

# WOVEN HANDICRAFT PRODUCTS FROM DONGGUAN REEDS: CULTURAL AND TECHNICAL IDENTITY DIMENSIONS, DONGGUAN CITY, GUANGDONG PROVINCE, CHINA

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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research was to search for wicker handicraft products from Dongguan reeds with cultural and technical identity dimensions in Dongguan City, Guangdong Province, China. The researcher used both descriptive and analytical research methods (Descriptive Analysis). In the scope of the data study, the researcher studied 1 type of Dongguan reed basketry handicraft. The informants were five experts in basketry handicrafts. The researcher used the interview and observation form to collect the data for the study analysis of research results.

The results showed that 1) woven handicraft products from Dongguan reeds have a unique dimension. Wickerwork in the cultural dimension means belief, tradition, and wisdom about wicker handicraft products from Dongguan reeds. In the technical dimension, found in basketry from Dongguan reeds, how to weave flowers, fish, and insects, bird and animal patterns, horizontal stripes, herringbone pattern, rhombus, dice pattern, screwing sheer knitting, hand weaving, and most materials rattan from Dongguan papyrus. Most of the products are mats for various types of home decorations.

**Keywords:** Handicraft products from Dongguan reeds, uniqueness, culture, technique.

## INTRODUCTION

In the context of globalization, more and more people are starting to realize the importance of local culture and pay attention to the spirits of different human cultures, especially the existence and sustainable development of living cultural traditions as an intangible cultural heritage in developing countries. Intangible cultural heritage is the cultural property of a nation or group that has been passed down from generation to generation, consisting of local features. It has high artistic value and an influence on society in each era. Social processes are the drivers of these intangible cultures. Therefore, the change of era can also be called an intangible cultural change. In the past several years, many new forms of intangible cultural heritage have emerged. And people have switched to modern media to inherit these

intangible cultures. In the "Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity" (2001), it stated that "every country must respect cultural diversity." On the basis of mutual trust and understanding, forgive, talk, and cooperate for international peace and security "from this declaration. This has made governments at all levels, experts, academics, newspapers, and reputable websites pay great attention to the intangible cultural heritage. Today we are in the age of the internet and information technology. The great talent of this era has made the process of globalization expand rapidly and is also a medium for cultural exchange without borders by creating a platform where more people can access information. This made the cultural exchange very flourishing. This globalization also strengthens cultural integration. People all over the world get to know their uniqueness and cultural diversity from across the world. Raising awareness of values and importance caused love for their

culture and they began to stand up to protect the local culture and its intangible cultural heritage.

Handicraft of Dongguan reed weaving It is an intangible cultural heritage of Guangdong Province, the word "dongguan papyrus." Derived from the name of the city, "Dongguan" is a kind of aquatic plant. grows in brackish water resources, according to the recording of Mingxi rash. In the "Annals of Dongguan Province", this plant was first discovered during the Ming Dynasty. It was very popular during the Qing dynasty before the reform of the country. Dongguan City is still a backward city due to the large number of reeds. People in the area therefore rely on reed processing as their main occupation until it becomes the main economic product of the city. Dongguan reed products include mats, woven baskets, woven mats, etc. Besides being popular in the country, they are also exported abroad, but since the year 1980, due to economic changes, pollution problems, and the creation of plastic products, the reed wicker industry has declined for up to 30 years, thus this local wisdom has almost been lost for 30 years.

From the international boom in the protection of intangible cultural heritage, in August 2004, China joined the "Convention on the Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage" and was one of the first countries in the world to participate in the convention. In 2007, Houjie City's Dongguan reed weaving skill was registered as an intangible cultural heritage in the first 36 batches of Dongguan City. Meanwhile, the Dongguan City Culture, Radio, and New Technology Bureau It is suggested that the "Second Intangible Cultural Heritage Preservation Program" be submitted. It began with the restoration of local wisdom skills and Dongguan reed basketry handicrafts.

