



Volunteer Spirits

DISCUSSION

1. Talk about these pictures

(Write your opinions in the boxes below.)



2. What is volunteer spirit in your opinion?
3. What are the elements of volunteer spirits in your point of view?
4. As we are Thai, what would we do for our nation to be volunteer spirits?
5. If you were assigned to create one project to help people, which project would you want to create? for whom? Please plan your project creatively.

VOCABULARY

Direction: Match the words with their meanings.

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|----------------------|---|
| 1. victim (N.) | A. to change or develop into something different |
| 2. tireless (Adj.) | B. a relaxed happy feeling that you get because something bad has not happened or a bad situation has ended |
| 3. donate (V.) | C. working very hard without stopping |
| 4. goods (N.) | D. to separate people or things into smaller groups or parts |
| 5. turn into (Phrv.) | E. objects produced for sale |
| 6. relief (N.) | F. to officially decide something |
| 7. take turns | G. someone who has been affected by a bad situation |
| 8. determine (V.) | H. share of it, one after the other |
| 9. generosity (N.) | I. to wait for something that you expect to happen |
| 10. divide (V.) | J. to give something such as money or goods to an organization, especially to a school, hospital, political party, or charity |
| 11. await (V.) | K. kindness, especially in giving things to people |

Volunteers stream in to help flood victims across country: *People from all strata of society join in*

People from all walks of life are working **tirelessly** to pack **donated goods** at Don Mueang airport for people around the country who have been affected by the floods.

Volunteers of all ages yesterday were busy packing food supplies, bottled water, clothing and other donated goods on the first floor of the airport's terminal building, which has been **turned into** the government's flood **relief** operations centre. Most volunteers live in Bangkok and surrounding provinces.

Chalerm Changthongmadan, chairman of the Hired Motorcycle Taxi Drivers Association, has brought about 30 association members to help pack donated goods since Monday.

He said motorcycle taxi drivers from all parts of Bangkok would **take turns** helping pack donated items at the flood relief operations centre every day.

Saipin Lojaya, a 64-year-old retired government official in Bangkok's Lat Phrao district, said she was **determined** to do her part in helping flood victims. Having experienced flooding herself in 1983, she said she knows how flood victims are suffering.

"If I didn't come this time, I don't know whether I will ever have a chance to help people hit by floods again. I will keep coming to the centre," said Ms Saipin, while packing items into a relief bag. Ms Saipin said she had also donated goods and cash at the centre.

Suthidawan Thongmee, 28, said news that volunteers were needed to help pack supplies for flood victims had prompted her and her two siblings to go to the centre. She spent her days off from work packing food supplies and other relief items.

She said she was impressed with the **generosity** of Thais in helping others in a time of hardship.

Other volunteers, among them children and the elderly, arrived at the centre yesterday to help pack donated goods. Jobs were clearly **divided** among them. Some groups were responsible for separating goods while others put items into relief bags. One group of volunteers formed a long queue to carry the bags to **awaiting** trucks which will deliver them to flood-hit areas across the country.



We will go through this tough time together.

CHECK YOUR COMPREHENSION

1. According to the passage, where was the place for helping victims suffered from flood?
2. What were the duties that volunteers helped from the passage?
3. Which occupations did join as the volunteers from the passage?
4. According to the title, what is the meaning of the word “victims”?
5. Where is the government’s flood relief operations center?
6. Why did Saipin Lojaya determine to do her part in helping flood victims?
7. What did Suthidawan Thongmee prompt her and her two children going to the center?
8. What was the Suthidawan’s impression?



DISCUSSION AFTER READING

1. After reading this passage, how do you feel about volunteer spirits?
2. Does this passage motivate you to help other people? How?
3. What do you want to say to the victims?

Reference

Amornrat Mahitthirook . (2011). *Volunteers stream in to help flood victims across country: People from all strata of society join in*. Retrieved November 14, 2011, from <http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/local/260868/volunteers-stream-in-to-help-flood-victims-across-country>.

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