

WOODEN BRIDGE PASSING THE RICE FIELD: NEW TREND OF AGRICULTURAL-ECOTOURISM IN THAILAND

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ABSTRACT

The wooden bridge is the basic structure seen in rural communities around the world. In tropical Indochina, the main occupation of the local people is rice farmer and there are plenty of rice fields. The wooden bridge passing the rice field is a new trend of agricultural-ecotourism in Thailand. There are many newly constructs famous wooden bridges in Thailand.

KEY WORDS: Wooden Bridge, Rice Filed, Tourism, Thailand.

INTRODUCTION

The wooden bridge is the basic structure seen in rural communities around the world. In tropical Indochina, the main occupation of the local people is rice farmer and there are plenty of rice fields. The wooden bridge passing the rice field is a new trend of agricultural-ecotourism in Thailand. There are many newly constructs famous wooden bridges in Thailand.

CASE SCENARIO

There are many wooden bridges passing the rice field that were constructed within the past few years. At first, the bridge is usually the local architecture for local villager to use for transportation. However, some new bridges are intentionally constructed to be used as the tourist attraction by the local private tourism investors.

BRIDGE AIMING AT TRANSPORTATION WAY FOR THE VILLAGERS

This is usually the old bridge that has been constructed for a very long time. It is usually used as the transportation way for the villagers. The bridge was usually constructed by the local villagers.

BRIDGE AIMING AT WALKWAY TO THE BUDDHIST PAGODA

This kind of bridge can be seen in some provinces in the northern region of Thailand. The style of bridge is affected by the culture of the local Thai ethnic in Myanmar. The bridge was usually constructed by the local villagers. The bridge is usually made of bamboo. The famous bridges of this kind are Sutongpae bridge at Maehongsorn province, Watprathatsandorn bridge at Lampang province and Kukaewpongsaenthong bridge at Lampang province.

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(A).Sutongpae bridge



(B).Kukaewpongsaenthong bridge



(C).Watprathatsandorn bridge



(D).Phukariang bridge

Figure 1. Some famous wooden bridge passing the rice field in Thailand.

BRIDGE AIMING AT PRIVATE TOURIST ATTRACTION SITE

This kind of bridge is usually recently built. There are usually complex of coffee shop and food stalls. The ticket fee is usually applied and the owner of the bridge is usually a private investor. The famous bridges of this kind are Phukariang bridge at Nakornnayok province, Thungnamui bridge at Nakornnayok province and Meena bridge at Kanchanaburi province.

DISCUSSION

The ecotourism is an important kind of tourism worldwide. As an agricultural country in Southeast Asia, the agricultural-ecotourism becomes important tourist activity in Thailand. There are several famous agricultural-ecotourism sites. The wooden bridge passing the rice is the specific structure that becomes the hot tourist attraction spots. The bridge might be constructed by several kinds of local woods, especially for

bamboo. The construction of the bridge passing the rice field might be by the local villagers but some bridges are constructed a private tourist company. Taking photo or shopping local agricultural products at the wooden bridge is the common tourist activities. In addition, some wooden bridges are also the connecting ways between village and local Buddhist pagoda. This kind of wooden bridge is also the hot spot for pilgrimage tourism, which is a famous kind of tourism in Thailand [1].

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

REFERENCE

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