



Grassroots Development Institute (GDI) REPORT FOR JANUARY 2009



Apsara Dance

January was a joyous month for GDI as we celebrated our 9th Anniversary on 10th of January 2009. A sumptuous array of food was served and over 400 guests attended the whole

day event. To start the new year fresh, GDI made several improvements to our educational programs. We were also happy to welcome 2 more International trainee volunteers from East Timor. A new school garden was build to add beauty to the physical infrastructure of the school.

Student Statistic

Full-Time Students: With 35 new province students joining the big family at our main headquarter's Pochentong, we have in total 221 students, 120 girls and 101 boys. In the provinces , we have in total 64 students, 39 girls and 25 boys.

Part-Time Students: For our part-time program, we have 250 students at Pochentong and 195 students in the provinces.

May we continue to be blessed by God so that we can provide education to more students in the coming months.

Educational Program

Full-time Program: GDI is at our final stage of improving students' English from market English to Office English. To facilitate this, most classes are doing daily essay programs to correct their English. From a general observation, students are making good progress in their studies.

Part-time Program: 10 hours of Motivation lessons have been added to the Part-time Program for higher level classes to learn both English and help in the Personal Development of Students. Feedback has been good. The current head of Part-time Department commented that students enjoy the motivational classes and their essays are much better than before.



Part-time Class

Arts Program: Weekly Competition during Social Night.



Dancing Competition

To increase the quality during social night, the competition element was put in our social night program. The type of competition changed weekly. In January, we had a week where it was singing competition and the week after that was dancing competition. The result was more enjoyment and laughter seeing students performing items that were more creative and entertaining from before.

Sports Program: Daily Friendly Football Competition

To promote good health and foster better relations between students from different classes, daily friendly football competition was organized for both boys and girls students. By organizing this program, students who normally are shy or have no interest in playing football were encouraged to play and experience for themselves the benefit and fun from playing football.



Girls' Football Competition

2 days is especially allocated to girls to play. This was done for various reasons. Besides encouraging better health and love and unity, playing football can make girls feel equal to boys. Many female students will be able to break the thinking that football is not a game for boys. This thus shows more clearly that there are many things that boys do, girls can do too.

The United Team of GDI's Cambodia and International Volunteers.



Cambodian and International Volunteers

We were pleased to welcome 2 more International Trainee Volunteers from East Timor, Aje and Cely. After undergoing 3 months training in Malaysia, they are now developing to go higher with 19 other International and Cambodian volunteers. The united team is made up of 21 Cambodian and International Volunteers: Teacher Mercy, Teacher Excellence, Teacher Mayumi, Teacher Fishah, Alu, Liza, Yanty, Udong, Yuth, Goris, Dina, Padi, Alitu, Pov, Enty, Aje, Cely, Goris, Siku, Moni, Linda, Merty. May our Love and Unity continue grow.

GDI turns 9 years old

More than 400 guests came for GDI's 9th Anniversary celebration and watched over 10 different performances such as Apsara Dance, Hip Hop and Traditional Dance, Gay Fashion Show, Singing Competition and Drama. A beauty pageant was also held to spot the most handsome boy and beautiful girl in GDI. Over 4 different kinds of food were served and over 20 cakes were cut by both old and current volunteers. Everyone really enjoyed themselves as



Singing GDI's Birthday Song

they met and shared stories with old friends. To end everything with a bang, everyone joined in to shake the hall in a mass dance. Thank you everyone who made the party possible.

New School Garden and Agriculture Field.

Due to the co-operation and hard work of Teachers, volunteers and students made a new school garden with 2 huts, fishing pond and nursery. The new school garden is definitely a beautiful addition to the school and provides a comfortable place for students to relax and study.



School Garden

Agriculture Field

Nursery

Students have also planted lady's finger, water green, cabbage and spinach in the Agriculture field. The vegetables have grown well and we sometimes cook them. With the agriculture field, most of our students' fingers will definitely turn green.

The End

January has been a month of good progress in the different areas of the organization; education, provinces, volunteers and physical infrastructure. We were very happy to once again meet old faces and enjoy ourselves in GDI's 9th Anniversary party. May February bring more improvements, progress and joy to everybody in the organisation.