

Last year I went to Cambodia and Vietnam also by road from Bangkok but this time is a bit different since it's Laos and Vietnam. On the first day, everyone slept on the van but not mine. We had great time with DJ Suki. When we arrived Laos' border, I felt like the ASEAN free trade area agreement is active because we could go through it easily. At Savannakhet, from my experiences, I think it needs to take time to develop the region but it may come in the right direction. The hard thing for Laos is the landlocked country. The investment policies are interesting such as the investors don't have to pay the tax until they have some profits and so on. They support especially the electronic and technology industries because the investors have to let Laos worker have the training during working in the company and I think that's an good idea to develop people but at first I thought that Savannakhet will be more prosperous because it has 20% of population in this region but I understand that it's still a small amount. After we'd finished the study tour, we went to Mekong river and had a dinner. The river is really big as I've heard and it was so beautiful watching sunset with friends. Then we went to the hotel with casino and spa. This is my first time going to the casino due to my age. I played slot machine and I learned that when you gain profit, you should stop. Do not expect that we'll gain more so I stopped and went to spa with Pong over midnight.

On the second day, traveling to Vietnam was not that bad as I expected since the van was wide so I could enjoy but when we passed through Vietnam, the bus was narrower. We went to the Vinh Moc tunnel and saw how did Vietnamese live during the world war. During walking in the tunnel, I thought that government take care of this place so well for the tourist since there are air conditioner but in fact it's not. The cool atmosphere is the natural of the environment and it was so scary. The thing is we didn't have the map and there are many exits. The funny story that I didn't experience by myself but friends did was a group of them were going to another exit to see the beach but when they arrived at the beach, they met one old man. King tried to talk with him since he's too kind. But then the old man was so scary and walked after them then they walked faster in

the cave with a scream and Wanan said run! please! Then everyone ran with no turning back. The moral for this story is..don't be the last one when walking with friends.

On the third day, we went to CP Vietnam in Hue. The factory is quite big, have good management and clean and I feel like CP is professional for any branches over the world. The shrimp was fresh because normally I will be allergic to the chemical shrimp. After that we moved on to the city. Traditional lunch was the best also the coconut coffee from Cong Caphe. From observing the consumer behavior, Vietnamese people like to have coconut as one of the ingredients in the dessert. That day was the hottest day during the trip in Vietnam since we went to many tourist attraction places. The weather was so hot, the air condition at the back of the coach didn't work well, neither the air condition in the building. At night we went sightseeing around the hotel and hung out together. Beers and alcohol were so cheap so we bought it a lot but I'm not sure that is it a fake one or not and I got drunk that day. Pimtawan took care of me so well and it was fun that night. Before going back to the hotel, some of us and ajarn tried traditional pho and we got cheated by the seller for 1 million dong (around 1,300 baht) with only six bowls of pho. So at last, the seller charged us for 300,000 dong which make more sense and the guide told us later that it's still expensive. So it made me think that study other languages can help you in the daily life to communicate with others easily.

On the fourth day, we spent most of the time on finding the place to have meals and got back to the hotel in Danang. In the afternoon, ajarn told us to buy the stuff at Cho market which represent Vietnam by gave us 400,000 dong and present them on monday. My group spent only 75,000 dong since we didn't see anything attractive to us and plan to buy in other places. Moreover, we observed the consumer behavior in the supermarket which I saw many Thai products such as instant noodles, yogurts, snacks, rice and so on. Thai products seems to be very famous in Vietnam since they believe that Thai product have a better quality than Vietnam.

On the fifth day, we went out to Big C and watched for the consumer behavior again. Their livings are quite similar to Thailand the difference is just the type of food that they eat for instance they sell plenty of buns in the fridge. In the afternoon, ajarn gave us first traditional pho, the tastes are all the same whether it be in the hotel, the restaurant, or the street food and they are all good. I love it. Then we went to SGC in Danang and met our alumni. He was not only presented what those in the slide but also the interesting general facts like when we cross the road, we have to keep in mind that no eye contact with the driver and just walk ahead because the driver will pass through our back instead. Vietnam government encourage the investors by having a master plan for individual industry in the next 20 years and every one should follow the plan hence the investors will have the confidence and that's why Vietnam has become a new booming country. The thing that I surprised is Vietnamese people don't use cheques and credit cards aren't famous The thing that they use to buy is the cash. Then in the evening, we arrived Hoi An ancient city. It's the place I love the most in this trip. It was so beautiful like I had a crush on this place. The weather was so good, not too hot as in the city and people look so nice with our lovely fellows.

On the sixth day, we went to the theme park called Ba Na Hills which we had an opportunity to be on the longest cable in ASEAN. I think it's beautiful and have a good management but it's not outstanding on which style do they want the tourist to understand. There are picture corner, fantasy land and outdoor show. The playthings are more like arcade than the amusement park but the show was great. In the afternoon, one of our friends got lost with the group but while he was complaining, a boy got lost and walked into the middle of our group. I was so worried to find his mother so did my friend. I almost cried when I saw the boy cried but fortunately before that happened his mother come and found us. That made me so delighted and I talked to myself one day if I have a kid, I won't let him lost because I feel so bad. Then we went back to Danang again, spent our last night with friends and prepared for going back to Bangkok on the next day.

On the last day of the trip, it made me realized that time had flied. Seven days of being together with friends, ajarn, and staff were a memorable trip even it's still hot till the last day at the museum but I can be calmed down by a cup of bubble milk tea. My group still could not decided what to spend the 400,000 things that we've left so we chose to buy the coconut candy and spent over 200,000 dong at the Burger King in the airport since we didn't want to keep the money back to Thailand.

The thing that impressed me the most in this trip is the friendship especially the team members for the presentation because first I thought that I could've get along with the exchange student but now I feel really close to them. Second, I never talk to the boys in my team before and at first I didn't want them to be in my team due to the rumers that they didn't do their work but when I work with them, I didn't feel like that we have a team work and get along with each other so well. I want to thankyou to Ajarn and staff that organized this trip for us. It's my best summer so far. Besides the new experience that I get, I know new friends and get closer to the old friends. Normally I didn't involve with the exchange student that much but now they are one of my best friends who I can tell everything to them (from the day I got drunk). It make me think that when the time that we have to apart comes, I will be really sad and miss them a lot.

From East-West economic route from Laos to Vietnam, I think it'll be effective if it works and have a good management with a good facility like having a dry port along with the sea port and if the logistic cost can be reduce, the countries will become more prosperous but I think it could be a problem of the conflict between government and the villagers that live near the route for example if some product can cause the externalities like the dust or the smell, the people can be unsatisfied. But it's sure that there should be some advantages for the managers, business owners and investors. The country can attract the FDI more. When the border become more flexible, the immigrants from another country can be free flow which another country can gain the Knowhow from the others.

In the next five to ten years, for me, I think Laos will be developing since their country still have plenty of resources, land and plan but they lack of population, technology and education so they will grow up but still follow other countries in ASEAN. For Vietnam, in the next recent year, they will grow up and become next developed country in 20 years. They have a master plan for each industry, for investors and for country. Moreover, they do the market research for business owner to invest in each region whether the investors should invest there or not. People seems to be more deciplined than Thai people even though the transportation is still lack of traffic light.