

向东服务

Serve the East

May 2022

EMPOWERMENT

Brings transformation to the
rural Indigenous people

Pg2 With All The Experiences I Had At Micah Centre, I'm Back!

Pg3 My internship begins with farming & Following Co-worker to the Frontline

IT IS OUR DESIRE TO SEE YUAN-HAN JOURNEYING TOGETHER, THAT IS, THE INDIGENOUS AND CHINESE CHURCHES, WALKING HAND IN HAND AS FAMILY MEMBERS, SUPPORT EACH OTHER IN CHRIST, AND WORK TOGETHER TO PROSPER THE GOSPEL.

MINISTRY STRATEGY

EMPOWERMENT

To empower Indigenous churches in economy and education.

AWARENESS

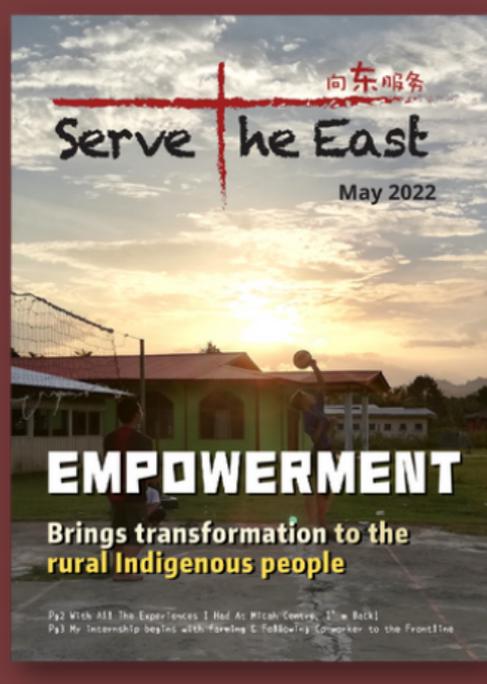
To share the vision of 'Yuan-Han Journeying Together' with Chinese speaking churches

SUPPORT

To link the Chinese speaking churches together in supporting indigenous churches

TRAINING

To equip Chinese speaking churches to involve in caring mission



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CONTENT

Words from Department Lead

- 01 | Empowerment, brings transformation to the rural Indigenous people**

STE Internship

- 02 | With All The Experiences I Had At Micah Centre, I'm Back!**

Micah Recruitment

- 04 | Fifth Micah Training Recruitment**

Update & Prayer

- 05 | Pray for Serve The EAST**

EMPOWERMENT

Brings transformation to the rural Indigenous people

In 2014,

Holistic Integrated Services Bhd. (HISTEAM) received a vision from God to “Serve The East (STE)”, to mobilise the Chinese churches to care and serve the marginalised people group in our country - the Indigenous. Taking on this mission, we started to lead the Chinese churches towards the Indigenous communities in Sabah. We organised and led mission teams and visitation teams for Chinese Christians, into Indigenous villages in the rural areas, allowing them to personally witness the needs of the Indigenous people. We also connected churches with villages which are in need of financial support for their preschools and the teachers’ salaries.

From a long-term perspective, the greatest need is not for the rural Indigenous people to receive constant, endless support; rather, it is for them to be empowered to be self-reliant, to be given respect and dignity, and develop confidence, and to be freed from long-term dependence on external assistance. With this in view, the long-term strategy and direction for our STE Ministry is empowerment, focusing on community development that brings transformation to the communities and helps the people to be out of poverty. The empowerment strategy of STE focuses on three aspects:

- ⚡ Spiritual
- ⚡ Education
- ⚡ Economy

Empowerment in Yuan-Han Journeying Together

To achieve the strategy of empowerment through community development, we are in need of a greater number of people to go into the Indigenous communities, committed to long-term development works among and with the people. This also signifies the Chinese churches must not only look to “serve”, but must be willing to “journey”, to walk alongside the Indigenous people. This is the true meaning of “Yuan-Han Journeying Together”.

In 2018, Micah Centre was established with the aim to train and equip more Chinese Christians, especially the emerging generation, to commit themselves in journeying together with the Indigenous, to take part in the heavenly mission of bringing empowerment to the Indigenous people.

