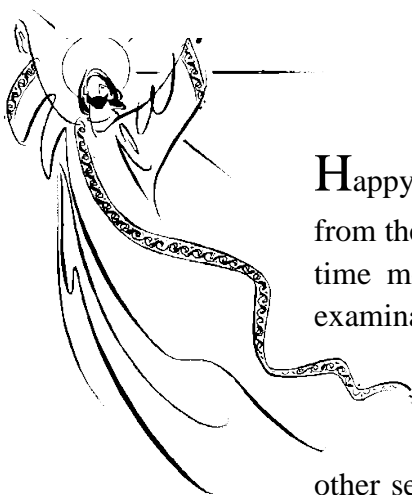


Children's Sponsorship Programme Good Shepherd Sisters, Nongkhai. Progress Report

Academic Year 2012 : May 2012-March 2013



Happy EASTER to our Sponsors, benefactors and friends. Greetings from the Children's Sponsorship Programme, Nongkhai, Thailand. By this time most of the students in Thailand would have finished their final examinations for the academic year 2012. As reported in our newsletter released in December 2012, through your generosity 651 children/students were supported for their education and some of them received additional social assistance as needed. Various other services have been provided for the children/students, their parents and their families during the year. We are happy to inform you that among the students sponsored,-

14 students completed their Bachelor's Programmes and

5 students completed their Pre-university Programmes.

They are as follows:-

Bachelor's Programme



1. Kannika Chita



Kannika completed her Bachelor's programme in the Faculty of Art Musical and Folk Art Performance, Karasin College. She achieved a grade point average of 3.49 (4.00 is the best). She is looking for a job as a Dance Art teacher in the primary school and secondary school.



2. Pikool Boonkahree

Pikul completed her Bachelor's programme in Geo-informatics at the Faculty of Science, Khon Khaen University. Pikool is taking Chinese Studies and has lots of dreams for her future.



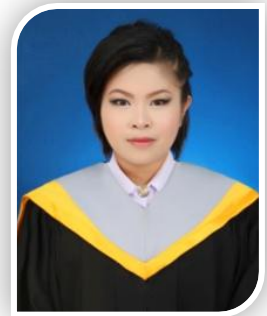
3. Putcharin Pohpehd

Putcharin completed her Bachelor's programme at the Faculty of Fisheries, Khon Khaen University. She has applied to work at CP Company (Charoen Pokphand Group) in the Research and Development section where she will supervise aquaculture. She expects to earn 15,000 baht a month and is waiting for their reply.



4. Yupada Inthisak

Yupada completed her Bachelor's programme in the Faculty of Science, Burapha University. While she was studying, she worked as agent for health and beauty products at Aragon Company which runs a Network Business Company. She is taking this job as a full time job and she is a leader of a unit.



5. Rachavin Praditnoot



Rachavin completed his Bachelor's programme in the Faculty of Communication Arts in Broadcasting and Telecasting at North Eastern University. He has applied to be a film-editor in VDO Company, Udonthani Province and his salary will start at 7,000 baht a month for the first 3 months. If he is confirmed in his post he will earn more. He is also looking for other jobs offering more salary.



6. Waralak Wannasri

Waralak will complete her Bachelor's programme in the Faculty of General Management of Business Administration, Udonthani Rajabhad University at the end of May 2013. At present, she only goes to her university on the weekends. During the weekdays, she works as an assistant to a teacher in primary school in Udonthani province. Her salary is 7,500 baht a month and it will increase when she completes her Bachelor's programme.





7. *Suriya Gaugaow* ←

Suriya will complete his Bachelor of Arts Program in Business Computer, Udonthani Rajabhad University in April 2013.



8. *Sujidtra Sawanpaoprai*

Sujittra Sawan completed her Bachelor's programme in the Faculty of Science (Public Health), Chiang Rai Rajabhat University. She has applied to work in Health Promoting Hospital, Maetho Sub District, Maelanoy district, Mae Hong Son province. Her minimum salary will be 9000 baht a month



9. *Anun Chapituk* ←



Anun will complete his Bachelor of Civil Engineering in Rajamangala Northeast in October. He will be an intern at Sumitomo Mitsui Construction Co., Ltd of Japan from. This company has contracted to build a bridge across the Chao Phraya River from June 3rd to September 17th.



