



Krousar Thmey

មូលនិធិខ្មែរទី១ ដ្ឋានកុមារកម្ពុជាទីទំលាក់
New Family – First Cambodian foundation for underprivileged children
Nouvelle Famille – Première fondation cambodgienne d'aide à l'enfance défavorisée

REPORT
THE TRIP TO HONG KONG
DEAF STUDENTS OF KROUSAR THMEY
JUNE 2016

SUPPORTED BY **HONG KONG RUGBY UNION**
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
HONG KONG DEAF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION &
KAMPUCHEA BALOPP

FUNDED BY **STANDARD CHARTERED BANK**

PREPARED BY **KROUSAR THMEY CAMBODIA**

Introduction

In 2014, Krousar Thmey started to introduce rugby class in its two schools in Phnom Penh in order to make deaf students benefit from physical education and social inclusion through many inclusive sport events. It all started with the support of Kampuchea Balopp (“Cambodian Rugby” in Khmer), Cambodian NGO working to promote sport access for underprivileged children.

Kampuchea Balopp has been working with Hong Kong Rugby Union to build up connection between deaf communities in Hong Kong with Krousar Thmey.

The first exchange started in October 2014 when deaf students from Krousar Thmey were invited to spend a four day tour in Hong Kong. They had chance to see deaf students from Chun Tok School in Hong Kong and spent time to participate to the Rugby Match. The exchange was followed by a tour of deaf students and deaf community from Hong Kong to Krousar Thmey in May 2015. That was how the relationship between deaf community in Hong Kong, Hong Kong Rugby Union, Kampuchea Balopp and Krousar Thmey was set.

I. Preparation for the Trip

The partnership didn’t stop there. Through the coordination of Kampuchea Balopp, deaf students from Krousar Thmey were invited again to the friendship tag rugby match held in Hong Kong on 25th of June 2016. After Khmer New Year, beginning of May through end of June, the deaf students supposed to join the trip, were working hard once a week in tag rugby training. 11 deaf students, 1 deaf teacher and 1 coordinator from Krousar Thmey accompanied by 2 sport teachers from Kampuchea Balopp were taking off to Hong Kong the 23rd of June 2016.



Departure of the team – Phnom Penh International Airport



Arrival of the team – Hong Kong International Airport

II. The Trip

1. Chun Tok School Visit

The 24th of June 2016, in the morning, deaf students were invited to visit Chun Tok School. Chun Tok School (Formerly named as Hong Kong School for the Deaf) was founded by three Christian missionaries (Ms. M. Pope, Ms. W. Griffin and Ms. Elliott) in 1935.

Spending the whole morning in Chun Tok School, Krousar Thmey deaf students had been warmly welcomed by the teachers and deaf students of the same age. They learned about the school and its activity regarding education for deaf and mainstreamed programs in Hong Kong. A session dedicated to cultural exchange between deaf students of the two countries was successfully and fruitfully done. Teamed up with deaf students of Chun Tok School, deaf students from Krousar Thmey had chance to learn how to cook Dim Sum (Variety of Cantonese Food). Then they had some interactivities together ending by exchanging

a show – Krousar Thmey deaf students presented in sign language the national anthem of Cambodia while Chun Tok School deaf students showcased their ability in singing and performing.



In the waiting room at Chun Tok School – watching Jim Hamilton's match on Youtube



Dim Sum Cooking Class



Chun Tok School students helping their invitees transcribing their names in Cantonese





Magic show! I will teach you how to do it my friend.



Performance of deaf students of Chun Tok School



Group photo before saying goodbye to Chun Tok School

2. Friendship Rugby Match

The afternoon before the “Match Day”, Krousar Thmey deaf team and volunteers from Standard Chartered Bank were trained by coaches of Hong Kong Rugby Union on the King’s Park Sports Ground.



Catch me if you can!



Some activities of the training



The only girl from Krousar Thmey deaf team

On the same day, Cambodian deaf team had a short break to enjoy “Tsim Sha Tsui – Water Front” view where they could appreciate the nice view of Hong Kong.



Ramble at Tsim Sha Tsui



The training day ended up with a nice dinner upon invitation of the Tertiary Dinner 2016 Organizers. Cambodian deaf students had very much fun and enjoyed the Cantonese style of cuisine.



The “Match Day” has arrived. Mr. Jim HAMILTON, Scottish Rugby Player worldwide known, Hong Kong Rugby Union Community Foundation Ambassador was present to observe the match. His presence encouraged all players, specifically the Cambodian deaf players who have never met him before.



Krousar Thmey Deaf Team with Jim



Jim joined Hong Kong Deaf Team to play against Krousar Thmey Deaf Team. They had so much fun.



Some activities from the Match



The match ended up with a friendly dinner organized by HKRU in its premises where Cambodian deaf students and Hong Kong deaf students had chance to do exchange of Cantonese and Cambodian sign language. Even they use different signs, Hong Kong and Cambodian deaf students tried their best to understand each other and they managed to explain each other when one didn't understand another's sign.



We talk using different signs!



3. Exploring Hong Kong

After all effort put in the training and the match, at the end of the trip, Cambodian deaf students had opportunity to visit Ocean Park, big amusement park of Hong Kong. They enjoyed it very much.

III. Advantage of the Trip

The trip has been providing to Cambodian deaf students the time to explore new culture, new experience of sign language used in another country miles away from their home, and the opportunity to make new friends. Some of them recognized each other thanks to the trip of Hong Kong deaf team to Cambodia in 2015. They kept good memory of each other by exchanging photos and their name in sign language. Thanks to sport, deaf students started to get in touch easily. All these things represent a big success of the trip.

While asking what they want to do in the future, some of the boys from Krosar Thmey answered: "I want to become rugby coach". Everyone wishes to keep up the exchange program with Hong Kong Deaf Community.

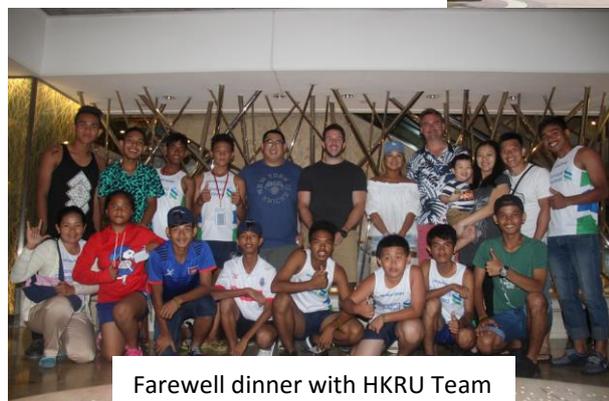
The deaf teacher, Ms. Sreng Vanny, deaf herself, who was in charge of looking after all deaf students from Krousar Thmey during the trip to Hong Kong would like to go beyond a simple exchange. She wishes to depend the technics in sign language and continue the exchange program on a long term basis in order to develop and improve the deaf program of each country.

Some nice photos from the trip

With his coach



Souvenir of Ocean Park



Farewell dinner with HKRU Team

