

# MINES TRIP

## A day in the life

CHANTABURI and PAILIN

# THE GENERAL PURPOSE OF FIELD TRIPS :

1. They can provide students with experiences that cannot be duplicated in the school but are nonetheless an integral part of the general knowledge which are worthwhile for the students.
2. They can enable teachers to expand students' learning beyond the walls of classroom into the vast gems community outside.
3. Find out in real situation, how to establish the price of a gems. How to negotiate ? What are the main rules and principles of the market ?
4. Understand the mining process. (Organization, link between landowner and miners, conservative mining, miners working conditions, etc.)
5. For professional and gems amateur, it's a unique opportunity to discover one of the most rewarding aspects of the gems business, that of visits to foreign gem-producing localities.

# THE AIM OF THIS PARTICULAR FIELD TRIP :

1. To understand and learn the various types of mining techniques in CHANTABURI and PAILIN as well as the geological context of the area.
2. To investigate and study the burning process with different methods of burning.
3. To meet the main gems dealers and have the opportunity to see and buy gems stones
4. To have an overview of the cutting, faceting and polishing process.
5. To understand the economical, environmental, political and historical aspect of the area.
6. Learn how to buy a gem stones, How to pay the right price for the right gem.

# CHANTABURI

## 1- Visit to the volcano & temple

- Overview of the historical and cultural aspect of CHANTABURI and explanation on secondary deposit and the origin of the gems in the area.

## 2- Visit to different type and size of mines :

- Black star sapphires
- Yellow, Green and Blue Sapphires
- Small scale and artisanal mines.

## 3- Visit to the gems market and gems dealers :

- . Introduction to the way the business is done in the Chantaburi market
- . visit to World Sapphires
- . visit to GEMBURI

## 4- Visit to Burner and cutting factory.

## 5- Visit to the cathedral to see the immaculate conception statue covered with sapphires

# PAILIN

- 1- Visit to the temple and volcano and brief overview of the PAILIN area
- 2- Visit to the gems market.
- 3- Visit to mines
  - . Hand mining in the river
  - . Mechanized mines
  - . Negotiate and buy sample to bring to the burner.
- 4- Visit to the burner
  - . Give the burner our sample and we have a complete explanation of the burning process.
  - We come back 3 to 4 hours later and we can see the effect on the colours and the clarity of the gems
- 5- Visit to the biggest gems dealer in PAILIN.
- 6- Lunch at the waterfalls.
- 7- Visit to NGO (understand and witness NGO working to eradicate landmines)



Pagoda and Mondop at Khao Ploywan.



CHANTABURI.

An opportunity to spot the mines in activity in the area.



