



# News Letter

Taipei Prison, Agency of Correction

The Ministry of Justice

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## Lighthouse Prison Ministry joint Christmas party 2019

### **Lighthouse Prison Ministry and foreign inmates celebrated Christmas festival. Cuisine of various countries helped homesickness of foreign inmates**

Taipei prison, Agency of Correction, Ministry of Justice is always caring much about foreign inmates. For to help foreign inmates homesickness, Taipei prison held a special event, "Foreign Inmates Christmas Party" on 10th Dec. 2019. The event was dedicated to foreign inmates and volunteers to celebrate Christmas festival.

The Secretary of Taipei Prison, Tsai Chun-Hung, gave the address and he encouraged all foreign inmates to be worriless and concentrating on serving their sentence. That is the only way to go home early and to reunion with their family. He also wished everyone has a merry Christmas. He said though all foreign inmates family are far away, Taipei prison staff and Lighthouse volunteer always stand by. So the great event was held and he wished every foreign inmate enjoy himself in the dedicated festival party. Then he won applause from all guests.

The chief executive officer of Lighthouse Prison Ministry, Jonathan Brantingham, said that the service of Lighthouse Prison Ministry has run for 27 years. The Lighthouse worker would continue the service for foreign inmates and he wanted everyone concentrating on serving their sentence to make sure to go home early since their family is waiting in the hometown.

The joint Christmas celebration party unfolded by the music from marching band of Taipei Prison. There were many popular western classic songs performed by the band, joined with hot dance from volunteers. The ambience of party was very hot and all foreign inmates sang with the tempo.

Then all foreign inmates enjoyed their homeland cuisine made by the workers from various countries, including Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, Korea, United States, Germany...etc. Meanwhile, volunteer performed traditional Thai dance on the stage, all foreign inmates blessed merry Christmas to each other in their home tongue just like they were home. The whole party was full of joy.

The Lighthouse Prison Ministry pointed that foreign inmates were depressed due to language barrier, difficult family visit and lack of family support. The Christmas party let these foreign inmates enjoy their homeland dishes and temporarily relieved their homesickness. It is quite worthy to see their satisfied smiles.

The joint Christmas celebration party was divided into two sections, before noon and afternoon, due to the large number of foreign inmates. Both sections of party ended with Christmas choir of foreign volunteers at 4 pm 10th Dec. and all foreign inmates left with reluctance.