

Reflection on the trip to Guangxi (5th – 8th March 2016)

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This is the first time for me to join the trip to Guangxi as a Mingde member. To be honest, I held no expectation for the journey before the trip, since I am a new comer in Mingde and haven't involved much in the project. I was afraid I could not contribute much in the trip and could not be able to assist the progressing of the designing work. In another word, the trip will turn to be meaningless at all.

However, it is not true at all, which is just right opposite towards my expectation. This trip is remarkably incredible and fun, which allows you to learn and have fun in the same time. This piece of memory undoubtedly becomes part of my precious memory in university life.

In the visit to Daping primary school, we carried out inspection and measurements for analysis the school environment and condition, then had an earnest meeting with architects and principal of the school for discussing details of the school design. Throughout the meeting, we could understand the school life of the children in Daping and their real need, which inspired us a lot in the design as to effectively address student needs. Lots of uncertainties and doubt that bothered us for a long time were clarified and confirmed, which is definitely a relief and a motivation for us to work on the upcoming tasks.

The trip to Guangxi is not just an academic learning opportunity, but also a unique culture experience and a chance to get familiar with your Mingde colleagues. In the trip, we visit local people's home in remote mountains with ethnical structural feature that you could never found in any place else. I found that Guangxi people are really friendly and hospitable, we were always being invited by them to have a fruitful meal consists of feature cuisines and we never felt hungry at all. I enjoyed a lot in these mealtimes as we had a lot of chatting and interaction with locals to deeply experience their special culture, an unforgettable memory is formed, especially when your friends were also involving in it. In fact, I did not knowing the other Mingde members well before the trip and felling a bit embarrassing at the start of the trip. However, we got to know more about each other when participating in activities and always helped each other out, we quickly become friends and the trip became even more interesting because of it.

I strongly recommend our member to grab the upcoming chance for the next trip, I am sure you will gain much more than you expected.