**View from the Pagoda.  
Chantaburi**



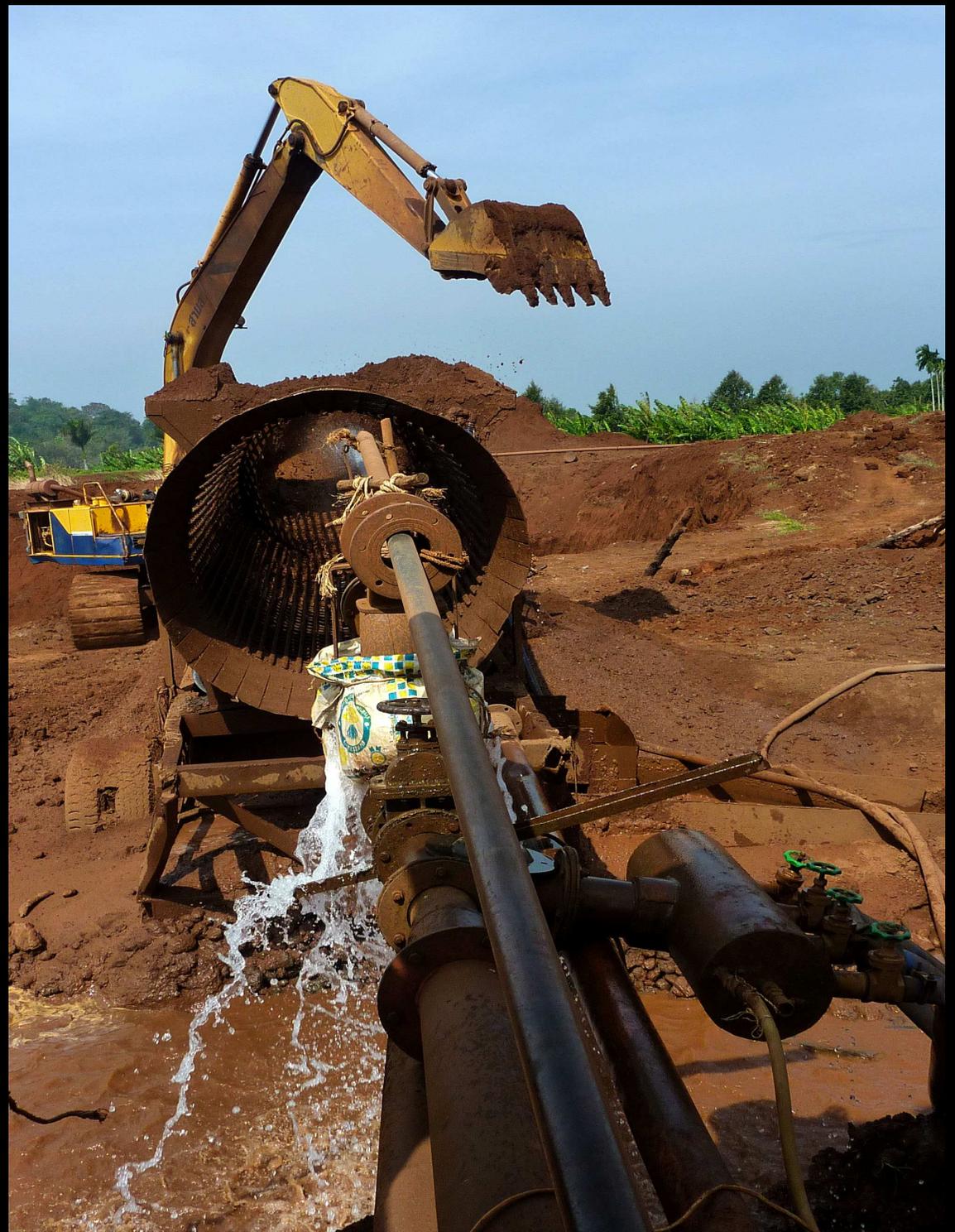
**Sapphire mine in CHANTABURI**



**Large mining facilities in  
CHANTABURI**



**Closed view of sapphire mine in Chantaburi**



**Washing process.  
Chantaburi.**



