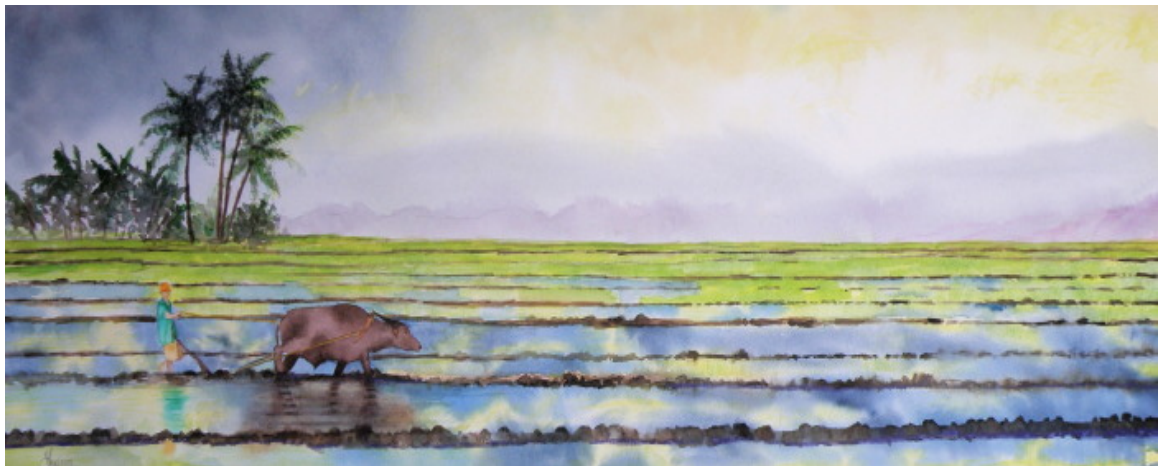


The Rich And The Poor

Choosing the right spouse is a fortune

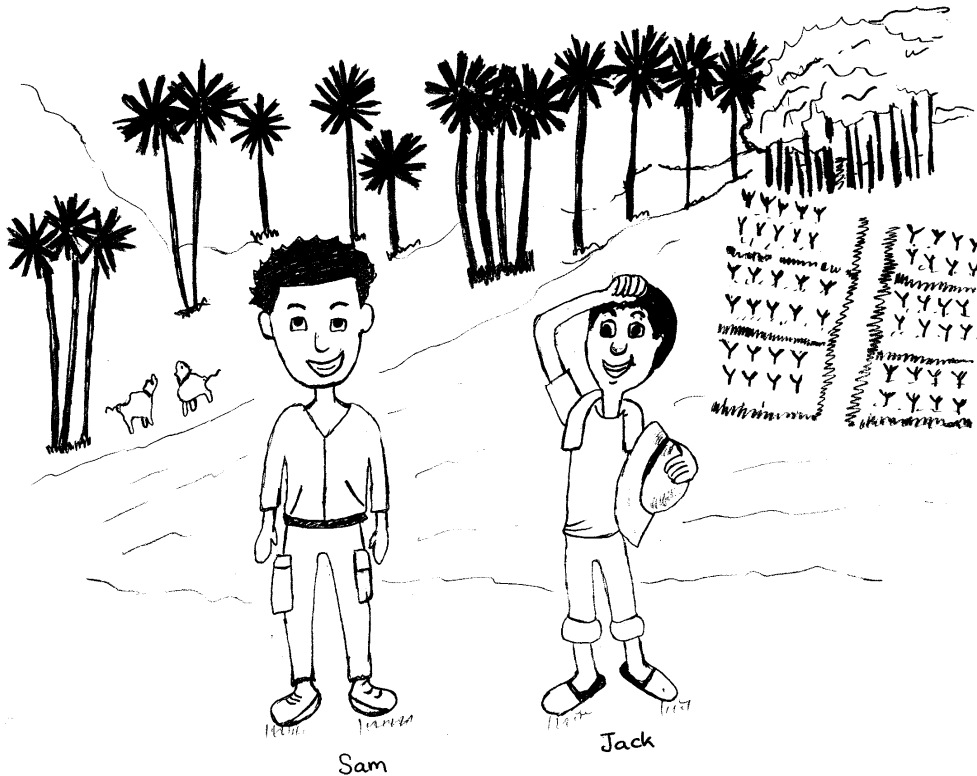
HARDWORK is the **KEY** to **SUCCESS**.