I would like to suggest three principles of empowerment in community development: Process, Potential, and People – to help us in empowering the Indigenous communities as we walk and journey with them.

Empowerment Principle 1

We emphasize the process, not just the outcome (product)

Too often we focus more on the end result but not on the process. This principle reminds us that process is of paramount importance. The focus is not on how successful our projects and plans are, but on celebrating the growth and development we (the Chinese and the Indigenous) achieve during the process, even if we fail to see the results we are expecting.

Ways for Yuan-Han Journeying Together: accompanying, listening, involvement

Focus: build trusting relationship

Empowerment Principle 2

We discover potential, not problem

It is easy to be fixated on the Indigenous people’s lacking and the multiple problems they face. Instead, we should learn to view them with a godly lens, discover the potential and resources of the individuals and communities, that we may encourage and guide them to use these resources wisely, empower them to find resolution to their problems and fulfillment of their own needs.

Ways for Yuan-Han Journeying Together: encouraging, participating, cooperating

Focus: build confidence

Empowerment Principle 3

We care for people, not about project

This principle is a vital reminder that it is the people who are at the centre of our empowerment efforts; the ultimate goal of our ministry is to see the Indigenous people being raised and built up, to be leaders of their own community, and bring blessings to other Indigenous communities.

Ways for Yuan-Han Journeying Together: coaching, training, empowering

Focus: build missional disciples

From the principles above, Yuan-Han Journeying Together is, in essence, discipleship – and it involves building relationships, promoting potentials, and making disciples. This is no doubt a monumental task, a process which demands extensive time and devoted efforts, one that calls for our patience, faith, longing, and dedication. I pray that the Chinese churches in Malaysia can see the vision of Yuan-Han Journeying Together, to dedicate ourselves in walking alongside our Indigenous counterparts, and committed to the empowering ministry of community transformation.



With All The Experiences I Had At Micah Centre

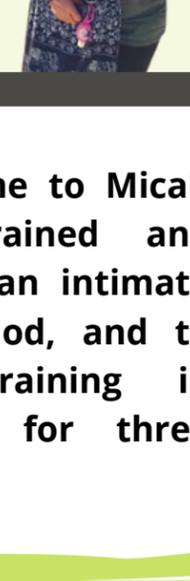
I'm Back!

Written by

Loh Li Bo

Translated by

Gillian Wong



In April 2021, I came to Micah Centre to be trained and equipped, to build an intimate relationship with God, and to have practical training in Indigenous village for three months.

God's Words Captivated Me

Our life as trainees at Micah Centre was very disciplined. Woke up at 5.30 a.m. and at 6.30 a.m., we would have our morning devotion followed by breakfast. From Monday until Thursday, we would have gardening sessions after class. My life here was very fulfilling. Even though it was busy, I could still find time to have my quiet time with God and grow closer to God. To me, this was the most enjoyable time.

Every time I spend time before God, I can feel an inpouring of indescribable peace and joy while I interact with God spiritually. I would tell him every tiny incident in my life because I know He is waiting and willing to listen to me. I'm thankful that God gave me an opportunity to learn to be a worshipper and an intercessor. I have also grown closer to God through worship and intercession. I really enjoyed the time spent in getting closer to God; I was captivated by God, and I had a growing desire for God's words.

She Treated Me Like Her Own Daughter, I Would Miss Her!

During our three months of practical training in the Indigenous village, I got to know an Indigenous woman whom everyone calls Mother Helen (Ibu Helen). She treated me like her own daughter and loves me very much. There was this period of time when I woke up at 3.30 a.m. to follow her to the market and help her with her farm produce, and when we finished everything and headed back home it was already after 2.00 p.m.. Indeed, I felt tired, but knowing that I was learning to be like Jesus by helping those in need, the tiredness I felt ceased at once. Instead, I felt a renewal of inner strength and experienced God's empowerment in my life.

Mother Helen reckons I've done a lot to help her, so she would repeatedly express her gratitude. She also bought delicious food for me. Her motherly love touched me, as I see her simple and kind heart with no pretence or prejudice. I hope I can be like Mother Helen, following Jesus, loving others as myself. Upon completion of three months, we ended our practical training and left. I truly miss her!

