ABOUT PHOTO CAMP MYANMAR

Twenty-one youth from across Myanmar, representing seven ethnic States and four Regions participated in National Geographic Photo Camp Myanmar August 26-31, 2018 in Mandalay, with support from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

The photo camp is a partnership between the National Geographic Society and Internews. National Geographic Photo Camp is a program that teaches young people from underserved communities, including at-risk and refugee teens, how to use photography to tell their own stories, explore the world around them, and develop deep connections with others. World-class National Geographic photographers and editors Matt Moyer, Jon Brack, Jessica Elfadl and William Daniels provided students with a personalized, immersive learning experience during the week-long photo camp.

For the participants, the Photo Camp has been both an opportunity to learn photography and also a rare chance to work together in an ethnically and culturally diverse group of aspiring photojournalists from different corners of Myanmar. Their work reveals the daily lived experience of diversity in Mandalay through photography and, for many, this profoundly affected the way they understand harmony among different communities.

The 21 selected participants, who represented Kachin, Kayin, Kayah, Chin, Shan, Mon, Rakhine and Bamar ethnic groups, took more than forty thousand photos during the Photo Camp. The students' photographs have been featured at American Center Yangon in September, Pansuriya Gallery in Yangon and Jefferson Center Mandalay in October.

Internews would like to thank USAID for supporting this initiative and National Geographic Society for collaboration.
A COLLABORATION BETWEEN INTERNEWS AND NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

SUPPORTED BY UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID).
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Kaung Zaw Hein, 24, is a graduate from Myanmar Journalism Institute and works as a photojournalist. He is Burmese and a native of Mandalay.

His photos present the lives of people around Taungthaman Lake and U Pein Bridge located in Amarapura Township, Mandalay.

"Photos can highlight similarities and create friendship among diverse people."

Kaung Zaw Hein
Shwe Paw Mya Tin, 22, is a Burmese photojournalist from Myanmar Pressphoto Agency and she was born in San Chaung, Yangon Region. Her photos present the lives of people around Taungthaman Lake and U Bein Bridge located in Amarapura Township, Mandalay.

“Photos show the realities as they are.”

Shwe Paw Mya Tin
May Nway @ Aye Myat Mon is 23 years old. She lives in Yangon and holds a Bachelor's degree in Journalism. She is a Product Photographer at an online shopping website. Her photos present the lives of people around Taungthaman Lake and U Bein Bridge located in Amarapura Township, Mandalay.
Arkars @ Aye May Zan is a Social Worker from Colourful Girls CSO and 23 years old. She is a Rakhine Buddhist. She decided to take pictures of a Muslim fisherman family, who make a living at Taungthaman Lake, Mandalay. They have become good friends.

Arkars@Aye May Zan

I had a chance to personally observe their way of lives. Now we are good friends.

Arkars@Aye May Zan
Su Lay Ngone, 23, is a freelance content writer. She explored around U Bein Bridge and managed to take pictures of ancient Oh Daw Mosque in Amarapura township, Mandalay.

"A photo can say way more than a thousand words."

Su Lay Ngone
Kaung Sit Khaing, 23, is a Rakhine volunteer working with an NGO. He took these photos at Taungthaman Lake, Amarapura Township, Mandalay.

This is the training that I have been longing to participate.

Kaung sit Khaing
Ring Nu Awng, 21, is from Je Yang IDPs camp, Kachin state. He now lives in Mai Ja Yang and works at Wungpawng Ninghtoi (WPN), a local Non-Governmental Organisation. He took the photos of workers at Sakyin village, on the banks of the Ayeyarwady River in Madaya Township, and Kyauk Sitt Tan (Stone Carving Road) in Mandalay.
May Thyn Kyi, 22, is a Reporter from Eleven Media Group. She was born in North Okkalapa, Yangon and she is a Burmese. She took these photos of workers at Sakyin village, on the banks of the Ayeyarwady River in Madaya Township, and Kyauk Sitt Tan (Stone Carving Road) in Mandalay.
Thin Myint Myat Htwe, 22, is an Admin Office Assistant with Mon State Civil Society Organization Network. She was born in Mawlamyine, Mon State. She took the photos of workers at Bronze Sculpture Workshop at Tanpawaddy Ward, Mandalay.

A photo can be used to describe a person or a nation.

Thin Myint Myat Htwe
Salai Sang Sin Mang, 22, is an ethnic Chin reporter from Falam, Chin State. He works at Chinland Herald Daily News. He took these pictures at Bronze Sculpture Workshop at Tanpawaddy Ward and a Monastery near Mahamuni Pagoda, Mandalay.

Diverse cultures, traditions and ways of life can be promoted through photography.

Salai Sang Sin Mang
Mung Htoi, 22, is an ethnic Kachin from Sitarpu quarter, Myinkaya, Kachin State. He took these pictures at Bronze Sculpture Workshop at Tanyawaddy Ward, Mandalay.

“Photos can speak among diverse communities.”

Mung Htoi
Nyi Myo Sett is 20 years old first year student of Mandalay University of Foreign Languages, majoring in French. He is a Mandalay-based Muslim and he took the photos at Monastic Middle school near Mahamuni pagoda, Mandalay.
Doi Nan is 19 years old Kachin girl. She works for IELT local organization as a paid volunteer. She took these photos at Dhamma Wihara Nunnery School, Mandalay.
Nang Khin Bhone Thwe is a 22-year old ethnic Shan and she is a freelance reporter. She is from Taunggyi, Shan State. She took these photos at Dhamma Wihara Nunnery School, Mandalay.

"Photos can show diversity of our various ethnic people."

Nang Khin Bhone Thwe
Khu Preh Reh, 22, is an ethnic Karenni/Kayah producer from Kayah State. He works at Kantarawaddy Times, a local media based on Deemawso, Kayah. He took the photos at Kala Pyo Mosque and surrounding area in Amarapura township, Mandalay.

Photography can cut across different beliefs, cultures and perspectives.

Khu Preh Reh
Thet Paing Dawe, 23, is a photo journalist from Thanlyn, Yangon. He works for Popular News. He took these photos of families who live near Kala Pyo Mosque in Amarapura township, Mandalay.

"Photography can mobilize people and therefore it is a great tool."

-Thet Paing Dawe
Thaw Zin Myo, 24, is from Pathein, Ayeyarwady Region. He is a journalist. He took these photos at the famous Khawar Kan (laundry well) that has been operational since the British colonial time and many Hindu workers there have been working for generations.
Phyo Ei Naing, 22, is a Mandalay-based reporter from The Speaker Journal. She is from Sintku, Mandalay Region. She took these photos at the famous Khawar Kan (laundry well) that has been reportedly operational since the British colonial time.

Photos are important as they can speak more than words. Photos can save lives.

Phyo Ei Naing
Saw Keblu Moo, 23, is an ethnic Karen student living in Insein, Yangon. He took these photos at the famous Khawar Kan (laundry well) that has been reportedly operational since the British colonial time.

Photos can speak and describe the truth.

Saw Keblu Moo
Nyo Mee Oo is a Lifestyle Reporter from the Myanmar Times Journal and 23 years old. She was born in Botattaung Township, Yangon Region and she is a Burmese. She took these pictures of textile business workers in Amarapura Township, Mandalay Region.
Bo Bo, 23, is from Mung Thoun village of Sagaing Township, Sagaing Region. He is a journalist and also a Freelance Photographer with Myanmar Press Photo Agency. He took these photos at Amarapura township, Mandalay.

"Photos are the best way to keep a record of time and events."

Bo Bo
PHOTO CAMP | MYANMAR 2018

Behind The Scenes