Chantheavy LIM



The Rich And The Poor

Jack was a poor young farmer in rural. He had a closed friend named Sam who was son of a very rich family in a village. Both were in their early twenties. When they were kids, they often played with each other, shared their common sense, opinions and did some discussion together. When both reached a marriageable age, they started to discuss about choosing wife. Of course, Sam was very proud of his parents who had already got him a gorgeous fiancée from another rich family in other village since he was a kid (this is one part of culture and tradition that the first-class family always does for their children in Cambodian society). On the other hand, Jack had nothing to discuss since he had no plans for a future wife and his family was too poor and only earned from hand to mouth. His father passed away when he was seven and his mother worked as a servant in rich family at other village. Hence, he told Sam that choosing a wife was totally based on luck and destiny.



Jack: I wish nothing from my future wife, but her sincerity and gentleness.

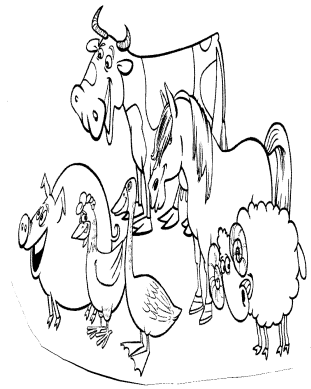
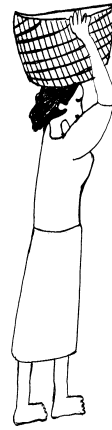
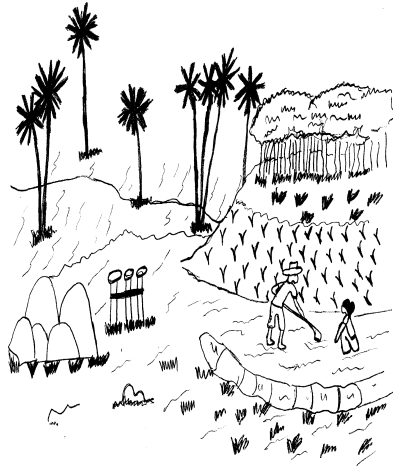
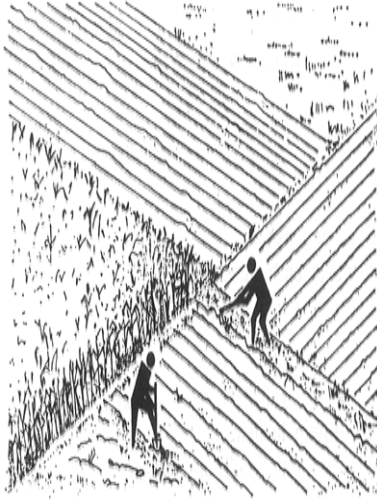
Sam: My future wife is one of the most elegant and gorgeous girls in the village (He talked and behaved in a boastful manner). He continued her skin is very white and smooth, her fingers are tiny, and her legs are small and straight. I heard she has many servants to take care of and help her since her parents never allowed her to do anything at home.

Jack smiled and responded gently, friend, you are so lucky that you get a very beautiful lady in your life. I was not fortunate from birth. However, I wish you the best for your future.

