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DABAO LESSON
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INTRODUCTION



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大保的旅程艱辛而漫長，期間我們遇上了岐道、走過了彎路、攀爬了峭坡，雖算不上滿途荊棘，但苦頭著實吃了不少，總結起來，各人得到的教訓和經驗，又比苦頭來得多。

沿途風物，使在城市長大的現代人對落後的農村增加了認識、對貧窮和封閉理解得更深入、對少數民族的渴求多了親切的感受，也對教育的目的和意義，添增了迫切的認同。長途跋涉，讓人與大自然的距離縮短了，靜觀斗轉星移、四季輪替，促進了人們對生命秩序的反思，以及對和諧生活的嚮往。

沿途的險阻和艱難，刺激著眾人對使命的反省和目標的重新探索，為參與者思考如何平衡理想與現實、藝術與功能、美觀與實用、理論與實踐、創新與傳統、科技與俗成、成本與效益，提供了實在的機會和場地。各自的主觀和盲點，帶來了各式各樣的失誤和落差，但同時亦提供了接連的教訓、學習和體驗；不斷的試驗和更新，衝擊著各人的知識和能力，鍛鍊著團隊思維的縝密及百折不撓的精神。如何達致一個合理而和諧的成果，也就成了大保之旅的最大考驗和課題。

大保項目的最終落成和移交，對明德學子而言，並非意味學習和追求真理之途的終結。我們還有很長的路要走、有更多的挑戰要面對。「路曼曼其脩遠兮，吾將上下而求索」¹，明德之路，我們不會放棄。

¹ 屈原【離騷】句

The Dabao journey was long and difficult. On the way we were side-tracked, went on detours, climbed steep hills and endured all kinds of physical and mental sufferings. Indeed it would not be an exaggeration to describe the journey as fraught with setbacks and obstacles. However, upon reflection, the lessons and experience we gained from the journey far outweighed the difficulties we went through.

To us city folks, what we saw on the journey gave us first-hand knowledge of the backward villages and made us understand what it meant to be living in a poor and closed society. It also gave us insight into the desires and aspirations of the ethnic minorities and enhanced our appreciation of the meaning and purpose of education. By bringing us close to nature, the long and arduous journey encouraged us to observe the passage of time through the changing of the seasons, reflect on the order of life and yearn for a lifestyle more harmonious with nature.

The obstacles and difficulties along the way prompted us to reflect on our mission and re-explore our objectives. They also provided a practical opportunity and venue for participants to ponder on how to strike a balance between ideals and reality, art and utility, beauty and functionality, theory and practice, innovation and tradition, science and convention, and costs and benefits. With each individual hampered by his own subjective thinking and blind spots, we made a lot of mistakes and the results of our work sometimes fell short of our expectations. At the same time, the endless trials and errors were valuable learning opportunities: they stretched our knowledge and capability to the limit, pushed us to be meticulous in our thinking process, and taught us to be dauntless despite repeated setbacks. How to achieve reasonable and harmonious results in the face of adversity became the biggest challenge of the Dabao journey.

To Mingde students, the completion and handover of the Dabao project did not signify an end to their journey of learning and pursuit of truth. We still have a long way to go and many more challenges to overcome. "The road ahead may be long and endless, and yet I am determined to search high and low in pursuit of the right path."¹ We will never give up on the path of Mingde.

¹ Borrowed from "Lisao" or "Sorrow at Parting" written by Qu Yuan (340-278 BC), famous statesman and poet of The Warring States period.

* Translated from Chinese by Zina Wong, 1972 HKU graduate

INTRODUCTION



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自2004年楊澍人博士發起明德工程以來，轉眼間已超過十年，在偏遠地區的援建項目一個接一個完工。大保屯明德慈盼文化中心是繼廣西省融水縣下里小學教學樓〈明德樓〉，融水縣職中女生宿舍〈榕物樓〉，英洞村行人橋〈朝陽橋〉，四川省崇州市正東街幼兒園，及越南興安省仙侶縣新興中學衛生間之後，明德工程參與的第六個援建項目。從2012年初次到訪當地勘察，前後經過長達三年多的努力，終在2015年底竣工並交付當地正式投入服務。

大保屯位於桂北偏遠山區，全村共有百多戶人家，適齡學童約70多人。當地保存著悠久的瑤族傳統文化，亦非常重視對學童的文化教育，村內建有兩間木製樓房供教學之用，但經過60多年來的風雨洗刷，原來的校舍已經破爛不堪，隨時有倒塌的危險，並不適宜繼續使用。通過融水愛苗之家蒙可陸先生的牽線搭橋，在明德工程實地勘察過後，同意重建校舍的急切性，並參與這項援建工程。

考慮到農村出生率等不確定因素及可持續使用新校舍，在設計上除出原有的教室外，還因應當地的需要加入醫療室、食堂、籃球場等民康設施，惠及學童以至所有村民。設計上由原本的教學樓擴展至現時的多用途文化中心。

雖然只是一座簡單的兩層高建築物，但由於大保屯位處高山位置，長期受濃霧包圍，加上山路崎嶇，運送建築物上山確實不容易。再碰著山區天氣不穩，正是〈天無三日晴，地無三里平〉，工程難度可想而知。項目最終能順利完成，實有賴校友師生們及各方愛心人士無私的付出。特別感謝項目捐助人黃德安先生及其夫人李雅瑛女士出錢出力，捐助工程費用並為文化中心進行建築設計，以及利希慎基金會資助師生往返廣西參與這項援建工程。

自此之後，大保屯教學環境得到改善，年幼學童無須再攀山涉水到村外上課，村民亦可利用此文化中心作集會及大型節慶活動之用。參與明德工程的學生，也從中獲取一次難能可貴的學習體驗，為未來成為關心社會，熱心公益的專業工程師奠下基礎。這本〈大保一課〉記錄學生多年來為項目投入的點點滴滴，相信會成為他們成長過程中一份珍貴的回憶。

More than a decade ago, Project Mingde was established at the initiation of our alumnus Dr. Nicolas Yeung in 2004. During the past decade, Project Mingde has been involved in a continuous stream of education related projects in impoverished areas. The Community and Cultural Centre at Dabao Village was the latest and the 6th completed project, following Mingde Lou, a primary school at Xiali Village, Guangxi Province; Gewu Lou, a dormitory for the vocational training school in Rongshui

County, Guangxi; Chaoyang Bridge at Yingdong Village, Guangxi; Zhengdong Jie Kindergarten at Chongzhou, Sichuan Province and toilet facilities for Tan Hung Secondary School at Hung Yen Province, Vietnam. The Dabao project commenced in early 2012 with a site inspection trip. After three years of hard work, it was finally completed and handed over to the villagers by the end of 2015.

Dabao village is situated at the remote mountainous area of the northern part of Rongshui County, Guangxi Province. There are about 100 families in the village with more than 70 children requiring schooling. They are of the ethnic minority group of Yao and have kept their Yao tradition of placing great importance on children education. The village had two simple wooden structures to serve as their school, but after 60 years of use, the school building was dilapidated and close to collapse. Through the referral of Mr. Meng Kelu of Love Seedling Community Service Centre and after the site inspection, Project Mingde agreed to participate in this project to rebuild the school.

With due consideration of uncertainties such as future birth rate in the village and to make the building more sustainable, the school building was designed to include a sanatorium, a canteen and a basketball court. The building would therefore not only benefit the schoolchildren but also all the villagers. The project was then changed from the provision of a school building to a multi-purpose community centre.

The centre is a two storey structure. Dabao is situated in the mountainous area and constantly covered with fog. With the treacherous roads uphill, it was difficult to transport construction materials to site. The constant unsettled weather also increased the project difficulties. It was only due to the dedication and selfless contribution of our students, teachers, alumni and all parties involved that the project was able to come to fruition. I would like to give a special mention to our donor couple Mr. Tony Huang and Ms. Elisabeth Lee for their generous donation in support of the construction costs and the provision of the architectural design. A special thankyou also goes to the Lee Hysan Foundation for supporting the travel and related expenses of our students.