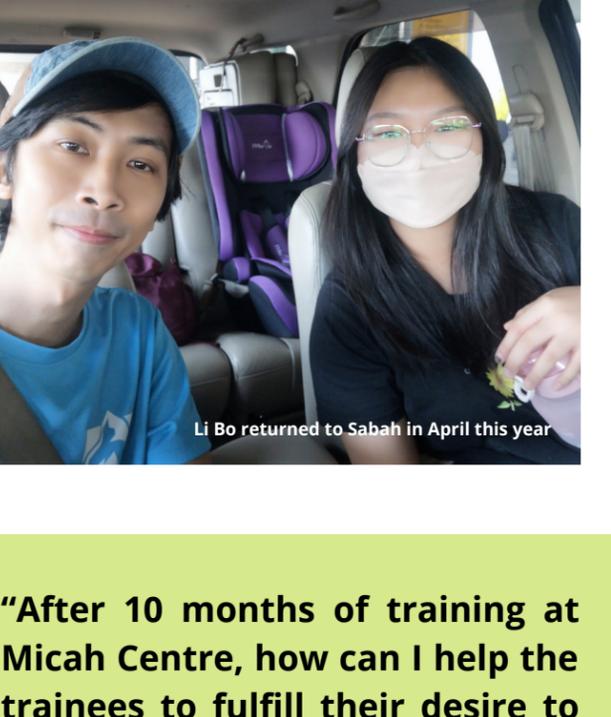
The Indigenous Woman Who Misses God!

Other than the practical training in the Indigenous village, we also had the opportunity to enter rural places in Ranau to visit the villagers there. We visited an old lady who was a Christian, but converted to another religion. She could no longer enter the local church and no one dared to visit her, making her feel very lonely. We were about to leave after chatting with her and she suddenly broke down and cried. She said that she missed God, and thanked God for sending us to visit her. Seeing that, I cried too.

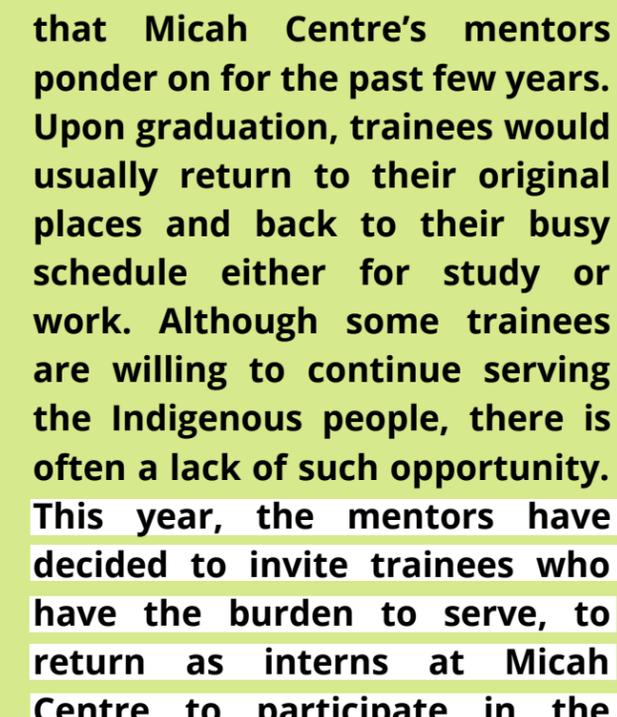
This incident led me to greater reflection to pray more for the Indigenous people, and in particular their spiritual needs and relationships with God.

I hope to see their spiritual life being nurtured. God touched my heart to stay back to care, help and journey together with them.

In April this year, I came back to Sabah as an intern to join Serve the East ministry, learning to serve and journey together with the Indigenous. Please pray for me, that I may learn to trust God and experience Him throughout my serving here.



Encounter with roast wild boar during internship



Li Bo returned to Sabah in April this year

"After 10 months of training at Micah Centre, how can I help the trainees to fulfill their desire to serve?" This has become an issue that Micah Centre's mentors ponder on for the past few years. Upon graduation, trainees would usually return to their original places and back to their busy schedule either for study or work. Although some trainees are willing to continue serving the Indigenous people, there is often a lack of such opportunity. This year, the mentors have decided to invite trainees who have the burden to serve, to return as interns at Micah Centre to participate in the Serve The East ministry. Thank God, we have three trainees responded!

