

The History of the Hmong

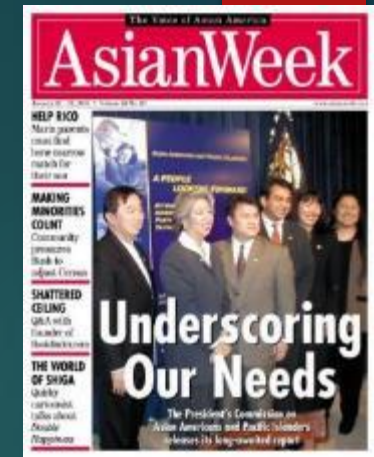
BY

LEE PAO XIONG
CENTER FOR HMONG STUDIES
XIONG@CSP.EDU

GANYING JEFF VANG
HMONG LANGUAGE & CULTURE, 3HMONGTV
JEFF.HMONGHLC@GMAIL.COM

My Background

- ▶ Director & Professor of the Center for Hmong Studies.
 - ▶ Teach Hmong Studies
 - ▶ Teach Political Science /American Government.
- ▶ Director of Housing Policy & Development.
- ▶ President & CEO of Urban Coalition.
- ▶ Director of Gov't & Community Relations
- ▶ Executive Director of State Council on Asian Pacific-Minnesotans.
- ▶ Executive Director of Hmong American Partnership.
- ▶ Appointed positions:
 - ▶ President Clinton's Administration
 - ▶ Governor Ventura's Administration
- ▶ Other political experiences
 - ▶ US Sen. Carl Levin
 - ▶ MN State Sen. Joe Bertram
- ▶ Served on many non-profit and foundation boards.



Jeff's Background

Hmong History, Language & Culture Research/Reporter, 3HMONGTV

- Research & document Hmong Cultural Events in the US, Southeast Asia, and China
- Research & document different Hmong Dialects in China, Southeast Asia and the West
- Research & document Hmong history

NON-PROFIT

- Co-founder & President of the Temple of Hmongism
- MN China Friendship Garden Society Board
- Hmong American New Year Board

EDUCATION

- University of MN (TC)
East Asian Studies, BA



Center for Hmong Studies

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HMONG STUDIES

SPONSORED BY THE CENTER
FOR HMONG STUDIES

04.6.18
5PM-9PM

04.7.18
7AM-6PM

1282 CONCORDIA AVE SAINT PAUL MN 55104



CONFERENCE WEBSITE:
<https://hmongcenter.csp.edu/>

CONTACT: LEE PAO XIONG
xiong@csp.edu 651.492.9818



NEW EXHIBIT

WE ARE HMONG

PEB YOG HMOOB
MINNESOTA

March 7-Nov. 29, 2015
Minnesota History Center

For 40 years, the Hmong have made a profound impact on their adopted home of Minnesota. This is their story, told in their voices.
Developed in partnership with the Hmong community.



