# MFYOU(th) MAGAZINE UNITY IN DIVERSITY | ISSUE 8-2017

# Message from Editor:

MFYou(th) is a magazine created entirely by MFU students, for MFU students.

Our bianual issues feature various categories of content: art, fashion, poems, culture, etc. Within these, we publish articles about modern events: those that are interesting, exciting - because we focus on the issues that youths today care about. Our generation is truly the catalysts of change, and MFYou(th) strives to support young artists and designers who spark the flame. Our contributors are college writers because who better to inspire the new generation than those who are part of it?

Each MFYou(th) issue will have a unique theme to give our editions coherency - something to tie articles, reviews, and photos together.

In our issues to come, the MFYou(th) staff will continue to work hard to curate and create interesting content for their readers.

This is the first issue of the 2017 academic year of MFYou(th) and we hope our readers enjoy this magazine as much as we enjoyed making it.

Thank You

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### THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF: GET TO KNOW THEM BETTER

#### **President of MFU International Club:**

#### What is it like being in MFU?

Mae Fah Luang University is a place where many young citizens of the world are able to get knowledge and other good things for their future. I am very happy to be in MFU as I start my future career from this university. This is the place where I have received knowledge, friends and new experiences. To study here is a great opportunity for me.

#### What is it like being the President?

Being the president is not an easy post, but working as a president for the International Student Club is my great opportunity to serve the university and international students of MFU. I have learned many things that will help me in my future. I got an opportunity to know all the students from different countries where I am able to learn varieties of culture and language. Being president is an opportunity to move on the right path and light for the future career. I feel



Mr. Tshering Dorji Major: Tourism Management Second Year From Bhutan

that being the president has been the greatest opportunity and success in my life till now.



#### General Secretary and Head of Public Relations of MFU International Club:

#### What's it like being in MFU?

MFU is also known as the University in the Park for its beautiful campus surrounded by green environment of trees and flowers. The first time when I walked into this beautiful campus, I was stunned by its magnificent beauty. MFU is an international university which offers the best academic programmes in English.

## What it like being the General Secretary and Head of Public Relations?

The Head of Public Relations is responsible for promoting activities and big events around the international student club. It was a meaningful time to gain experience with publicizing events and other issues though various communication tools of SNS and posters for more than 500 international students.

# Head of Student Activity Division of MFU International Club:

#### What's it like being in MFU?

For me, Mae Fah Luang University might be young, but it has all that a university needs to get to the top. I'm so proud to be a part of this glamorous university. We get to see so many beautiful places in Thailand. We get to see the beauty and the true nature of Thailand. Lecturers, Staff, and International Affairs staff are very friendly and open-minded. I never felt lonely for a single day.

## What it like being the Head of Student Activity Division?

I was elected by the international students to serve as student activities staff for one year. Presently, many activities are organized by the International Affairs staff for international students at least once a month. The activities held by the student clubs makes every international student feel at home. We get to taste food from not just Thailand but from Japan, Korea, Myanmar—almost every food around the world.



Mr. Oderinde Yemi Moruf Major: Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Second Year

**From Nigeria** 

#### Head of Human Resource Development of MFU International Club:

#### What's it like being in MFU?

Being at MFU is wonderful. Join as many activities as you can join, explore, play, but we should not forget to study also! My major is International Development. What is International Development? Well it depends on who is doing the "development", and that is why I like to learn about the different perspectives and try to find solutions that are equally good for all involved.



Ms. Stella Gvokesi Major: International Development Second Year From Greece/Canada

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#### **Treasury of MFU International Club:**

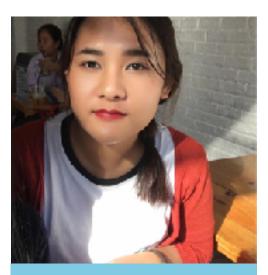
#### What's it like being in MFU?

