white pad, to light paige eri or endi silks, accompanied by

loom, when this tradition disappears, and how development can be conducted

honoring an ancient tradition while also improving the lives of the community. My journey led me from understanding the Muga process from beginning to end, and discovering what indigenous knowledge means in its context, to learning about the complex fabric of KaviKrishna that in many places tries to incorporate ñallò approaches into one, using the ancient Muga [illegible] means and an end in itself to óuniteô, ósustainô, and óhealô Sualkuchi.

KaviKrishna is a non-profit research and development organization originally established as a weaver cooperation. Today, it runs a local clinic, Indian Knowledge System Center, Living Muga Silk Museum, Muga microfinance program, and works on the scientific documentation of the Muga silk tradition in Sualkuchi. Next to 3 weeks of literature research, I spent 5 weeks in Sualkuchi, AS, India, interning at KaviKrishna. I conducted interviews, field visits, and participant observations with weavers, weavery owners, and KaviKrishna (KK) Staff. My aim was to understand KaviKrishnaôs unique approach to development through Indigenous Knowledge, by investigating their microfinance program for weavers.

As I gathered through conversations with KK staff members, and leadership team, KaviKrishna recognizes that conventional loans do not support independent weavers efficiently. Therefore, they employ a new approach focus[illegible] not just providing economic op[illegible] perception [illegible] duction from being i[illegible]

of art (counteracting the percep[illegible] f Mu[illegible] oduction be[illegible] to[illegible] so[illegible] network, reduces barriers of ent[illegible] hich [illegible] eated thro[illegible] nsiv[illegible] ce[illegible] allows weavers to function inde[illegible] ently[illegible] document[illegible] geno[illegible] ledge surroun[illegible] historically an oral tradition. W[illegible] medi[illegible] tion of wea[illegible] tradition through academic doc[illegible]