mnhs.org

345 Kellogg Blvd. W. • St. Paul, MN

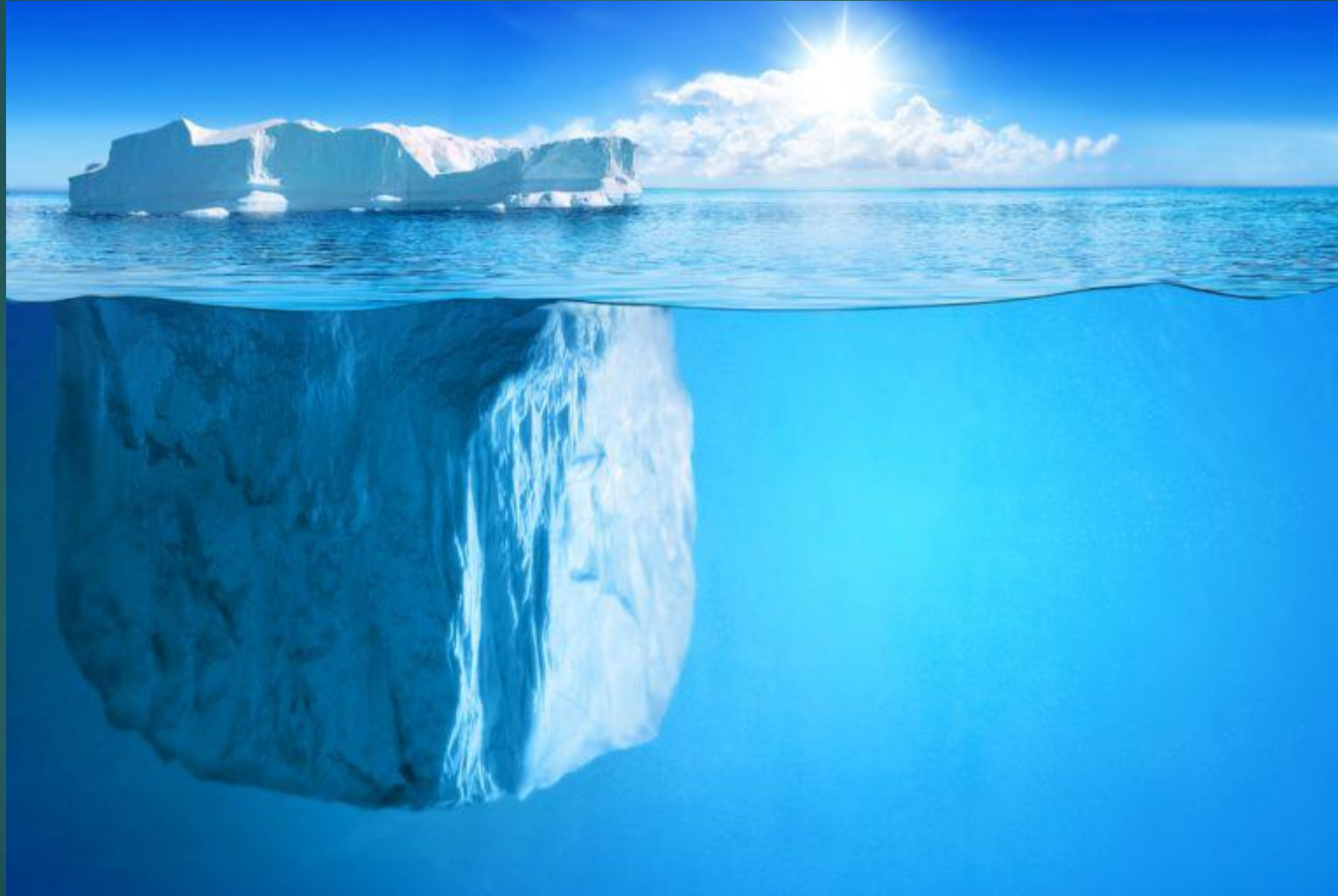


The Hmong

- ▶ When did the Hmong first arrived in the Minnesota?
- ▶ Where did the Hmong originated from?
- ▶ How many Hmong are in the world?
- ▶ How many Hmong in Minnesota?
- ▶ Who was the first Hmong elected official in the United States?

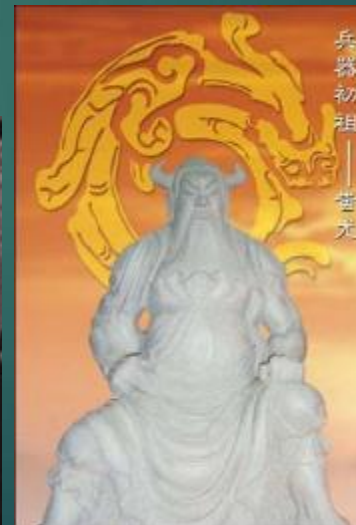


Perception/Stereotype



What defines a people?

- ▶ Clothing?
- ▶ Food?
- ▶ Language?
- ▶ Culture/Religion/Traditions
- ▶ History?





Who are the Hmong?



Hmong History in China by Jeff Vang

Ancient Kingdoms



Huang Di – Yellow Emperor



Chi You (Txiv Yawg)– Hmong Emperor



Yan Di – Red Emperor

Chi You Huang Di Yan Di



The Three Ancestors
(sanzu)



Chi You Statues



Chi You Palace



Chi You Symbols



OX-HORN SYMBOL



Chi You's Legend Continue



Know our History

苗



Know Our History



Know our History



HMONG/MIAO - The 3 Main Dialects

Xong, Hmu, Hmong

Eastern Dialect

- Hunan Province
- XONG (Red Hmong/Hong Miao)



Central Dialect

- Guizhou Province
- HMU (Black Hmong - Hei Miao)
(Southeastern Guizhou)



Western Dialect

- Yunnan, Guangxi, Sichuan, Western Guizhou, Southeast Asia, Western Hmong
- HMONG (White, Green, Flowery Hmong, and more...)



The 5 major migrations of the Hmong/Miao people

1. Zhoulu, north of the Yellow River, to the south of the Yellow River). Later formed the San Miao Kingdom
2. San Miao (Yao Shun Yu period)
3. Chu State (Hunan, Hubei area), Chin (Qin) unified
4. Sichuan, Guangxi, Yunnan (late Ming into Qing)
5. Southeast Asia (Out of the mainland, China) in the early 1800





Hmong History in SE Asia
by
Lee Pao Xiong

Know Our/Your History



The Hmong

- ▶ The French Indo-China War (1900 – 1954)
 - ▶ To Assist the French to fight against the Japanese during WWII, and the Vietnamese during the battle for Dien Bien Phu.
- ▶ The Secret War (1961 – 1975)
 - ▶ The Hmong fought to defend their homeland.
 - ▶ To engage the North Vietnamese Army in combats using guerilla tactics.
 - ▶ To rescue downed American pilots.
 - ▶ To gather intelligence.
 - ▶ To guard radar sites.
- ▶ Refugee years
 - ▶ 1975 – 1980 – Military leaders & family
 - ▶ 1980 – 1992 – Soldiers & family
 - ▶ 1993 – 2011 – Children of Soldiers



Know Our/Your History



The Hmong Migration

Demographic:

- ▶ 10 millions in China
- ▶ 1 million in Vietnam
- ▶ 460,000 in Laos
- ▶ 120,000 in Thailand
- ▶ 2000-3000 in Myanmar, and

After the end of the Lao civil war in 1975:

- ▶ more than 260,000 in the USA
- ▶ 15,000 in France
- ▶ 1,800 in Australia
- ▶ 1,400 in Canada
- ▶ 200 to Argentina,
- ▶ 110 in Germany (Lemoine, 2005).



