

Love Letters
from
the Children of
CAMBODIA

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*Love Letters
from
the Children of
CAMBODIA*



INTRODUCTION

The team set off to give to and to teach the children in Cambodia...but instead, for seven days and seven nights, learnt lessons of life from the children of Cambodia.

The team was made up of five Universiti Malaysia Pahang students, two Malaysian undergraduates and three post-graduates, two Pakistani and one Iraqi. Within the context of the UMP Internationalisation Programme, "Around the World in One Day 2010...Footsteps toward Humanity", the team was determined to make a difference for the children of an orphanage located 14 kilometres from Phnom Penn.

The orphanage was home to 138 children. Not all the children were orphans. Some had parents, but were unable to afford to keep their children in their homes. The orphanage stood on a large area, encompassing shared bedrooms, classrooms and a playground. For a small salary, teachers would teach in the classrooms where wooden tables and chairs were lined in rows. Computers, donated by

volunteers, were available and served the children well in their naive exploration of knowledge and the world.

During their seven day assignment, the team discovered the conditions at the orphanage. The water filtration equipment was not working. Children walked barefoot. Meals consisted of rice and soup. The soup was boiled with green leaves. No salt, no other spices. Once a month, bits of beef or chicken would be an extra ingredient in the soup.

Initially shy, the children were somewhat careful to approach and interact with the UMP team. Their apprehension soon melted away. To break the ice, the team gave a little treat of sweets during their first meal together. The precious moments that followed were all about closeness and sincerity.

What most amazed the team members was the zest for life that the children expressed. Totally at peace with their condition, the children never once complained or searched

for that which they could not reach. Their concern was not the food they did not have, nor the slippers that were not on their bare feet, but their concern was focused on the education that would bring a better life. They expressed openly their need and desire for knowledge and proper education.

The morale in the home was one that did not reflect absent needs. The spirit of the children was one that truly left the team members in awe. The expression of contentment and solidarity was what touched the team members most. Never had they witnessed such courage in such young hearts. They went to Cambodia with the objective to make a difference. Yet it was the children of Cambodia, in this little orphanage, that provoked the greatest change in the hearts of these university students.

In seven days these students realised that there is just so much to do in the world. The trip had opened their hearts and their minds. Transformation through disciplined freedom was the aim of the UMP

Internationalisation Programme "Around the World in One Day 2010...Footsteps toward Humanity". Transformation came about in the hearts and minds of these university students...this was a gift from the children of Cambodia.

It was soon time to say goodbye. The team wanted to spend more time with the children. They were just so special. They didn't have the courage to leave the children. The children made them promise that they would come back to see them. A little girl of about 11 years said "I do not have brothers, you are my brother. You are my hope to go to university."

This coffee table books tells a picture story about the journey of five university students in their quest to make a difference, yet whose hearts were touched by some of the most beautiful children in the world... the children of Cambodia. The team left for the airport. But before they left, the children gave them letters..... love letters from the hearts of the children of Cambodia.



INTERNATIONALISATION PROGRAMME UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG

AROUND THE WORLD IN ONE DAY 2010FOOTSTEPS TOWARD HUMANITY

In November and December 2010, 192 local and international students, from the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, participated in the UMP Internationalisation Programme "Around the World in 1 Day". They travelled to and across nine countries namely China (and Tibet), India, Egypt, Australia, Japan, Korea, Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam to carry out international assignments that they themselves conceived.

In groups of three to five students and without an accompanying officer and on a survival budget, these students covered over 50 destinations world-wide to explore global citizenship and discover self transformation.

The programme yielded truly amazing students!!! Truly unexpected transformation of these students from a Malaysian public university!!! Showcasing innovative programme conceptualization, innovative management and daring implementation towards transformation, Universiti Malaysia Pahang's International Office is proud to have carried out "Around the World in 1 Day 2010...Footsteps Towards Humanity".



