

# Tou Long Yang

*Tou Long Yang is a junior at D.C. Everest Senior High. He was born in California, but lived in Laos for six years. He came back to America in 2005.*

***What is your name?***

My name is Touloung Yang.

***How old are you?***

I'm 14, almost 15 years old.

***When is your birthday?***

November 4, 1990.

***Where were you born?***

I was born in Modesto, California.

***Where are you from?***

I'm from Laos.

***How many siblings do you have?***

I have six sisters and one brother.

***Can you speak English and Thai?***

I can speak English. I don't speak Thai, but I understand what they say.

***How many languages do you know? What are they?***

I know three. I know English, Laotian, and a little bit of Thai.

***Can you tell us a little about yourself? Family? (Chores, living conditions, etc.)***

I like to go biking and jogging. At home I don't have anything to do.

***Do you remember your life in America, before moving back to Laos?***

Yes, I remember. I remember a little. At that time it was fun and there was no work for us because I was still little.

***Do you remember your first school?***

Yes, I went to Bear School. I went there for two years.

***Do you remember going to school in Laos? Do you remember any rules?***

Yes, I went for six years. I went to Sayford School, Pumsai School and Saisata School. We had to wear uniforms and have short hair.

***Who did you live with in Laos? Where did you live?***

My family lived with my uncle. I lived in Vincham Vindia.

***Why did you move back to Laos?***

My dad wanted us to know about the Hmong life in Laos and he wanted us to know what his birthplace was like. My dad also wanted to visit his family because he missed them.

***How old were you when you moved back?***

I was seven years old.

***When did you move back?***

We came in August of 2005.

***Why did you come back?***

My dad wanted us to have a better future over here.

***After coming back from Laos, what was life like?***

It was hard. It's very hard in school.

***Would you rather stay in Laos?***

I'm okay with both places.

***When you guys were in Laos, what did you guys do?***

My mom owns a farm. We have many animals like cows and pigs. My dad works at a company. And for me, I don't do much. During my free time, I just watch TV or ride my bike.

***Do you play any games?***

I play games a lot. We own a computer, so I usually play games on the computer.

***Do you play any sports?***

No, I don't play sports.

***Did your whole family come back? Did you all come back together?***

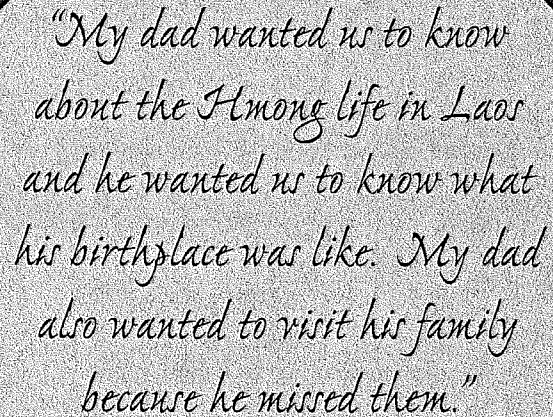
Yes, my whole family came back, but we came back in different months.

***Did you leave any relatives back in Laos?***

Yes, we left everybody there, but we still have some in America.

***Was it hard coming here?***

No, it wasn't hard.



*"My dad wanted us to know about the Hmong life in Laos and he wanted us to know what his birthplace was like. My dad also wanted to visit his family because he missed them."*

*Were you happy when you heard you were coming back to the United States?*

No, not that much.

*If you have a chance to visit Laos again, would you?*

Yes, I would.

*Can you tell us differences between Laotian and American food?*

Yes, in Laos, people like to eat spicy and sweet food. They don't have fast food over there. I like eating the sweet eggs and sweet pork. I also like eating papaya salad. Over here in America, I like to eat fast foods from places like Pizza Hut, Burger King and McDonalds.

*Do you have come cousins that just came from Thailand?*

No, we don't have any cousins that just came. We just have relatives that are over in Laos or in California.