YEAH!

We Are Back Too!

Written by Chun Siew Yoong & Moses Goh

Translated by Jessilyn Wong

My internship begins with farming

Written by

Chun Siew Yoong



After the graduation ceremony, I stayed temporarily in an Indigenous village for two months and later returned to take up ten months of internship at Micah Centre. This time, I am no longer a trainee to be equipped but began to serve as an intern.

I love to be close to the nature, I like farming too. Thus, my task at hand is to focus on farming and landscaping. Hopefully, we can produce agricultural products that are beneficial to health in the near future, bringing help and vitality to the Indigenous brothers and sisters.

Nonetheless, it is really not easy to plant at the hill as the distance itself is a huge challenge such as getting the resources, purchasing agricultural tools and so on, all are time and energy-consuming. Comparatively, there are more pests and weeds at the hill. The changing weather here also affects the growth of crops. Besides, my age and physical strength also pose a challenge. There were times that I wanted to do more but I was limited by my physical fitness, and I truly need to ask God for ability and wisdom to manage.



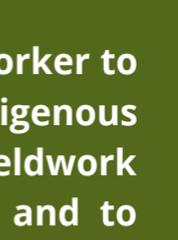
Education is another area of my concern

In addition, when I lived in the Indigenous village, I saw the new generation of Indigenous parents aware of the importance of pursuing knowledge, but were unable to send their children to better schools. As a former primary school teacher, I had mixed feelings to witness the hardship that Indigenous children had to go through in pursuing their education.

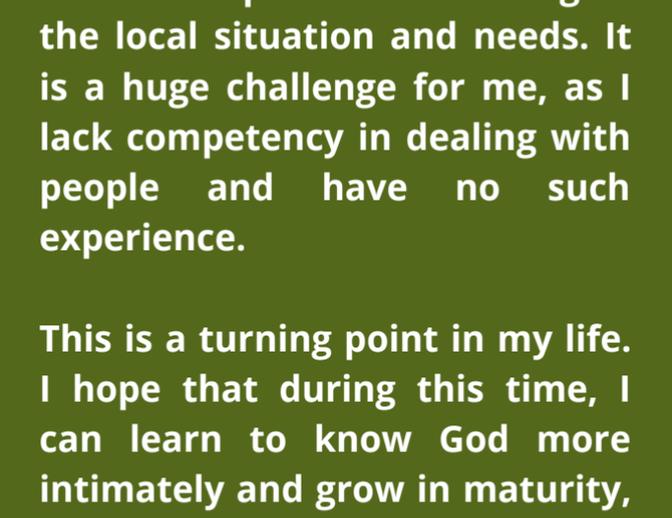
Awareness and education are also my burdens, and I wish to make a little contribution in this area in the future. Whether it is in the areas of improving their lifestyle or getting closer to God, I truly hope that I can contribute.

I trust that on my return to Micah Centre, I can find the right focus in serving the Lord and serve Him with all my strength and with all my heart.

Following Co-worker to the Frontline



Written by Moses Goh



I am a trainee from the 4th batch of missional training at Micah Centre. Thank God through His guidance and calling, I responded to be an intern to equip myself and to serve the Indigenous people.

I joined the team because I would like to do something for the Indigenous in Sabah — the Firstborn of the land. Although I have no idea what I can do for them now, even if it's one small thing, as long as it is to serve them for God, I am willing.

Currently, I follow a co-worker to the frontline - the Indigenous villages in Ranau, for fieldwork through data collection, and to have a deeper understanding of the local situation and needs. It is a huge challenge for me, as I lack competency in dealing with people and have no such experience.

This is a turning point in my life. I hope that during this time, I can learn to know God more intimately and grow in maturity, both in my relationship with others and with God. I want to be more humble and become a servant after God's heart. I also hope to rely on God to clean up the trash in my heart, to be more dedicated to serving God.

These are some small expectations I have for myself. I covet your prayer support, my family in Christ.

