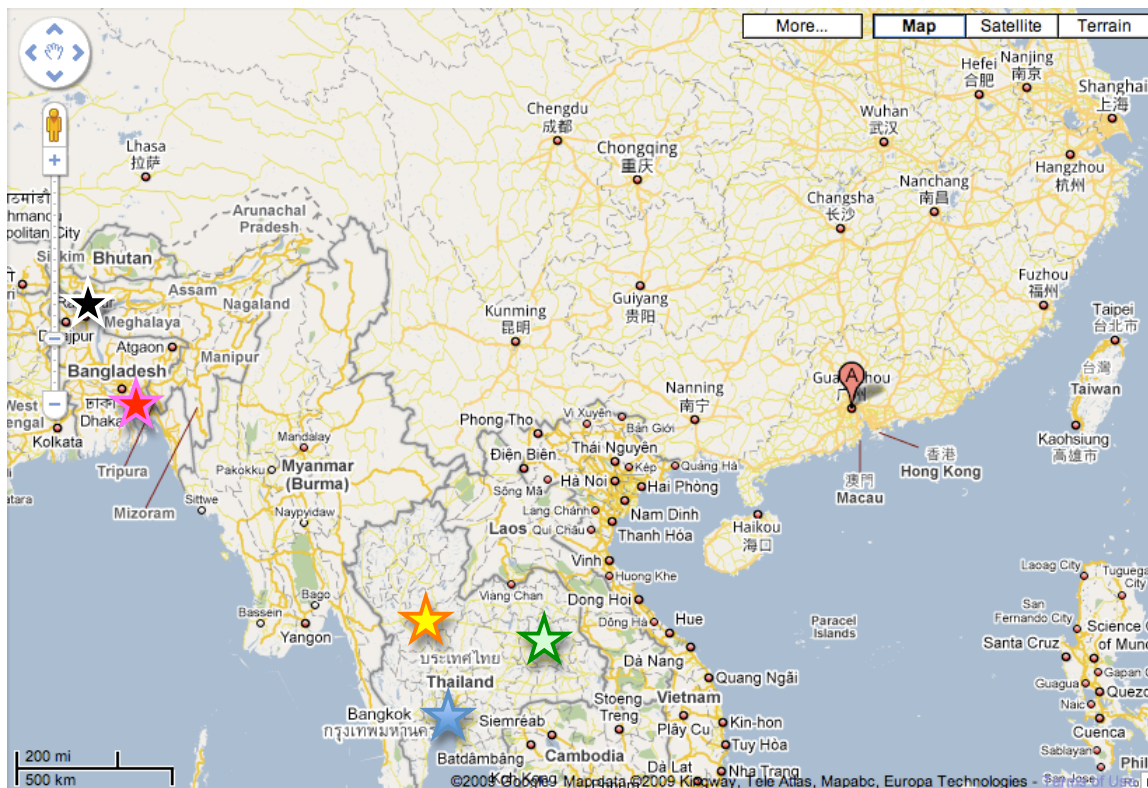


Thai Elephants and Bengal Tigers and Chinese Panda Bears, Oh My!



Running down memory lane, I have marked the places I have previously visited, as I served my mission in Thailand and only a few short months ago participated in the micro-finance field study in Bangladesh.

- Pink baloon marked with an A - Guanzhou.
- Blue star - Bangkok, Thailand. I was a greenie, spending my first 4 transfers in Thonburi, on the west side (the old side) of the river. I returned for my final 4 transfers, serving in the northern part of city by the old Don Muang airport.
- Green star - Roi-et, Central Isan of Northeastern Thailand. I moved out here about a week before Christmas 2002, and experienced a cold season (below 70 one time!) and a hot season (guarenteed 95) in this farming town. Roi-et is famous for its 101 meter statue of Buddah. It is the tallest structure in town by a huge measure, tallest in Thailand, and one of the tallest in the world.
- Yellow star - Phidsanulok, the charming city halfway to Chiang Mai from Bangkok. P-lok marks the beginning of “northern Thailand”, and is where the flat plains turn into rolling hills. In this city, the closest missionaries where 4 hours away, north or south. Zone conference was 7 hours to the north in Chiang Mai.
- Pink star - Dhaka, Bangladesh where we based much of our micro-fiance field study. This is the headquarters of Grameen and ASA, two of the most successful and prominent micro-finance lenders.
- Black star - The little fishing village we visited for three days, providing a great example of the impact of micro-finance in helping the poor out of poverty.