

Three UMS Undergrads Carry Out Voluntary Mission in Laos

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FRIDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER – Three Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) undergrads were selected to carry out Student Volunteers Mission in Luang Prabang, Laos starting today.

They were Asmah Kadir and Mohd Syafiq Rosley from the Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Heritage (FKSW) and a student from the Faculty of Business, Economics and Accountancy (FPEP), Ainnelin Chong.

All three will be stationed there until 30 September to carry out volunteering mission with other volunteers from Public Higher Learning Institutions (IPTA), Teachers Training Institutes (IPG), and Polytechnic.

When approached before their departure, the three volunteers were enthusiastic and committed to bring honour to UMS by highlighting examples of good leadership to other volunteers.

According to Asmah, despite having to sacrifice lectures for two weeks, that did not deter her and her friends to emerge as UMS icons, thus have the opportunity to share experiences and volunteer mission tips for community programmes especially in Sabah, in future.

“In Laos, we will carry out volunteer mission works in two schools, the Ban Napho Primary School and Ban Tinkeo Primary School. Three approaches will be undertaken in implementing this voluntary works; through education, computer teaching and social work.

Elaborating further, Ainnelin Chong explained that under the educational approach, they will carry out the teaching of English, Mathematics and Fun Learning.

“In addition, under the social work approach, the group will make a special mini-library for the students there, as well as improving the furniture and walls of the schools, and decorate the schools with murals.

Mohd Syafiq intended to use this volunteer mission as a platform to strengthen diplomatic ties between the two countries.

“Among the challenges in this volunteer activities are to provide a module for effective teaching, with language and cultural differences it further complicate the use of effective communication to the students in Laos. Fortunately, previous volunteer mission experience had taught us invaluable experience and guidelines,” he said.

The Student Volunteer Mission Programme conducted for the second time comes under the Student Volunteer Foundation, the Ministry of Education in line with the goal of public universities in creating community undergrads. – *MA (f)*