

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, FU JEN CATHOLIC DEPARTMENT

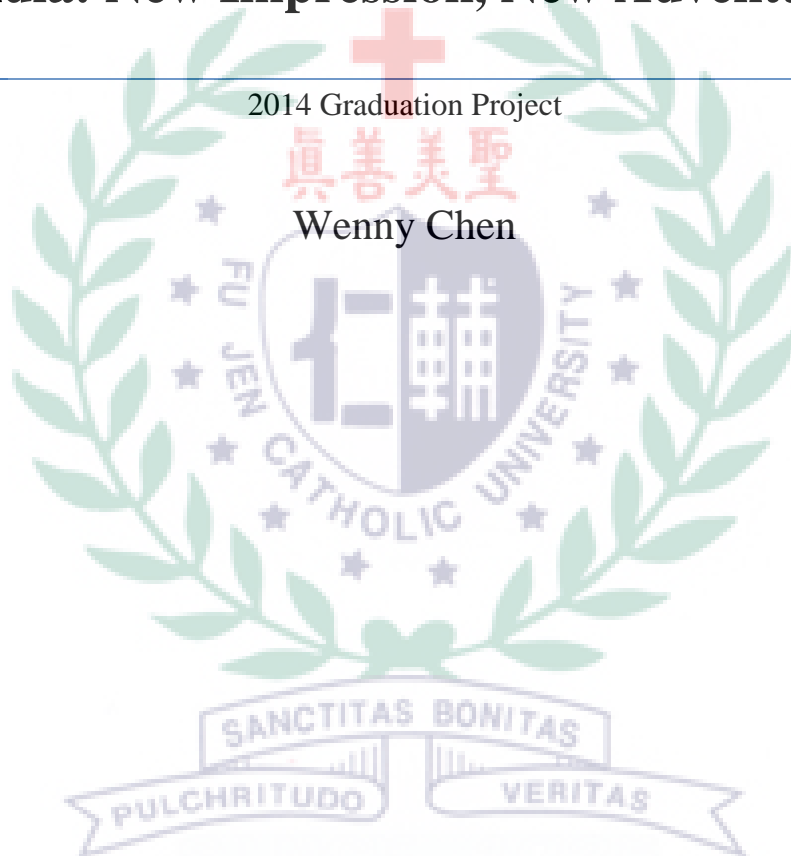
GRADUATION PROJECT 2016

India: New Impression, New Adventure

2014 Graduation Project

真善美聖

Wenny Chen



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Graduation Project
Final Report
Professor Donna Tong
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I. Introduction

Everything started in 2013, the year that I first visited Kolkata in North India. I joined a service-learning team sponsored by Fu Jen Catholic University and served in the Mother House, which was established by Mother Teresa in 1950. When I arrived in India for the first time there were huge culture shocks for me such as in eating local foods, seeing the way the locals live, and experiencing the various transportations they take. The foods in India are much spicier and saltier than foods in Taiwan. Moreover, Indian dishes seldom have leafy vegetables, but instead they have lots of meat and potatoes. In Kolkata, for those people who do not have a place to live, they simply build up their houses along the roads with canvas, and this is something that I have not seen before. However, Indians impressed me with their adaptability: their ability to feel at ease under all circumstances. For instance, no matter how noisy the traffic on the road, they can still sleep soundly.

Before I went to India, information on India was pretty unfamiliar to me, and what I know is from the social media. They broadcast news about the inequality of men and women of India, and they report on the rape incidents that keep happening in Indian society. Therefore, people who have never been to India are easily influenced by the press, and they may have some particular biases against India. Without a basic understanding of India, people consider Indians are dangerous and unfriendly, so they are unlikely to choose to visit the country. Hoping those prejudices will not be the first image for the public anymore; I would like to make a film about my planned trip to North India in the future. The context of the film combines individual interviewing of

passersby and locals, spectacular historic heritages of India, and the amazing foods that people can have when arrive in India. My future point of view is that the film is not only for people who would like to travel in India, but also for people who have no chances to know India. However, right now I put emphasis on is those people who want to be an overseas volunteer to India as my target audience. Additionally, I will share my personal experience with the film to help club members know better the country they will visit in the future. Also, it is a practical way to reach my target audience by uploading the film to YouTube and sharing the link to club members and the teachers in the Service-Learning Center. Through the film, they are assumed to know more about the beauty of India rather than blindly believing in what social media report.