For me, I think the life at MFU is very interesting, and I enjoy the life here. And there are so many interesting things in our study life, such as the city tour for new international students, the Buddy Program, and Orientation day. You will never feel lonely at MFU. For studying at MFU, the teachers here are very nice. They always try their best to help you, and give advice to you. The staff at MFU is also very kind to help you to solve problems. I don't know how to describe the one of most beautiful universities in Asia because you must come here and have the experience by yourself.

#### What it like being the Treasury?

To be a treasurer in MFU international students club is my pleasure. I help the club to organize the activities, help the Chinese students to live here, and support them with my experience. The most important thing is working with

the staff in the International Affairs office. I got a lot of experience dealing with many people from different cultures, from respecting everyone's religions to help more international students at MFU. I feel my life has changed after working with the International Affairs office in a good way. I'm more mature and patient to deal problems. I have gotten to know how to make friends with foreigners, and have better skills of organization and communication. That is a very useful experience in my life. I'm very glad that I'm working with the International Affairs office, studying at MFU, and I'm very proud of MFU.



Ms. Kesang Yuden Major: International Development Third Year From Bhutan

#### Head of Documentation and Publication of MFU International Club:

#### What's it like being in MFU?

Being in MFU has helped me grow as a person and it has given me opportunities to explore my interests and passions.

# What it like being the head of Documentation and Publication?

It's a lot of work but the labor is fruitful.



Mr. Luochen Xu Major: Business Administration Third Year Year From China



# ACTIVITIES COMMEMORATING THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ASEAN



The ASEAN Association-Thailand, ASEAN Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mae Fah Luang University co-organized the "ASEAN@50 for Now and Posterity" moderated by Mr. Christopher Wright to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN on Wednesday 5th April 2017 at the Mae Fah Luang University Indoor Stadium. The opening ceremony was led by H.E. Mr. Chaisiri Anamarn, Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

On the same day, the MFU Student Union, School of Social Innovation, Student Development Division and International Affairs Division at MFU held the ASEAN Fair 2017; the fair served as an exhibition of ASEAN Cultural Performances and as an International Food Festival by the International Student Club of MFU. A mixture of 12 countries were represented, namely, Bhutan, Nepal, Indonesia, Myanmar, Japan, Bangladesh, Philippines, China, Korea, Malaysia and various countries in Europe and Africa.



Thoughts on the challenges during the preparation for Indonesia:

"I think our challenges was for the boys because our girls were so busy with their projects in the lab and with their thesis. So the boys had to manage food and drinks, and of course they had to cook with their own skills of ''what they know''. They asked the girls, since they were not sure about the steps, how to cut haha the food. It was so fun!"





# Myanmar Cultural Day and Exhibition

## 'The Lighting Festival and Cultural Variety Show'

Myanmar Cultural Day and Exhibition, held annually exhibits various performances from the students from Myanmar. Attired in their traditional clothes, colorful and vibrant, they fill the stadium with wonderful decorations and a sense of authentic Burmese culture.

On Friday the 31<sup>st</sup> of March, the activity was opened by the President of MFU, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vanchai Sirichana and the Consul-General of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chiang Mai, Mr. Kaung San Lwin. This day also happens to be the 70th Anniversary of the Myanmar Union Day.

With this annual event, as always, an award of a certificate of recognition to six Myanmar students with high GPAX was presented.

This was an exhibition of Myanmar arts and culture including the artifacts, traditional food presented as part of the program of the exhibition.



# Chiang Rai Province Tour Exploring Chiang Rai's History



Seventy new international students comprised of both full-time and exchange students were educated about Northern Thailand's history and culture during an interesting one-day trip to local cultural attractions in the Chiang Rai province such as the Hall of Inspiration, Doi Tung Royal Villa, Mae Fah Luang Garden, Hall of Opium and Golden Triangle on the 2 March 2017.

The trip is an annual activity that is carried out to help new international students understand the history of opium production in the Golden Triangle area and the Chiang Rai province. The trip highlights the philosophies and working principles of the Mahidol family in improving the lives and livelihoods of the Northern people.