The Hmong

- ▶ Demographic

Based on 2010 Census (The actual number may be more)

- ▶ 1. California 91,224;
- ▶ 2. Minnesota 66,181;
- ▶ 3. Wisconsin 49,240;
- ▶ 4. N. Carolina 10,864;
- ▶ 5. Michigan 5,924.



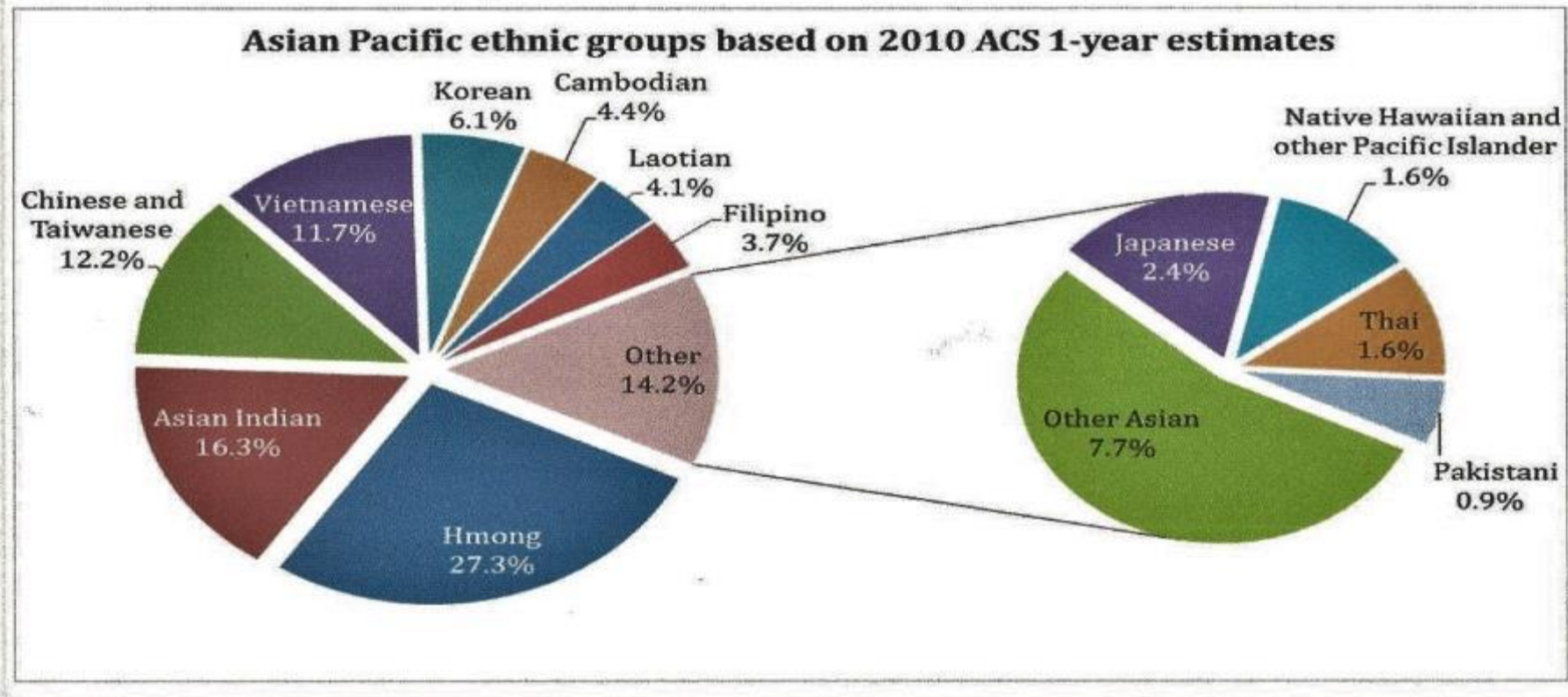
The Hmong



The Hmong Demographic

Asians & Pacific Islanders groups in Minnesota

Percentages are based on the estimated total Asian Pacific population size of 213,259



