

Zeekisms - Special Edition



August 6, 2007

Thailand - The Land of Smiles

Arriving at 8pm on July 17, 2007, the smell, heat, and humidity of Thailand enveloped us. The temperature was 85 degrees but with a dew point of 77 degrees, we felt like melting.



Climate is just one adjustment to face. During the day now in the rainy season, temps go into the 90's, but feels like over 105 because of the humidity. One of

the first things we bought was an air conditioner!

Another adjustment is the food. We love Thai food, and we would eat once a week at the local Thai restaurant in Phoenixville. But after 2 days here, Mike ate something that wiped him out for almost 5 days. Fortunately, you don't need a prescription for an antibiotic, and I was able to purchase it at a pharmacy. The drugs are not all the same here, but my pharmacy knowledge proved handy.

We have been truly blessed by our missionary partners, Mak and Narola Sanglir. Without their help transporting us everywhere and translating for us, we would be floundering. Our 3 bedroom/2 bathroom house is right next door to them and a 5 minute walk from our language school.

It is one thing to be a tourist in Thailand and quite another to live here long term. "My-pen-rye"

is one of the first Thai expressions we learned. It means "that's ok," or "nevermind." When faced with extreme adjustment, it's good to have a calm, cool attitude like the Thai. Everyone smiles here and is very friendly.

I constantly remind myself of some very good advice one of our FIM staff members told us,

"Keep looking forward." It sounds simple, but when comparing life in a new country with that of the country we came from, it gets frustrating! Hebrews 12:2 says, "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith." We focus on God's direction and will in our lives, not on our own comforts.



We thank everyone who has sent emails and letters! You have been a huge encouragement, and we thank you so much for your prayers! We haven't been able to answer each one individually because our transition has been a little chaotic. Please be patient with us!

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Praise!

Smooth flight, computer arrived safely
Nice house with electricity and indoor plumbing
New truck, furniture, and appliances
Very patient teacher at language school

Prayer Requests

Learning Thai language!
Learning Thai customs and culture
Developing relationships with neighbors
Spiritual growth
Health
Our shipped items would come safely

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We hope to have much more for you in the coming months! We've only been here 3 weeks, and there's not much exciting news to tell you except our frustration about tiny red ants in our house, mosquitoes, and buying our truck. This is not a "spiritual" letter and we don't mean to complain. Hopefully, we've given you a glimpse into our transition period.



Anabel Rulison, Narola, Mak
Sonja, Don Rulison, Mike
Three Generations of Missionaries
To the Hmong