


## Aesthetics of the Bidayuh Community Kasah Mat Annah Rais Longhouse

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### ABSTRACT

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*Kasah* mat or *Kelasah* mat is one of the handicrafts known in the Bidayuh ethnic group. Weaving the *Kasah* mat is a heritage art made of rattan and woven using wood bark. This study is about the aesthetics of *Kelasah* mat of the Bidayuh community located in Annah Rais Longhouse. Annah Rais Longhouse is a village located in the foothills of the Borneo Highlands and must-visit tourism which are located near Kuching; Sarawak Therefore, the focus of this study is the material of mat production. This study was conducted with qualitative method and interviewed the residents of this longhouse also known as the producer of this *Kasah* mat. The study revealed that besides concentrating on reviving the culture value, the community of Bidayuh can generate their income through selling this culture product. As a conclusion, the materials used by the manufacturer is to highlight the aesthetics of a mat that is the pride of the Bidayuh people.

**Contribution/Originality:** The paper's main contribution is to determine the authenticity of Bidayuh products using materials and manufacturing methods. As a result, it contributes to the aesthetic of weaving.

## 1. Introduction

This study is about *Kelasah* mat produced by the Bidayuh in Annah Rais Longhouse, Padawan, Sarawak. *Kelasah* or also known as *Kasah* mat is a handicraft that is traditionally practised by the Bidayuh community and still has various functions that can be used. This study will explain the materials used to produce this mat which will ensure this mat is entirely original from natural sources. This study also examines how, and the processes and methods used to understand this method.