During the activities, students from Bhutan, Malaysia and Indonesia expressed that after visiting the sites, they learned lessons about the impacts of drug abuse and addiction. Furthermore, the example of Royal family's actions and contributions for Thai people helped the international students better understand the role of Royal family and inspire them to work toward improving Thailand and their own countries.





#### BY TSHELTRIM DEMA



I never thought Mae Fah Luang University could mean so much to me. It is no wonder why it became an integral part of my life. It is a place which is filled with stunning nature and supportive friends. Also, MFU promotes the quality of environment and human resource development. MFU not only offers quality education but it also creates a conducive environment to live in. It has a clean and inviting environment which enhances both learning and teaching. The university consists of outstanding infrastructure with all the required facilities.

It is a great pleasure to study in this university. College life isn't as simple as it seems but with immense love from teachers and friends it seems much better. Since it's totally a new experience for me in this country, nostalgic feelings and breaking down for no reasons are very common. But with time everything gets into it's own place. There are still three years to be in this university so it indeed has become my second home. I Hope it treats me well in the following years to come.

NAME: HO PUI JIN AGE: 20 COUNTRY: MALAYSIA

#### **"BEING AN EXCHANGE STUDENT IS WONDERFUL." "I HAD THE BEST TIME FOR MY LIFE." "I HAVE LEARNT SO MUCH ABOUT MYSELF."**



"All or nothing, Now or never."

Wat Rong Khun or the White Temple is one of the most recognizable temples in Thailand. Seriously i was impressed by the design of the temple and i love this part at most.

These were what my friends who had already been studied abroad tell me before. They told me about how awesome their life was and how the exchange life has changed them forever. I was definitely inspired by their passion and would also like to experience the life that has been described to me. Thus, I applied for the exchange programme to Mae Fah Luang University, Chiang Rai, Thailand.

When we look into our surroundings, there are many potentials to be explored and challenges to be faced.

I would like to confront with umpteen of challenges in everyday life that I have never experienced. The difficulties associated in a foreign place such as homesickness, cultural shock and feelings of alienation truly teach a person countless life lessons. I will be able to apply my new-found knowledge to my entire life and the ways I look at the world around me. What could be more exciting than that?

Thailand is a wondrous kingdom, featuring Buddhist temples, exotic wildlife and spectacular islands. It has a fascinating history and unique cultures such as delectable Thai food and massage. Thai traditions have been shaped by many influences, including Lao, Burmese, Cambodian, India and Chinese. Thailand features a modern capital city and friendly people who epitomize Thailand's "land of smiles" reputation.

Chiang Rai is the northernmost large city in Thailand. It has a pleasant atmosphere. By comparing to its sister town Chiang Mai, it has a more relaxed and down-to-earth feel but is never short on historical and cultural attractions of its own.

Thai cuisine blends five fundamental tastes, which include sweet, salty, sour, bitter and spicy. Thai food is known for its enthusiastic use of fresh herbs and spices. The common ingredients used in cooking are fish sauce (nam pla), chillies, garlic, lime juice, lemon grass, pepper and palm sugar. Examples of meats often used in Thai cuisine are pork and chicken. However, it is still very convenient to have some pork-free meals around here. There are many shops or restaurants selling Halal food which is suitable for Muslims.



Unity in diversity boosts morale of people at workplace, organization, and community. It enhances the esprit de corps, relationships, teamwork among people and also makes communication effective even in bad situations. It is incredible to see hordes of people from numerous foreign regions interacting with each other to form friendships and at the same time promoting cultural understanding. I would like to meet tons of native friends and create a great camaraderie. Friendship is something universal in human nature, regardless of language, culture, religion or ethnicity. Each friend represents a world in us, a world possibly not born until they arrive and it is only by this meeting that a new world is born.



Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.



