

Lao & Vietnam trip reaction paper

Day 1, 8 July 2019

After we had learnt about CLMV countries in the class, especially Lao and Vietnam lately. The instructor provided a trip for further step to study and observe the real place and local people. Thus, we not only learn from the theoretical but empirical knowledge as well. For the first day of our trip, we had been in Lao. The first place that we visited is local market which almost every person can understand Thai language, plus the store also open Thai music. This emphasized my previous knowledge that Thai singers these days are very popular in Lao. Moreover, after we arrived at the hotel, the Lao architecture reflects the sense of art through the design and pattern which elephant is the main structure. With these observation, is it clearly that Laos and Thailand has bilateral relations.

Day 2, 9 July 2019

Today, we had a breakfast at the hotel in Lao before headed to Vietnam for the first night. The taste of Lao cuisine was similar to Thailand and the service was very nice. At noon we finally arrived to Vietnam although long hours drive. Thus, we stopped by the market near the border area for shopping and the restrooms. I was so impressed with the price of the goods which is very affordable compared to Thailand especially cigarettes and alcohol. As we had been travelling along the way to the hotel, I remembered that the view was so breathtaking even though I was on the van. It shows that Vietnam has a numerous variety of natural resources. After we arrived at the hotel, it was such great weather. I had one of those moments ,pure happiness, when I walk by the beach with the sun shining, the beautiful scenery around and fresh seafood for dinner. However, at night my roommate and I was quite hungry. Thus, we decided to order the food from the hotel but the staff cannot understand, the

communication did not go well due to the barrier of the language. Therefore, we really was looking forward for the breakfast.

Day 3, 10 July 2019

We spent quite a bit of time exploring Vietnam by moving from Dong Ha to Hue. Hue itself was packed with many foreigners from Europe, America and Asia with its tall buildings around, various nation of street food, it made the trip that little bit more interesting. We were very lucky for visiting C.P.Vietnam Corporation. The presentation illustrated the process of the plant, which C.P. fully transfer technology from Thailand to Vietnam for reaching full potential. Then, we had Vietnam traditional dish, its taste was very tasty. And Aj.Anin let us explored Hue city by ourselves during the bus arrived. The price of foreign cosmetic is quite high compared to Thailand. Thus, we concerned more about spending money in Vietnam. Next stop is Vietnam Temple. The guide had told us about the history of this temple that the guy were dreaming about an angel and received the information that the area around before temple established ,must have to be built to be a temple unless the unlucky will come. Its art ,building, design and pattern , and decoration around the temple and temple itself was like Chinese simple design. The view when I stepped up to the top was spectacular. I can see the river and the mountain there. Unfortunately, the weather was quite hot, everyone enjoying the building while sweating. Evening ,we checked in at Alba spa hotel. Having lived near the city in Hue felt like a dream to me. First, only five minutes walk to the road to stay in main street. This hotel I not the most expensive, but I love it so much. Second, the staff at the hotel can speak fluently in English which make the service is more impressive.

Day 4, 11 July 2019

We started the day with mouthwatering breakfast at the hotel the next stop city ,Da Nang, is not far from Hue. Thus, we arrived at noon. Unfortunately, the schedule did not go as its plan. Then we had a time for walking around the Winmart department store and found many foreign brand such as Adidas , Triumph and Yogurtland which also have in Thailand as well. And the food were very various such as Korean BBQ, Taiwan boba milk tea and Japanese moji. Moreover, Aj.Anin gave us money in Vietnam currency, Dong for buying Vietnam products at the market near our hotel. The surprise things was the seller there can speak some Thai words, for presenting their products and attracting Thai people. Such as saying the price in Thai. However, as I mentioned the goods in Vietnam are quite low but should be aware about exploring tourists by setting high price. My group had tried to bargain the price but failed for Ao Dai or traditional Vietnamese dress. So, we moved to the next store but unlucky that store has the same owner. After, we finished buying the dress. I was heading back to the hotel and asked the staff about the grocery store for buying some Vietnam snacks that I really love which is Vietnam Potato chips. The staff was very helpful and drew me a map to go there. As I went to the store, one of those places for me, that feels like a home away from home. It was very familiar with Tesco Express in Thailand which also provided fresh vegetable, fruits and meat as well. I observed that there were only Vietnamese in this shop even though the service was great. I can use credit card from the bank in Thailand which is very convenience. Then, one of my group members came up with the idea that we should filming the night life in Vietnam. I honestly thought that was quite interesting idea. So, we went to the bar which we found online as we were staying into the chilling vibe of the room. We followed the map, the layout of Da Nang city is so easy to get and absolutely yes, we got lost. Then, I use my favorite human sense asking local people for helping us guide the way. The people were always willing to help, very friendly and compassionate

people I will ever meet. But we were walking for many kilometers. My group members were all exhausted. And the bar that local people suggested was very far from where we were. Therefore, I used the application called Grab due to the concern that the taxi would charge us overprice. Then we safely arrive at the bar .It was quite expensive than usual as the building and the decorations built. Even the price was high, but the service of the staff was above the standard as well.

