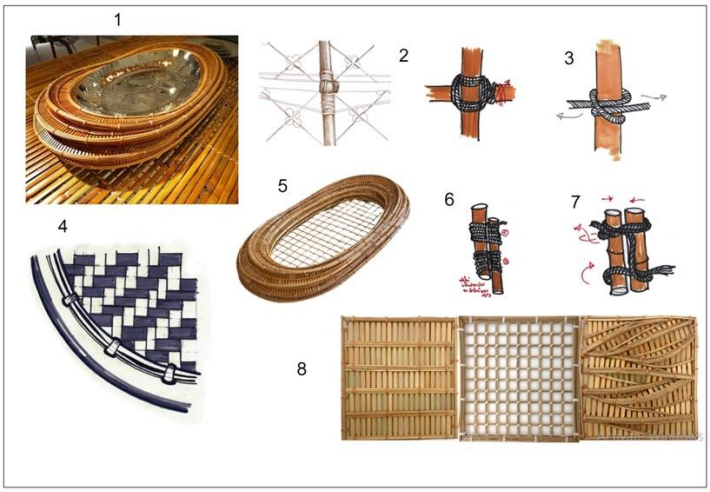


Figure 3 Stadium Stade de France and fruit tray

Concept of this creation of the fruit tray number 1 was inspired by playing football. Researcher saw the dented football, therefore, utilized the shape to create fruit tray as well as see the stadium from foreign country so developing the fruit tray that was done by smashing with stainless hammer. Mixture of stuffs creates new dimension for decoration. The edge of the fruit tray was completed with basketry technique, bundling, knotting and connecting with the line of wood making it an oral shape.

2) Furniture: Day Bed



Figure 4 Day Bed: Concept Comparing

Concept for the creation of this product “ Daybed Sapata No. 1” was inspired by the making of sparrow nest to create structure, frame, and the utilization of spacing to make a semi-function of daybed that uses for relaxation and nap for domestic purpose. This can help create relaxation atmosphere and art piece that can be used with characteristics. The use of the nest shape can serve in number of purposes.

3) Decorative Art: Wall Decoration

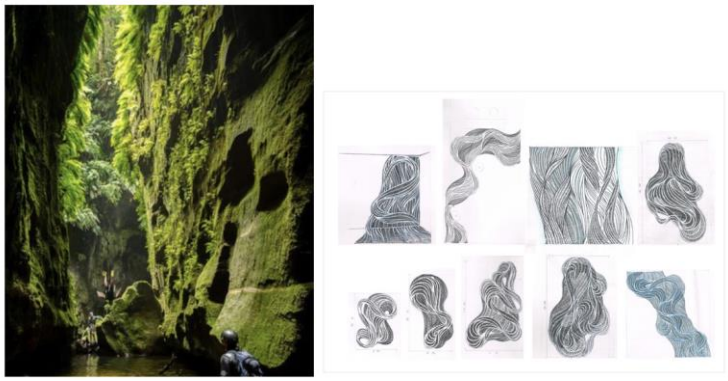


Figure 5 Wall Decoration: concept idea

Bundling can be applied to relate to wall or ceiling artworks or the decoration pattern in the hall or with the pillar that gives feeling of space as followings;



Figure 6 Project progress andInstallation of work



Figure 7 Installation phase

Concept in developing of this product- wall decoration was inspired by plant type that covers cliff, cave wall, ivy in the jungle. The creation of the work shows complexity with the bamboo work to create beauty and character for the hotels or resorts of this decoration.

The New Body of Knowledge

Korakot Eclectic Model is the summary of the knowledge that I can deduct from this PhD thesis. It is the finding that we should not attach to the past but rather learning and understanding the knowledge of that time and the way they perceived. The development of Local Traditional Handicraft that resulted in Modern Contemporary Product Design requires the basic understanding of aesthetics and history of arts combined with comprehension of nature and its context.

Eclectic believes that we should not be attached to any sets of ideas or knowledge for designing. The work of this thesis has mixed the remaining thoughts in the past. The study of the past is not attaching with the past but understand the way they saw world at that time.

Korakot Eclectic Model is the concept that we do not attach with style or fashion of particular timing. The behind conception of this is based on the design that takes different features of things, natures and surrounding contexts and patterns for decorations with shaping, color, composition to come up with the prospects to create beauty and suitability focusing on mixing and matching.

