

1.4 Wai, a Thai way of greeting and showing respect Wai is widely known as a Thai way to express respect, gratitude or even to apologize. Thai Wai is divided into three levels which is subject to different purposes. The first level of Wai is to pay respect to the monks or Buddha images. When Thai people Wai, they put their two palms together, raise them while slightly lowering their head until the two thumbs reach their forehead and the tip of the fingers touch the upper forehead. The second level of Wai is practiced to greet those who are senior or respective. When young people meet their senior or superior, they Wai by putting their two

palms together, raise them while lowering their head until the two thumbs reach the nose and the tips of the four fingers touch the forehead between two eyebrows. The third level of Wai is to greet people in general. When people meet, they put their palms together raise them while lowering their heads until the two reach the chin and the four fingertip touch the nose.



The levels of Thai Wai