Day 5, 12 July 2019

Today, the Visiting Da Nang University of Economics was cancelled. However, SCG Cement meeting was very inspiring me. The staff there are all Thai. I have to say that even after a hard night yesterday which I only slept for a few hours, but the instructor here was very active and very good at presenting. The meeting was not boring at all and keep me more exciting every time. Initially, he said that he was an economic student in Thammasat at Rangsit Campus and then asking who is the cheerleader there at the meeting. He probably remembered the song the economic faculty which is called Oab. My friend and I was only two cheerleaders in the course, so we ended doing the cheerleading move in front the stage. I think this was quite relaxing and broke the ice between us and him. So ,if we have some questions, we didn't shy to ask. The business plan of SCG is planned until 2020. It is no secret Vietnam economy growth is steadily increase. Moreover, he showed us the statistical data and illustrated more with his own experiences in Vietnam for helping us understand more about the current situation between Thailand and Vietnam which factor that Thailand is disadvantage such as the debt. Even GDP in Thailand is higher than Vietnam but most of all Thai people using future money, credit card or pay by installments , the situation in Thailand is like a time bomb due to easy credit and bad balance sheet but Vietnamese only pay once by cash. In this was a long journey to me, at the evening we arrived to the hotel in Hoi An. The

view from my room can see the beautiful river and the pleasing trees. And we can find the dinner for ourselves by the budget Aj.Anin giving us for four hundred dong or around two hundred and fifty baht. I went for a walk across the bridge with my friends to find some food as local people suggest and ended up at the restaurant called Pho co hoi an which I would give ten out of ten for the taste. The food that we ordered were only Hoi an traditional food as we always asked the staff almost every order we chose. Moreover, as I were filming the view for the video trip, I was pursed by the local there for cruising but the price was very high. So, I tried my best for the discount and behaved like I was not into cruising for more discount. Then, my friends and I, seven people in total, were cursing only for forty baht each for one boat. I can see a plant in the water as sitting in the boat but the water is quite dirty due to many travelers. We took a lot of photo because from the boat's view and looking through the town. This perspective was worth more than forty baht that I spent.

Day 6, 13 July 2019

Today we went back to Da Nang but we started the day having breakfast in Hoi An before leaving town and headed to Ba Na Hills. The time we spent on a bus only one hour then we arrived. Ajarn let us spent a day in Sun world amusement park. Initially, I did not expect anything from this amusement park due to my previous thought about Vietnam. But everything in Ba Na Hills had surprised me. Especially the weather, as always when we went for a walk in Vietnam our shirt was almost all wet. But as the cable cars at Ba Na Hills took us more than a thousand kilometers above the sea level, the weather felt cooler and fresher as we were going higher. The cable cars here hold several Guinness world records, including the longest gap, heaviest cable and the greatest change in elevation. This is the perfect way to get spectacular view of Da Nang and the forests surrounded. The Ba Na Hills architecture was in French building, I felt excited every time that I walked to the next building. Since, we walked

a lot today. I observed through my phone that my footsteps count was four times much more when I was in Thailand which thirteen thousand steps. There are various shop and its own uniqueness such as Vine shop, illustrate the history and the process of making vine. Moreover, golden bridge suspended by hands was the most epic one. The view from the bridge was breathtaking add up with the cold breeze of air, there was no place I rather be. Ba Na Hills which are quickly becoming one of my favorite places to be. It's extremely view and good listening to the music as we walked all the way. These excitement building in the park are perfect for every occasion. However, there was more surprise than other students class, I can say that because as we were sitting in the cable car for going back to the bus. The system was interrupt and the cable car was paused. My group members and I were stuck in the middle of the forest hill but on the other side we had more time spending for appreciate the view but that time we were talking about thriller movie. Thus, it was quite contrast about the beautiful view.

Day 7, 14 July 2019

Today was the last day for our trip. So we didn't had many destinations. We went two places before Check in At Da Nang international airport. The one that I was interested were jewelry store. It was no only selling jewelry but also clothes as well. I were looking for the most expensive thing in the store and found the big circular stone cost at eight hundred million dong which is one million baht Thailand. Even this stone is encourage for peaceful in the house as Thai visitor in this store told me about Feng Shui, I would have been worked for all my life for this peaceable stone. After that, we moved to the airport. I bought some snacks from the Souvenir shop The price was not cheap as in the city and the price tag was in US currency almost every products.

Along the trip, there were many surprises both in good and bad ways but the one that I experienced myself and I gave it the most valuable moment was when I got lost in the city and seeking for help. The local were willing to help and talked to me very nicely. Every time whether I asked for the map or help, I never got denied in this country. Nevertheless, from the first day to the last, my journey along connectivity in these region may have some problem such as the road in Lao and public facility such as toilet in Vietnam at the border area the bus stopped by. But there are many opportunities for investors in these two countries. For Lao, I would say that they are rich-natural resources that not to be exploited yet and I saw that if high technology were transferred to Lao. It will make Lao economy becoming stronger. And Vietnam as I asked the people that went to Vietnam before, Vietnam has developed very fast. There are plenty of opportunities in Vietnam such as leading in beauty trend as I observed they are not many beauty clinic in the city. It is good for a good mover.

Laos and Vietnam in the future years would become strong one of the competitor countries because they have resources and more birth rate which giving more people in the labor force and low wage and cost of living. Imagine if I whether working or living, I would prefer Vietnam due to variety of natural resources which can always excite me and the competitive investors which will push me for further earning knowledge and especially widen my business perspective for further growth.

Travelling in Lao and Vietnam for me is something I inspired me a lot. Even the convenience in both countries are not good as Thailand. But in my perspective, I looked it differently this is what I'm working on in terms of relaxation and be able to go away to a place I know. I also found that 7 days was absolutely perfect time to take time out of the busy city like Bangkok to recharge myself with beautiful cultures in other countries.