With this Community and Cultural Centre, the learning environment of the village students has markedly improved since young children no longer have to walk miles across the mountains to attend school. The villagers are also able to use the Centre for meetings and large scale community events and festivals. Our student volunteers have learnt valuable practical experience and enriched their sense of social responsibility towards the less fortunate. This book has recorded many of our students' thoughts for the project and will no doubt become part of their treasured memories too.

INTRODUCTION



李啟光
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項目經理
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深圳市慈盼基金會慷慨捐助，及由明德工程規劃的明德慈盼文化中心，興建於地處廣西山區的大保屯。中心由一座混凝土建築物和一大片鋪砌地面組成，坐落於梯田掩映的谷地。中心內設有一所小學，一個提供基本醫療功能的護理室，還有一個相當大的廚房。鋪面區不僅為村民提供一個節慶集會的理想場所，同時也包括一個標準籃球場，以供周邊村民舉辦友誼賽之用。

文化中心由李雅瑛建築師設計。如何能讓中心和諧融入環繞斜坡谷地的環境，是一項極具挑戰性的工作。建築師特別設計了一幅廣闊的竹筒裝飾牆，不但展示出獨特的設計特色，也把中心和周邊環境連成一片。如此既可以充分利用到有限的土地面積，亦保留了山谷的自然景觀。

前往大保屯相當不易，從最近的小縣城過去，駛經迂回曲折的山路，最快也需要四個小時的車程。由於小屯地處谷地，在下雨時節，泥濘滿布的山坡路，車輛簡直無法通過，嚴重限制了建築材料的運輸和施工人員的進出工地。再因受群山環抱，大保屯附近的降雨模式，完全無法預測，這使工程進度的規劃變得毫無意義。小屯地處偏僻，更為施工過程中必要物資的置辦和運輸增加難度。

幸得捐助者一直非常理解這些不利的情况，亦有賴承建商的堅持不懈，建築師的耐心和鼓勵，以及項目團隊其他成員的出謀策劃，盡管稍有延遲，本項目最終順利完成，亦把設計師的最初構想，表達出來。

建設文化中心的規劃及建造過程，由明德工程管理。明德工程的成員大多數是香港大學學生，使命是讓大學生們能從參與實際工程項目中，得到真實體驗。文化中心這個項目給同學們上了寶貴的一課。在這項目進行期間，現場勘察和工程設計比較簡單，但在項目規劃和管理方面，上面提到的特殊情況，卻為項目增添了不少不可預知的障礙。隨著各種因素的不斷變化，建築費和時間，亦須經常修訂。這種經驗是在課堂學習中不容易遇到和學到的。

With a generous donation from the PAN Foundation, a Community Centre was planned and built for Dabao Village in a mountainous area in Guangxi Province. The Centre is comprised of a 3-level reinforced concrete building and a large paved area set in a valley amidst terraced paddy fields. It is the home for a junior primary school, a nursing room for basic medical treatment and a sizable kitchen. The paved area provides space for gatherings of villagers during special occasions as well as a standard size basketball court for friendly matches with neighboring villagers.

Ms Elisabeth Lee is the project architect for the Centre. Setting the Centre in harmony with surrounding environment within a sloping site near bottom of a valley is a real challenge in design. An extensive fascia formed from assemblies of bamboo tubes is a unique design feature and this fascia helps to integrate the building with surrounding environment. The limited site area has therefore been fully utilized and yet the natural setting of the valley is preserved.

Access to Dabao is not easy. It takes a 4-hour car journey from the nearest small village town driving through hilly roads mostly unpaved. Geographic location of the village in a valley attracts frequent rainfall which turns the sloping hilly unpaved road surfaces unfit for car access. Delivery of construction materials as well as travelling of construction workers to site has been under severe constraint. Surrounded by mountain ridges, rain patterns in Dabao are unpredictable and this renders planning of construction schedule meaningless. Further, remoteness of the village has created difficulties in acquisition and transporting of necessary supplies during construction.

In spite of the unfavourable situation, it was fortunate that the donor had been very understanding all along. With the patience of the architect as well as the encouragement and advice from the entire project team, the contractor proceeded to work with persistency and the project was successively completed after some delay. It is believed that the eventual product has been able to transpire the original concept of the designer.

The project was managed by Project Mingde, members of which are mostly full-time students from The University of Hong Kong. The mission of Project Mingde is to offer university students a real-life experience through participation in actual engineering projects. This Centre provides a valuable lesson to students in particular in project planning and management. Site survey and engineering design has been comparatively straight forward but the unexpected circumstances mentioned above have created unforeseeable hurdles in project advancement. With an ever-changing set of parameters, construction costs and time has to be frequently adjusted. This is an experience cannot be easily apprehended and taught in the classroom.

INTRODUCTION



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明德工程
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大保的工程項目滿溢著感恩：

- 感恩是在崎嶇的山路上遇上傾盆大雨、山泥傾瀉。
- 感恩是碰到工程上的難題。
- 感恩是見證著學校的落成。
- 感恩是見到雲上的太陽。
- 感恩是看不盡的莊稼。
- 感恩是讓我們學習感恩。

THANKSGIVINGS ARE OVERFLOWED IN THE DABAO PROJECT:

- Thanksgiving to the heavy rainfall, landslide and uneven hill roads on the way to Dabao Village, we experienced the life of villagers.
- Thanksgiving to engineering constraints in construction, we learnt to solve problems when facing problems.
- Thanksgiving to witness the completion of school building, we shared the happiness of villagers.
- Thanksgiving to seeing the sunshine behind the cloud.
- Thanksgiving to knowing the harvest is plentiful.
- Thanksgiving to learning thanksgiving.

INTRODUCTION



吳玉儉
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施工經理
Construction Manager

明德以致遠—寫給大保小學落成之際

在融水秀麗的大山深處，又一座用愛心築建的希望小學建成—這就是大保小學（文化中心）。

大保小學（文化中心）建在高川梯田之間，整個建築依山川地勢及當地文化風俗，獨具特色。建築主體為一層高，有兩間各能容納30人的教室，醫療室，教務室、廚房、戶外操場等設備。建築主體的屋頂是一個活動場所，南面的竹筒屏風，作為學校和道路的分界，獨具匠心。它不僅是一所小學，也是大保文化中心，是瑤族文化活動的場地，在節慶日可容納全村百來戶人舉行各種傳統活動，傳承瑤族文化。

大保小學（文化中心）2013年11月動工，雖然只有一層樓，卻花了一年半的時間，建設週期比一般的建設時間增加了四倍之多，真正體現了深山建設這樣的希望工程之難。大保位於元寶山群腹地，而元寶山是廣西第二高山，高險陡峭，山路難行，這給建設的運輸帶來了極大的困難。運輸建築物資的貨車經常陷入泥中，貨車被困在泥土裡兩三天是常事，多次被困在爛泥中七天，建築物資十多天運不到大保小學是常有的事。由於路太陡峭，每次下雨都會把剛修好的泥沙路沖毀，我也因此多次修路。沒辦法，為了把建築物資順利運到大保小學，我們需要一邊建學校一邊整修沿途的山路。

