

The Jubilee Journal

Monday, May 9, 2016

Jubilee Partners, Comer, Georgia

Thailand-Burma Border Transition Plan

SUN DAY SHEI— Green Class

In 2016, the Thai Burma Border Consortium (TBBC) has formulated a transition plan for Thai-Burma refugee camps to become self-supporting. Many refugees are worried about having shelter, food and clothing. In the refugee camps, the TBBC has reduced food supplies and housing materials.

Nevertheless, there are reasons to hope. Many organizations are helping refugees with basic living needs, education and health care. A good example is the establishment of vocational training programs in the nine refugee camps on the Thai-Burma border. These programs prepare refugees to become seamstresses, cooks and bakers, barbers, makers of artificial flowers, mechanics and carpenters. These organizations have dreams of the refugees returning to Burma and setting up their own businesses. This can happen as democracy grows in Burma.

The transition plan will be implemented gradually as conditions in Burma improve. Eventually, the Thai government will no longer accept refugees from Burma. This is a challenging time of intense preparation for the refugees. Also, it is a time of hope.



Tin Tin and Da (Blue Class) ate popcorn at the zoo. They are happy!



Many friend's came to the party for Steven's first birthday. People felt happy! It was good! When he was 6 months old, Steven was happy with his parents. Now he is one year old. He is still happy with his parents, but he is sad in childcare. (Prei Mo and Maw Reh—Blue Class)

Peace and Fairness for All People

BAW BAW—Green Class

Recently in the Green Class we had a special visitor visiting our class. The visitor's name was Coffee, and she is 95 years old. She came to talk about American government.

When she was 15 years old, Americans separated white people from black people, and she didn't know why they separated them. Her father always told her God loves everyone, both white and black.

One day she got on the bus, but in the front there was no available seat. In the back where the black people sat, there was one seat left. She asked if she could sit in the one seat in the back, and the black person couldn't say no because black people wanted peace and not separation, and he said yes. The bus driver looked back in the rear view mirror and saw the white person with the black person. He suddenly stopped the bus. Everyone in the bus said, "What happened?" The bus driver looked back so everyone else looked back, too. They all saw a white person with the black person, so she said, "OK, I'll stand up." She did not want to cause problems for the black people, but she was standing up for fairness. Coffee has always wanted peace and fairness for all people.

El Salvador Collapsing Under Violence

EUNICE RAMIREZ —Green Class

Violence in El Salvador is growing, and even riding the bus is dangerous. Last week, a pastor was killed on a city bus while he was preaching. The alleged murderer had asked the pastor to be quiet. When the pastor ignored him and refused to stop talking, the man shot him. The suspect was 70 years old and fled the scene before the police arrived. The people on the bus ran away because they were afraid.

People with guns are boarding buses to rob passengers of their money and jewelry. If the passengers don't give up their belongings, they could be beaten or even killed. Usually, the robbers are gang members, but others are taking advantage of the situation with so much gang violence because they think they won't get caught.

Every day people want to leave El Salvador because the violence is killing that country. The government does not have the power to stop this. The gangs are killing family members of the government officials. Also, there is much corruption among police and government workers.

My whole family has moved to the United States from El Salvador to live in safety. I was both happy and sad to leave my country. I am happy to be with my parents who were already here and to live a better life. But my grandparents are still there suffering that situation, and I miss them very much.



Many Jubilee people went to the zoo in Athens. Tin Tin's face is on an owl. Win Nay's face is on a fake person and Tha Sae Oo's face is on a bear.



Yue Mi sang a song to Zac and Kristi because they will leave soon. She and her family are sad to say goodbye.

Gangs take property in Honduras

INGRID AGUILAR—Green Class

Sam Pedro Sula is a very dangerous city. Gangs dealing with drugs have taken control. The people are worried all day long.

The gangs are even taking possession of peoples' homes. People have worked hard to build their homes, and now their work has turned into nothing. They even have to pay taxes to the gangs living in their homes, or they might get killed. The gangs kill the people mercilessly. People are terrified.

Only God with them, my people say. That means, people and the government can do nothing to help, only trust in God. I hope this situation will end soon because the people live afraid to die.



In the summer of 2015, Moo Paw's friend named Savannah visited the garden with Moo Paw's family. They picked cucumbers, chilies, and other vegetables.



Elisa (Blue Class), her sister Eunice (Green Class) and their mom Lillian are working painting a house.



(Above) Pre-K students Wendell, Wisdom, Lisny, and Vung show off their hard work. (Right) Noun collage by Shae Meh—Yellow Class.

My Feelings about Jubilee

SUNDAY SHEI—Green Class

I recently came to Jubilee on March 22, 2016. I've been living at Mu Gay's house on Main Street, Comer, Georgia for two months. I feel comfortable and his house is a nice place. It is close to Jubilee.

Before I began attending ESOL classes, I had an entrance exam and an interview by Jess. There are four classes at the Jubilee school. I am in the Green Class, the most advanced. Most of the teachers are volunteers from other places. There are two teachers for the Green Class who are named Cristy and Rachel. They teach spoken English, written English and vocabulary. They are very good at teaching. I have three classmates from different countries: Ingrid from Honduras, Eunice from Salvador, and Baw Baw from Burma.

During the break, I play table tennis with my schoolmates and my teachers. Playing gives me exercise and gives us more fellowship with each other. Sometimes I sing songs with the whole school together.

I have many friends in Jubilee. They are very kind and helpful. Some are volunteers and some are Jubilee partners. They are kind to all people, regardless of complexion. Furthermore, they are always busy taking care of refugees, meeting, teaching, driving, cooking, cleaning, gardening, feeding animals, working in the office, going shopping, maintaining the buildings, and preparing the worship service.

Jubilee partners and volunteers have families, and they have to work to have a good life, too. Nevertheless, they serve the refugees with their hearts and souls. Because of their love, mercies, and generosity, they share with their neighbors.

I appreciate the jubilee partners very much; they are my best friends. I will never forget their wonderful help for my people. One day, I hope that I can help my people like that.

Finally, I wish the jubilee people the best for their lives. God bless you all and fill your needs forever in this life.



A Driving Story

From Blue Class