In conclusion, as an important part of the intangible cultural heritage, Dongguan reed wicker handicrafts have long missed opportunities for development and growth 30 years after being registered as an intangible cultural heritage. Why hasn't the government's restoration of Dongguan reed basketry been effective? How should we be able to more clearly show the effectiveness and morphological value of Dongguan reed woven products? How can we integrate reed basketry into the tourism market? and allow tourism to aid in the restoration of Dongguan reed basketry. Solving these problems should not be viewed solely as an overview, but one must study the underlying causes with a thorough background and find a turning point in restoring Dongguan reed weaving skills.

## RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

To study the handicrafts of Dongguan reed weaving in the form of cultural souvenirs, identity, and techniques

## LITERATURE REVIEW

To study the handicrafts of Dongguan reed weaving in the form of cultural souvenirs, identity, and techniques. From studying and researching the handicrafts of Dongguan reed weaving, the researcher selected a number of studies. One type includes the Dongguan reed plant, which has a relationship with wicker handicrafts in terms of cultural dimensions and meanings, belief, knowledge, and traditions related to Dongguan reed, one type as follows:

1. Dongguan papyrus refers to reeds that are local plants. It is both tough and soft. Dongguan reed is a raw material, a good material for handicrafts, Dongguan reed basketry, mat making, and most importantly, it is also a good food, famous in Dongguan. Dongguan papyrus is currently in the People's Republic of China's intangible cultural heritage handicrafts.



**Figure 1:** Dongguan papyrus

**Source:** li Jia Li

## METHOD

The researcher studied the dimensions of the design of wicker handicraft products from Dongguan reeds in the cultural identity dimension, belief, knowledge, and Traditions that are unique in terms of dimensions lead to the process of designing into creative work by using a qualitative research method, where the researcher has collected and studied the descriptive and analytical aspects. (Descriptive Analysis), which has the following sequence of steps:

1. Study and collect research, documents, books, textbooks, and research related to basketry handicrafts in terms of cultural dimensions, meanings, beliefs, traditions, and wisdom related to basketry handicrafts from Dongguan reeds.
2. Study and collect data in the field by visiting the area for study, Dongguan, China. History of

Dongguan reeds, culture, patterns from the past to the present with wicker handicrafts in terms of cultural dimensions and meaning, belief, knowledge, Traditions associated with a number of Dongguan reeds 1 type as follows

- 1) Interview Method, consisting of a specific interview (Purposive Selection) and small group discussions (Group Interview), with an intangible cultural expert.
- 2) The observation method, which includes both the pattern of papyrus and the raw materials

used in basketry. Weaving and weaving, shape types, tools used to make basketry.

- 3) Research and evaluate data and concepts.associative theory
3. Summary of research results for wicker handicraft products from Dongguan reeds

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Leadership in Dongguan reed wicker handicraft products to study the cultural identity of the people sustainably and permanently (Wangboje 1986).

**Table1** Finding the relationship between basketry and Dongguan reeds in cultural dimensions




number	Dongguan papyrus	Relationship of basketry from Dongguan reeds in cultural dimension					Highlight of papyrus and utilization
		wisdom	tradition	cultural	belief	relationship	
1		✓	✓	✓	✓	The four sides are as follows: 1. wisdom 2. tradition 3. culture 4. belief	1. Saa paper 2. Food/Beverage 3.Crafting or handicrafts 4.waste water treatment

From Table 1, the relationship of basketry from Dongguan reeds in cultural dimensions.It can be seen that the relationship is different as follows:

1. Dongguan reeds are related in terms of cultural dimensions in 4 aspects, namely wisdom, tradition,

culture, belief, and distinctive features of the Dong Guan reeds and their utilization. Mulberry paper, food/Drinks, crafts or handicrafts, waste water treatment.

**Table 2:** Basketry method classification of Dongguan reeds

type	Dongguan papyrus	product	material	waybasketry	type
1			rattan ,willow ,wheat straw ,cattail	flower,fish and insects,bird and animal pattern	straw mat,
2			rattan ,willow ,wheat straw ,cattail	flower,fish and insects,bird and animal pattern	woven products that are"round cushion"and"square seat cushion"
3			bamboo basketry	horizontal stripes ,herringbone pattern,rhombus ,dice pattern	lamp bag cushions tissue box storage box etc..