**Excavators in action.  
Chantaburi**

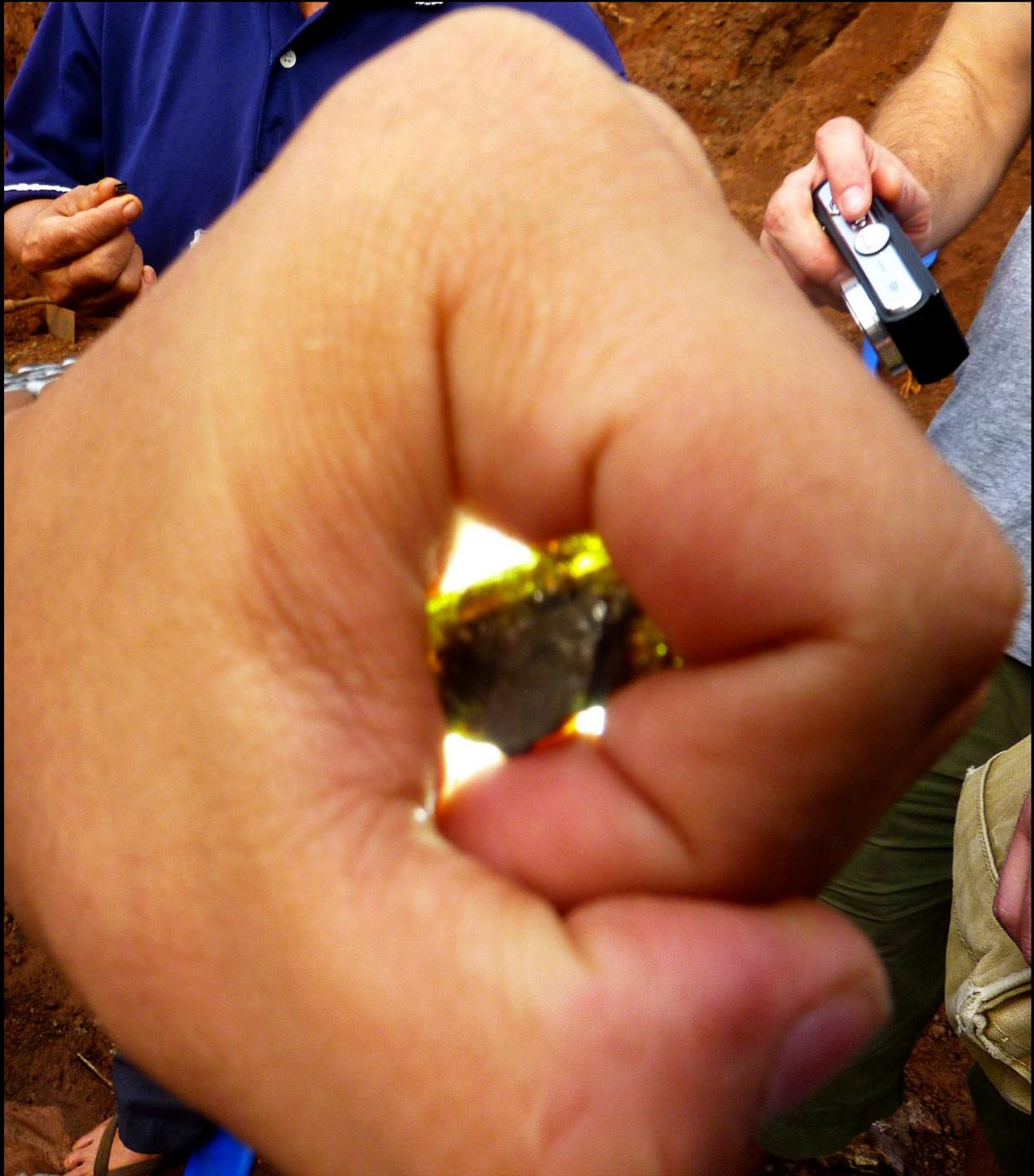


**Black star sapphire in a small mine in CHANTABURI**

**Cutting factory  
CHANTABURI**



**Green sapphire  
Chantaburi**



**Faceting process  
CHANTABURI.**

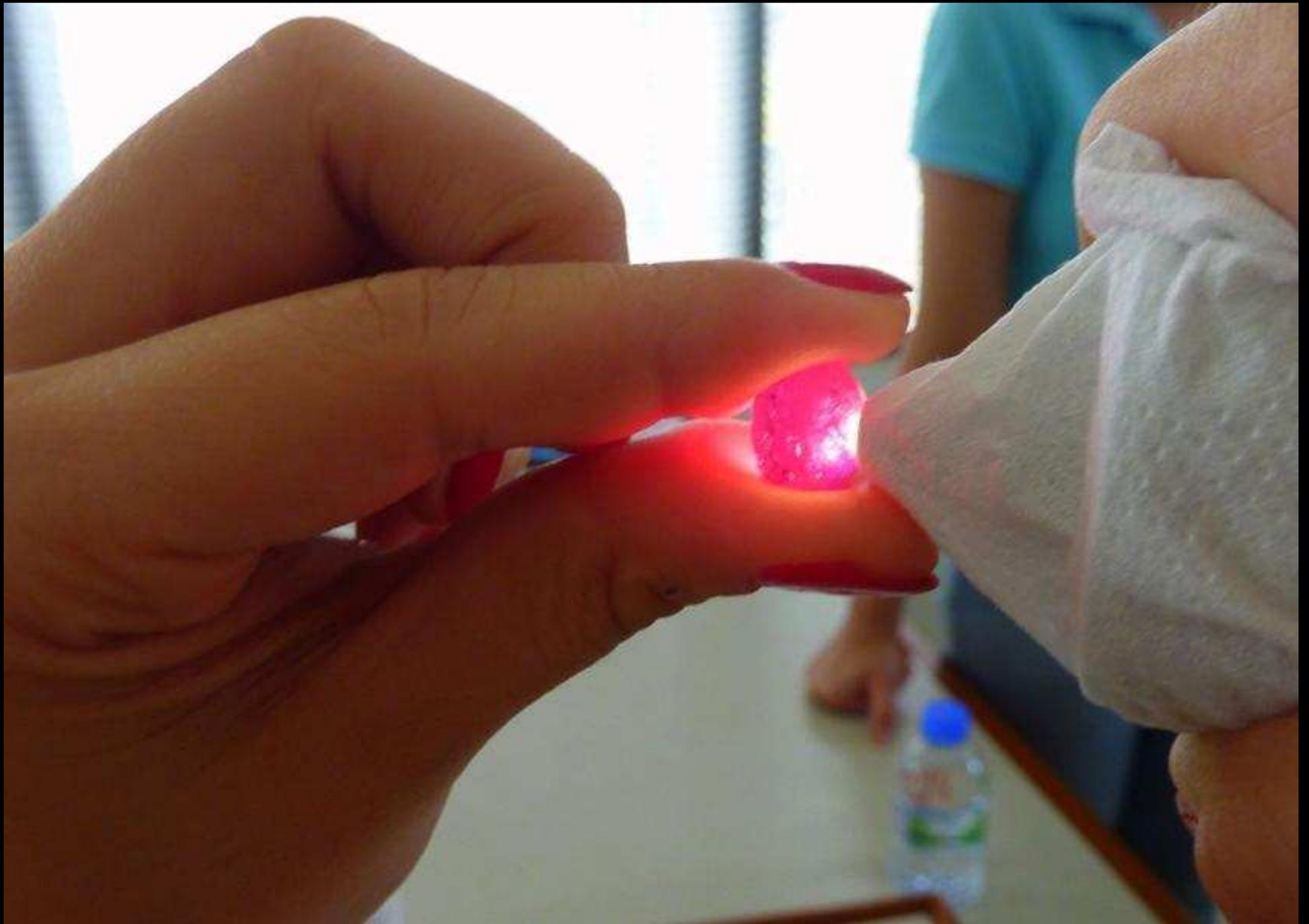