Source: 2010 American Community Survey, 1 year estimates

The Hmong Market

- ▶ Specific niche marketing



CLEAR CHANNEL



\$1 LOJ LOSYOG ME



yuavtxhawbpabraukojsawv
yuavntxivzograukoj mus



i'm lovin' it®

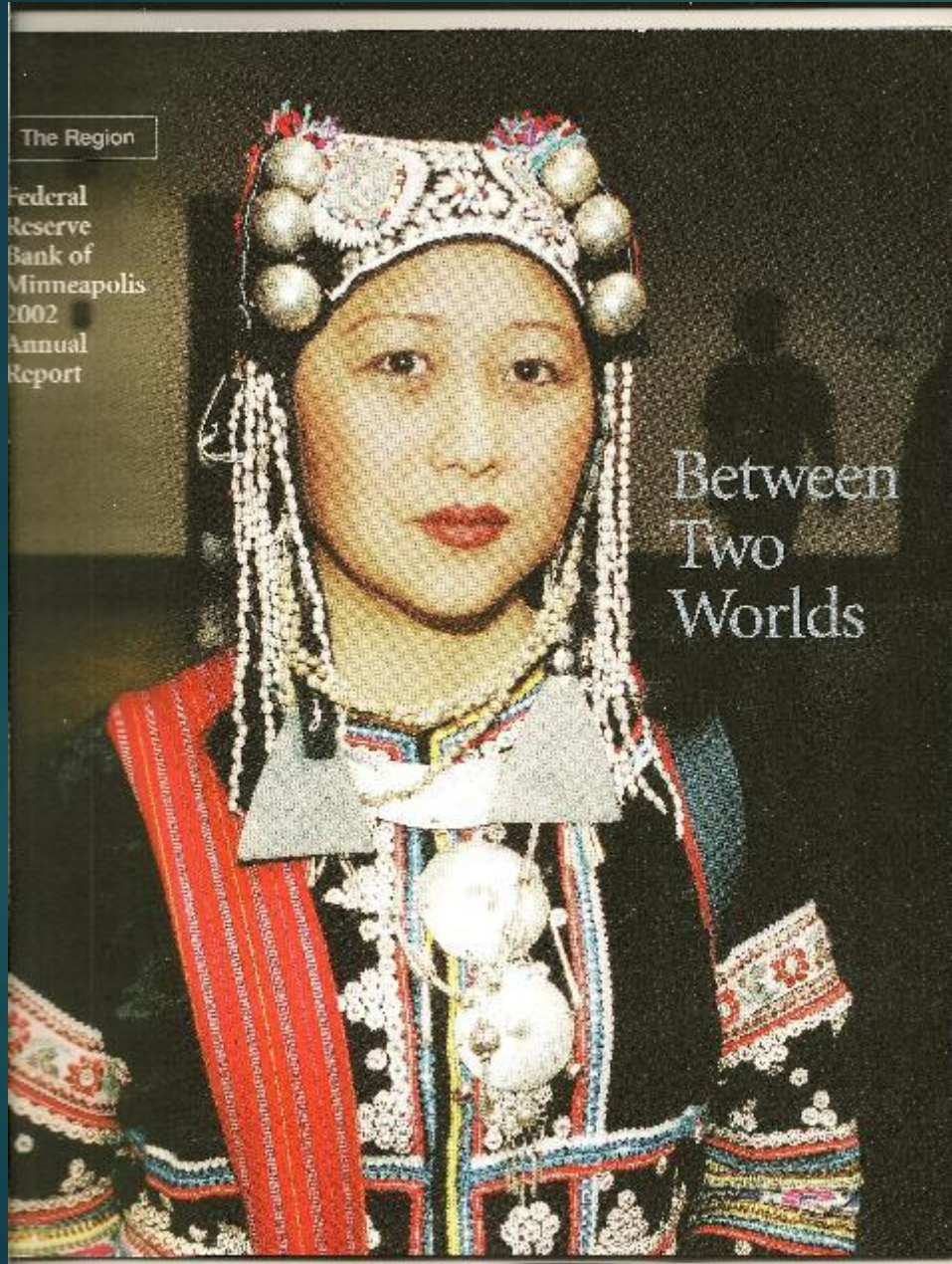
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The Region