10. *Penpayom Nateepaopong*

Penpayom Nateepaopong completed her Bachelor's program in Early Childhood Education at the Faculty of Education Program in Chiang Rai Rajabhat University. She has applied to work as a teacher at the Good Shepherd Sisters' Center for Youth, Chiang Rai. She will start her job in May.



11. *Jakgrapong Salifa* ←



Jakgrapong completed his Bachelor of Information Technology, Hatyai University.

Jakapong and his friends have been hired to create websites and he earns 8,000-9,000 a month. At present, he and his friends have submitted a proposal for a project to the government in order to get funding to expand their business on creating websites. If the government approves their project, they will get 200,000 baht to do so.



12. Nipat Busaba

Nipat will complete his Bachelor of Arts Program in Business Computing in Pitchaya Bundit in June 2013. He plans to look for a job in Chonburi and in Bangkok after his graduation.



13. Dowprakay Chaiamat



Dowprakay completed her Bachelor of Arts Program in Sociology and Anthropology in Khon Kaen University. She has applied to work in Bangkok Bank and will go for an interview in Bangkok soon. She has also applied to work at Jieng Group Company in Nongkhai.



14. Rungnapa Sirisaeng

Rungnapa will complete her Bachelor of Business Administrator in Accounting in Udonthani Rajabhad University in May 2013. At present, Rungnapa is an accountant intern in the office of Education School District 1, Nongkhai and this will be her job when she completes her studies.



Pre-University's Programme

1. Pimchanok Tunnahrut



Pimchanok Tunnahrut completed her pre-university's programme in the Faculty of Accounting, Nongkhai Vocational College. She sent an application through her college to Nichikawakomu Yamakuji Company in Japan. She will travel on the 10th April, 2013. It is a 3-year-contract. She has paid 185,000 baht for the application and she will earn 44,000 – 50,000 baht a month.

➡ **2. Ahnun Boonchai**

Ahnun boonchai completed his pre-university's programme in the Faculty of Automotive Technology, Nongkhai Technical College with excellent results. He achieved a grade point average of 3.59(4.00 is the best) During the school holidays he worked at Wheel Garage. There he learnt a lot more about automobiles. He plans to continue his studies in the Faculty of Automotive Engineering during the weekends so that he can work during the weekdays. At present he sent his application to Toyota Company and expects to earn 8,000 baht a month.



3. Sirirat Panmuang ←



Sirirat Panmuang completed her pre-university's programme in the Faculty of Hotel and Services, Nongkhai Technical College. She achieved a grade point average of 3.49(4.00 is the best). She will work at the Royal Cliff Hotels Group, South Pattaya, a five-star Hotel. She will earn 17,000 bhat which includes the overtime wages. She also plans to continue her studies in the Faculty of Hotel during the weekends.

➡ **4. Visanee Pormkot**

Visanee Pormkot completed her pre-university's programme in the Faculty of Accounting, Nongkhai Vocational College. She achieved a grade point average of 3.50(4.00 is the best). At present she works as a clerk at Daeng Ka Rum Shop in Nongkhai and earns 8,000-12,000 baht a month which includes the overtime wages.



5. Pongpad Waisaen ←



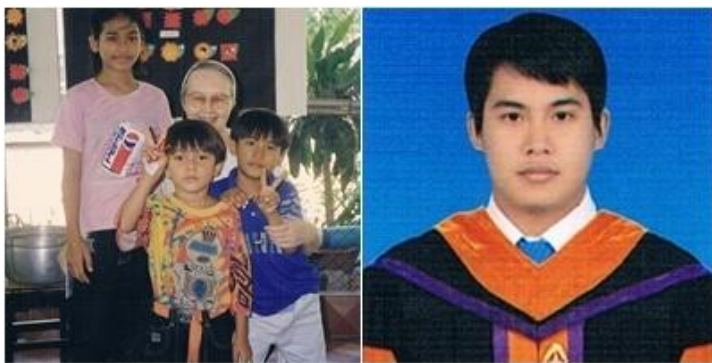
Pongpad Waisaen completed his pre-university's programme in the Faculty of General Management, Nongkhai Vocational College. He is looking for a job. He hopes to continue his studies during the weekends if he earns enough to support himself for his studies.

