

human-forest relation as an integral part of the local socio-cultural and environmental landscape for sustainable living and wellbeing in a harmonious way. This relation becomes a basis for local consciousness and philosophical worldview in preserving the values of indigenous ecological knowledge along with skills and passing them on to the younger generation as well as sharing and exchanging with the community visitors who are interested in their traditional livelihoods. The community welcomes visitors on its own terms and under the guidance of community regulations. The community still prioritizes the socio-cultural values over monetary gain. Thus, the external domination from outside to appropriate traditional ecological knowledge runs contrary to the will of the local people. Accordingly, visitors must comply to the rhythm of the community as a basic requirement to visit the rural village at Huay Hin Lad Nai.

This is what the Karen community not only contributes to ecotourism but also to society's consciousness of how the indigenous community can harmoniously live with nature for decades, what we can learn from them, and how to let the local community decisions take precedence over other concerns or benefits.

VII. REFERENCES

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