地處高山，通訊非常困難。工地上沒有移動通訊信號，要與外界聯繫，都得跑到山上才找得到信號。因此，我經常聯繫不上工程師和工人，對工程進度造成了不小的影響。如果說行路難、通訊難是深山僻遠之地的共有難處，那大保小學的建設工程之難就是很特殊的—美好建設理念與惡劣條件之間的矛盾造成大難。大保小學的設計，融匯了設計者將現代教育與當地民俗傳統巧妙融合的理念，而校址在群山腹地，四面群山環抱，冬天山上白雪皚皚，地理位置極其特殊。小學正處在梯田間，從選址定位到建造地基，歷經多次反覆。選址與打地基之初，也許香港明德工程不瞭解地理條件的問題，也沒有考慮大陸建設的特殊性，派來的第一位負責人，沒有交底±00標高，只有簡單的一句話：“馬上開工。”大陸施工方面雖比香港落後，但在定標高上有業主、城建、勘探、設計和施工五方到場定點，雙方並不能完全一致。而且香港與大陸在建設理念上存在一定的差異，大陸建房主要追求實用與經濟，而香港不僅追求實用和經濟，更注重環保。最初香港明德工程人員與我方工程師未深入溝通，造成多次重做地基，反反覆覆，返工重做了四分之一的基礎。

地基之初要清理大量的淤泥，邊挖地基邊排水，也大大影響了建設工期。2014年明德工程派陳成工程師親臨大保指導、監督工程，工程才得以正常進行。陳成工程師不僅專業水平了得，做事也極其認真。一個古稀老者為了大保小學，在交通不便，通訊困難，生活習慣差異較大的山區生活將近一年，實在令人欽佩。

到工程後期，由黃卓邦博士負責收尾工作。黃博士是繼鄒大江博士以後，我又認識的一位工作非常認真負責之人。他接管大保小學後，在大保收集了大保小學建造中的數據，並拍攝照片。然後把數據和照片反饋到明德工程處，由明德工程的相關人員一起商討，最終形成了合理的施工計劃，使各項工序都做了比較科學的安排，讓工程順利完成。

在大保小學的建設中，還有一難就是我自己的身體。起初，我因身體狀態不佳一直未能親力親為監管大保小學的建設，工作一度拖延，工人而且不按設計師的理念施工。得知這一情況，我親自到現場指導大保小學的建設。我忍著腸胃炎的疼痛，睡在學校潮濕而寒冷的水泥地板。山路難行，身體不適，也沒能打垮我的身體和意志，雖然不少人認為大保小學是不能完成的工程，但我最終能按質超量圓滿完成了此工程的建設。

大保小學建成之際，我深感欣慰，終於完成了人生中最難建的希望小學的建設任務，但我更多的是感慨和感謝。

也許很多人沒有見過原來的大保小學，它的主體是木頭結構和水泥瓦屋頂，由於經濟困難而年久失修，雨天屋內到處漏水，冬天寒風肆虐。因為有了深圳市慈盼基金會的捐助和明德工程的策劃，讓大保的孩子們從此能在寬敞明亮的教室愉快學習，雨天不用擔心從瓦縫滴下的雨水淋濕衣服，冬天不用擔心寒冷北風肆虐。他們在猶如藝術品一般的學校裡讀書，我想他們是幸福的。這次捐獻最多的就是慈眉善目的黃德安先生，他的夫人李雅瑛女士就是如藝術品的大保小學建築設計師。

黃德安夫婦多次來到大保，黃德安做大保小學工程前期視察工作，這些事實際上不需要他本人親自做，但他做了。許多人也許不知道，從融水縣城到大保小學的路有多難行，山路蜿蜒狹窄陡峭，就是本地人行車都感覺害怕。許多路段僅能容一輛車通行，由於坡太陡峭，有時車會溜坡，控制不好，車子很容易翻下山谷；再者由於雨季較長，塌方道路被衝斷時有發生。到大保這麼多險要難行的路，他竟然多次來大保。他做慈善不僅僅流於形式，他是用行動實實在在地做。可見他對希望工程的真誠之心。

在承建大保小學（文化中心）過程中，陳成工程師、黃卓邦博士和黃德安先生及助學團義工給我留下深刻的印象，也展現了他們身上的閃光點。明德工程在融水苗族自治縣已經做了十年了，我也自願加入了給寒門學子帶來希望的“明德工程”十年。“明德”一詞出自《大學》，“明德”是指人與生俱來的光明皎潔的德行，並讓這種德行彰顯出來，發揚光大，更多的是強調做人。那些熱衷於明德工程建設的人，他們用實際行動來闡述“明德”真正內涵——用善心和愛心鋪就希望工程之路，明德以致遠。

Making a Difference through Virtue

Deep in the scenic mountains of Ronghsui County, another new school was erected by charity donors and volunteers. This was the Dabao Primary School, also known as Dabao Cultural Center.

Dabao Primary School (cum Cultural Center) was built amidst mountains, rivers and terraced fields. The building was designed to harmonize with the mountainous terrain nearby as well as local customs and traditions. The main level of the building comprised two classrooms, each capable of accommodating 30 students, a small clinic, a staff room, a kitchen and an outdoor playground. The roof of the building was used as a venue for group activities. A uniquely styled bamboo screen wall on the south side of the building served to segregate the school from the road nearby. This building was not only a school, but also the cultural centre of Dabao Village and the Yao ethnic minority. Being large enough to accommodate the hundred or so families in the village, it could be used on festival days for all kinds of traditional gatherings and celebrations. This would help to keep alive the heritage of the Yao ethnic minority.

The construction of Dabao Primary School (cum Cultural Center) started in November 2013. Although the building consisted of one level only, its construction took one and a half years, about four times the normal construction time for similar projects. The time taken reflected the difficulty of undertaking such construction projects in the remote mountains. Dabao is located in the hinterland of Yuanbao Mountain, the second highest mountain in Guangxi Province. The precipitous terrain and the absence of proper roads made it very difficult and sometimes dangerous to transport construction materials to the building site. It was not unusual for our transportation lorries to be stuck on the muddy paths for two to three days. There were occasions when the lorries were stuck in mud for seven days, resulting in the materials deliveries being delayed for ten days or more. The paths were so steep that they were easily damaged by heavy rain during the wet season. In order to transport materials to the school site, we had no choice but to rebuild the road surface as we went along.

Another difficulty we had to face was poor communications in the mountain. There were no mobile signal connections at the construction site and we had to go up to the hilltop to communicate with the outside world. I often failed to reach the engineers and workers at the site causing delays to the project. While all construction projects in the mountain suffered from difficulties in transportation and communication, the Dabao project had a special problem of its own - to strike a balance between the first-class design concepts and the harsh conditions on site. The design concept of Dabao Primary School embodied the designer's dream of integrating modern education values with local folklores and

customs. Further, the school was in the middle of terraced fields and surrounded by mountains on all four sides with snow covering the mountain tops in winter time. There were lots of considerations and deliberations before the site was chosen and the foundations laid.

In the beginning, probably due to a lack of understanding of the geographical constraints and the unique working conditions on the Mainland, the first person in charge sent by Project Mingde from Hong Kong did not leave behind sufficient information on the levelling datum for the project before he left. He went away with only one instruction, "Start work immediately". Although construction technique on the Mainland was backward compared to Hong Kong, there were requirements that the levelling datum had to be agreed on site by all the five parties involved, i.e. owner, government official, surveyor, designer and builder. This was difficult in the absence of sufficient records and information. Furthermore, the Mainland and Hong Kong engineers had different approaches to construction. In the Mainland the focus was on economy and practicality; the Hong Kong engineers placed emphasis on environmental friendliness at the same time. Due to lack of communication between the two sides in the initial stage of work, we had to redo the foundations over and again and about one-quarter of the work was wasted. Further delays were caused when we found out that silt had to be cleared and water had to be drained off before foundations could be laid. In 2014, Project Mingde appointed engineer Mr Chan Shing to come to Dabao in person to supervise the work. From then on, work was carried out smoothly according to schedule. Mr Chan Shing was not only a top-rate professional but also an extremely hardworking man. A man in his seventies, he lived for almost one year in the remote mountains where communications were poor, transportation was inconvenient and habits and customs very different from his home. His selfless devotion to the project was most admirable.

