

## 2nd Year Thailand Research Trip

From the 4<sup>th</sup> (Mon) to the 9<sup>th</sup> (Sat) of July all of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year students visited the Bangkok and the Chiang Mai province of Thailand. On July 5<sup>th</sup> (Tues) they visited Wat Don Chan in Chiang Mai. On the 7<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) the students broke up into their research groups (Medicine and Health, Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, and Disparity and Poverty) and went around visiting various facilities in Bangkok.

By speaking to many of the local people, the students were able to understand and learn many things about the similarities and differences between Thailand and Japan which would help them in their project studies research.

### Disparity and Poverty <Visited Bangkok and the Klong Toey Slums>



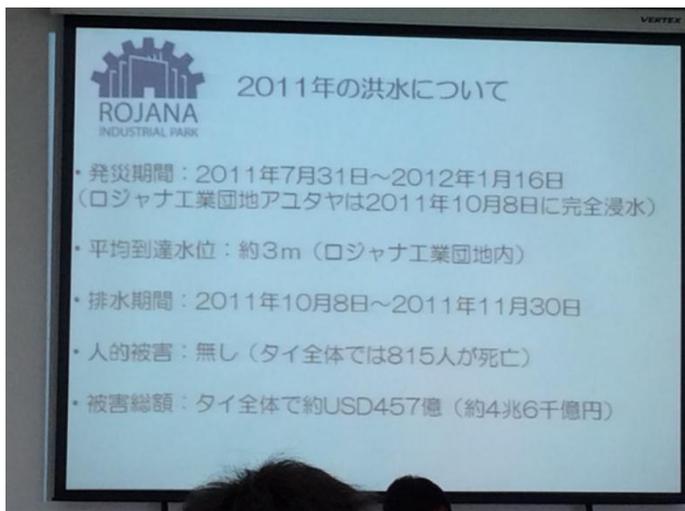


### 【Student Comment】

After seeing the Klong Toey Slums, I feel that the issue that must be addressed is the way in which to fill the gap between the rich and the poor. I felt it was very important to experience this with all five senses.

By actually smelling the odors of the Klong Toey Slums, hearing the voices of the children, and touching the air in that place, I feel I have become more determined to find a solution and to think practically about this problem. I am very glad that I went to the Klong Toey Slums.

## Disaster Prevention and Mitigation <Visited the Rojana Industrial Park>





**【Student Comment】**

I learned many valuable things about risk management that would reduce the economic strain on a country in the case of flooding from one of the workers at the Industrial Park. Following the devastating losses in the flood that occurred 5 years ago, the company now uses information from the Meteorological Agency to create reports that will allow them to take action as quickly as possible to mitigate any risks. By

doing this, this will raise the economic activity in the area and also allow them to keep the losses at a minimum, should any natural disasters occur. I feel that Japan could also learn from this and would be useful from the view point of disaster prevention and mitigation.

### Medicine and Health <Visited a medical facility for the elderly in Bangkok>







**【Student Comment】**

We traveled approximately 2 hours by car from Bangkok to the Photharam District in the Ratchaburi Province and visited the national general hospital (Photharam Hospital) and homes of the homes of its impoverished patients.

At Photharam Hospital we listened to a presentation made by the doctors, nurses and staff member of JOCV (Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers) and toured the facilities (Hospital Admissions, Living Areas, Massage Room, etc).

As the students had learned previously, the hospital was completely different when compared with Japan's national hospitals. There were 6 beds in a large room with no partitions or lights, giving off a somewhat dark feeling. We were also surprised that, unlike Japan, in this hospital the level of medical care that the patients received was based on their income.

Following this, we visited a household where out of 15 family members, 4 were disabled. Because there was not enough space in the house, the family told us that they slept in a group, and that some family members would sleep outside.

The house was had a dirt floor and no doors or windows. This was also very different from houses in Japan.