

Film “Namrin” (floating water) Duration 90 Minutes, Full HD 1920x1080p, MP4 and DCP digital

The “Lisu” hilltribe is a group of people who immigrated from China over Myanmar to North-Thailand. They were Opium farmers and Animists. Life in China many generations ago, was so bad that they decided to leave and settled in Thailand and other countries. The former Prime-minister of Thailand, Mr. Thaksin Shinawatra wanted to do some good things for the country and forbid the Opium production. But this was a problem for the Opium farmers, because from one day to the other they lost their complete income. They switched to vegetable farming but the income was a lot smaller. When the first Satellite TV came to the Village of “Namrin”, it was the beginning of the end of this culture. Young people didn’t want to work anymore on the fields, sometimes in the heat of 40 degrees Celsius, while they saw, that the modern world live a much easier and “better” life. So within some 8 years the original culture disappeared. From an integer community of people, who didn’t even have money at all but the barter trade, changing to a modern society with money, TV, smartphones and easy money brought in from tourists took only some years. But the original culture is almost gone. The founder and Shaman of this village and one of his daughters are the local co-producers of this film, showing and describing the lost culture and a scary outlook at the future. The Lisu people were in former times a very closed society, avoiding any contact to the modern world. I myself (Dieter Seegel) was married to one daughter of the old man, the Shaman. I lived with them for years and had a deep look into the culture and daily life. We are best friends and they trust me. This trust and the fact that the culture will disappear forever are the reasons, why the Shaman agreed on this documentary as a conservation of the Lisu culture for the world, when he is gone. So, he opens up and tell stories, which have never been recorded in history and will never be recorded again. A very unique moment in time for a very unique documentary.

The recording is complete, the film is in post-production. Coming in 2020