



At the end of an intensive five-day summer camp attended by school dropouts from districts around Miao, a successful musical performance of "JOB - Where are you father?" marked the highlight of the programme. During this time, the youth group proved their individual, valuable set of talents in numerous group sessions, workshops and daily activities. The programme was organised by The Upper Room, a not-for-profit organisation, co-founded by Anson Samuel and Georg Schaberger, helping disadvantaged youth communities.



Taking place from Aug. 7th until Aug. 11th, almost 70 local youngsters aged 13-20 took part in the summer camp, forming a special opportunity for them to turn a new leaf. While many of the participants are facing difficult obstacles in their personal lives and in their study work for school, they have dropped out of school during the last year. At the summer camp in Miao, Light of the World School, they bravely confronted their current struggles, showing huge amounts of persistence and compassion for each other. As a result, more than half of them [PG3] have re-applied for schooling in the next year.



Much like the participants' display of belief in themselves, the biblical figure Job is a role model for living through a difficult fate in tested times. Both the teenagers' and Job's transformations were made possible by their ability to stand up against challenging circumstances and not giving up their belief in spite of negative past experiences. These parallel storylines were the motivation for the Upper Room team to write a musical based on the book of Job, which the boys and girls rehearsed in concentrated practice sessions in just a few days, before excellently performing it in attendance of Bishop George Pallipparambil of Miao. "Your performance today is a testimony that one does not become a dropout till he or she gives up in life.



Your story is an inspiration to the youth in the last villages of your districts," Bishop George Pallipparambil, Diocese of Miao spoke after the show.