

Dear Raviv,

As children, in addition to our daily world, we had our own world of imagination and fantasy and dreams in which we used to take refuge when reality became too difficult or uncomfortable for us. When we grew up, we learned how to differentiate between the magic world of legends and the real world. We knew, and we were unhappy and homesick for that world, which remained captive in books, films and our imagination. **Now you, in the blink of an eye, transposed us into another dimension** – as though a magic door of legend had suddenly opened for us. A wondrous enchanted world that is real, in which we may move freely. Thanks to you, we smelled the scent of the flowers and of incense, spices and foods in a marvellous land called Siam or, in the modern world, **Thailand**.

Sometimes I feel that one should make a separate voyage of scents to that wonderful country. Again, thanks to you, we visited the **golden temples** in the beautiful buildings at the heart of the towns, seemingly impervious to the noise and smells of the street and a great place in themselves with qualities unmatched anywhere else. The chimes of the bells, the tapping of heels, the bowing, the courteous manners, the smiles, hands clasped to chest – all these are a world that is disappearing, and we were fortunate to experience it in our recent visits to that magic land.

The amazing **nature reserves, wooden houses and golden beaches, the white sands** surrounded by the greenery of rain forests, the jungles with their magic **bungalows and cabins**, safaris lit up by fireflies at night, around trees shining like Christmas trees, the mangroves and the many other beautiful things time is too short to mention after one wonderful visit that completely removed us from the harsh and painful reality of our daily lives in this country so beset with tension and fatigue, to rest a while in a magic land and **recharge our batteries in order to go on with the great tasks** and assignments that still wait to be fulfilled for the sake of our beloved homeland.

**We can only send you at D2U our heartfelt thanks for all these treats and for the assistance and the adventures we were shown on our last visit as on our previous visits to this enchanted place.** We are filled with gratitude for all you have done, and these dear memories will always remain with us.

Yours in friendship,  
Gladys and David Altman