

The Phum Riang Textile

Surat Thani Province



Phum Riang textiles are the fabric that is hardest to be woven. Its pattern is very detail that cannot use the weaving machine and therefore, requires a hand-woven. Although hand-woven is time-consuming but more beautiful and is more natural. The weaver will insert silver and gold thread into the silk stands and by insert spindle vertically and by doing so, create the pattern. The weaver must count the thread while weaving, this technique will create a clear pattern in the product, the more harnesses the work has, the bigger the pattern will be. Each set of pattern needs specific numbers of harnesses, depending on the pattern.

The origin of the Phum Riang Textile

The weaving of Phum Riang silk is a local craft from the Thai Muslim in southern part of Thailand specifically from Baan Hualane, Moo 2 near Phum Riang canal, Phum Riang sub-district, Chaiya district, Surat Thani. The fabric is inherited for so many generations and are very well accepted that the Phum Riang textile is beautiful and feature different from other regions in the brocaded motif woven with silk and metallic threads. The famous patterns are: the Na Nang (with Pleated folding in the front) Brocaded textile, the Dok Thom Keson (Flowers with pollen) Brocaded textile and the Yok Dok Lai Choeng (Floral design at the hemline) Brocaded textile, etc.

Thai Muslims in the district Phum Riang today partly descended from Hua Kao Dang Muslim in Songkhla and was the Malays that migrated from Indonesia. Some are descendants of immigrants of Sai Buri and Pattani Muslim that migrated to Phum Riang district in the early period. This created a racial and cultural mix with the native Thais. However, most of them still retain their original identity especially the silk woven with silver and gold threads. This is different from the Thai fabric at that period and these things are passed on to their Muslims descendant today.

Fabrics that were woven at that time included cotton and silk. They can be divided into daily life fabric and the fabric that use in a certain ceremonies. The daily life fabrics were made in numbers and most of them using cotton for its durability whether it will be woven into blanket, corduroy and loincloth.

Fabrics used in ceremonies will be woven by silk or cotton. The beautiful flower pattern will be used in special ceremony such as wedding and other sacred event. In the beginning, this type of fabric was only made to order because it is reserves to only royalty or senior officer. However, when the time passed, the ordinary people can use it in special event such as wedding ceremony or other religious event. The reasons that this kind of fabric normally woven at the house of governor or village chief are probably because the immigrant were originally work for these senior officer and therefore woven the fabric there. This makes the Phum Riang silk not very popular in the early days even though it is one of the export fabric of early Ratanakosin era.

The art and intellectual of Phum Riang Textile

Phum Riang is considered to be traditional art which that descend through generations. The fact that it located in a port city that connect to other land create the exchange of woven knowledge and mix that with the traditional knowledge to create Phum Riang own style. More over, the life style of Phum Riang people is a man will look after his family through fishery while woman will stay at home to woven until this very day.

The teaching of the woven technique of Buddhist Thai and Muslim Thai are done by observation and practice. A girl will start her woven since early ages with the help of an adult. The techniques of weaving, dyeing and others are not recorded through written mean but by the memory of expert weaver. This is the practice that preserves the art of weaving to date.

The importance of the Phum Riang Textile in Folk Culture

Traditions and beliefs of weaving for the people of Phum Riang are Muslim woman is to be hitched to prepare the necessary clothes both male and female for use in everyday life and is something that Muslim women must make to her husband.

It believes that all Muslim women must responsible for her husband clothing, if any women failed to do so will considered to be seriously neglected of her duty as a wife. Therefore, this believes make the Muslims women an expert of woven until today. In the old day, the daily life fabric will use both silk and cotton to create corduroy, blanket and others. However, the fabric that will be used in formal ceremonies is silk with a beautiful pattern to stimulate the important of local fabric and this will promote the reputation of the fabric and increase the income of the people in southern part of Thailand.

There is no belief behind the pattern of the Phum Riang textile. Because most local people are Muslim and their belief is Allah provide everything not other kind of superstition belief. In addition to the weaving patterns Phum Riang as mentioned above. There also have applied Phum Riang silk production to other kind of fabric such batik and embroidery.

The silk woven of Phum Riang has a continued development until the beginning of Ratanakosin era. Phum Riang women have woven a number of fabrics and will sell the surplus product into the market. For the gold and purple silk, it is made to order from the governor house. In B.E. 2472, Phum Riang woven industry were greatly effect by the world war two because the rise of raw material price. Moreover, the fabric that made by machine are coming into the market and that make the Buddhist Thai women stop woven and only Muslims lady continued the tradition.

The Functions of the Phum Rieng Textile

Woven at that time are the cloth in routine and festivity and ceremony which the most cloth in routine use the cotton for durability. For the cotton in ceremony will woven with silk or the cotton blend with silk. It has a beautiful pattern of flowers. Dressed for festival, religious ceremony and wedding. And gift for the royalty.

