



台北醫學大學由李友專副校長帶領的暑期研究暨志工團，7月14日抵達史瓦濟蘭王國，於7月19日前往總理府，與其他台灣代表團一同拜會史國總理 H.e. Barnabas S. Dlamini。總理對台灣友人的來訪表示歡迎，並感謝台灣對史國提供的各種援助，希望藉由持續且多方的交流，加強兩國的邦誼。

此次暑期研究暨志工團共計 21 人，由本校師生及校友組成。在史瓦濟蘭期間和由本校承辦的駐史瓦濟蘭醫療團合作，進行寄生蟲及營養相關研究調查，協助醫療團義診，並在醫療團駐點史京醫院(Mbabane Government Hospital, MGH)進行志工服務。志工將於 8 月 11 日返台，並舉行相關成果發表會。

志工同學協助營養計畫進行體位測量



配合義診辦理寄生蟲調查採檢





Taipei medical university students dancing with Mantenga Cultural Troupe on Thursday.



The man in white T-shirt is Dr. John Wu, a member of Taiwan Medical Mission based at Mbabane Government Hospital.

Not enough said to sell SD

By Heidi Gama

...Taipei students overwhelmed by beauty, safety and humility

Once again, Mantenga Cultural dancers rendered a pulsating performance to entertain a group of tourists.

The event, which took place on Thursday at Mantenga Cultural Village, the group's residence, was also witnessed by a Taiwanese delegation of medical student volunteers.

In May this year, Ligaga LemaSwati, a combined group made up of performers from Mantenga and their counterparts from Matseno Cultural Village, toured the Republic of China on Taiwan where appearances in several cities were lined for them.

The tour was made possible by the office of the Taiwanese embassy in the Kingdom. Both groups are managed by Jan Lombard who is also responsible for the operation of the two tourist attraction sites.

Speaking on behalf of the 21-member-strong group of medical students studying at the Taipei Medical University, Johnny Chang described the performance as totally awesome.

"The performance was mind blowing," Chang stated.

He also mentioned that the dancing and music rendition were superbly presented. The visitors bought the CDs and DVDs of

the group to reminisce on the beauty of Swazi culture and to share it with friends and families back home.

Jeremy Yeh, could not agree more. "The group has improved a lot," Yeh said, explaining that he was once a student at Waterford when his father was the chief of the Taiwanese Technical Mission.

After the performance, the Taiwanese visitors were taken on a tour of the cultural village, and were openly glad to get a sense of how a Swazi homestead was like many decades ago before evolution changed the life of a Swazi to what it is today.

On another note, Chang was only full of praise for the welcoming spirit that characterizes Swazis in general and further noted that their experience since they arrived in the country had been a complete departure from the perceptions they had.

"What we hear and read about are negative things concerning Africa, but what we have experience announce in this country is totally different from what we have imagined," he said, adding that Swazis were ready to embrace a stranger unlike what he saw in other countries he had visited. He recalled his experience in Cuba, where he said, beggars were lining the streets with hands

stretched out, adding that Swazis were ready to talk to a visitor not because they wanted anything from him, but to embrace him as a brother. He mentioned that his Cuban experience greatly disturbed him as a visitor.

Of particular importance, Chang said, Swazis were failing their country by not promoting its valuable virtues, which include its scenic beauty, peace, culture and traditional food amongst other things.

"I do not think Swaziland is not given the right publicity," he noted. "The country is great and relatively safe. Swaziland is surely a tourist's dream," he emphasized.

He said these were the major points to be used by the country in its drive to woo visitors. "I would not have experienced all these great things if I did not join the student volunteers," he said, adding that there were many who would make Swaziland their destination if they knew enough about what the country could offer. He said he would personally spread the news about the abundant beauty he found in the country and promised to visit again. Asked to pick just one area the country needed to emphasize on in order to realise quick returns in its tourism sector, Chang said peace and safety were Swaziland's ace cards.

"I feel free and am not worried about the possibility of

danger here (Swaziland)," he stated, adding: "That is what Swazis need to tell the world because every tourist wants to be safe and Swaziland can guarantee that safety."

Encouraged

The Taipei Medical University students are in the country on a volunteer programme coordinated by Taiwanese Medical Mission. According to Joanna Cheng, the Executive Secretary of the Taiwanese Medical Mission in the country, Taipei Medical University encouraged volunteering amongst its students. She said the students were accompanied by the Vice President of the university researchers and professors, two of whom were conducting lectures at the University of Swaziland Mbabane campus.

The vice president is lecturing on Biomedical Informatics and the two professors are dealing with Parasitology and Nutrition.

The students have already visited several places to render medical assistance. They are expected back home next month.

Dr. Wu doing it with one of the ladies.



Some students with the Sibhaca team during the occasion.