Among the students who completed their Bachelor's programmes this year, here are two significant stories that we would like to share with you. Your kind support through the Children's Sponsorship Programme has provided great opportunities for these students to turn their lives around.

1. RACHAWIN PRADITNUT (TROY)



More than 10 years ago, a woman came to the Fountain of Life Center, Pattaya and told the sisters that there were 3 children roaming around in the red-light district in Pattaya at night. They often went to bed after midnight. Their mother rented a room in that area for them to



stay. Most of the time, the mother was off somewhere to look for employment. Sometimes she would be away for days, weeks or even months. These children had to fend for themselves. The Fountain of Life center which is run by the Good Shepherd Sisters in Pattaya provided the children with food, education,

health care and assistance to process their legal personal documents. The Sisters searched for the families of the children's fathers and contacted them. Later, they referred them to The Good Shepherd Sisters in Nongkhai and Bangkok.

Pi Jum, who is mentioned in Rachawin's letter below, is one of our staff at Children's Sponsorship Programme, Nongkhai.

Below is the letter from Rachawin whose nick name is Troy to all his benefactors.

When I was small I lived with my older sister (Kae) and a younger brother(Stephen). We had no purpose in life. I always told myself that my mother, on her own, wouldn't be able to afford to educate the three of us.

One day the Good Shepherd Sisters of Pattaya approached us and welcomed us to the family of "Fountain of Life Center". There, we studied and made many friends. That was the turning point of our lives to a better livelihood. We learned how to set goals in life, what we should do, and for whom. We also learned to respect the adults. In the beginning I didn't understand the word "Sister" and why they had to wear their "veils". Yet, from them I received social assistance and education, and I also experienced firsthand the kind of the work the Sisters or "mother" as they were called, were involved in. Throughout I understood and felt love and support. Altogether I had a golden opportunity to change my life.

The Sisters or Mother provided me and my friends who were orphaned or came from poor families, good opportunities to grow and be good citizens like any other children. For us three siblings these were the good opportunities which we would never have received anywhere else.

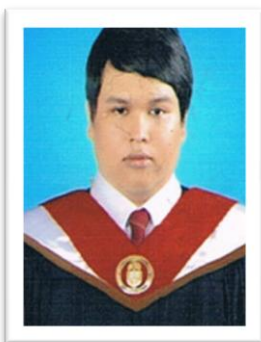
In no other place have I ever seen such sincere smiles and felt so warm in my heart. I love this place very much.

Every morning we woke up very late because we went to bed very late at night. Sometimes we continued sleeping on our way to the center. My thanks go to Kru Joy, Kru Nee and Mr.Gier (staff and volunteer at Fountain of Life, Pattaya) who woke us up every morning and took us and carried my younger brother to the center.

With kind concern for our lives, the Sisters sent my older sister to live with the Sisters in Bangkok and study there. My brother and I came to Nongkhai through the generous sponsorships from many benefactors that the sisters found for us. In the beginning we lived at "Friends for All Children Foundation" under the supervision of Khun Margo. We studied at Don Bosco Boarding School, Udontani. When Khun Margo went back to her country, Australia, Sr.Pranee arranged for my brother and I to stay with a Family. Pi Jum's family is not rich. They however have been warmly welcoming to us. They helped us and took very good care of us up until today. And I feel this family is my family. This family gave us many things. Though I call her "Pi"(older sister) deep in our hearts(my brother's and mine) she is our mother. She provides many things for us more than our natural mother provided for us. Pi Jum always instructs us. Once myself and my brother were very stubborn. We wanted to stop our studies. But Pi Jum gave us the opportunity to start again and supported us so much so that today I can feel some success in life. If I didn't receive support from the many of people mentioned above, my sister, brother and myself would never have the good life that we have today.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Good Shepherd Sisters, Pi Jum and family, all those sponsors who provided me with financial support - Mr.and Mrs.Kok, Mrs. Claessen and family, Miss Rosemary Taylor, an anonymous sponsor from Ireland - and everyone involved who have been supporting us. Thanks to Mother Joan who always encourages me and my brother. Thank you to all the sisters who instructed and congratulated us. My brother and I are very lucky to have received so many good things. I will not be able to pay back their kindness to me. I pray to God and the Holy of Holy to bless every one with happiness and good health. And If I have the opportunity to do so, I will pay back to the society and support others as much as I can.