In the final phase of the project, Dr Wong Cheuk Pong was responsible for overseeing the work. Dr Wong was comparable to Dr Guo Dajiang in his serious approach and devotion to work. After he took over the project, he collected information on site, took photographs and sent the materials back to the Project Mingde team to facilitate discussions on contentious issues. This enabled effective exchange of ideas and deliberation among different stakeholders leading to the development of a systematic plan for the completion of the project.

Another difficulty I had to face during the construction of Dabao Primary School was my health problem. At first, because of my poor health, I was not able to supervise the work on site. This resulted not only in delays; some workers did not even follow the designers' instructions in carrying out the work. When this came to my notice, I went in person to the site to supervise the workers. Despite pain from gastroenteritis, I slept on the cold and damp concrete floor of the school for days; nor was I deterred

by the steep mountain paths. Although many people considered the construction of Dabao Primary School to be an impossible project, I managed to complete it and meet the project requirements in terms of both quality and quantity.

Upon the completion of Dabao Primary School, I was pleased and proud that I had seen through the most difficult construction job in my career. At the same time, I was also filled with gratitude and other emotions.

Not many people had seen the original Dabao Primary School building. It was a wooden structure with a roof of cement tiles. Due to the lack of resources, the building was poorly maintained and out of repairs. When it rained, water leaked through the roof and in winter, cold winds raged from all sides. With the help of Shenzhen PAN Charity Foundation and Project Mingde, schoolchildren in Dabao can now study happily in the bright and spacious classrooms, with no need to worry about leaking roofs or raging winter winds. The new school building is a piece of art and is a blessing to the children in Dabao.

The major donor to Dabao Primary School was the kindly-faced Huang De An. His wife Ms. Lee Ah Ying was the architect of the school building. Mr and Mrs Huang visited Dabao many times. Mr Huang De An was himself involved in the preliminary survey work for the construction project. There was no need for him to be personally involved in this kind of work, but he did it all the same. Most people might have little idea of how difficult the roads were from Rongshui County to Dabao Primary School. The mountain paths were so steep, narrow and winding that even local folks were scared of driving along them. Many sections were only wide enough to allow one vehicle to pass, other sections were so steep that vehicles were constantly in danger of slipping downhill, and even of careering into the valleys beneath if not controlled properly. Moreover, because the rainy season was relatively long, landslides were not uncommon. The road to Dabao was dangerous and difficult but Mr Huang still came many times. His charity support was not limited to financial contribution. His devotion to this project was sincere and stemmed from his heart.

As the contractor of Dabao Primary School (cum Cultural Center), I had great admiration for Mr Chan Shing, Dr Wong Cheuk Pong, Mr Huang De An and the team of volunteers. Their contributions to Project Mingde were a manifestation of their true virtues.

Project Mingde has been building schools in Rongshui Miao Autonomous County for ten years now and I have been working for their charity projects all this time. The term “Mingde” came from the

“Book of Great Learning”¹. It means manifestation of innate human virtue as a way of life. People who contribute to Project Mingde are living examples of the true meaning of “Mingde” - they make a difference through their love and charity work.

¹ *The “Book of Great Learning” is one of the “Four Books and Five Classics”, which are the authoritative books of Confucianism in China written before 300 BC.*

** Translated from Chinese by Zina Wong, 1972 HKU graduate*

INTRODUCTION



蒙可陸
MENG KELU

融水愛苗之家主任
Coordinator
Rongshui Love Seedling Community Service Centre

當純真的孩童們興高采烈在新落成的漂亮校舍裡擺出各種成功手勢相爭拍照時，我內心平靜而激動！期盼這刻太久，現今終得實現！身為牽線搭橋援建協助人，期間當然經歷不少，有港方與本地文化差異帶來的誤解，有各種原因拖延工期的無奈，有村民不理解和開始的埋怨等等，更多的是讓我見證了無私奉獻的愛心！有黃德安先生與李雅瑛女士的捐助，有香港大學土木工程系“明德工程”助學團楊樹人教授及師生們的努力，他們無數次跋山涉水，千里迢迢深入瑤寨工地，精益求精的工作，有74歲陳成工程師駐守工地一年之久的監理付出，種種讓人感動與敬佩！

援建的漂亮校舍，裝飾了大保人讀書的夢！期盼學童們心向夢想乘帆起航！

When I saw the jubilant faces of the innocent children raising the victory hand-sign in front of the camera in the new, smart-looking school building, I was excited but at the same time peaceful at heart. I had been looking forward to this moment for a long time. As a facilitator responsible for going-between different stakeholders of the charity project, I had gone through a lot during the construction of the building. The cultural differences between Hong Kong and local people had brought about misunderstandings, the construction work was delayed time and again for various reasons, and the village folks sometimes failed to understand and started complaining. However, what impressed me most throughout the process was the selfless love and devotion of the donors and volunteers. They included Mr Tony Huang and Ms Elisabeth Lee who made generous donations, Professor Nicolas Yeung and the team of teachers and students of the Civil Engineering Department of The University of Hong Kong who worked selflessly on the project, and the 74-year old engineer, Mr Chan Shing who was stationed at the work site for one whole year to supervise the engineering work. The volunteers scaled mountains, forded streams and penetrated all the way into the remote Yao Village in pursuit of excellence in construction. I admire all of them and am deeply moved by their dedication.

The beautiful school building constructed under the charity project has helped Dabao folks realize their dream of learning and education. May I wish smooth sailing to the school children who follow this dream!

INTRODUCTION



李月明
LEE YUET MING

李雅瑛的父親
Father of Elisabeth Lee

大保學校建築於農田之間，校園邊是農田，學校兩邊築起圍牆，仔細看看全是用大竹切割，四邊用鐵和英泥穩固，很優雅，學校共有兩個課室，課室的窗也是用竹的，有通風的作用，很有心思，原來當地盛產竹樹，因此二小姐就地取材，又環保，又有經濟效益，校內也有廚房，有老師住的地方，建築簡潔，學校得以順利竣工，楊教授和香港大學工程系同學功不可抹，他們來回奔走，辛苦可以想像，站在學校大門外，心裡想孩子們終於有所學校上課了！

跟著是交接儀式，在球場舉行，首先由小孩子們負責升國旗儀式，看他們手忙腳亂，最終也要老師幫忙才告順利完成，由校長致詞，當地官員頒發紀念品給德安夫婦，這天我看二小姐開心的很，她應該很滿意自己的作品！隨著德安致詞，說得很體面，德安是個厚道的人，跟著和當地官員教師，楊教授和一眾大學同學來一個大合照。

最令人感動的是孩子們領取新書包那一刻，德安夫婦預先運來一批新書包，Coby也捐了一批拖鞋給村民，書包內有文具，書包放在課室檯上，有不同的顏色，孩子們在課室外已等得不耐煩了，老師一聲令下，孩子們一齊衝入課室，女孩子爭拿粉紅色的，好混亂，老師大聲說：不要搶，排隊。好不容易所有孩子也拿到了書包！個個歡天喜地跑來跑去，吱吱喳喳的說個不停，面上的喜悅和興奮的神情，散發孩子天真瀟灑，非文字能以形容，在這物質資源缺乏的地方，一個書包已令小孩子很滿足了，村民也很開心領取拖鞋，一面感激之情，在物質豐富的香港生活的人，很難感受到這份滿足，我不禁想起小時候艱苦的日子。

村民準備了午飯招待我們，午飯在課室內進行，第一道菜到最後一道菜也和豬有關，豬內臟豬骨湯，爇豬肉，紅燒豬肉，燴豬肉，等等……但奇怪沒有素菜，我看見田中種了稻米以外也有種蔬菜，飯後我好奇地問楊教授為什沒有素菜，原來那叫老虎膳，當地謔請貴賓才會那麼隆重，我才明白食一餐肉對村民是那麼珍貴。

The Dabao School has been completed among the farmlands. Right beside the schoolyard there are farmlands. Walls are built on both sides of the school. When you look carefully, you can see that walls are made of bamboos with metal and cement on four sides to make them stable, very elegant. There are two classrooms, the windows were elaborately made of bamboos, aiming at providing natural ventilation. Actually, bamboo is plentiful in the areas where villagers live. Therefore, my second daughter has used the locally available materials for the project, which is not only environmentally friendly but also cost effective. Inside the school, kitchen and accommodation for teachers have been built with a simple but comfortable design. Professor Yeung and students from the Department of Civil Engineering of

The University of Hong Kong had indeed made indelible contribution to the successful completion of the project. They had been working hard and dedicated themselves to the project with perseverance. Standing outside the school gate, I felt thankful that finally there is a school for children to study in!

