

Reflection on Completion and Handover Ceremony of Mingde Jundi Teacher Dormitory

30th September – 2nd October 2017

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The three-day experiential learning trip to Guangxi Province during the National Day holiday period is very meaningful to me. It is my third time to join the trip under Mingde Project and my second time to the Daping Village in Rongshui County. Representative professors from Civil Engineering Department and organisers of Mingde Project led twenty one students studying in different disciplines to participate and witness the Completion and Handover Ceremony of Mingde Jundi Teacher Dormitory in Daping Primary School. The remarkable ceremonious event was held on 1 October 2017, which is a special day as it is the National Day.

On the first day, we spent nearly half of the day on a coach bus from Futin Crossing Border to reach Rongshui County in the northern part of Guangxi Province. We had a chance to appreciate the nature views outside the windows along the highways. Sky is wide because the buildings in rural areas are not as that high in Hong Kong, which always blocks the natural views. From the changing views, variations of developments in different regions can be observed. After entering the Rongshui County, we passed some commercial streets decorated in exotic cultural styles of minority ethnic groups. We had a taste of bowl of local famous rice vermicelli for dinner and then settled separately in a hotel nearby.

On the second day, we got up very early, even before the sun rise, to start another five-hour bus journey heading to our destiny (inner rural area in Guangxi Province) – Daping Primary School, the ‘highest’ school by elevation having 1149 m as altitude. The stunning natural views of many regularly spaced terraces amazed us, we got refreshed by the fresh air and fine weather. The villagers shew their sincere and warm hospitality by cheerfully playing the traditional musical instruments to us and lighting up fireworks in the sky!

Not only we had the treasurable opportunity witnessing the ceremony, I felt honored to be selected as one of the M.C. for it, to help announcing what will be happened next. The ceremony was kicked off by the flag raising ceremony. Watching the national flag raising in the ‘highest’ hill on National Day, I felt touched and impressed as it is the most unforgettable National Day that I never have had. Next, Principal of the school, Mr Yao, delivered a welcoming speech. Guests from different parties are also invited to giving their sharing about the completion of the construction project. We appreciated so much for the joint efforts from different people, constructing the Jundi Teacher Dormitory to provide resting rooms for teachers. With the completion of the dormitory, more teachers can be retained and stay longer in school to teach the children.

The children there dressed up beautifully to give us various types of celebrating shows, including song with dactylology, modern dancing and traditional ethnic dancing of races Yao. After disclosing the plaque of Jundilou and visiting the new-build dormitory, we had a fresh lunch with many delicious dishes prepared by local villagers. These leave me a deep impression towards the school. Last time when I visited the site in April, the dormitory is still under construction. But now, it is completed and painted in eye-catching color! On the way back to Rongshui, we had the chance get off to visit the first bridge built by Mingde Project, namely

Chaoyang Bridge. I can really feel the positive effects of it when I passing through the bridge, with its construction improving the live quality of the local.

On the third day, we had another long coach bus back to Shenzhen. Although the trip is not last long, its rewards sowed the seeds in mind, reinforcing and motivating me to study harder in order to well-equip ourselves to contribute more to the society in the future