II. Methodology

- What are the methods you used to complete your tasks and reach your goals?

After reading the tour guiding handbooks, I figured out the traveling route in North India and selected the must-stop places to analyze each of them on historical sites, specialty in foods, and the culture differences. Meanwhile, I distributed the questionnaires by connecting Google Drive and posting it on Facebook to reach the public. In the last part of my questionnaire, I put one open-ended question for my respondents and make them write down their personal impression on India. Through the questionnaire, I was able to understand how they feel about this country based on their personal images and use them as a base for my interviewing of passersby. Besides the data collection, I also interviewed two Indian friends to share their personal experience to different parts of India and presented them to audience in my film. Additionally, I attended the filming course provided by Professor Doris before I started filming my video. Therefore, I had the basic knowledge on film maker and I used it accurately.

- What were the difficulties you encountered and how did you resolve them?

During the process of doing the video, the first problem was that I have no idea about filming and I usually appreciated others' videos, but I never made my own video before. Thus, I took the filming course and asked help from friends who were experts in this field. I remembered one time I opened my file in Power Director, I could not find the image file that I had spent lots of time on it, only the sound file showed on the screen. I was extremely panic at the time because I thought my total file was gone and I had to make it one more time. Luckily, my expert friend helped me solve the problem and found my file back. After the last rehearsal on 1/7, I had lots of feedback from the professors and classmates. One of the professors suggested that I could put the comments from my audience and presented the result next time. However, due to time limitation, I did not show the video to others before presenting, yet I made a feedback sheet and distributed them to school sisters and brothers on presentation day. They gave me good comments on my video because I made it through the viewpoint of a student and also with lots of beautiful pictures in it. Moreover, I am happy that they want to give a try traveling to India.

III. Research and Information

A. "Tourism and India"

Kevin Hannam and Anya Diekmann talk about the tourism styles in India nowadays, and it also offers insights into India's future development. Therefore, it is a professional book that I can briefly understand how those modern cities such as Mumbai and Delhi is trying to make efforts on their tourism. I use the information on expressing the prosperity of these two modern cities and its location of India.

B. *Rajasthan, Delhi & Agra Travel Guide*

The online traveling book talks about heritage sites, foods, festivals, and lots of

interpretation on famous cities in English. Because it mainly focuses on specific areas such as Rajasthan, Delhi, and Agra, I search more details about their features respectively. Also, the information helps me with the historical background of those historic heritages such as City Palace, Hawa Mahal, Tomb of Hymayun in Rajasthan, temples in Delhi, and Taj Mahal, Agra Fort in Agra.

C. *The Ways Travel in India* 《地球步方·印度篇》

With the sharing experiences from many backpackers and lots of details about cities in India, I can truly understand the actual situation that happens to them and how they deal with their lives in India. It is different from *Lonely Planet*, a travel guide book that describes each state in details. Moreover, it is written by Japanese and translated by Taiwanese, so it is easier for me to understand the way they translate for Taiwanese readers. Also, it provides considerate tips for readers, so that I can bear in mind to use them in my traveling.

D. *Food Paradise India: Full Documentary*

The video has a host to India and make it just like a food show on TV. The host goes to different cities of India and introduces the ingredients that Indians use in their dishes and he also recommends some street snacks through the video. Furthermore, he also visits the restaurants and taking a cooking course to learn how to make Indian dishes. Therefore, I use the context of the video since it provides lots information about delicious foods in India, plus I also introduced foods I had tried in Kolkata and presented in my video.

E. *Golden India*. 《金磚印度》

This traveling guide book introduces twelve modern cities of India. It provides city maps in the book, which makes readers directly understand the outline of each city and explicit places in different cities. Then, it introduces hot sightseeing spots with pictures and detailed information about them. Plus, the

hotel information can be seen from the book; moreover, the information about good foods to eat and the fancy shopping are all listed for each city. This book helps me with the selection of cities' specialty and sightseeing spots that I would like to recommend to the audience in the video.

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