The handover ceremony was held in the open court. At the beginning, there was a flag raising ceremony performed by children. However, the teacher's assistance was eventually required to accomplish the ceremony. This was followed by an address from the Headmaster and presentation of souvenirs to Tony and Elisabeth by local officers. I could see how happy my second daughter was that day. Tony's speech was well said. Together with local officers and teachers, Professor Yeung, as well as the students, we took a group photo to cherish the moment.

The most amazing and touching moment was witnessing the happiness of children when they received schoolbags as gifts. Tony and Elisabeth had sent a batch of schoolbags to the village in advance for the children, while Coby also donated a batch of slippers to the villagers. Schoolbags in different colours with stationery inside were put on the school desks. The children were waiting patiently outside the classroom with excitement. Upon the teacher's signal, all children rushed into the classroom to choose their favourite schoolbag. All girls reached for the pink ones. The teacher had no choice but to raise his voice and ask them to line up. Finally, all children had schoolbags in hand, chattering and running around happily. The happiness and excitement shown on their innocent faces mean more than words can say. In a place where resources are limited, a schoolbag can easily satisfy a child and a pair of slippers can make a villager very happy. They always approach life with a sense of gratitude. In Hong Kong, however, where people are rich in materials and resources, they may not be well aware of what is wonderful in their life and rarely feel thankful at all. At this moment, I cannot help but recalling the tough times in my childhood.

At noon, villagers entertained us with lunch in the classroom. From the first course to the last course, all dishes were cooked with pork. These included pig bone soup, simmered pork, braised pork belly, stewed pork, and numerous other pork dishes. Yet, it was strange that no vegetable was on the table. As I saw rice and other vegetables were grown in the fields, I asked Professor Yeung curiously after lunch why there were no vegetable dishes. I figured out then that we were treated with the utmost cordiality, namely the Tiger Feast, by the villagers. In the village, only distinguished guests would be invited to enjoy the Tiger Feast. At that moment, I understood how precious it is for the villagers to enjoy a meal with meat.

INTRODUCTION



黃德安
TONY HUANG

深圳市慈盼慈善基金
PAN Foundation

首先，我想對明德工程、香港大學土木工程系及楊教授表達我最真誠的謝意。感謝你們給予我們這次寶貴的機會參與這個充滿意義的工程，讓我們有機會幫助廣西省大保村的村民。這是慈盼基金會的首個項目，我們的目標是努力解決中國農村地區貧困孩子們的教育需求問題。

毫無疑問，這是一個充滿挑戰且重大的項目，期間難免會遇到一些困難和阻礙。為了給村民提供一個安全且具備多功能的環境，我們不斷地在過程中優化項目。對於我們的志願者、學生以及教授們來說，由於路線不清晰及天氣情況不可預知，乘車往返工程所在區域並非一件簡單的事情。然而，為了完成他們的目標，他們一直保持著積極樂觀的態度。儘管遇到困難挑戰，每個人依然勇往直前，最終成功地將學校交給大保村的村民。

在此，我們想再次給每個人送上真誠的謝意，感謝你們付出的所有努力。我們希望這種奉獻精神能夠繼續傳承下去，以幫助經濟條件稍微落後的群體獲得更好的教育。

First of all, I would like to give my sincerest thank to Project Mingde, Department of Civil Engineering, The University of Hong Kong and Professor Yeung for giving us this great opportunity and meaningful project, allowing us to help the villagers at Dabao village, Guangxi. This is The Pan Foundation's first project and our aim is to respond to educational needs for underprivileged children in rural areas of China.

It was certainly a challenging and eventful project and inevitably encountered a few obstacles throughout the project. Several changes had to be adapted in order to provide a safe and functional environment for the villagers. Commuting to the project site was not easy for our volunteers, students and professors due to lack of properly surfaced roads and unpredictable weather conditions. Yet they maintained a positive attitude in completing their goals. Despite the challenges faced, everyone had kept their heads up high and we finally handed the school successfully to the villagers of Dabao.

Once again, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to everyone for all the hard work and we hope that this spirit of dedication can continue to thrive to help the less fortunate communities for a better education.

INTRODUCTION



李雅瑛
ELISABETH LEE

項目建築師
Project Architect

這是我參與的第一個慈善項目，是幫助一個少數民族—瑤族人民，設計一所學校及文化中心。能夠跟熱情洋溢的學生、知識淵博的教授、經驗豐富的工程師、承建商以及充滿激情的志願者們組成的優秀團隊共事，我感到非常幸運，一直感受到激勵和鼓舞人心的團隊精神。

把一棟房子改造成一座出色的建築，未能令人欽佩。然而，若根據當地居民的需求，深入瞭解當地情況後再進行創造，才能設計出傑出的作品。通過敏銳的洞察力，考慮到建築與環境的協調，並在解決不同障礙時，一起把設計優化，這就是此項目的最終成果。

完成這項目是一個充滿著挑戰但意義深遠的過程。通過這個項目，我更深入地瞭解大保村及當地居民，獲益良多。我很慶幸能夠為他們設計這所學校及文化中心，也希望這一本書，能帶領你們穿越這個旅程，深入瞭解這個讓人陶醉的村莊以及這裡的人們、風景和文化。

My first project of a charitable nature was to design this school and cultural centre for an ethnic minority group- the Yaos. I felt very lucky to have a great team of enthusiastic students, knowledgeable professors, experienced engineers and contractors on site as well as passionate volunteers working with me. The team spirit was motivational as well as inspiring.

It is not a brilliant idea that makes a building a piece of great architecture, but rather creating a design that responds to and shows a deep understanding of the people and place for which it was designed. The outcome of the project was the realization of an ingenious vision into a piece of architecture attuned to its environment and transformed by the obstacles that arose during this process.

Our journey while completing this project was as challenging as it was rewarding. Through this project, I experienced the joy of getting to know the village of Dabao and its inhabitants. It was my pleasure to be able to design for them and, with this book, I wish to take you through a journey of insight into this fascinating village as well as its people, landscape and culture.

DABAO VILLAGE
大保村

DABAO VILLAGE IS REMOTELY SITUATED WITHIN THE MOUNTAIN RANGE OF GUANGXI PROVINCE IN CHINA. THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDES HOME TO AROUND 110 FAMILIES OF AN ETHNIC MINORITY GROUP CALLED THE 'YAOS'.

大保村地處偏僻，坐落於中國廣西省山區。該聚居地有大約110戶人家，都屬於少數民族“瑤族”。











THE GROUP HAS ITS OWN DISTINCTIVE DIALECT AND CULTURE. YAO PEOPLE ARE OFTEN IDENTIFIED BY THEIR UNIQUE COLOURFUL TRADITIONAL COSTUMES.

這個民族有獨特的方言和文化，他們也有彩色鮮豔的傳統服飾。























SCHOOL IN PROCESS

項目進行





THE DABAO PROJECT AIMS AT PROVIDING THE YAOS WITH A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL AND A CULTURAL CENTRE. DABAO VILLAGERS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE INITIAL PLANNING OF THE PROJECT, AND HAVE SINCE BEEN INVOLVED IN CONSTRUCTION UNTIL PROJECT COMPLETION.

