

## A pagoda becomes learning center for poor students

Vietbi Administrator

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The La Pagoda Center at 12/2E Quang Trung Street in Go Vap District of Ho Chi Minh City belonging to

Monk Thich Nhuan Tam says, "At the beginning, the Pagoda just opened free literacy classes for about 30 poor children from the neighborhood, then with an increasing number of students, classes were upgraded to include free language training for five foreign languages including English, French, German, Japanese and Chinese".

These modest classes in a poor neighborhood are small but thousands of poor students attend them. On certain rush day's students have to sit on the pavement to study.

Le Thi Xuan, a third year student of the University of Food Processing Technology said, "I was introduced by friends to this free foreign language class which is three times a week. I'm very happy with the class".

Similarly, Le Thi Nhat Hoa, a third year student of the College of Customs Finance, confided, "Learning in a foreign language centre, the tuition is from VND500,000 to 1 million per month. I dare not go there to study because I have to care about school fees and house rent, etc."

The reason why this place is so attractive for students despite the poor infrastructure is the warm and welcoming attitude of the monks and teachers.

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Visit by Administrator

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