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## ADOPTION JOURNEY MOMENTS

Below is a list of suggested shot ideas for both video and still photos.

### THE PAPERCHASE

1. Completing paperwork
2. Copies of required dossier photos
3. Social worker's home study visit
4. If your adoption agency is local, visits to the office

### WAITING FOR THE REFERRAL

1. Preparing the child's room
2. baby showers
3. photos of gifts
4. activities to help pass the time (new parent classes, baby equipment shopping)

### RECEIVING THE REFERRAL

1. Receiving referral package (if delivered: driver holding package; if you pick up package at agency: going into the office)
2. Opening the referral package
3. Copies of referral photos
4. Celebrations
5. Referral announcement

### DEPARTURE

1. Packing
2. Leaving home for the airport
3. Airport signs
4. Meeting travel group members
5. Airport send-off
6. Photos of the aircraft

## 7. In-flight photos

### ARRIVAL IN-COUNTRY

1. Getting off the plane
2. Airport signs
3. Meeting travel group members/adoption agency representatives
4. Hotel (exterior view, lobby, room)

### MEETING YOUR CHILD

(You may need to arrange to trade cameras with another family, or ask an agency rep to take these photos)

1. Your first glimpse of each other
2. The moment your child is placed in your arms
3. Shots of your new family together
4. Pictures of orphanage staff with your child (get everyone's names in writing so you have them for your child)
5. Your child and his/her primary caregiver
6. All the "firsts"--first feeding, first nap, first toy, etc.
7. Child sleeping

\*Note: No matter what, get these photos! Your child might be upset, but don't put the camera down! These first moments go by so quickly and you'll never again get to capture them.

### ADOPTION REGISTRATION/CEREMONIES/COURT HEARING

1. Family picture with everyone dressed up
2. Child's first car/bus ride with parents
3. Photos of building (exterior/interior), signs
4. Officials facilitating the adoption
5. A photo of each family in your travel group with their child

### FIRST DAYS AS A FAMILY

1. Life in the hotel room
2. First smile and laugh (might take a few days; keep the camera ready!)
3. Family meals
4. Baths
5. Feeding/eating
6. Crawling/walking
7. Sleeping

8. Child with each family member
10. Other families with their children
11. Your baby with the other babies
12. Your baby with agency reps

#### SIGHTSEEING/SHOPPING/RESTAURANTS

1. Landmarks, including photos of descriptive signs (temples, gardens, museums, historic buildings)
2. Your local transportation (bus, taxi)
3. Sightseeing excursions
4. Shopping trips, open air markets
5. Parks
6. Everyday life of residents (always ask for permission to take someone's photo)
7. If you have an item made for your child, take a picture of the artisan who created it.
8. Photo of entire travel group
9. Photo of babies/children lined up on couch

#### DEPARTURE

1. Child's medical exam
2. Your country's embassy/consulate
3. Visa process; official staff
4. Last day in-country
5. Departure airport sign
6. Your family with travel group and/or agency rep at the airport
7. In-flight photos

#### ARRIVAL HOME

1. Arrange for someone to take photo/video of you arriving at the gate (or depending on security regulations, as soon as you're in sight!)
2. Welcoming party/signs/balloons at airport with you and your child
3. Arrival at home
4. Child's first meeting with extended family/friends
5. Child's first meeting with pets
6. Child with parents at home
7. First night in new bed

## 8. First morning

TIP: Ask others in your travel group to send you any photos they took of your family, and return the favor. You may have shots of each other that you don't have in your own collections.