

A TRIP IS MEASURED BY THE FRIENDS YOU MAKE AND NOT BY MILES.

Hello, hola, Chao, Meika, Namaste!

Good evening to one and all present here. My name is Moksha Dadia and today I would like to take this opportunity to share our experience and thank the ones who helped me in experiencing it.

First of all, I want to pause for a few seconds and think about where you are right now and why we are here. Yes, you are at one location but you know what is the best part? You have the whole world around you. We are here to experience new culture, to see the world by being around different people.

We would like to thank Lions Clubs International for providing us with an opportunity to have such an experience that will last a lifetime.

Words fall short to thank our host families. Thank you for hosting us and providing us with the best hospitality. You all are literally our extended family in a different corner of the world. A family not by blood but by heart. The bonding that we developed in a week is definitely going to last for ever. Thank you for making us feel so homely. We didn't even for a minute feel like we are away from our own family because you treated us like your own. We love you mom-dad and brother – sister. Thank you for being a part of this journey with us and making it memorable.

We still remember the first day of the camp. Everyone having a mixed feeling. A feeling of excitement, nervousness, fear of fitting in with people from a completely different part of the world, cultural background, different thinking, etc. but the moment we all met, the mixed feelings just vanished and it was really easy to be friends. It seemed that we all knew each other for a long time already.

The camp helped us to develop an accepting nature where people are accepted for what they are despite the differences. It helped us to adapt to situations, handle ups and downs, to communicate with people, learn teamwork, to develop openness and a global viewpoint. It has changed our perspective as to how we see the world. It taught us to respect other cultures. It has made us a human and a global citizen rather than just being a citizen of our own nation. All this was possible only because of the Lions Clubs Camp Staff and the coordinators.

On behalf of everyone, I would like to thank Multiple District 112 Belgium for making the best arrangements for us. Camp director Francis Brabander, thank you for being the backbone of the camp. Thank you YE President Frank Lauwers, camp coordinator Jean François and YE Incoming Paul Vanderhaegen. Coordinators Antoine, Brian and Charles. A special thank you to District A LC Zwevegem, District B LC Turnhout, District C Jette St. Pierre and District D LC Hannut. Thank you for organizing various activities and making our stay in Belgium memorable.

Think “WE” instead of “I”

Gent Festival, Luxembourg, Portuguese, Walibi, Brussels National Day.

It does not matter that we are different so that we all have great moments together. And the latter is the most important thing. That although we have different culture, we are from different countries and we have different dreams and concerns, when we are here, we leave all that behind and we are one.

Boy from Georgia, “Habla español por favour” in two weeks. Not necessary to be a referee to draw a yellow card. Only 2 hours to learn various dance forms.

Hidden singer – Garden song.

Don’t need a pub or bar to party, but just each other and the party gets started.

How we entered as raw clay and at the end of these 30 days, we have been moulded into a strong pot that is ready to face the global world. This learning experience will definitely add value to our practical life.

That moment has arrived which no one wanted to see. The day to say goodbye. The word “closing ceremony” or “farewell” sends chill down our spine. I wonder why... Like why does every good thing has to come to an end. but I guess that’s just life. You know what? Every ending has a new beginning and this is the beginning of a new friendship. So lucky we are to have something that makes saying goodbye so difficult.

I wish you all a very best of luck for the coming life. May you chase your dreams, achieve all milestones and touch pinnacles of success. I really hope that we all meet somewhere few years down the time line and see how far in life we have come.

Goodbyes are not forever. Goodbyes are not the end, they simply mean I’ll miss you until we meet again!

Moksha