4		bamboo basketry,wheat straw	horizontal stripes ,herringbone pattern,rhombus ,dice pattern	bag cushions tissue box storage box etc..
5		basketry,wheat straw	screwing sheer knitting	storage basket,basket antique basket,fruit basket etc.
6		palm leaf,wheat straw	hand weaving	shoe blow bag hat mat box toy etc.
7		wheat straw	hand weaving	daily use decoration toy etc.

From Table 2, Dongguan reed classification. There are 7 types of weaving methods as follows: "round cushion" and "square seat cushion", lamp, bag, cushions, tissue box, storage box, shoe blow, toys, how to weave flowers, fish, insects, bird and

animal patterns, horizontal stripes, herringbone pattern, rhombus, dice pattern, Threading, sheer knitting, hand-woven, and most materials: rattan, reeds, willows, rice straw, cattails, palm leaves, wheat.

**Table 3:** Dongguan Papyrus Classification and Basketry Made from Dongguan Reeds

Use of basketry from Dongguan reeds	knowledge	type
Use a mat for sitting or lying down. or doing various transactions.	Local wisdom culture, religious rituals and beliefs	straw mat,
used as a seat or for doing different activities in rituals or relaxation.	Local wisdom culture, religious rituals and beliefs	"round cushion"and"square seat cushion"
Used to decorate the house and garden and pack things in many sizes as appropriate,	local wisdom culture	lamp
	local wisdom culture	bag
	Local wisdom culture, religious rituals and beliefs	cushions
	local wisdom culture	tissue box
	local wisdom culture	storage box
used to decorate the house or used to put food in.	local wisdom culture	storage basket,basket antique basket,fruit basket
Do various transactions for clothing or activities in the house.	Local wisdom culture, religious rituals and beliefs	shoe blow bag hat mat box toy

Table 3, Dongguan reed classification and the use of basketry from Dongguan reeds, Due to the use of basketry from Dongguan reeds, it can be used for different benefits, such as using a mat for sitting or lying down or doing various transactions, bringing it to sit on or do activities, relaxing, decorating the house and garden. It can be packed in various sizes and used for food or other uses, and wicker handicrafts in terms of cultural dimensions and meanings, religious rituals and beliefs, local wisdom, One type of Dongguan reed is associated with a number of traditions.

## CONCLUSION

Wicker from Dongguan reeds studied the details of basketry handicrafts from Dongguan reeds by interviewing and experts in wicker handicrafts quantity 5 persons, with the development of Dongguan wicker with the development of the form of souvenirs and cultural development in terms of cultural conservation and semantic development religious rituals and beliefs local wisdom, Traditions involving basketry from Dongguan reeds and techniques as a guideline for the development of intangible cultural heritage tourism promotion products, the effectiveness of the research tool was assessed with a questionnaire to obtain a design guideline and the satisfaction assessment form for the product prototype, take it to check the accuracy of the tool from an expert. Intangible cultural heritage tourism: Dongguan reed weaving technique and similar weaving techniques such as weaving willows Daming straw weaving and related products. Then screening only the relevant information has changed dramatically in technology, and at present, it also results in people's lives in Thai society. It also creates gaps in culture, thereby creating a foundation for cultural impacts and long-standing social values. (Cakmakçioğlu, BA 2017) by determining the cause of the cultural foundation for the development of the country, including cultural has determined the quality and efficiency of domestic economic development (ZHU, HABISCH, and THØGERSEN, 2018) and also driving the dam to develop the country and use cultural capital in that society to create diversity. And in driving the development of the country by using cultural capital. There are many factors affecting the operation, such as: 1) because of the present, the culture in society is diverse. This makes it easy to lose one's identity and traditional culture (Samoraj, 1998).

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