Family is one of the nature's masterpieces. I'm very feel appreciated for the guiding and supporting.

> Homesickness, unfortunately, is a real problem among students who study abroad. At some point, you might feel very lonely, moody or depressed especially when you face some trouble. It could be a big deal because you need to leave your comfortable environment and stay in the other country which has a different culture. I have to keep telling myself that I have a bigger purpose in being here. That missing home is the price I have to pay for the freedom and the golden opportunity of an in-depth education.

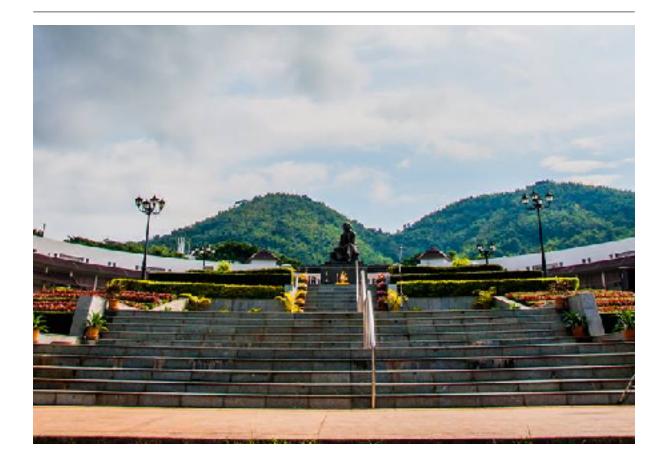
A long distance relationship needs patience, trust and understanding. If you believe that you can make your relationship work, you definitely will have a higher chance to keep the hopes, expectations and future plans alive. Distance is just a test to see how far love can travel. A strong will can overcome the distance and separation. Communication is necessary and important. It's hard to resolve a fight when you cannot physically hold a person or kiss. You need to find out whatever began the argument. Your fight may just have stemmed from a simple misunderstanding.



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# My First Day at MFU

#### Kuenzang Nima



The first day at any university is always very exciting because of the new environment, the new people and the obviously new educational system. That is why it was a very good and lovely one morning when I woke up with a smile on my face and full of excitement for my first day at MFU.

It was my first day at MFU, so I wore the university uniform and my senior who was studying in the second year dropped me off at the campus. As soon as I reached the campus, my eyes glowed as I saw the beautiful and extraordinary campus of my university.

Then I went to the International Affairs Division where I met with my other scholarship friends and a beautiful lady, Miss P'Pam. She briefed us about the university and we filled in and submitted necessary documents. After that we went to the finance division and the bank to talk about our student ID and bank account.

We then made out way to a class where there were several students (the majority were female). We first started conversations among our new classmates so that we could introduce ourselves and shortly after, A lecturer began his lecture. My first lecture was so good and informative, but it was the only lecture of my first day. Afterward, we made our way back to our rooms.

The first day was very exciting, memorable and pleasant.

# POEMS

# Unity in Diversity

Everyone is Different, No one is the same. We all have different backgrounds We all have different names

But everyone is equal, We're all the same inside. At MFU we treasure Multiculturalism with pride.

No matter the color of your skin, No matter the language you speak. The Earth is but one country, Even when society is weak.

Unity in Diversity It isn't hard to see. There is one thing we must believe in And that thing is equality.

Kesang Yuden

## Fairytale Wedding with a Fairytale Ending

Splendor falls on castle walls The lights shakes across the lakes Tents erected and ecstasy created In the October air, for the pair Soldiers standing tall without a fall All gathered on that date with no one late Every dear was near Everyone mild became wild As the couple in the golden carriage got a marriage As they raised their palms all were calm As they took their vows everyone wows As they kissed everyone hissed With gentleness and happiness That was a wedding with fairytale ending

Tshering Lhamo





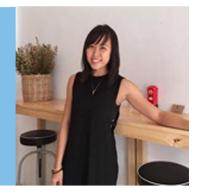
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