Federal
Reserve
Bank of
Minneapolis
2002
Annual
Report

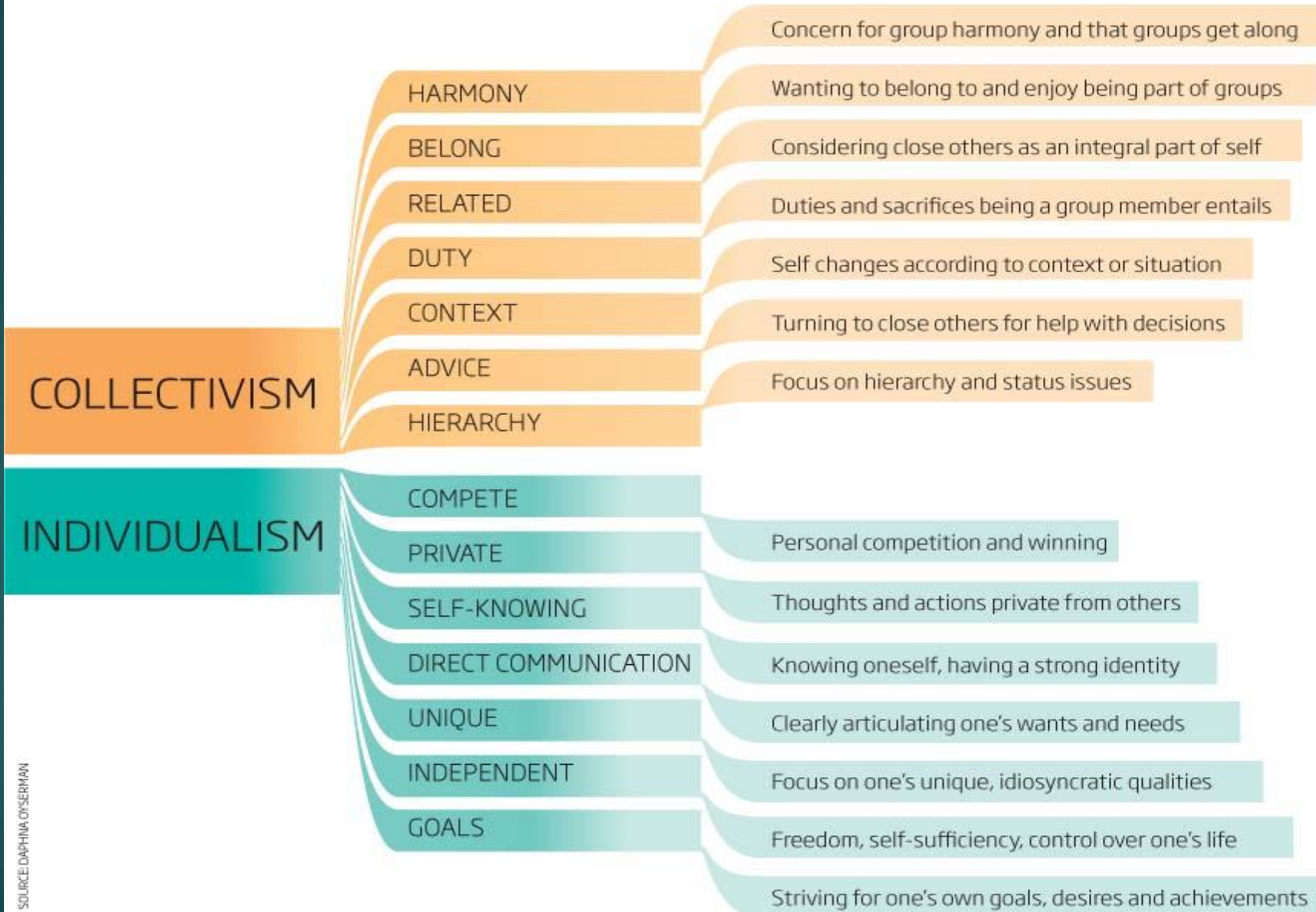
Between Two Worlds



Family Values

Solo or combo?

The way you see yourself may shape the way you think. If the characteristics associated with collectivism describe you, then your world view will tend to be holistic. If you fit the description of an individualist you are likely to think in a more analytical way



Society (Pej Kum Tebchaw)

Community (Yus ib
Haiv)

Clan (Yus ib
Xeem)

Family (Tsev Neeg thiab
Pawg Kwvtij)

Individual (Tus
Kheej)

Hmong Culture and Society

■ Hmong Worldview

- Holistic notion of the world
- Speculative
- Human and ecological co-existence
- Harmony
- Vertical relationship
- Extended family
- Interdependent
- Respect for old age and authority
- Group-oriented
- Adult-oriented
- Past-oriented
- Status-quo oriented (poj ua tseg yawm ua cia)
- Take a day at a time or as it comes
- Weigh and internalize needs, problems and frustration
- Shame conscious

■ Western Worldview

- Things can be broken down and analyzed
- Analytical, scientific
- Survival of the fittest, man controls nature
- Competition
- Horizontal relationship
- Nucleus family
- Independent and autonomous
- Challenge authority
- Individual-oriented
- Future-oriented
- Change-oriented
- Time is precise, prompt
- Express needs and problems verbally and publicly
- Guilt conscious

Family Names

18 CLANS

CLAN NAMES

Chang / Tsab

Cheng / Tsheej

Chue / Tswb

Fang / Faj, Faaj

Hang / Ham, Haam

Her, Heu / Hawj

Khang / Khab

Kong / Koo

Kue / Kwm

Lee, Ly / Lis

Lor, Lo / Lauj

Moua, Mua / Muas

Pha / Phab

Thao, Thor / Thoj

Vang / Vaj

Vue, Vu / Vwj

Xiong / Xyooj


Yang / Yaj

Anglicized name / Hmong name





What are our religious beliefs?