大保項目旨在為當地瑤族人提供一座新的小學兼社區中心，同時成為該村的文化中心。大保村民一開始就被邀積極參與項目并加入建設團隊。









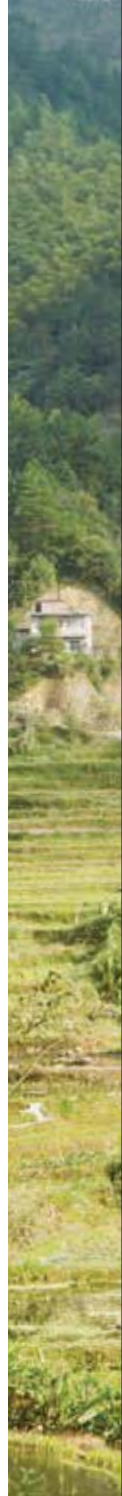




THE DABAO SCHOOL
大保小學

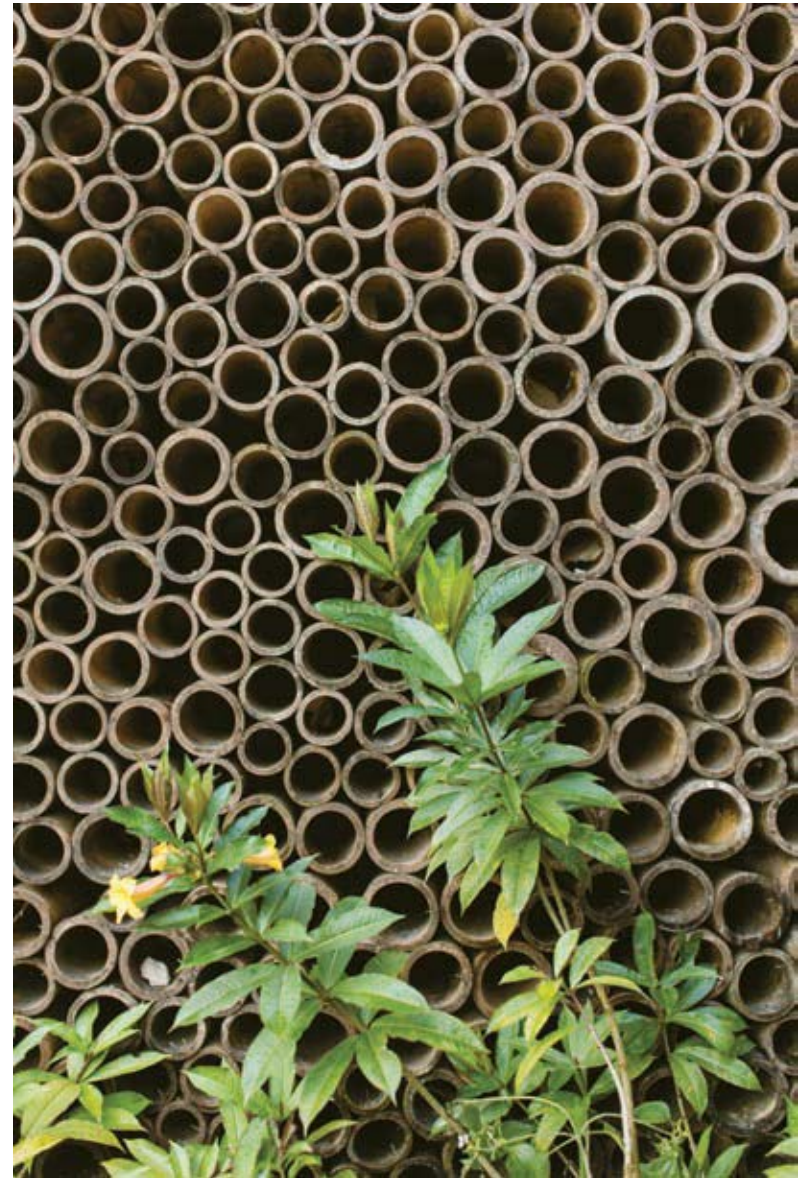
THE SCHOOL BUILDING IS SITUATED WITHIN THE PADDY FIELDS ON THE MOUNTAINS OF DABAO. THE PROJECT IS DESIGNED TO MERGE THE BUILDING HARMONIOUSLY WITH THE SURROUNDING LANDSCAPE. MAINTAINING A BALANCE BETWEEN THE BUILDING AND THE SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT IS THE PRIME CONSIDERATION FOR THE EXQUISITE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN OF THIS PROJECT.

大保小學坐落於山區田間，與周圍環境融為一體、和諧共存。這個項目的建築語言含蓄精妙：在建築與環境間保持平衡。









THE DESIGN CONCEPT IS STRUCTURED AROUND THE USE OF THREE PARALLEL LAYERS OF WALLS IN ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES ORIGINATED FROM THE STEEP TOPOGRAPHY OF THE SITE.

設計理念是三層平行牆體結構，以對應學校建設中遇到的陡峭地形等難題。







A LONG BAMBOO FAÇADE ALONG THE SOUTHERN SITE BOUNDARY NOT ONLY ACTS AS A PROTECTIVE BARRIER FROM THE ROAD OUTSIDE, IT ALSO REGULATES THE TRANSMISSION OF NOISE AND DAYLIGHT WHILST ENSURING PRIVACY OF OCCUPANTS AT THE SAME TIME. THE INTELLIGENT USE OF DIFFERENT DIAMETERS AND LENGTHS OF BAMBOO TUBES RESPONDS ADEQUATELY TO THE DIFFERENT LIGHT REQUIREMENTS OF THE ROOMS FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE FUNCTIONS.

該建築南端的長竹牆面，既可做隔離外面大路的保護屏障，也可調節聲響、光線，並保障裡面的人的隱私。利用大小不同、長短不一的竹筒，滿足每個空間/功能的用光需求。









THE MAIN LEVEL OF THE BUILDING INCLUDES TWO CLASSROOMS, EACH FOR 30 STUDENTS, A LIBRARY, A STAFF ROOM, A KITCHEN, AND SPACE FOR VARIOUS UTILITIES. AN OUTDOOR PLAYGROUND AREA WITH A BASKETBALL COURT IS LOCATED ON THE SECOND LEVEL WHEREAS THE ROOF OF THE BUILDING IS ACCESSIBLE FOR CHILDREN TO PLAY AND FOR VILLAGERS TO REST AND ENJOY THE SPECTACULAR PANORAMIC LANDSCAPE. BESIDES FUNCTIONING AS A PRIMARY SCHOOL, THE CENTER ALSO SERVES AS A CULTURAL SPACE FOR EVENTS, FESTIVALS AND VARIOUS CELEBRATIONS OF THE YAOS.

建築主體層包括：兩間各容納30名學生的教室，一間圖書室，教員室，廚房，和各種應用空間；第二層是室外運動場地，還有籃球場；第三層是建築的屋頂，可供孩子們玩耍和村民休息，縱覽全景，何其壯觀。除了發揮小學的功能，該中心也成為瑤族人活動、節日和慶典的文化場地。















STUDENT S' REFLECTIONS

STUDENTS' REFLECTIONS

學生感想

蘇愷健
SO HOI KIN, BEN

2015 Graduate



我認為明德工程給予我一個難能可貴的經歷去瞭解國內農村的生活情況。記得第一次到大保的旅程，在破爛不堪的泥路乘車數小時，看到一棟棟木屋，認識到當地村民自給自足但樸素的生活，對自己也是很大的衝擊。親歷其境之後，也不禁反思城市人物質上富足，但卻往往充滿憂愁，確是身在福中不知福。

Project Mingde provided me an invaluable experience to gain a deeper understanding of the rural life in China. When my thoughts flash back to the trip to Dabao, I remember the van we took bouncing through bumpy and muddy roads for several hours. Throughout the way we saw timber cabins scattered around. I couldn't help being shocked when seeing villagers relying on themselves and living a simple but happy life. While people living in urban areas possess more material wealth, they are not really happier and somehow might be less satisfied with life. Life is amazing. Cherish it and make it the best we can.