The Team



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Faculty of Civil Engineering & Earth Resources

*Specially Dedicated
To The
Children Of Cambodia*





Hemini's Spectacles





Dear hemn

I miss you very much. when you go to your home. can you come agine. I want to see you agine. beacuse you is my ~~top~~ hope. when I study I hope you help me for study in ~~the~~ ~~high~~ the university. How was your exam? How long have you been studying english? what do you do in your free time? How do you feel be here? Do you like music? I love you very much. can you help me to study?



sun flower
from Sarah.

for hemh

Sincere Moments





My name is Samnang
I am 15 year old
I'm from Kompong Speu
provincen
I want to be a teacher
computer
I have 1 brother and
2 sistrer s.
I love you come at S.C.D
agian? you are good
brother. I love you Piaz

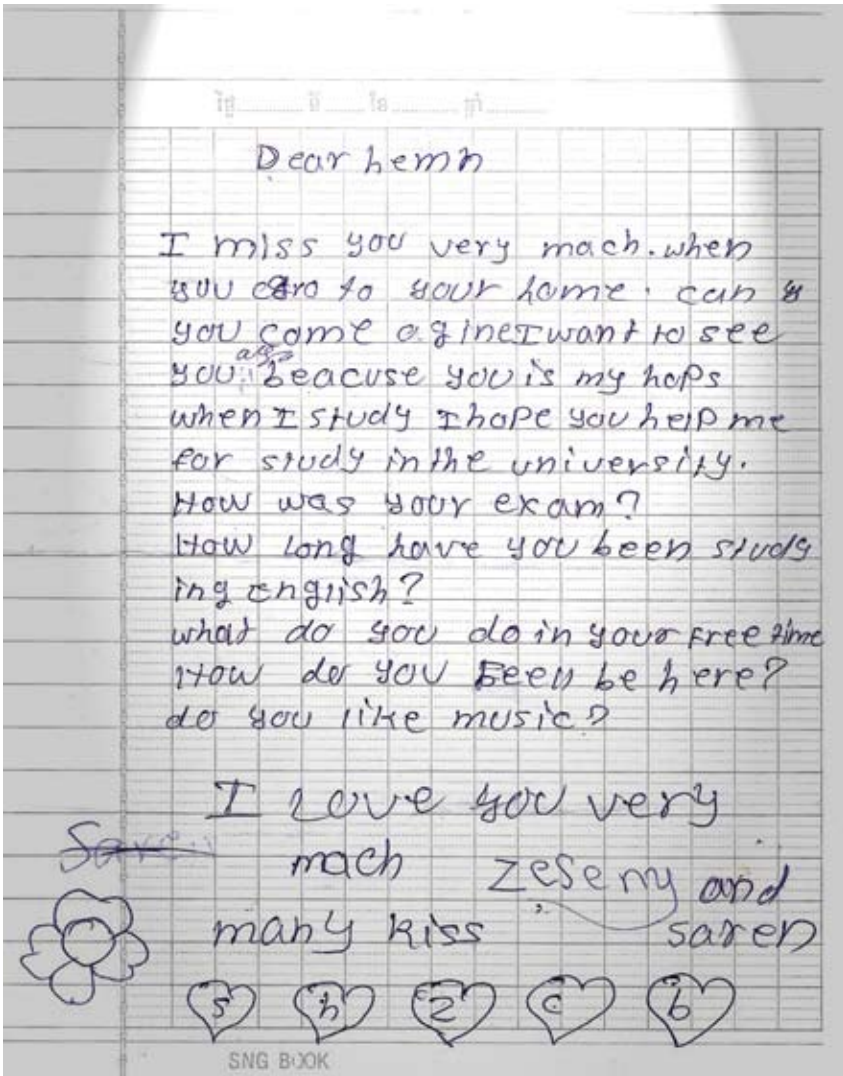




SHARING

*The Team Used What Little Budget
They Had To Buy Food And Supplies
Which They Shared With
The Children*











Date: _____

Dear hemsh

Wolle. my namers
Marya. I have on sister
and foru borther
sam 14 year old.
I'm so happy to meet
you cany you come
in se 2 agina
I miss you very
much. I want to be
abank magahager
Are you on vakation
can you come ~~back~~
back se 2 agina

103x145mm *Belgia*

♥ Hello My best friend,
My name is Srey Leak.
I'm 16 years old.
I'm from Takeap
province.
I have two sisters and
two brothers.
I want to be a doctor.
I'm very happy Riaz.
I don't forget you.
But you don't forget
get me: 🌸🌸🌸



SHARING

*The Team Shared Their Knowledge.
Here We See Them Teaching
The Children.*













SHARING
The Little Things That
We Take For Granted,
Are Gifts Of Love For The Children.











