Ministries - Chiang Mai is home to many international ministries that serve in Thailand and adjacent countries. We had already visited schools for the children of those minstry workers. On Sunday we visited two churches

and the Im Jai House orphanage.



Chiangmai Fellowship Church

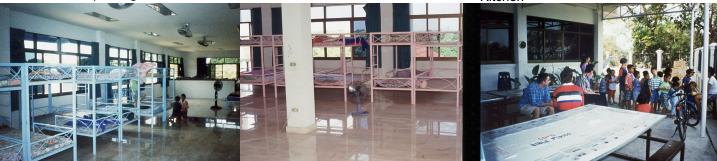


Im Jai House orphanage

Leaders, staff

children

Kitchen



Bedroom

Bedroom

Children



Ed and Gail with some children



A concert with Thai instruments



Instruments



Chiangmai Community Church

Then we went to Pha Yao to visit the Pha Yao Bible College. It is 107 km northeast of Chiangmai but much farther by road.

Scenes along the long road to Pha Yao:

Yellow signs are often seen

A school

A small waterfall

Smoke ahead. Fixing of the road.

Winter burning of fields pollutes air

Much mountainous terrain in region







Entering Pha Yao

Pha Yao Bible College

We stayed in this home

I showed my exhibit of genuine coins from the Bible period, and gave a lecture to the students.





Student games

Friut trees

Other vegetation





The large durian fruit when ripe is delicious, but the odor is very strong and is banned in some confined locations.

Tree in flower

Durian fruit

We then returned to Chiangmai and took more photos of the old moat and wall of the ancient city, still visible from above.

Then we flew far south to the tropical island of Phuket and its offshore islands for a time of relaxation in a different place. We took a boat to Coral Island on the east side of Phuket.



Satellite view of Chiangmai showing its airport and the square of the ancient city wall and moat.



Shuttle boat from Phuket

Long-tailed boat to get to shore Motor and drive shaft, propeller

The beach water is too shallow for boats to land there, so the long-tailed boats do the ferry work.



Flowers Gail enjoying the coral and fish



Unused swimming pool

Bananas on Phuket

Rubber trees on Phuket



A view flying back to Bangkok

A significant problem in Southeast Asia (and elsewhere) is the air pollution caused by the burning of fields during the dry season. In this photo the sun is reflecting off the water in the lower left, with land beyond. The foreground haze from the smoke pollution greatly obscurs the water and land. The cloud in the background is officially a cumulonimbus, which supposedly produces rain showers. But by sucking up the dirty air, the clouds makes abnormally tiny cloud droplets in abundance. However, they are too small to bump into each other and merge into large rain drops. Near the top of the cloud the air is colder than freezing, and so ice

crystals are produced. These can grow to snow crystals by vapor diffusion. But such delicate snow crystals do not fall very fast and simply drift away in the cloud's "anvil" (upper right). If they fall from there, they evaporate into the clear dry air below the anvil. So this cloud cannot produce any significant rain that could fall to the ground. If the air was not polluted by the smoke, such a cloud would normally send rain to the ground. In some areas the burning of the fields produces so much smoke pollution that it is a health hazzard.