崔浩進
CHUI HO CHUN, EDDIE

2015 Graduate



我曾看過一副對聯—「港大百年育英才 明德十載護幼苗」。我不知道我是不是英才，但也想盡最大的努力去保護大保屯裡的幼苗。在此希望能看到大保屯文化中心的二十周年，到時候再重遊舊地，看看當年的小涕蟲長大成人，用知識去改變他們的命運。

I have seen a couplet, "The University of Hong Kong has been educating talents for a century, while Project Mingde has been protecting seedlings for a decade". I do not know if I am an elite but I still try my best to care for the seedlings in Dabao Village. I really hope that I can revisit the Dabao Village Cultural Centre at its twentieth anniversary. By that time, those "little snivelelers" will probably have grown to adulthood and changed their fate with knowledge.

吳家豪
NG KA HO, PETER

2015 Graduate



土木工程給人的感覺很機械化，都是數學程式上的運算。可是在這個義務工作上，我體會到工程人性化的一面。我們說做工程，是為了解決現實生活的問題，確切地明白當地村民的需要，為著人的緣故提出可行的方案，也導致建屋育人的理念。

For some people, civil engineering seems to be closely related to mechanization, and might simply be equations and calculations. However, through voluntary participation in this project, I realized that engineering can be more humanized. The purpose of engineering is to help people solve problems. We need to understand the needs of villagers and come out with feasible plans to meet their needs. That's also the underlying concept of Project Mingde.

沈家宜
KA YEE SHUM, CYNTHIA

Class of 2017



我始終相信，工程是一項通過建設基礎設施和其它類型建築以塑造城市、從而改善人類生活的職業。此行進一步證明，這種說法是絕對正確的。學校是為學生學習和成長提供良好環境的必要條件。因此，我相信大保新建的社區中心能很好地幫助那裡的學生走向更美好的未來。

I always believe engineering is a profession that contributes to the betterment of human lives by shaping the cities with infrastructures and other types of construction. This trip has further proven that this statement is definitely right. A school is essential in providing a good studying environment for students to learn and grow. Therefore, I believe the newly-built community centre in Dabao can help the students there to walk towards a brighter future.

杜俊傑
TO CHUN KIT, CURTIS

2013 Graduate



大學之道在明明德、在親民、在止於至善。明德工程是以大學生的技能行德行，改善人生活的條件，是工程師的天職。希望將來的同學能夠格物致知，明德相待，用雙手改善世界。

The way of great learning involves the manifestation of one's virtue, loving the people and stopping only at perfect goodness. The aim of Project Mingde is to give an opportunity to university students to improve other people's living conditions by contributing their knowledge and effort which is the innate skill of an engineer. I hope that students in upcoming years will continue to attain knowledge by investigation, treat each other with virtues and make the world a better place together.

冼嘉俊
SIN KA CHUN, FELIX

2014 Graduate



回想過去，我在明德工程成長了不少。希望後人謹記以民為本、學以致用、傳承明德之高尚人格精神和美德。

In retrospect, I have grown and matured a lot through my participation in Project Mingde. Hopefully those joining this project in future will continue to carry on with them the noble personality and virtue of Project Mingde, taking people as the foremost and making practical use of knowledge.

黃藝雄
WONG NGAI HUNG, DEREK

2015 Graduate



整個過程中，有些經歷令人難忘。村內沒有賓館旅店，所以我們便睡在由書桌拼湊而成的床，加上床鋪和蚊帳，我們便這樣睡了三個晚上，有好幾個同學因而睡得不好。另一點是，明德工程給了我機會學以致用，有機會並感受到貧困人士的生活，獲益良多。明德工程是我義務工作經驗中的一個重要項目。

Whilst working on this project, some experience can never be forgotten. As there is no hotel or guest house in the village, we have to pull the desks together to form the bed. Together with the mosquito net, we spent three nights on site. Some of us did not get a good sleep. Another point is that Project Mingde gives us an opportunity to use what we have learnt and at the same time, we can feel the life of the poor. Project Mingde is really the most memorable project in my volunteer experience.

李學文
LEE HOK MAN, MANSON

2014 Graduate



孩子臉上純真的笑容，村民的熱情招待，給我打了一支強心針，他們活得很快樂。在先天的艱苦生活條件下，樂在其中。原來生活可以很簡單。

The smiles on the innocent faces of the kids and the hospitality from the villagers immediately melt my heart and give me strength. They live happily even though the living conditions are poor. Life in fact can be very simple.

洪家誠
HUNG KA SHING

2015 Graduate



參加明德對於土木的知識有所得益外，對於自己的人生經歷都有很大的收穫。看到當地的生活條件和香港是多麼的不同，真心明白到自己正生活在一個十分幸福的環境，令我反想到自己應該要為這個世界盡一份力量，幫忙別人。

Through participation in Project Mingde, not only have I strengthened my knowledge in civil engineering, but I have also obtained many enlightening experiences. When witnessing the huge difference in living conditions between the village and Hong Kong, I was fully convinced that life can also be full of wonder, beauty and joy under very different environment. Each of us has something different to contribute. I should make the best of myself to help those in need.

廖健鈞
LIU KIN KWAN

2015 Graduate



大保項目是一個學習如何去「建屋」的好機會，實踐我們在課堂學到的理論，給我們機會去接觸一個真實的項目，而這個項目是在中國大陸的貧困山區。

至於「育人」，大保的項目除了為當地人民生活帶來改善，給當地小學生帶來更舒適的學習環境，也對我個人的成長有深切的意義。

"To build" is a major aim of Project Mingde. The construction of Dabao Centre offered a learning opportunity for us to learn how to build a school. We had a chance to put what we learned in school into practice. Further, the site was in a remote part of the Mainland, an environment very different from Hong Kong. Project Dabao improves living conditions of villagers and provides a more comfortable study environment to students. It means a lot to my personal life and this is the second aim of Project Mingde- "to grow."

鄭煥誌
KWONG LONG CHI, BRIAN

2015 Graduate



當時正值雨季，天氣惡劣，而我和一眾同學在大雨中要進入村中考察環境。汽車抵受不住惡劣的天氣而拋錨，且深陷泥中，我和一眾同學只有下來推車，最後成功進村。從這經歷可得知，平時村內居民進出村莊有多困難，在建業過程中所遇到的問題又有幾多。

It was during the raining season when we went to Guangxi to carry out the surveying study. The weather was bad and it was raining heavily. Our car could not resist the severe weather and broke down. It was trapped deeply in the mud. We had to get off the car and together we pushed it forward under the heavy rain. From that experience, I realised how difficult it was for the villagers to travel to and from the village and what problems the contractor had to face during the process of construction.

王柏倫
WONG PAK YUE, MARTIN

2016 Graduate



看見精力充沛的同學們在籃球場上揮灑著汗水，我深信明德慈盼文化中心定能成為一處重要的公共空間和教育場所，讓小孩在柔和的竹筒牆光影下探索知識和茁壯成長。

Watching energetic students sweating for a game on the basketball court, I deeply believe that Mingde Pan Community and Cultural Center will become a popular public place and an educational centre, where children can explore knowledge and grow up sturdily in the soft light shadowed by the bamboo-tube walls.

彭俊諾
PUNG CHUN NOK, SAMSON

2016 Graduate



大保和香港生活水平存在巨大差異，希望項目能為孩子提供較好的教育機會，提高他們在廣西省的社會經濟地位。

項目成功的基石是溝通。沒有建築師和承包人的貢獻，項目就不能順利完成。

There is a huge difference in the living standard between Dabao and Hong Kong. It is hoped that the centre will provide a better educational opportunity for the children in the village so as to raise their socioeconomic status in Guangxi.

The key to a successful project is communication. Without contributions from the designer and the contractor, the centre would not have been able to be completed smoothly.

