

December 1, 2019

## *Introducing Youlika Vann*

***Youlika Vann is from Svay Rieng province*** and is in her fourth year of studying agronomy. In fact, she will be our first graduate from a university next year! We are so excited for her! Youlika chose the major of agronomy because she has witnessed many Cambodian farmers use a lot of chemicals and also import agricultural products from foreign countries that are produced with much chemicals. She wanted to learn how to grow organic vegetables and teach her people in order to help them become more conscious of their health as well as the environment. Once she graduates next year, she wants to get a job with an NGO who works with farmers from various provinces and share her knowledge about farming with them.



Although she has great aspiration for her future, life was not always easy for her. Having lost her mother at a very young age, she grew up with her grandmother on the father's side while her only sibling (an older sister) grew up with her grandmother from the mother's side. She always missed her sister and her father. When she finished high school, she wanted to pursue higher education, but her only option of residence in Phnom Penh was with her stepmother and her daughter who were living in Phnom Penh at the time. Youlika was not well-treated and was put in charge of all the household chores.

She struggled to keep up with school work with this added load of housework when her sister asked her if she was interested in moving to a Christian dorm in Phnom Penh. Having been introduced to Christianity through her high school biology teacher in Svay Rieng, she jumped at the chance. Youlika said she cried when she first moved into Susanna Wesley House in 2018 because everyone welcomed her with love. She is saddened from time to time to think about so many people who go on in this world without experiencing the amazing love of God.

Youlika is someone whom everyone can trust, and her helpful demeanor that's a natural part of her character has helped many new students feel at home. Youlika has to write a thesis that is due in September 2020 and asks for your prayer that she will complete this task with diligence, wisdom, and knowledge. We have no doubt that Youlika will do well not just in completing her thesis but also in her journey in this world with Christ as the center of her life!