The Source Production of the Phum Rieng Textile

Phum Rieng fabrics. Fabric with raised or brocaded patterns are beautiful and unique from other region brocaded textile in the way that they use silver and gold thread in their weaving too. In ancient times, cotton and silk are used for raw material. The functional use of the textile can be divided into the fabric used in everyday life; woven with cotton and in various ceremonies; woven with silk. Dyeing are made with raw materials from nature.



But today's textile district Phum Rieng, are made from silk: Thai, Chinese or Japanese or Gold Metallic Silver Metallic acquired by the acquisition and the ready dyed material from a store in Bangkok or from Lamae, district in Chumphon Province. Chemical dyes are used and the Kratuk loom. Most of the weavers are hired from the merchants and receive payment by wage. Only other portions of the textile weavers are doing business on their own.

The business on selling Phum Rieng textile are scattered in many stores, some are only small shops, some are quite big with a factory inset. They are settled on the two sides of the main street in Phum Rieng, both retail and wholesale. Good time for the business is between October and March due to the wedding season and the New Year. Phum Rieng Silk is ordered to sell in Bangkok, Hat Yai and Singapore. Some have in their collection, the ancient objects from Srivijaya period.

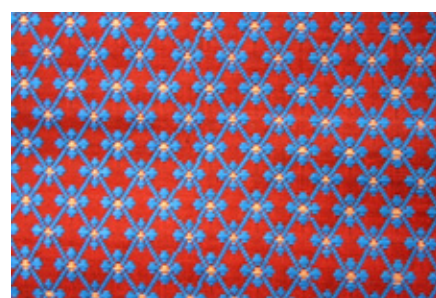
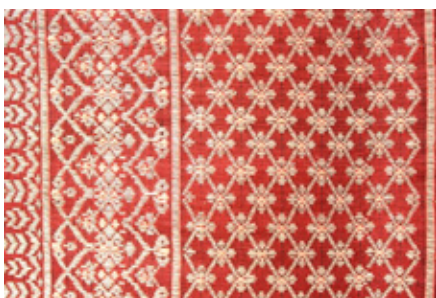
The Inheritance of the Phum Rieng Textile



Patterned cloth, the Phum Rieng weaver has a pattern fabric used as a sample called Teacher clothes which is the silk embroidery forming the patterns, this will be used as a model for weaving such as embroidery designs lamps diamonds that Mrs. Mae Hriam Wanmuda wove at the age of 14 to present to King Rama VII when he visit the district in year 2472. She also provide other pattern as a sample such as Ratchasee Kao Tam, Kinnorn, lion, elephant, Karuda, peacock and other kind of patterns. Moreover, teacher clothes also refer to the clothe pattern that received from other place and are in store for the next weave.

Pattern for weaving in Phum Rieng district are very beautiful and can be classified as follows.

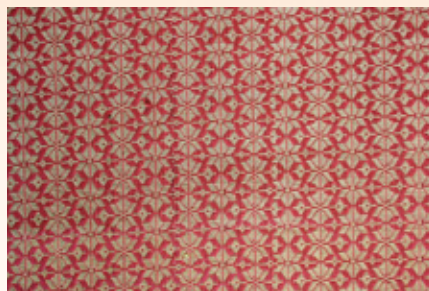
Flower types: such as double Pikul, Pikul Flower, Rose, Potpourri Peony, Dok Kaew, Jasmine etc.



Animal types: patterns such as Garuda, Lion, Kinnari, Elephant, Fly, Peacock, Fish.

Miscellaneous type: such as Ratchawat Ratchawat pattern or large flowers. Ratchawat bad design. Small Ratchawat, diamond, lamp, Diamond peak, lifting hook, fishbone, Malaysian etc.

The spectacular variety of patterns on these fabrics reflect the wisdom of the Thai Muslim women of Ban Phum Rieng. Phum Rieng textile is an important export product of Surat Thani province.



Main materials used to make the Phum Rieng Textile.

Loom: is a tool for weaving. There are many sizes and various but with the same basic principle which is the connection of thread line between vertical and horizontal until it create a fabric. This is similar to the weave but has a higher resolution due to the small size of thread. Originally loom is a device that requires labor but after the Industrial Revolution we have the machinery for textile. This is not called the “loom” but sometimes refer to this name due to the same basic features. It has many different types. Each type has a different way of weaving which results in a different pattern.

Nai spinning: is a device separate from the loom. Used for spinning into spindle and spinning the warp yarn to the Rahat.

Fueam or a Comb Fun wee is a tool for weaving, in the form of comb teeth used for insertion and arrangement of silk thread to stay apart. Then it was used for beating once the weft and warp yarns are woven together for the firmness of the textile. Weaving thick or thin, depending on tooth comb.

Tako or Harness is an instrument used for inserting the warp yarns and separated into plies as preferred in order for the shuttle to jump toward each other easily.

Wood strikes a wooden insert in the box, warp to help the thread not to be tangle.

Pedal is stepped on wood or bamboo beams 2 which tied his tie or associated with adolescent to get them used to tread the loom and the silk 2 stand up and down alternately. And opening up to shuttle me jump into the groove of silk and two types of conflict are woven fabrics.