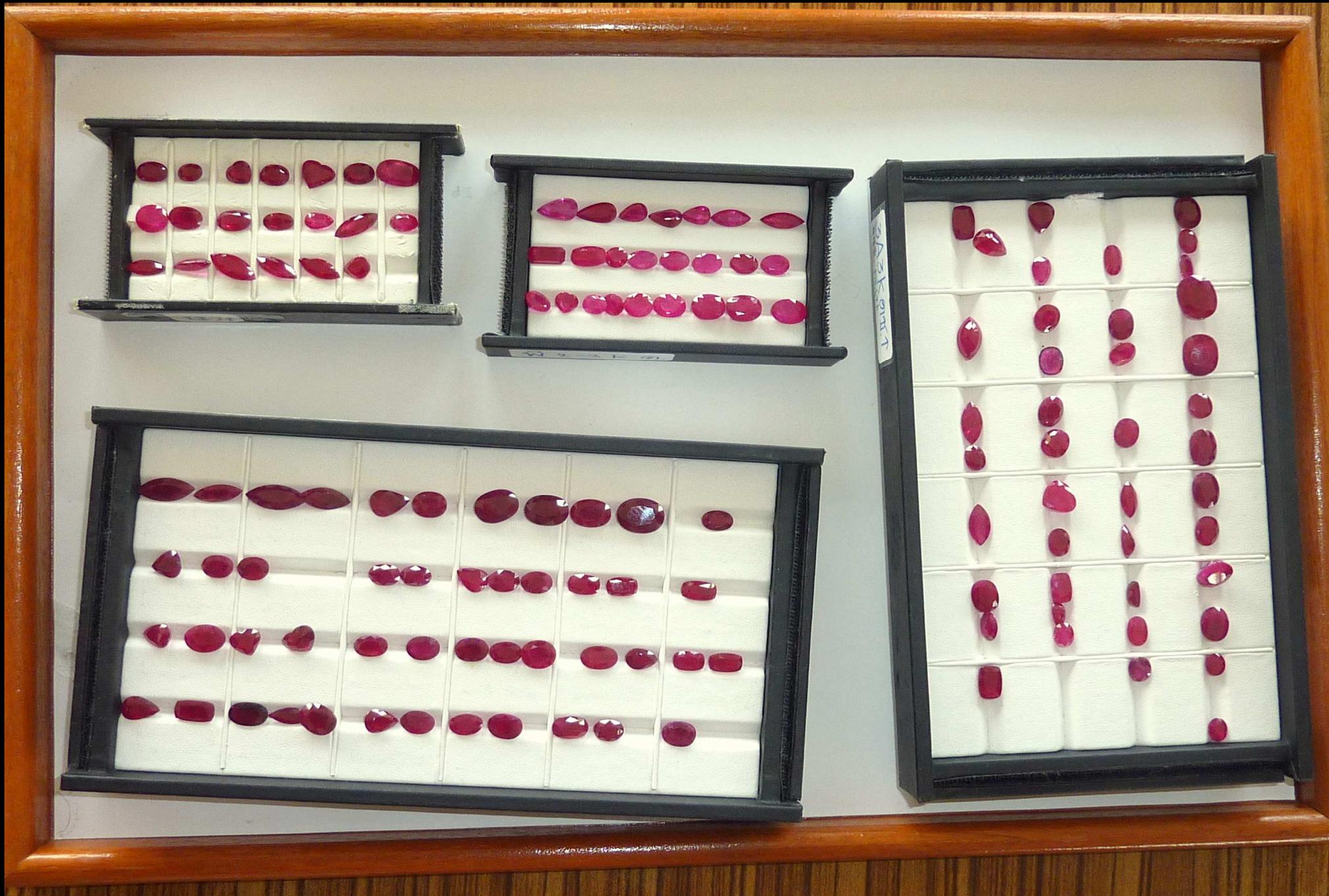
**Faceting in progress. CHANTABURI.**



**Burmese rubies seen in CHANTABURI**



**Rubelite seen at GEMBURI. CHANTABURI**



Burmese Rubies



**Immaculate conception.  
Virgin Marie in  
CHANTABURI cathedral  
with a dress made entirely  
of white and blue sapphire  
and ruby.**



**Early morning in PAILIN, Cambodia. View from the temple.**



Monk in Pailin temple.



Votha, our Guide and driver in Pailin explaining the legend of Gem stones in Pailin.



