

Home

It's been a while since I felt like I was "home". That warm feeling and relief that covers your entire body when you step inside your house. The gentle feeling that you are safe and nothing can ever hurt you. It's that feeling that everyone longs for when they feel out of place or when they don't know whether they'll be accepted for who they are. There are so many people from all over the world that have come to Taiwan to seek better opportunities. It could be just to travel, gain experience or to study abroad. I come from a country that is more than 14 hours away and so different from Taiwan. When I first came to Taiwan, everything was so foreign to me. The food, the language, the way people approached problems. To me, at that time, everything felt out of place. Sometimes, everything kind of felt and looked surreal.

When I started the first semester at Ming Chuan the same feeling came back. Feeling out of place and just as if I were floating around with nothing to do. I knew I had a purpose of being here and what I wanted to accomplish but I didn't know where to start nor where I was spiritually. I missed home. I missed the food from my country. My life that I had and especially my family. Once I started to put myself out of my comfort zone, I started to go to MCU welcome parties or different types of events. I met so many new people and new perspectives. I realized that I wasn't alone and that I was slowly creating a new family here at Ming Chuan University.

As I had said before and not realized it, so many people come to Taiwan and leave their home behind. It takes a big step of courage to leave everything one has ever known and come to such a foreign place. Being at the International College at Ming Chuan, I saw so many people struggling with the same feelings I was having. Not that I was relieved of their uneasy feelings, but that I was able to talk to them and feel comforted by the idea that they understood everything I was going through. Once I started to talk to them, I felt more at ease and a little more at home since some of them shared the same culture as I did. Other people came from different closer countries but still had the same uneasy lonely feeling. Once everyone realized the one common feeling we shared, we found comfort in each other. We were able to turn something that seemed so dark and gloomy into something more colorful. I found and made new friends throughout my first semester at Ming Chuan and I am so grateful to everyone in the Ming Chuan family that has made me feel a little bit more at home.