

What I Saw in Thailand

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The flight from Osaka to Bangkok stimulates myself, because I got on a plane for the first time. We arrived at Chiang Mai air-port, may Thai campers had already welcomed us, but I looked their faces all the same. The proverb says *"in Rome, do as Romans do"*, so I greeted them with smile *"Sawadii khrap"*. But almost all they greeted poor Japanese *"Kon-nitiwa! Hajjime-masite"*. I was glad very much, but I felt lonely when I met them first time. When I met first time, I looked all the same face. but I changed that idea gradually during playing, speaking and living with them. As a result, I looked different faces, feelings. I was concerned about a part of their action in Pam Bog village. They entered the house as if themselves the head of a family, so I was surprised. We've enjoyed playing cards untill late at every night I was anxious about. The road in village is not paved and the children that sleep at our neighboring room have a cough contantly to breath in a fine sand. I feel uneasy about it. When I was gaxing at the map of hilltribe, my new Thai friend said to me, *"I am thinking that the village is more inferior than*

that village. The countries near Thai except Singapore, for example, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam are poor. In the village near the border, the most of people who come from such countries has lived there." I guess this is one of reason why they despise. I also had his thinking through I know I must not judge a matter from poverty of view. In Japan too, I recognized that there are many problems of distinction. To be strange, I didn't feel that the village was poor. I judge from myself as a standard at any time or any place. I have too much clothes and I never had a trouble to eat. And many electric goods come into our life. I think may people will judge the village poor, because we judge by our eyes which we always live in a rich social before we are aware. But I am also one of them. I think that the people's mind of the village is richer than ours. In the village stalled electricity and laid a water pipe. The village is changing into a rich. But I pray that it will not happen some troubles, for examples, the village is changed by the sudden development, the gulf between rich and poor grow wide more and more and soon.