NEW INTAKE 2022



**TRAIN YOUNG PEOPLE
TO SERVE
THE INDIGENOUS
COMMUNITY**

He has shown you, O man, what is good;
And what does the Lord require of you
But to do justly, To love mercy,
And to walk humbly with your God?
- Micah 6:8 -

We are recruiting young people to join the cross-cultural mission disciple training, to be trained and equipped to serve the Indigenous people, and experience the cross-cultural journey of walking together with the Indigenous people.

If you...

- **want to grow more, explore more, experience more, and seek for God's calling...**
- **want to step out from your comfort zone, in order to encounter with God, shape your inner character, and practice faith...**
- **want to serve God more, but don't know how and where to start...**
- **want to look for affirmation on your calling into full-time ministry...**
- **have a burden in mission and want to be trained and get more experiences...**
- **have a burden for Indigenous people and want to serve them practically...**

We urge you to respond courageously to God's invitation to sign up for Micah's disciple training. Because we believe God has a better and wonderful plan for you.

For more information :

Brochure

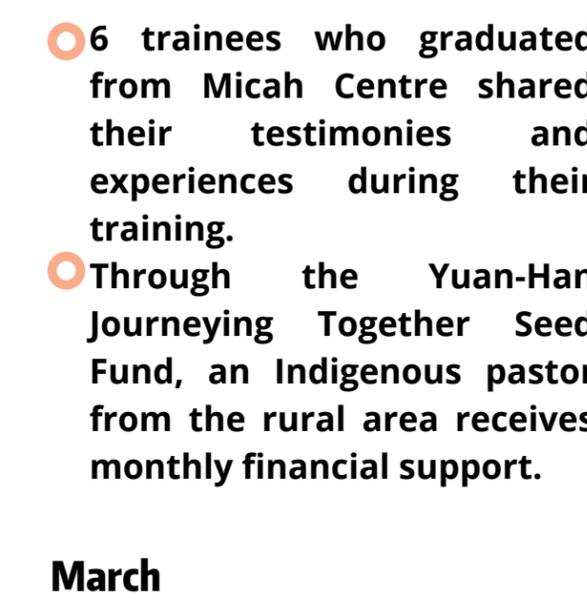
Register Now

DATE 1st June 2022 – 31st December 2022
VENUE Sabah (Kota Kinabalu)
LANGUAGE Bahasa Malaysia + Mandarin
REQUIREMENT Baptized Christian, Age 18 & above
TRAINING FEE RM3000
 Includes training fee for first 4 months, accommodation, food, transportation, training equipment & material.

Trainees will be guided on fundraising for the rest of months.

January

- 8 trainees completed their training and graduated from Micah Centre at the 4th Graduation Ceremony.
- The first Topical Sharing of Yuan-Han Journeying Together was held, which focused on the Spiritual Empowerment of the Indigenous people.



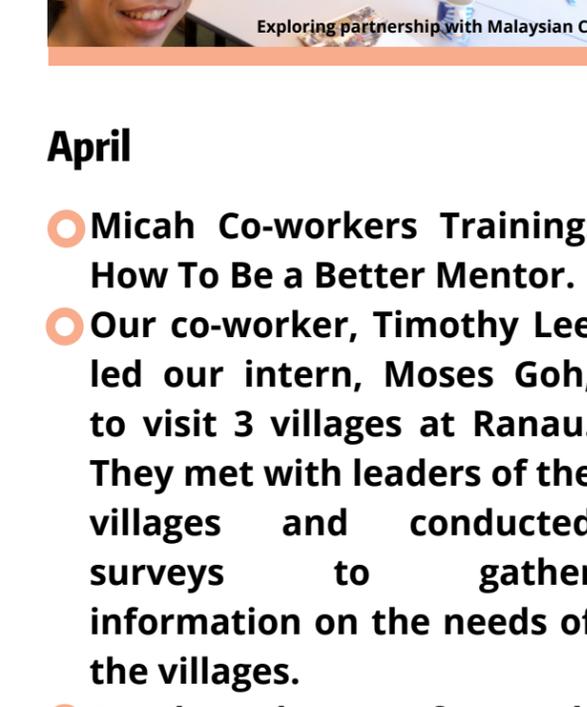
Micah Centre 4th Graduation Ceremony

February

- 6 trainees who graduated from Micah Centre shared their testimonies and experiences during their training.
- Through the Yuan-Han Journeying Together Seed Fund, an Indigenous pastor from the rural area receives monthly financial support.