**Gems dealer in  
PAILIN.  
Cambodia**

**Gems business in  
PAILIN market.**





**Sapphires and Rubies seen in Pailin Gems market.  
“Seen in Pailin” doesn't mean “From” Pailin !**



**252 ct sapphire seen in Pailin Gems Market. Probably from somewhere else !**



**Mining in PAILIN. Cambodia.**



**River mining in PAILIN.**



**2 days production. Sapphires, Rubies, Garnets and zircons**



**Sometimes, we have to go underground...**



**Sometime in the mud...**



**Visit to the main burner in PAILIN**

**Traditional Thai burning  
furnace in PAILIN.**

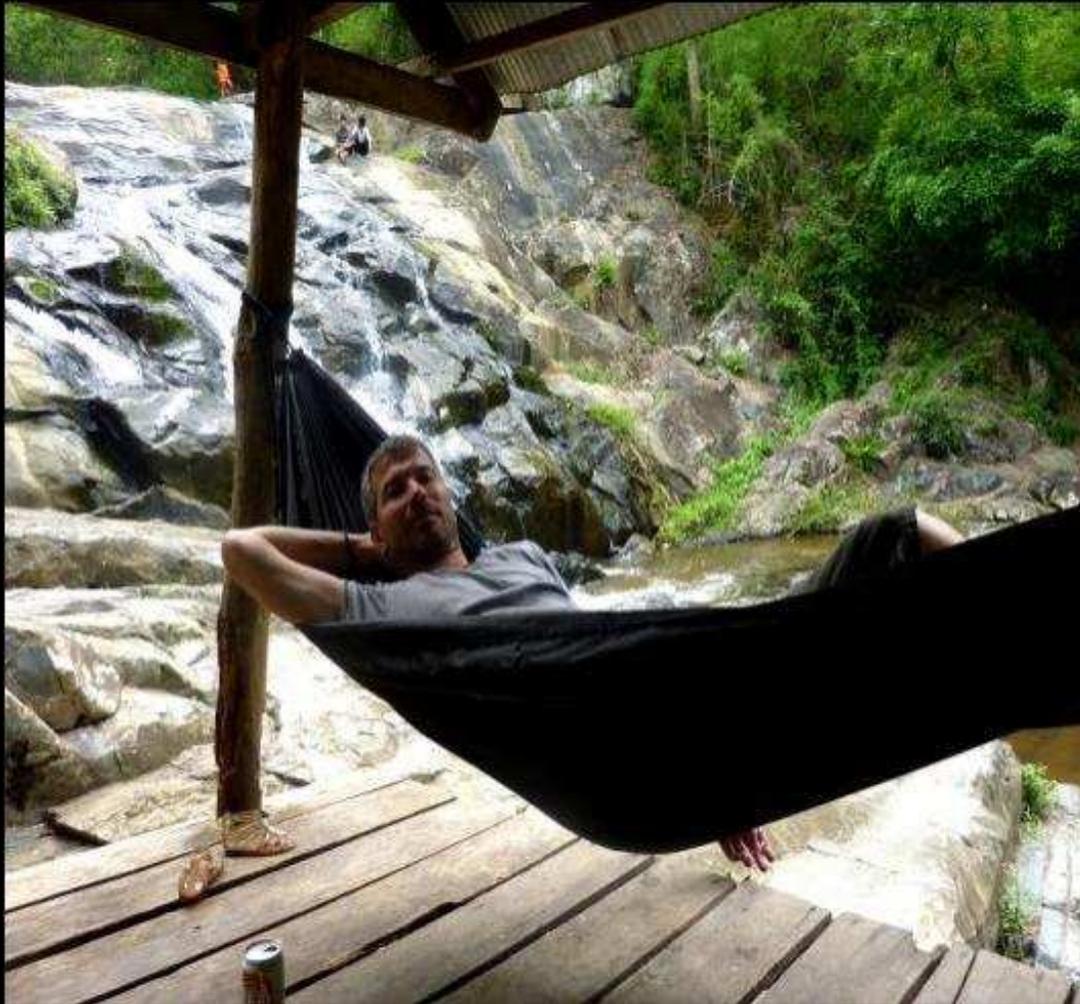




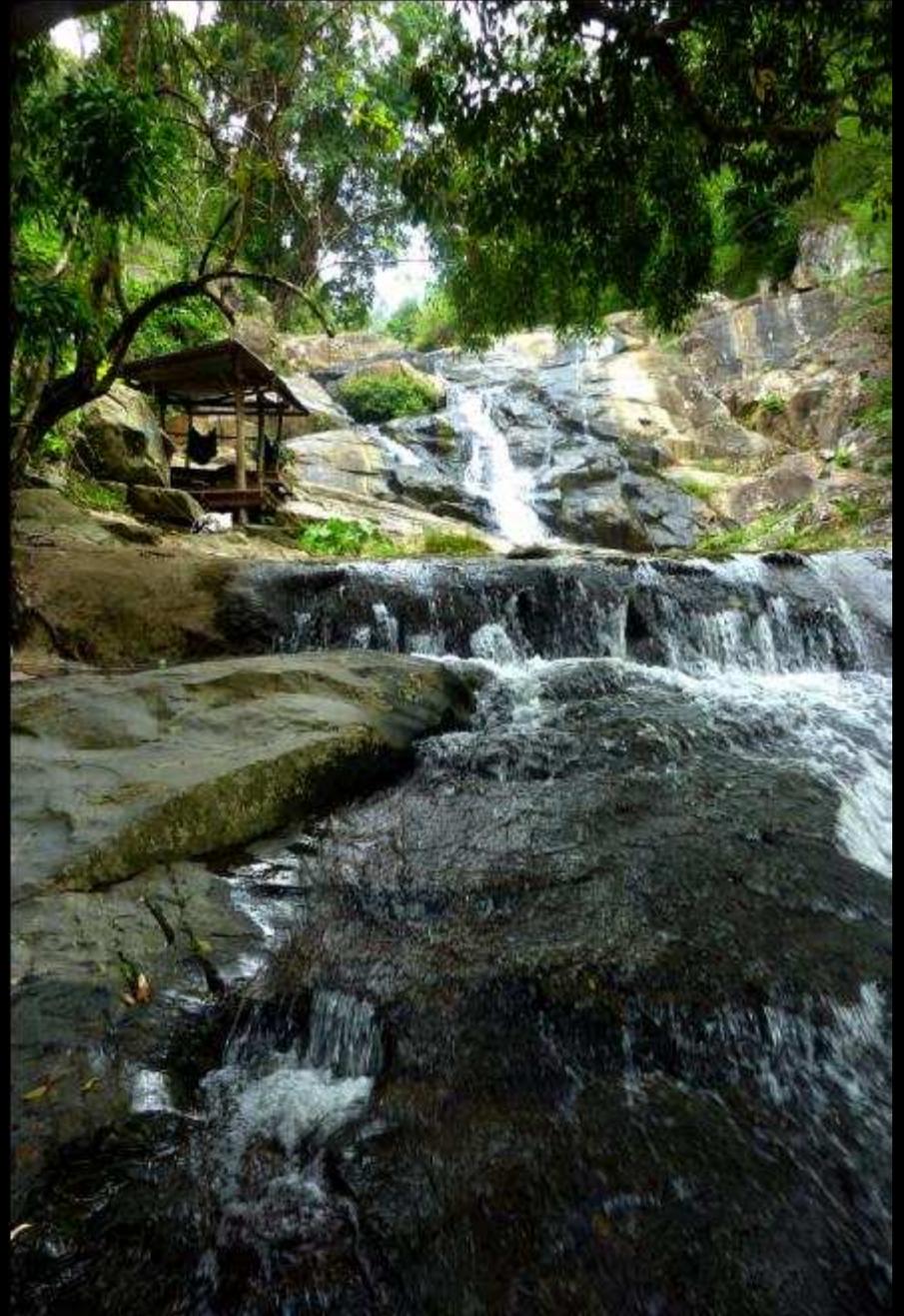
**Ruby faceting in  
PAILIN Gems market**



