

Somkiat Untow. 2006. **An Application of Local Wisdom for Community Forest Conservation by Banfang People, Kranuan District, Khon Kaen Province.** Master of Education

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this research was to study the local wisdom use of Banphang People at Kranuan District, Khon Kaen University in community forest conservation. The sample were 30 people who used local wisdom in community forest conservation. The instrument was structured and unstructured interview, participant and non-participant observations. "Local Wisdom Use of Banphang People at Kranuan District, Khon Kaen Province in community forest conservation. For data collection, the researcher entered the area to collect data be himself in individual interview. Data were analyzed by using frequency distribution, categorization, percentage, and presenting in an essay from.

The research findings found that:

1. For the tradition, culture, belief, and religion aspect, found that the people believed that the big trees had spirit inside or guardian spirit to take care of trees. As a result, the people dared not cut the trees in community forest. If it is necessary to cut, there would be ritual of apologize every time both in the former time, recent time, and in the future time. There was determination of forgiven area in order to take care, maintain, and conserve of the community forest. There were temples locating in community forest. So, the monks, novice, churchman, churchwoman, helped in taking care for preventing someone from destroying community forest for use in the present time and future trend.

2. For language and literature aspect, found that there were legends or stories regarding people who cut the trees in community forest and died later. Therefore, people dared not violate the community forest. There were wise-men as a strategy in telling tales of guardian spirit. People dared not cut the trees in community forest in the present and future trend. There was a compose of Sorapanya poetry with content of promoting people's awareness of value of community forest and permanent use of community forest. There was a competition of an essay writing for creation, prevention, conservation, permanent use, and replacement of forest growing, fertile community forest, for use in the present and future trend.

3. For the art and archeology aspect, found that the community forest was cemetery area. People were afraid of spirit. So, they dared not cut the trees. The forest still be existed in the past, present, and future trend. There was a drawing contest of community forest conservation by school, Sub-district Administration Organization, various community organizations, to prevent and conserve the community forest. There was a planning for community together of local wise-men and people to determine the clear area of community forest and make community forest still exist. There were architecture as temple and other kinds of buildings with cement or other kinds of artificial substance replacing using of wood. So, there was a reduction of violation of community forest in the present and future trend.

4. For the playing, recreation, and music aspect, found that there were dancing, singing, in addition to folk music in the ceremony of grandparent respect which was persuading people to be interested in good tradition of maintenance of community forest. There was tradition of playing of Boon-bung-fire to ask for rain as punctual and moisture for rice in the field and community forest in the past, present, and future trend. There was singing as Moo-lam with the content of creativity, prevention, conservation, permanent use, and forest growing for replacement and application in real practice of community forest. There were learning resources of plant species and recreational places in community forest. So, people paid an importance to community forest conservation in the present and future trend.

5. For the way of life, living condition, and disciplinary aspect, found that there were uses of other kinds of replaced plants for house building such as clay, cement, and other kinds of artificial substance. So, the trees in community forest were maintained as the former condition. There was an arrangement of the path for preventing forest fire by using local wisdom such as soil path, sweeping and burning the dried leaves in order to be the path of fire forest prevention. There was searching for technique of decreasing the use of fuel from leaves or the use of fuel with the most economical. There were using of other kinds of fuel for replacement of the fuel from leaves. There was a shared opinion in community forest conservation by local wise-men. People participated in presenting their own wisdom in creativity, prevention, conservation, and growing forest for replacement, for permanent use. There was good management of community forest. The community forest could be used. But, there should be growing for replacement with sufficient amount of number. There was the use of new disciplinary such as growing young plant, expansion of plant species, growing forest for replacement for the use in community forest in the present and future trend.