Hmong Religious Beliefs
by
Jeff Vang

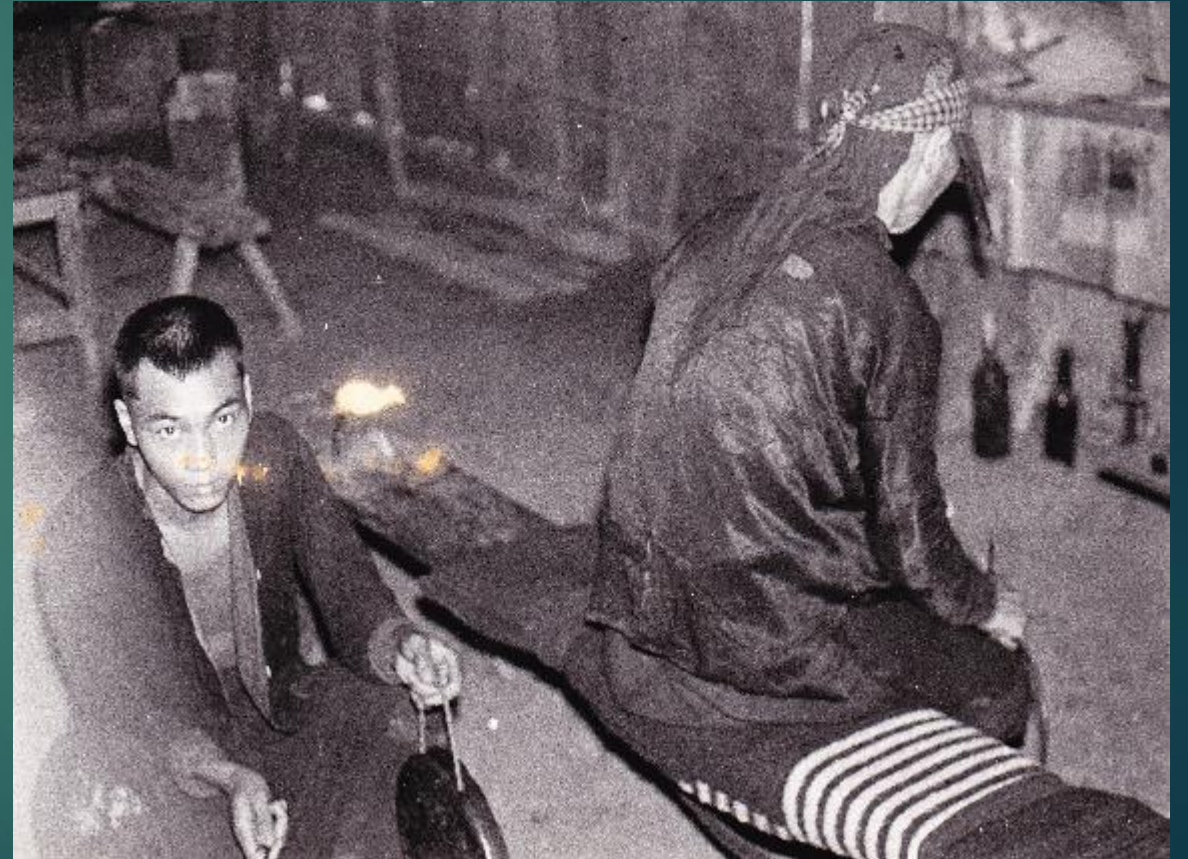
Hmong Spiritual Beliefs

- **Animism**

- All things living or nonliving have a spirit or a spirit of its own.
- Goal-To be in harmony.

- **Shaman**

- Restores balance or healing (kho)
 - Siv Yis, the first Shaman.



Hmong 3 Levels of Spiritual Beliefs

1. **Poj Yawm / Tej laus li Ntsuj Plig**

Ancestors Spirits / Protector spirits of those who passed

2. **Tim Tswv Teb Chaws**

Local Spirits/Specific Location

3. **Tswv Ntuj** (NTUJ) - Creator

(the owner of the earth, world, and the universe)

the 1 body 3 souls

▶ Three Souls

1st Soul

- Reborn - To be reborn into another shape i.e human race, animal, or something else

2nd Soul

- Travels back to heaven to be with the ancestors - Protects its owner from harm

3rd Soul

- Stays with body – stays with the grave upon death.



Important Musical Instrument

QEEJ (bamboo pipe instrument)

Entertainment

Religious Purpose

(Funeral & Wedding)



Hmong religious movements

Belief Systems:

- ▶ Niam Ntawv (mother of writing— Yang Shong Lue (1959 - Laos)
- ▶ Poj Koob Yawm Ntxwv — Ancestor worship (2000 - USA)
- ▶ Hmongism (2012 - USA) a simplified form of Hmong traditional belief
- ▶ Short/convenient to practice
 - Funeral/Wedding/Spiritual Healing/Teaching

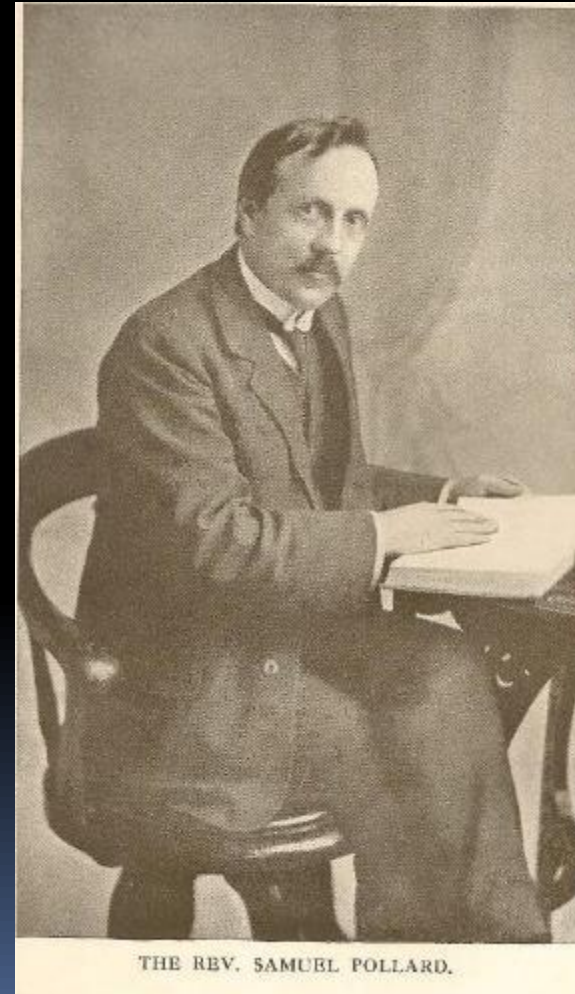


Hmong Christian Movements

By
Lee Pao Xiong

Christianity and the Hmong

- Samuel Pollard of the London Missionary Society (1899)
 - 1797 and 1856 rebellion
 - Desperate for recovery
 - Campaigned for land rights.
 - Launched Small Pox Vaccination Program.
 - Reformed traditional Hmong culture.
 - 1905 Created the Pollard Miao text with Yang Yage and Li Shitifan.
 - 1936 became established with the translation and publication of the New Testament.




Hmong Christianity

- ▶ Rev. Ted Andrianoff & Lao Kheng (1950)
 - ▶ Boua Ya and first 1,700 converts.
 - ▶ Touby Lyfoung
 - ▶ Study Bible twice a week
 - ▶ Does not discouraged villagers from conversion
 - ▶ Wife became those of first baptized.