*Understanding
The Children Meant
Living In
The Conditions That
The Children Called
Home.*







*Life Is A Playground
We Need To Know
How To Enjoy.*







Dear far han,

Date: _____

Hello far han I am kundhea
 I am a student, I am 13
 year old. I love u. Thank
 you for you came at
 S.C.D. Can you come
 at S.C.D agian? I Love
 you the some my brother.
 I want to go your home.
 I want to be a doctor.
 I am so happy to me u.
 I miss you very much.
 you go your home I miss
 you very much
 from Kundhea
 for you love

103x145mm

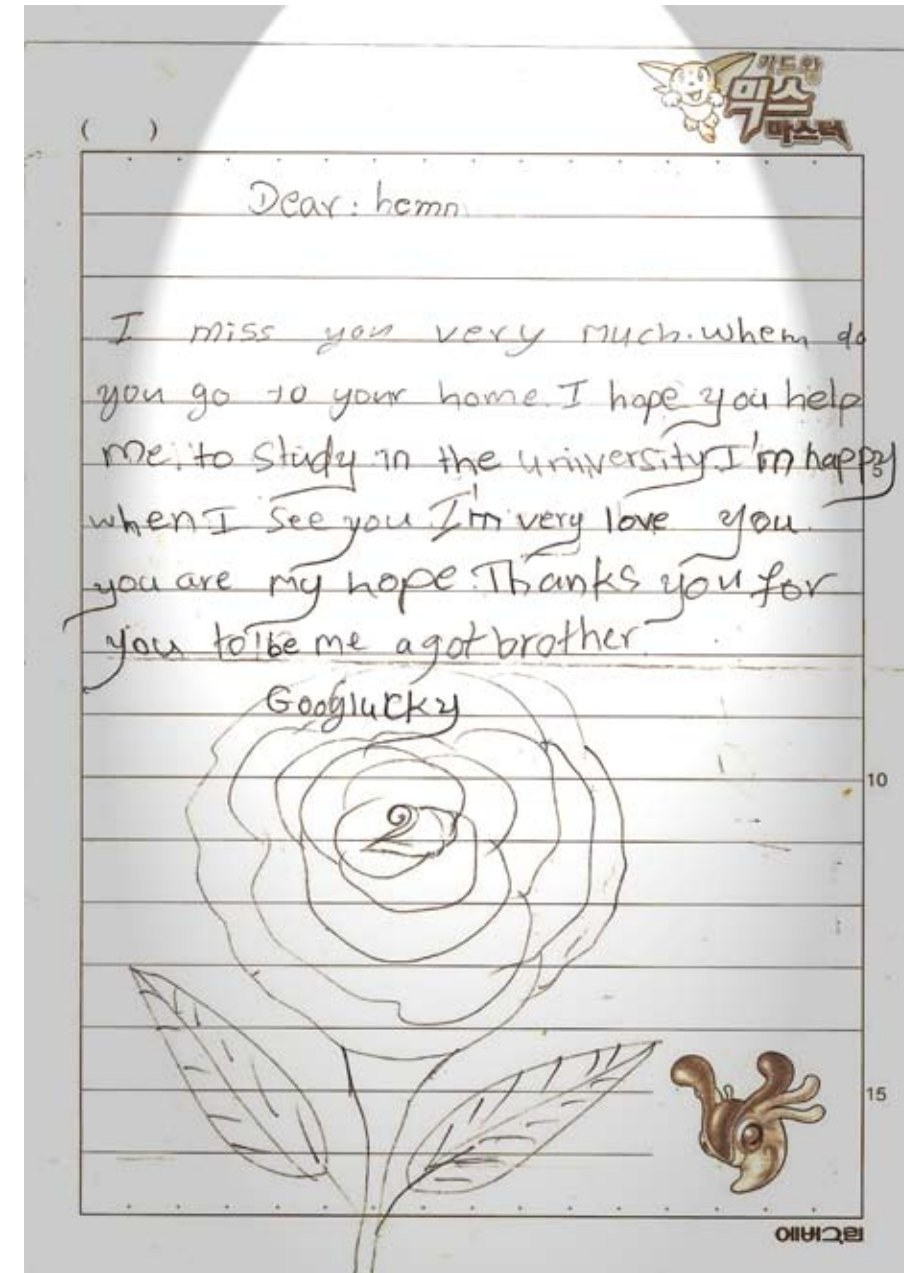
Suljia

Saying Goodbye











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82





*Walking Away Is Just So Difficult!
It Helps To Know That,
In Our Little Way,
We Made A Difference In This World.*





*"Keep Looking Back...
The Future Is Built
On Pillars Of The Past"*



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