劉靖芝
LAU CHING CHI, JOANNE

2014 Graduate



參與明德工程的過程和經歷燃起了我對這行業的興趣。我認為明德工程不僅能幫助有需要的人，亦能令到參與其中的人有所得益。參與明德工程的過程非常難忘，當中學到的知識和經驗可謂畢生受用。

The experience from joining Project Mingde enkindled my interests in this profession. Project Mingde is not only helping people in need, it is beneficial to those joining the project as well. What I experienced from Project Mingde is unforgettable and would be beneficial throughout my whole life.

楊資源
YANG ZIYUAN, MARCUS

Class of 2017



在廣西工作，文化交流是頗為有趣的。大保村獨有的鄉土氣息和寧靜生活，與香港截然不同，令我記憶猶新。我有幸在大保村住了一個晚上。那裡的夜晚，風溫柔地吹著，四周靜悄悄的，一片漆黑，當你抬頭看到滿天繁星閃耀，你會覺得很幸福。

Cultural exchange is another interesting experience while working in Guangxi. I could remember the unique rurality and the peaceful livelihood in Dabao village which is non-existent in Hong Kong. I had the opportunity to spend a night in the village. It was pitch dark and quiet with mild wind blowing across. When you gazed at the shining stars in the sky, one would feel blessed.

潘澄
POON TSING, LEO

Class of 2017



我真心感激之前參與項目的成員所付出的努力和熱情。雖然在參與大保項目初期，我並沒有足夠的經歷和知識，但這些前輩都耐心指導我，並鼓勵我繼續投入。作為明德工程的新成員，我逐漸建立了歸屬感和工作成就感。

I truly appreciate the endeavour and passion of the senior members of Project Mingde. Although I did not have sufficient experience and knowledge when I first joined Project Dabao, senior members gave me the necessary guidance and encouraged me to be more involved in the project. As a new member of Project Mingde, I gradually built up a sense of belonging and satisfaction through my participation.

吳霜
WU SHUANG, FROST

2014 Graduate



參與這個項目，我學到了建築工地的基礎知識，而這些知識是在課堂上不可能獲取的。同時，工地上的實踐及直接教學經歷可以讓我加深對知識的理解。

Through joining this project, I have learnt the basic knowledge of a construction site which generally cannot be acquired from a classroom. Also, the actual participation in site work and teaching experience help to strengthen my understanding of knowledge.

何經匯
HO KING WUI, STEVE

2015 Graduate



在那一年多的光陰，歷盡大大小小的變化。現在回想，過程中未必做得完美，但我盡力了，無愧於心。現在看到小學終於落成，從師弟口中得知設計有被採用，原來自己的付出沒有白費，真是感到十分安慰。

In the past year, many things had happened to the project. However, I always applied the best of my effort to tasks assigned to me no matter what had happened. I learnt from a fellow member that the design for the school building had eventually been adopted, I cannot help but feeling a great sense of satisfaction because my hard work finally paid off.

黃展輝
WONG CHIN FAI, LOUIS

2015 Graduate



明德工程的意義並不止於此，它給予了不少貧苦的學生一個更佳的機會，給予不同階層的人一個改善生活的機會。可以說，明德工程對於整個社會都帶來了正面的影響，希望明德工程能夠繼續薪火相傳下去，為不同的人帶來轉機。

Project Mingde provides a better chance for many underprivileged students. In addition, it offers a chance for people to improve their lives. It can be said that Project Mingde has brought positive impacts on the whole society. I hope Project Mingde can go on from generation to generation, giving everyone a chance to live a better life.

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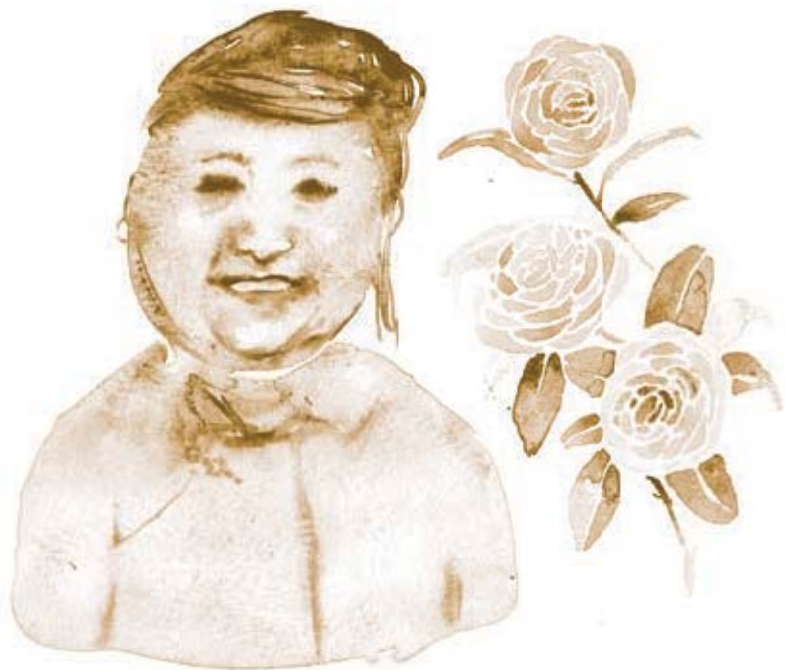
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LOKZ NG

<http://www.civil.hku.hk/mingde/>

DABAO FOLKLORES

大保村民間故事



STORY1

山茶花 CAMELLIA

山茶，又名山茶花，屬常灌木和小木植物。古名海石榴，是世界名花木之一。

大保村上上了年紀，六、七十多歲的老人，都擁有亮麗的黑髮，除了因為在自然環境、沒有污染的地方成長及生活外，秘訣在於他們使用由山茶花提煉出來的精華來作護髮素。他們採摘了花朵後，會把它們壓榨及風乾成一餅餅的花茶花餅，然後風乾待用。

Camellia, also known as Camellia Japonica, is a low growing shrub. With Punica Granatum 'Nana' as its ancient name, Camellia is a world renowned plant.

One might be surprised to find out that villagers living in Dabao possess beautiful healthy black hair even at the age of 60 or 70. Apart from growing up and living in a natural environment free from pollution, one secret is the skilful use of purified essence of Camellia on the hair. This is a well kept tradition of the Dabao villagers. Once the flowers are picked, they will be pressed and dried in the sun converting them into flower cakes. These will further be dried in the wind and stored for future use.



STORY2

田中魚 FISH IN THE FIELD

一層一層的田畝，田連阡陌，三百多年來，養活了一代又一代的大保村村民。插著稻米的田畝，細看有為數不少的魚兒在游來游去。原來魚苗由播下稻米種子的一刻便養在一起，一方面，魚兒的排遺物為植物提供營養，另一方面，也可為遠離河澗的村民提供食用魚類。村民確切地體現了大自然生生不息的共融與和諧。

Over the past three hundred years, paddy fields have been a main source of support to Dabao village. When one looks carefully at the paddy fields, one can see a number of fish swimming in the water. The baby fish is put into the field when the seeds of rice are sown. On the one hand, fish faeces help fertilizing the rice growth and on the other hand fish is a good source of food for the villagers. Dabao villagers demonstrate the survival rule of nature and they themselves live harmoniously with nature.



STORY3

與犬結緣 THE DOGS AND THE YAOS

相信在中國吃狗肉已是廣為人知的事情，但有趣的是，瑤族人對狗肉卻敬而遠之。其中因由，包括了很多傳說及小故事，其中一個：瑤族的祖先在戰爭逃難時曾被狗救了一命，狗於他們有恩，世世代代的瑤族人便對狗尊重有加。

The popularity of dog meat consumption in China might be well known. However, the Yaos keep themselves at a respectful distance from dog meat. The reason for that lies in a legend: that an ancestor of the Yao tribe was once saved by a dog during a war. Thus, the Yaos feel they owe a debt of gratitude towards dogs and therefore dogs are highly respected from generation to generation.

