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BEng (CivE) II

Before this 26-day trip to Guangxi, I had been to Guangxi once in another trip organised by Project Mingde which lasts only 5 days. Compared to the last trip, this trip certainly means more to me and is worth for every civil engineering student to go at least once in his/her lifetime.

I learnt a lot about civil engineering in these 26 days. By working with other fellows, studying the design details and codes alone, and discussing with experienced engineers, I understood in advance many engineering concepts which I was supposed to learn in the coming academic year. In several site visits, I also had a glance and a brief understanding of a complete project cycle. I witnessed so closely with my own eyes some construction processes like concrete casting, steel fixing, finishing, etc. These experiences undoubtedly helped my understanding in this subject.

In this first time of staying outside Hong Kong without my family for such a long time, I experienced countless brand new things which are completely different from what I went through in Hong Kong. I went to a lot of places, met a lot of people and gave myself a lot of new trials. Some tasks are challenging but I do not consider this trip as a tough one. Contrariwise, these days to me are very meaningful and relaxing. Other than learning about civil engineering and experiencing new lifestyles, I also had chances to go sightseeing and taste many delicious and indigenous dishes in Guangxi, especially in Rongshui.

Lastly and frankly speaking, this trip made me re-evaluate my own life. Rongshui is a totally different city compared with the advanced and wealthy Hong Kong. However, children there were pleased easily, becoming extremely happy when we brought them really simple gifts. Meanwhile in Hong Kong, children keep complaining on their lives and what they possess, being unhappy with the huge pressure on them. Hongkongers always say we should treasure what we currently have as we are more blessed than most people on earth. Nonetheless, in this trip, I saw something treasurable, if not priceless, which Hong Kong people generally do not possess. What I am talking about is a simple life, or a simple mind. This is why many Hong Kong people are said to be unhappy even with all their wealth, educational background and socioeconomic status. Luckily, due to this once-in-a-lifetime experience, I altered my attitudes towards life and make sure I am doing what I genuinely love.