Bamboo yam tube jet stream tube containing different thread color insert in the rail shuttle to jump to the contrary, while the standing yarn weavers are weaving and yarn tube jerk line jerk to jump to the contrary, it is said. Stand the patterns yarn is needed.

Wood plank seat weaving is thick enough. And is slightly longer than a few. Take a seat weaving. Pat Wood is used between the main rolls ahead with few clothes.

Shuttle is not the end of a slender from both large and middle groove for inserting a tube thread fling for tending to insert the thread in the stands during the weaving process. After weavers him stepping foot beam split loom and yarn stand.

The Phum Rieng Textile Weaving.



The making of patterns is done by using kon maen to count the thread into groups and separate into yok and kom line. These refer to the number of fun wee such as 3 refers to the raised lift silk stand 3 which is 3 hole of fun wee. With silk line 6 is equal to lifting up 6 lines of silk. 1 refers to 1 kom which is one hole of fun wee that has two lines of silk

Collection of textiles with flower patterns on the loom to keep only half flower Starting from the center of the flower store, or pattern to the middle edge of the pattern. Some flower pattern that is continuous, it must keep some of the flowers along the side. When the weaving pattern to fit it raised basket golf or he designs original series tracing from the back to a blank page cart golf last to cart golf first such pattern Pikul around a 9 cart golf begin collectin g from the middle of flower pattern Paya Garuda has 17 plot Ko Lai start from the middle of the store. Fish pattern with 9 golf cart started from the middle of the store design..

Lights or patterns Ratchawat Ratchawat flowers have 5 large golf cart to find me standing before weaving the parti-colored silk, and then use another fling Has a clear and beautiful designs such as people with white silk stand 4 red line alternates between two lines of silk stand out. Then use the pink or blue dart Golf cart storage to keep the main flower pattern and texture of flowers at the same time. Pattern has continued and a large flower small punctuate Golf cart storage, starting from the middle of a flower fly pattern big 5 golf cart started from the middle of the store design. Flower potpourri with 9 golf cart storage pattern started from the middle of flowers. There is also a golf cart golf cart for 2 pollen peony pattern has 15 golf cart storage pattern started from the middle of flower pattern 8 golf cart golf cart 6 is a flower basket design 6 Ko begin collecting pollen from the middle of flower pattern. Flower 6 begin collecting golf cart golf cart from the middle of flowers as well.

Furthermore collecting flower patterns, but the melt. No way to keep a certain fixed pattern. Because the survey raised pattern woven silk flowers Phum Riang found. Patterned with a lot of the same name. Form a pattern, but it appears the overall difference. This is because the store flower patterns, each adapted to the expertise or the beautiful and appropriate to the needs of some markets, such as extra time off or leaves Adding pollen filled flowers. It also has extra leaves or cut branches, etc., but most still maintain the pattern of large projects.

The Distinguished Character of the Phum Riang Textile

The prominent feature of Phum Riang silk is its pattern. It has a unique pattern, such as lifting hook pattern and texture Pikul Flower and Noppakao pattern. The lifting hook pattern is very rare today because only older generation still use the tool for that pattern. Woven by hand using a weaving are minimal. Most of them stop doing so. The patterns that are popular today are Ratchawat pattern running foliage decoration Garuda lifted oriented patterns and designs Noppakao Pikul Flower Flower Monday Lai Jasmine Lai gold buttons and so on.

The Distinguished Characteristics of the Phum Riang Textile

Fabric patterns

Fabric patterns of Phum Riang were not newly created but are the set of ancient heritage. People in the palace created the design to the ruler of Chaiya and Chaiya people weave that design but these people are not wearing it because the pattern is for the ruler only. Fortunately, it is not prohibited anymore and so common people can wear it today. Phum Riang fabric in the past is only for the rulers and nobles in the palace it also known as Pa yok these fabrics are for the elite only.

Ratchawat lamp designs

Pattern of Phum Riang Ratchawat lamp. The nature of the custom color needs. Pattern is a pattern of belief that the King Rama 5 is named Ratchawat Ratchawat lamps (similar to a lamp. Others will be no pattern, but will Ratchawat flowers small, but the province Surat Thani is Ratchawat Lamp Flower largest design principles and Ratchawat lamp flower little polka try the fabric the same and will not be combined with other designs).

Pattern of the pattern Ratchawat lamp in the other designs will be small, but the pattern Phum Riang Ratchawat lamp will look different than what is strange is the pattern includes small and large patterns together. A patterned fabric is no single pattern design major secondary.

Pikul Flower

Silk flowers from Phum Riang Pikul. The silk was very popular in the silk market. The pure craft of hand weaving. The traditional crafts that require refinement and experience in the textile and the important work of each individual piece will take longer than woven textiles in other ways.

Pikul flowers' pattern

Woven silk flowers lift. Pattern as an example when a woman dressed in Thai royal ceremony. Or as a wedding dress in the wedding ceremony etc.