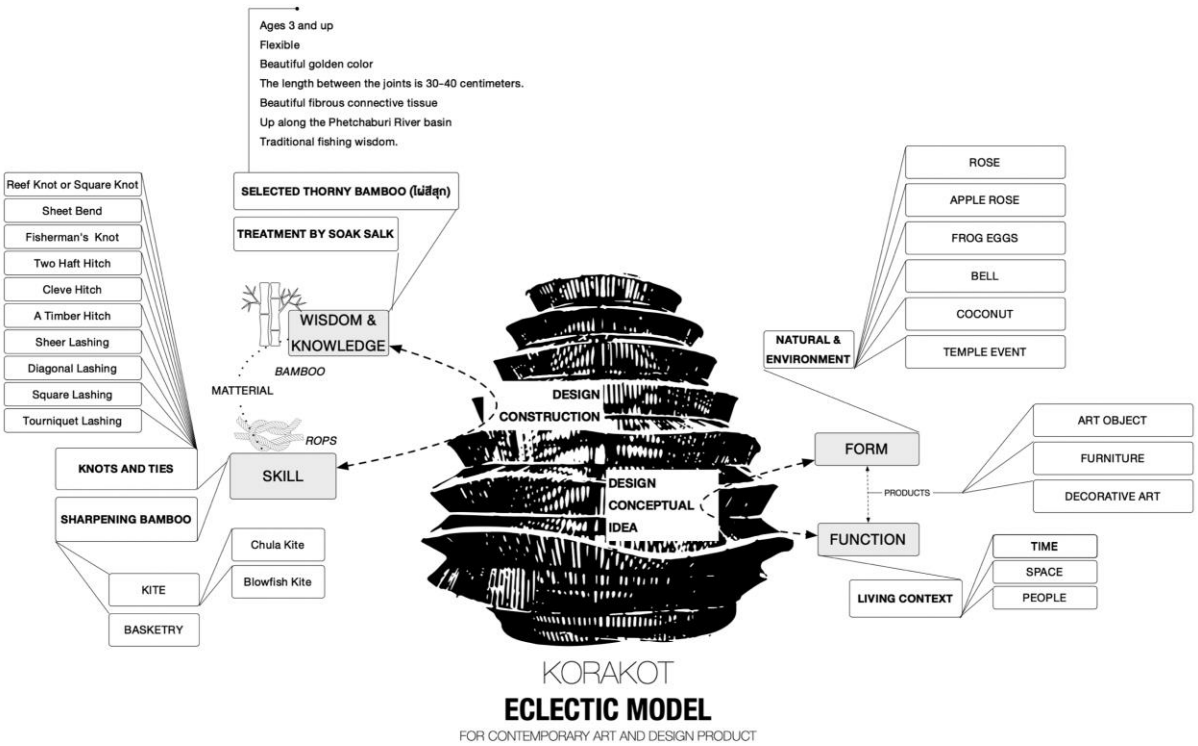


Figure 8 Korakot Eclectic Model

The Discussion of the Research

Benefits of utilizing of local skills is that constructors can easily talk to the handymen easily with symbol. With the large open area and space, the area can be used for many activities, camping, restaurants, tourist spots, to stop deforestation in the mangrove forest. This will also protect aquatic animals' nursery in the area.

Visitors to this area will have opportunity to consume fresh seafood. Fishermen boat with this style is good and very close to nature.

Working with local techniques indicates local wisdom that was repeatedly experimented time to time for bunting.

Fishery tools and kites are foundation in creating of bamboo work of researcher that later became 'KORAKOT' brand of the researcher. Number of world-class masterpieces like Hermes, Louis Vuitton that was used for restaurants, hotel, resort all around the work decoration were inspired by the work pieces of local fishery and were exhibited in Maison and Object in France, one of the biggest design exhibitions worldwide.

Inspiration from local handicraft has made researcher to create bamboo work that has interesting characteristic from knowledge, wisdom, and understanding of material.

In addition, this research also created jobs for the community by bringing the children of fishers to Bann Lam to absorb in the ancestor's fishing net tying method, tying, tying in the blood of all fishermen. When people in the community come to work together, they can see their grandparents since childhood, so they can adapt to the technique very quickly, resulting in income generation and occupation that helps preserve the old-time assets.

This research has indicated the linkage background of the invention of fishing tools of the local Bann Lam villagers that are linked with the community. The local fishery work in Bann Lam is connected with the local business of production of hemp rope in Bang Khun Srai that is used for the production of fishing tools, and the bamboo is used to create pontoon that comes from Kan Krachan district, Non Ya Pong in the area of the mountain range of Tranow Sri. The bamboo sellers will create the pontoon with bamboo to the end of the Petch river and buy the seafood on the way back. The takeaway from this is that the economic activities can well narrate the living in history in an exciting manner.

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