2. JAKAPONG SALIFA



My name is Jakapong Salifa. I have completed my Bachelor's programme at Hatyai University. The official award of the Bachelor's degrees will take place in September 2013.



As a student in the university, I learnt a lot and participated in many activities. All this would have been impossible for me if I hadn't received a scholarship from the Children's Sponsorship Programme, Nongkhai. The scholarship gave me an equal opportunity, just like as other people of my age, to advance myself.

While I was a student, there were things that impressed me and things that made me sad too. First of all, I was a child who was regarded as one with “lack of knowledge”. I completed my high school in the Non-Formal Education System which was looked down upon by many people as producing students who lack knowledge, lack ability and who have no credit whatsoever. When I entered the university, both professors and new friends regarded me as such a student.

At the end of the first semester, my grade point proved that I was not the kind of student as they thought I was, and my grade point average was even better than many other students who came from the more famous schools. I had managed to achieve my goal to prove to everyone that I had sufficient knowledge to study in the university. At that time I also believed that studies was not enough for one to be a good citizen. I believed I should also do good deeds to others in return by participating in the activities organized by the university. In line with this belief, while in the university, participated in the following:-

1. Committee Member in the Faculty of Science, Academic Year 2009
2. Committee Member in the Faculty of Science Welfare Club, Academic Year 2010
3. Vice President of the Care for Environment Club, Academic Year 2010
4. University Athlete : Table Tennis, Academic Year 2010
5. Vice President of the HU Club: Table Tennis Club 2011
6. Committee Member in the Faculty of Science Welfare Club, Academic Year 2011

In addition to these positions, I received the following awards:

1. Prize Winning: Table Tennis, Mahad Games, Academic Year 2010
2. New Students Club, Academic Year 2011
3. First Award Outstanding Graduate Education, Academic Year 2012
4. Third Award Outstanding Graduate Education, Southern Network Level, Academic Year 2012

These awards are what I have achieved and they have made me proud of myself as a student. There is also a sad story. A great lost happened 2 years ago when I was a student. This was the death of my father. He had been sick for 16 years, and my mother had been taking care of him. After the death of my father, my 3 half sisters who are from a different mother, stopped supporting our family. My own mother was in poor health. She suffers from high blood pressure and thyroid disease. She was not able to work as hard as she used to do. I therefore had to work harder to support my family.

In the house where I lived with my mother I used to repair computers to earn some additional income. However, without support from my sisters, we could no longer afford to maintain the house and had to move out. I was unable to continue with the computer repair business. After this I started to create websites by being a participant in a Government project. I attended their training programmes and was trained to do business. This project provides some support to start a business. Now I am preparing myself for the test. If I pass this test I will get the support funds. At present, though I haven't received any funds from Government, I have started this business with my friends. I have already got some customers and some income to support my family too.

Finally, I am still an ordinary man who would like to prove himself by thinking and doing. By only “thinking” and not “doing” I will never started. If I start, I may fall or get disappointed but I started. Whether I success or not, doesn’t matter. I will learn from my experience.

Thank you very much for supporting me.
And because of your generosity... I have TODAY.

These successful stories would not have happened without your kind support and for this we are very grateful.

At the same time we are sorry to inform you that for this coming academic year 2013, a lot fewer children/students will be supported by our project due to lack of funds. With the collaboration of the village committee and with heavy hearts we now have the task of identifying students who will no longer receive support for their education from us. However we will do our best to continue to provide help those who are most in need of education support. It is our hope that the support they receive under the programme will help them in the same way it did for Rachawin and Jakapong.

We wish you and your family happiness, prosperity and success.



Sr.Supapawn Chotiphon and team
Children’s Sponsorship Programme
Nongkhai, Thailand.