Phaw See, the Meo convert



Missionaries & Hmong Writing Systems

Mloog, Sau, & Nyeem

NTAWV HMOOB THOOB QAB NTUJ

- ▶ History of Hmong Romanized Popular Alphabet (RPA)
 - ▶ Developed in 1953 by:
 - ▶ Father Yves Bertrais (Txiv Plig Nyiaj Pov Yaj)
 - ▶ Dr. William Smalley
 - ▶ Dr. Linwood Barney
 - ▶ Yaj Yeeb
 - ▶ Thoj Hwj
 - ▶ Cov Hmoob Roob Nyuj Qus thiab lwm cov Hmoob, Los Tsuas Teb.



Father Yves Bertrais



Dr. William Smalley



Dr. Linwood Barney

Mloog (listen), Sau (write), & Nyeem (read)

NTAWV HMOOB

- ▶ Hmoob Las Tees (RPA System)
 - ▶ 26 Cov Tsiwj Ntawv (alphabets)
 - ▶ 14 Tsiwj Ntawv Niam (vowels)
 - ▶ 6 Tab (singular)
 - ▶ 8 Txooj (double)
- ▶ Tsiwj Ntawv Txiv (Consonants)
 - Tab (Singular): 17
 - Txooj (Plural):
 - Cov 2 Tug(Double): 23
 - Cov 3 Tug(Triple): 15
 - Cov 4
 - Tug(Quadruple): 3
 - Cov Tsiwj Ntawv Cim (tone markers): 8

Mloog, Sau, & Nyeem

NTAWV HMOOB THOOB QAB NTUJ

- ▶ History of Pahawh Hmong Text (Phaj Hauj):
 - ▶ Developed in 1959 by Shong Lue Yang
 - ▶ Messianic based
 - ▶ Proclaimed to be the son of God
 - ▶ Sent to earth to develop a writing system for Hmong and Khamu
 - ▶ Was assassinated in 1971



Mloog, Sau, & Nyeem

NTAWV HMOOB THOOB QAB NTUJ

- ▶ Modified Pahawh Hmong Vowels (Yub Phaj Hauj):

	[ɛŋ]	[i]	[au]	[u]	[e]	[ai]	[ɔŋ]	[aɪ]	[ua]	[ɔ]	[ia]	[a]	[ɨ]
high level	ᵛ	ᵛ	ᵛ	ᵛ	ᵛ	ᵛ	ᵛ	ᵛ	ᵛ	ᵛ	ᵛ	ᵛ	ᵛ
	keeb	kib	kaub	kub	keb	kaib	koob	kawb	kuab	kob	kiab	kab	kwb
low glottalized	ᵛ̚	ᵛ̚	ᵛ̚	ᵛ̚	ᵛ̚	ᵛ̚	ᵛ̚	ᵛ̚	ᵛ̚	ᵛ̚	ᵛ̚	ᵛ̚	ᵛ̚
	keem	kim	kaum	kum	kem	kaim	koom	kawm	kuam	kom	kiam	kam	kwm
low rising	ᵛ̎	ᵛ̎	ᵛ̎	ᵛ̎	ᵛ̎	ᵛ̎	ᵛ̎	ᵛ̎	ᵛ̎	ᵛ̎	ᵛ̎	ᵛ̎	ᵛ̎
	keed	kid	kaud	kud	ked	kaid	kood	kawd	kuad	kod	kiad	kad	kwd
high falling	ᵛ̌	ᵛ̌	ᵛ̌	ᵛ̌	ᵛ̌	ᵛ̌	ᵛ̌	ᵛ̌	ᵛ̌	ᵛ̌	ᵛ̌	ᵛ̌	ᵛ̌
	keej	kij	kauj	kuj	kej	kaij	kooj	kawj	kuaj	koj	kiaj	kaj	kwj
mid rising	ᵛ̍	ᵛ̍	ᵛ̍	ᵛ̍	ᵛ̍	ᵛ̍	ᵛ̍	ᵛ̍	ᵛ̍	ᵛ̍	ᵛ̍	ᵛ̍	ᵛ̍
	keev	kiv	kauv	kuv	kev	kaiv	koov	kawv	kuav	kov	kiav	kav	kvw
mid level	ᵛ̑	ᵛ̑	ᵛ̑	ᵛ̑	ᵛ̑	ᵛ̑	ᵛ̑	ᵛ̑	ᵛ̑	ᵛ̑	ᵛ̑	ᵛ̑	ᵛ̑
	kee	ki	kau	ku	ke	kai	koo	kaw	kua	ko	kia	ka	kw
low level	ᵛ̑̄	ᵛ̑̄	ᵛ̑̄	ᵛ̑̄	ᵛ̑̄	ᵛ̑̄	ᵛ̑̄	ᵛ̑̄	ᵛ̑̄	ᵛ̑̄	ᵛ̑̄	ᵛ̑̄	ᵛ̑̄
	kees	kis	kaus	kus	kes	kais	koos	kaws	kuas	kos	kias	kas	kws
falling breathy	ᵛ̑̄̚	ᵛ̑̄̚	ᵛ̑̄̚	ᵛ̑̄̚	ᵛ̑̄̚	ᵛ̑̄̚	ᵛ̑̄̚	ᵛ̑̄̚	ᵛ̑̄̚	ᵛ̑̄̚	ᵛ̑̄̚	ᵛ̑̄̚	ᵛ̑̄̚
	keeg	kig	kaug	kug	keg	kaig	koog	kawg	kuag	kog	kiag	kag	kwg

Xyaum hais lus Hmoob

- ▶ 1. Nyob zoo! Koj dabtsis os?
- ▶ 2. Kuv mus tod khw os.
- ▶ 3. Koj mus dabtsis tod khw?
- ▶ 4. Kuv mus yuav zaub noj os.