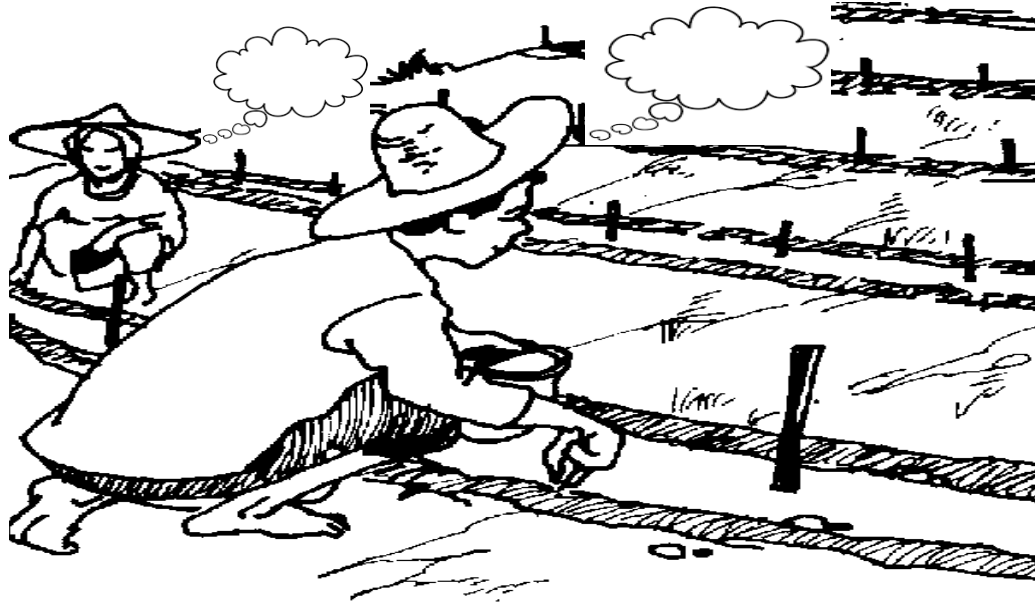
Sam was so happy and prideful to hear such praise from his friend. He laughed so happily and never ever cared about his friend's feeling of poorness and hardship. In contrast, Jack was so kind and gentle to his friend. He was happy to hear that his long time childhood friend was going to have a great future.

A few months later, both of gentlemen got married. Sam got married to his beautiful and lovely fiancée. They were so joyful with many honored guests while Jack got married with the poor lady who worked as a servant that Jack's mother introduced to. They prepared a small party at home only with his mother and his wife who had big hands and legs and strong body.

After married, both friends were so busy with their individual work and family, they rarely met each other more often as before. Talked about Jack farmer family, every day and night, Jack and his wife worked so hard and saved every penny. With their enough savings, they bought a small plot of land and grew rice together.



As Jack who had skill on farming, tried to gather all his knowledge and methods to apply for his farm. His wife besides helped Jack on farming, she had sometime to feed animals such as pigs, chickens, and ducks. After the animals were big enough, she could sell them for money to support her family and kept some for saving. She also grew some vegetables around house and did cooking depend on those sources. Jack's wife worked very hard every day from the early morning to the evening. She had a great character, patience, and was industrial and dare to everything for family happiness. She would cook and packaged to eat with her husband in the farming field rather than buying food in the market. Jack was so glad to see his wife were saving and working hard for their family. Jack talked with his wife about their family planning for the next year.



Jack: I prefer to buy more land and do more farming when we have enough saving. As you see now our harvest is very productivities, if we have more land to do farming we will earn more than we have now.

His wife: I see the result we do right now. I agree with you, we will buy more land and do as our family planning. Therefore, in the future we will have money to send our kids to a good school at City.



As their plan, with enough savings, they bought more plots of land from poor farmer in the village. They knew the importance of land. They would rather buy land that could yield them more rice and fruits rather than spending carelessly. They now ever hired local farmers to work with them in the fields. Year after year, the couple's wealth grew. They built up from their barely hand to a good standard of living. This was because of his wife who were good at saving and working (this kind of women in Cambodian society is the so-called worthy lady. She bears the true value of being wife).



On the other side, Sam was in trouble because his pretty lady was very lazy and wasteful. Every day, she would sleep until 10 A.M. and always bought more and more expensive stuff. She would spend all the money and never care about her husband's treasure. She spent a lot on her fancy clothes and spent money carelessly. Moreover, she would never want to work and help her husband to earn. Day after day, her family treasures were getting less and less. At the end, they ended up living in poverty and unhappiness (the most important factor of their family failure was lake of wife's roles in family decision and responsibility).

While Jack family year after year, he made a lot of progress. He and his wife now had a lot of farming land in the village. They now even hired many of local farmers to help their farm work. Now, they have more cows to plow for the farming activities, more farming tools and more farming resources. However, his wife still worked so hard with her workers. She also helped Jack taking care of family business. At the end, Jack, his wife, and their children were living in love, care, understanding, harmony, and happiness because of their hard working and affection toward each other.



Happy Ending