



APYouthNet Talk Show Summary #25

Jim Rogers
(November 2013, Bangkok)



Guests: **Mr Jim Rogers**, Chairman of Rogers Holdings

Host: **Mr Matthieu Cognac**, ILO Youth Employment Specialist

Camera, sound, editing: **Mr Julian Hadden**

Available at: <http://apyouthnet.ilo.org/podcast/>



His Goals at a Young Age

Jim Rogers started work at an early age, and at about 20 years old, he decided that he wanted to buy his freedom. He wanted to do whatever he wants to do. He needed money, so he set up to earn and save money. Unlike his peers, he didn't yearn for cars, boats, airplanes or houses.

Different from other Boys

He was more interested in saving. He rather save for the future than spend on things boys love.

Investing in Young People

Jim is extremely enthusiastic and optimistic about investing in young people to grow an economy, a country or a society. He would love to invest in education for young people. He would require all young people to learn at least two languages, their native language and a foreign language, read, write and do simple arithmetic, so that they can grow up to be useful adults.

On Asia's Economic Growth

The only problem is war but this will affect the whole world. Jim does not foresee any major issue that can derail Asia's economic growth but concedes that there is a problem with water, and mentioned India and China as examples.

Importance of Agriculture

Agriculture is facing a shortage of manpower and interest by young people. While starting in agriculture may be difficult, the room for growth is tremendous.

On Youth Thinking for Themselves

It is so much easier to simply sit and watch television, and let someone tell you the sky is blue, and youth seldom walk to look out of the window to see that for themselves. It is much easier to do as you are told, listening to the government. Be curious and independent.

On Working for Government and Big Companies

Youth are good at listening to their parents, especially if they lack an independent mind, creativity and ambition. Many people are happy just working for the post office but if one has ambition, and a drive to better their lives and not waste their talent, they can be successful. By following the crowd, one can get a good life but not necessarily a successful life.

Increasing Power to Women

Whenever there is a shortage of anything, the value goes higher. In Asia especially, there are less women compared to men. Men have to cherish their women or risk losing them. Mao Zedong had said that women held up half the skies, but he was wrong as in China back then, women didn't have the power and societal relevance that they have now.

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