Xyaum Nyeem Ntawv Hmoob

54

1. Koj tuaj ua dabtsis os?
2. Kuv tuaj nrhiav haujlwm os.
3. Los zaum.
4. Koj puas haus dej dabtsis?
5. Haus dej dawb os.



Our Progress

New Generation of Leaders

- ▶ Elected leadership
 - ▶ Sen. Foung Hawj
 - ▶ Councilmember Dai Thao
 - ▶ Councilmember Tou Xiong
 - ▶ Councilmember Blong Yang
- ▶ Organizational Leadership
 - ▶ MayKao Hang
 - ▶ Doua Thao
 - ▶ Bo Thao-Urabe
- ▶ Business Leaders
 - ▶ Toua Xiong, Hmongtown Marketplace
 - ▶ Yong Yia Vang et al, Hmong Village
 - ▶ Pao Choua Yang, Long Cheng Hmong Livestock



New Generation of Leaders

- ▶ Appointed leadership
 - ▶ William Yang
 - ▶ Mayoral appointee
 - ▶ Lee Pao Xiong
 - ▶ Clinton appointee
 - ▶ Obama AAPI leadership team
 - ▶ Ventura appointee
 - ▶ Sia Lo
 - ▶ Mayor appointee
 - ▶ Vameng Thao
 - ▶ Mayoral appointee
 - ▶ Chai Lee
 - ▶ Mayoral appointee
 - ▶ Doua Thao
 - ▶ Obama appointee – White House Initiative on AAPI
 - ▶ Judge Sophia Vuelo
 - ▶ Governor Mark Dayton Appointee



- Liz Kalia Xiong, Press Secretary for Mayor Carter.
- Kaohly Her, Policy Director
- ThaoMee Xiong, Director of Intergovernmental Relations.
- Daniel Yang, Senior Policy Advisor

Hmong Culture and Society

- ▶ Non-profit & government leadership
 - ▶ Bao Vang, ED of HND & HAP.
 - ▶ Bao Thao-Urabe, ED of CAAL.
 - ▶ Sia Her, ED of the State Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans.
 - ▶ MayKao Hang, President & CEO of Wilder Foundation.
 - ▶ Kazoua Kong-Thao, ED of CSE.
 - ▶ Kabo Yang, ED of MN Women Consortium.





Implications & So what?

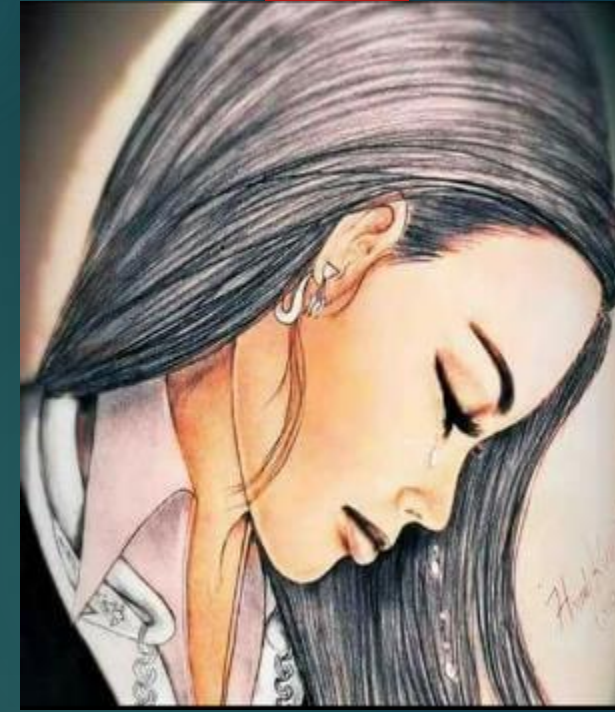
Implications

- ▶ Societal Level
 - ▶ Community is still very young. Sixty percent are under the age of 19.
 - ▶ Dependency – access to services
 - ▶ Preparatory – access to opportunities
 - ▶ Contributions – Access to opportunities
- ▶ Community Level
 - ▶ Mistrust of institutions and people in leadership positions due to war.
 - ▶ Must win trust by opening doors (institution and etc.)
 - ▶ Must win trust by showing up – functions, sponsorship, and etc.



Implications

- ▶ Family Level
 - ▶ Parents, male, and educated leaders wield enormous power as far as choice.
 - ▶ High expectations on the student/youth to perform or be the next Ph.D, MD, JD etc.
- ▶ Individual Level
 - ▶ High pressure to succeed.
 - ▶ Balance multiple priorities (work, home responsibilities, cultural ceremonies, and etc.
 - ▶ Limited choices due to influence from parents.
 - ▶ Less engaged in non-work related activities.



Q&A





Thank You!!!!!!

If you have ANY questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact
US:

Lee Pao Xiong

xiong@csp.edu

Ganying Jeff Vang

jeff.hmonglc@gmail.com