

LESSON No. 21



TRAVEL TO ANOTHER PLACE

I am Tomba. I am very happy today because my uncle is coming back from Bangkok. He is a computer engineer. He went there three years ago to work in a company. My father told me that my uncle gets a good salary.

**What is Tomba's uncle?
Where does he work?**

I accompanied my father to receive my uncle at the Imphal Airport. My father told me that my uncle is flying from Bangkok to Kolkata. Then he will fly from there to Imphal. I am also very eager to travel by an aeroplane.



At about 2 p.m. my uncle came out from the Exit Gate of the Airport. He was pushing a trolley with 3 suitcases. I was thrilled and excited on seeing him. I think he was also happy on seeing us. I was expecting some gifts from him. Those might be toys. Uncle lovingly said, "You are a big boy now, Tomba". And I said, "I will go to Bangkok when I am bigger."



Why was Tomba thrilled and excited?

My father put the luggages into our car. Then we came to our home in happy moods.

I was very eager to ask many questions to my uncle about Bangkok. I asked, “Are you very tired, uncle?” He replied, ‘No’.

He said, “It takes only about two hours to reach Kolkata from Bangkok by an aeroplane. And it takes only about an hour to reach Imphal from Kolkata by air. Aeroplanes fly very fast.”

How long does an aeroplane take to reach Kolkata from Bangkok?

Everybody at home was eagerly waiting for the arrival of uncle. Everybody was happy. I eagerly requested uncle to tell everything about Bangkok in the evening. He readily agreed and promised to do so.



In the evening, everyone of our family surrounded my uncle to hear something about Bangkok. He began to tell us about Bangkok.

He told us that Bangkok is the capital of Thailand. Thailand is a kingdom. Siam is the old name of Thailand. It is bordered on the west and south by Myanmar (Burma), on the north and east by Laos, on the south-east by Cambodia (Kampuchea) and on the south by Malaysia. The map of Thailand is like an elephant's head.

What is the old name of Thailand?



He continued that the Europeans called Bangkok **“the Venice of Asia”** because of its many canals. The Chao Phraya river and its canals carry the famous **“floating markets”** of Bangkok. Hundreds of small boats come Bangkok every early morning to sell vegetables, flowers, fruits, fishes, etc.

What is the Venice of Asia? Why is it so called?



ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES CLASS- IV

On the bank of the Chao Phraya River there is the walled city of the grand palace. Formerly, it was the residence of the kings of Thailand.



The Thais are major population of Bangkok. Most of the residents of Bangkok are Buddhists. There are many Buddhist temples in Bangkok.

The people of Bangkok are polite. They have courtesy. A Tai (Thai) family is headed by its parents. Children are taught to honour their parents and elders. Further, my uncle told us, normally the people of Bangkok remove their shoes before entering someone's house.

After telling something about Bangkok, uncle gave each one of us a picture book of the city of Bangkok. I wondered, why the roads of Bangkok are so clean. I am very eager to visit Bangkok

ACTIVITY

List three travelogues written by Manipuris. Name the places the authors visited?