March

- 2 alumni from the 4th cohort of Micah Centre (Chun Siew Yoong and Moses Goh) joined Serve The East (STE) ministry as interns.
- The second Topical Sharing of Yuan-Han Journeying Together was held, which focused on the Economy Empowerment of the Indigenous people.
- Exploring partnership with Malaysian Care to provide financial literacy programmes in rural Ranau to empower the Indigenous people financially.



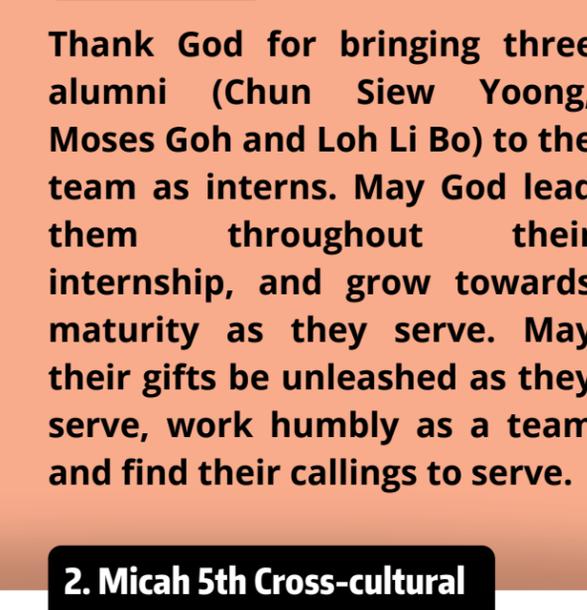
From left: Suria, Chun Siew Yoong, Timothy Lee & Moses Goh



Exploring partnership with Malaysian Care

April

- Micah Co-workers Training: How To Be a Better Mentor.
- Our co-worker, Timothy Lee led our intern, Moses Goh, to visit 3 villages at Ranau. They met with leaders of the villages and conducted surveys to gather information on the needs of the villages.
- Another alumnus from 4th cohort of Micah Centre (Loh Li Bo) joined STE ministry as an intern.



Visit villages



Right: Loh Li Bo (intern)

Pray for Serve The EAST

1. STE Team

Thank God for bringing three alumni (Chun Siew Yoong, Moses Goh and Loh Li Bo) to the team as interns. May God lead them throughout their internship, and grow towards maturity as they serve. May their gifts be unleashed as they serve, work humbly as a team and find their callings to serve.

2. Micah 5th Cross-cultural Discipleship Training

Micah 5th batch of Cross Culture Training will commence in June. May God bring in more Chinese youngsters to the training programme, prepare them to experience God and be equipped to serve in the training, experience cross-cultural ministry as they humbly walk with the Indigenous people and hence willing to commit to cross-cultural mission work.

3. Rural Community Development and Empowerment Plan

This year, one of the main empowerment plans is to educate the Indigenous people on financial management through conducting fundamental financial literacy courses. Through these courses, we hope the families learn the habit of savings, budgeting, giving tithes etc, to become good stewards of their resources. Pray that God will grant us success in this plan that every Indigenous family involved will be benefiting from the courses.

4. Rural Companionship Class (Kelas Teman Baca, KTB)

Another development plan for this year is to improve the facilities of KTB such as connecting electricity, installing fans and light bulbs, constructing toilet, repairing the fences, changing new floor mat etc. The aim is to provide a better learning environment for the children. May God provide our financial needs and grant us success.



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全人关怀团队
www.his.org.hk



Serve the East

2022年5月

原汉同行

Yuan Han Journeying Together

线上专题分享

Online Topic Sharing

3

原住民面对的领导挑战

如何在领导上赋权于原住民

Leadership Empowerment for
Indigenous People

SPEAKER



Pastor
Lam Kee Hing

23 MAY 2022

MONDAY

8:00-9:45pm



zoom

免费参加，欲报名欢迎联系

Free Registration. Please contact

Carol 012-4240118

