



LEGACY INSTITUTE

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Legacy graduates from L. to R.: Hser Nay Paw, Nay Blu Htoo, Hser Nay Say, and Hser Nay Htoo and Mo Palel shown in the box to the right.



Mo Palel above:
2008, Unleavened
Bread. Below: 2014,
Feast of Tabernacles

March 1, 2015

Dear Friends and Fellow laborers,

Graduation at Legacy is always a hectic—but fun—time. Our volunteer teachers and students must finish up their classes, take finals, and practice speeches, and chorale for the graduation ceremony. This year we had FIVE graduates: Hser Nay Htoo, Hser Nay Paw, Hser Nay Say, Moe Palel, and Nay Blu Htoo. In attendance were students' family and friends, and other guests.

Hser Nay Htoo, Hser Nay Say, and Nay Blu Htoo are sisters. Moe Palel is *still* stuck back in Burma because of delays in obtaining a visa to return to Thailand, therefore he was not able to graduate with his class. Once we have worked out the



Jo Htoo the Father (3rd from R.) and Naw Mya the Mother (2nd from R.) with their family and friend Hser Ney Paw (2nd from L.)

visa problem and get him back to Thailand, we plan to have him go through the graduation ceremony with our next group of graduates. Meanwhile he is assisting Seng Aung in serving the church congregation in Jawk Taing, Burma.

Hser Nay Paw and Nay Blu Htoo have returned to Burma to acquire passports and ED Visas so they can return to Legacy/Thailand for additional education and training. Hser Nay Paw will also become our Legacy kitchen supervisor. Of course, our hope is that they will eventually be future teachers at Legacy/Burma.

Hser Nay Htoo and Hser Nay Say went to Bangkok to live with an auntie relative. They will be teachers of English, Thai, and Burmese in a nursery school.

At graduation, speeches were given in English by Hser Nay Htoo, Hser Nay Paw and Ney Blu Htoo. The three girls who gave speeches have learned the command of the English language at Legacy. They spoke only Burmese and Karen before they came to Legacy from a refugee camp.

We gave three awards. Hser Nay Paw received the Academic Excellence Award, Hser Nay Say received the Academic Improvement Award, and Auraiwan Rungrobandit received the Spirit of Excellence Award. The Spirit of Excellence Award goes to any student who, through the course of the academic year, demonstrates the highest level of character according to the standards and spirit of Legacy Foundation. This year it was a first-year student who received this honor. I think it is important to note that she is a single mother of the Ahka tribe with a young son who also stays with us at Legacy. The little boy is learning three languages at once. He speaks Ahka with his mother, Thai with our Thai-speaking students, and English with the teachers.



Auraiwan Rungrobandit

Our goal is to equip our graduates with a command of the English language. It is becoming an important skill in Southeast Asia with the advent this year of the AEC (ASEAN Economic Community), which has designated English as its common language of commerce, diplomacy, and communication. We also equip them with the Word of God which teaches them how to grow in character, leadership, and maintain a happy and successful life for themselves and future families. Health and Hygiene is taught so they can maintain a healthy lifestyle for themselves and family. Organic farming will give them skills to feed their families in a turbulent world with an uncertain future. Additional courses are journalism, music, public speaking, and sports. Legacy provides a well-rounded education to give them the tools they need to make a positive contribution to their families, communities, and the Church.

Some may wonder why we have so few graduates. Our ratio of teachers to students this year was one to three. We strive for quality and not quantity. Our standards are high and we expect the students to live up to Legacy standards. We will not be seduced by the numbers game. We are a LEADERSHIP training school. Leaders must be of the highest caliber in order to set good examples for others. Mediocrity is certainly **not** a part of our program at Legacy. We look forward to seeing what our grads can achieve in their lives. But, as always, it is a two-way street. The old idiom that my Dad used to say (*You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink*) certainly applies; each graduate must now put into practice what they have learned.



Legacy volunteer teachers given certificates for their appreciated time of service and sacrifice.

Now our volunteer teachers are returning home. We will miss them. They all did an outstanding job! All were Church of God young adults and set a good example of God's way of life. Chris Collins and Michael Slocum are already back in the U.S. Julia Stewart, Kathleen Kelly, and Lacey Hilgen will return home soon.

Julia plans to come back for another year. Before Julia came, she planned her schooling around coming to Legacy to be better prepared to teach here. She will not only be teaching English classes, but will act as my assistant school headmaster as well.



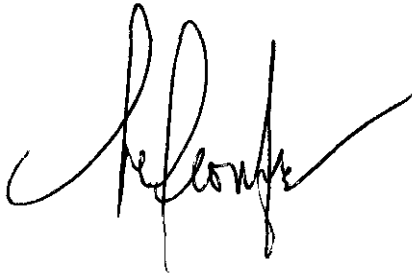
Legacy students and volunteer teachers at our eighth commencement exercise.

Parents and other family members should be proud of our fantastic volunteer teachers who sacrifice a year or more of their lives to serve those less fortunate. Our young Church of God volunteers have been given so much by growing up in

the Church and have learned the way of God from their youth—so are able to give back in some form to others. May God bless their lives as they return to what I jokingly call the “real world.”

Please pray for our teachers, graduates, and those whom God will choose to replace them.

Until the next Legacy letter, a servant of Our Lord Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Leon Sexton', with a stylized, flowing script.

T. Leon Sexton

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P.S. If you are interested in serving as a volunteer teacher at Legacy in Thailand, please contact mail@Legacyinstitute.org

P.P.S. Please remember Gloria and me. We plan to go to Burma for Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread. As God wills, we will teach God’s word every day and spend time with our brethren who attend the Spring Feast. Legacy must provide all funds for the Spring Holy Day program as the Burmese brethren make little money. Please help support these important Spring Holy Days in Burma.

Some good news is that the church fund for Burma was able to pay for this last try for digging a well. This was their third attempt and we hope proved successful. We will let you know when we return from Burma in our Spring Feast Legacy Letter.