



Recently as part of a student exchange event we had the opportunity to visit India. The school that we attended is called Study Hall and is located in Lucknow, India. The students from School of the Nations who had the good fortune to go were from my class, Valentina, Amy, Nat, Annie, Joe and I. Other students from our school who also went there were Austin, Andre, Crystal, Rosaline, Fiona and Charley. The students from Study Hall that participated in this exchange were Umang, Chaitanya, Pranshu, Abhigyan, Yashaswi, Arusha, Pratyaksha and Aishwarya.

The students in Study Hall visited Macao and our school first. We took them to numerous places around Macao; arranged a party for them, and generally had a really good time. At school, they participated in specially arranged activities. They also performed a traditional Indian dance for us; it was really nice and beautiful and we were all extremely happy to witness this kind of dance. We became great friends and we all always stuck together, going out together as much as we could. It felt like this family that we are in had just increased a whole lot! They told us that Macao is a really nice place, and we gave them a genuine, warm welcome.

This time it was our turn to go to India. As soon as we arrived, they gave us a really warm welcome. Seeing them again was really a joy. This time we performed a traditional Chinese fan dance for them. We were all really nervous at first, but it went off pretty well. They took us to some of the most famous attractions in India including the Taj Mahal. The Taj Mahal was absolutely amazing. We had all kinds of different Indian curries and exotic foods. We participated in many events and service activities.

I felt really thankful that I was able to join this trip. I had the opportunity to see how other people on the other side of the world are like and how their way of life is. This also brings up a really important thought to me, that is: I can get to meet a whole new world of friends. Meeting other people from around the world is the most amazing thing to me. Whilst there I didn't really face any difficulties, in fact I really enjoyed it. It was my first time going to India, and I really would like to visit that place again. I've learnt that no matter what color of the skin you have, what your nationality is, we are all human and belong to a family.

Marco Garcia