Natural Dyeing Techniques of the Local Weaving Groups in Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand

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Abstract- The study is aimed at investigating natural dyeing techniques of the 20 local weaving groups in Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand, using an in-depth interview and dyeing demonstration of each group. Each of the demonstration is then video taping for further detail analysis. The results found that knowledge on natural dyeing techniques derived from 3 sources; their family members and other members of the groups, training arranged by NGO or community development officers, and from their own invention and experimentation. Most of techniques used for natural dying of the yarn are similar but vary in some details, depending on the person’s knowledge and experiences. The majority of them prefer thermal dye rather than cold dye, especially the products which will be sold to the market. The yarn will be cleaned before boil with tree barks or leaves, fruits and seeds, for 1-3 hours then wash up and dry. In order to strengthen the yarn, water from over night soaked rice or boil rice will be used to soak the yarn. Some will boil tree barks in a rusty bucket or use water from soaked rusty nails to alter the color. Other might let the dyed yarn soaked in muddy water to alter darker color and soften the yarn or put Kaempferia galanga Linn. for fragrant. The intended contributions of the paper to knowledge and practice in the field of Sociology and Social Science.

Keywords- Natural dye techniques, Ubon Ratchathani

Remark: The full paper may be found in www.inrit2011.com or www.ijcim.th.org.