**Night Cutting and faceting in  
PAILIN**



**Lunch break.  
PAILIN waterfall  
Cambodia**



**The biggest gems dealer in PAILIN selling to customers from Phnom Phen**





**Sapphires and rubis seen at the main  
gems dealer office in PAILIN ( not all these  
gems are from pailin !)**

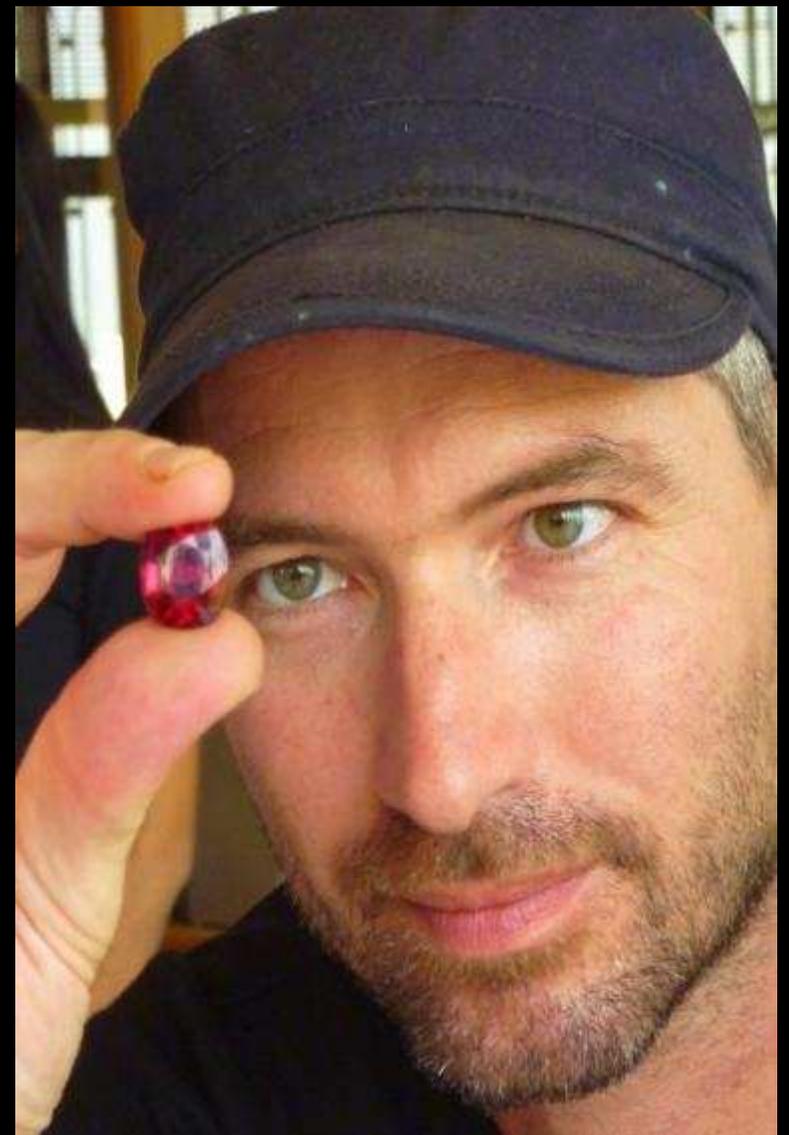


**Cambodia is one of the most heavily mined areas in the world; some estimates run as high as ten million mines (in a country of 11.5 million people)**

**There are three main organizations (NGO) working to clear landmines in Cambodia: the Cambodia Mine Action Committee (CMAC), the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) and the Halo Trust.**

**In Cambodia, some 40,000 people live as amputees, one of the highest rates in the world.**

**Anyone who travel in PAILIN has to understand this aspect of the area.**



It's a not only a real life experience that await all the travelers that will join to the field trip.  
It's also an unique opportunity to understand and learn invaluable knowledge about gems stones.

## **3 days / 2 nights CHANTABURI AND PAILIN**

The trip starts on Friday morning from Bangkok and come back on Sunday evening.

Price 350 us\$ included :

- All transportation
- Guide and drivers
- Accommodation
- Food and beverage (except alcohol).
- Visit to the mines
- Visit to gems dealer
- Visit to burner and cutter
- Expertise and advise on how to buy gems stone.
- Insurance
- Visa (up to 20 US\$)

## **1 day in CHANTABURI**

The trip starts on Saturday morning from Bangkok and come back the same day in the evening.

Price 160 us\$ included :

- All transportation
- Guide and drivers
- Food and beverage.
- Visit to the mines
- Visit to gems market
- Visit to burner and cutter
- Expertise and advise on how to buy gems stone.