

School of Intensive English, Mai Ja Yang, Kachin State, Myanmar.

Students' Stories

Lamau Seng Wa, 18, is a gifted footballer. He joined the Mai Ja Yang Intensive English School in 2012, finished top 25 in the first year and went on to his second year at Mai Ja Yang School. Recently, Seng Wa helped the Mai Ja Yang School football team win the annual Mai Ja Yang township football tournament for the first time in the school history. Besides playing football, his other hobby is singing. His favorite subject is Politics and he wishes to study Law if he ever gets a chance to study in a university. For now, as his education has previously been received through an education system run by the Kachin Independence Organisation, he will not be accepted in the universities inside Burma. The Mai Ja Yang Intensive English School has given him a vital opportunity for further education.

Langjaw Roi Nan, 18. She travelled to Mai Ja Yang and attended the Mai Ja Yang Intensive English School in 2011. During the intense fighting that included heavy air and artillery assault from the government army in December, Roi Nan was building air-raid shelters with her teachers and classmates in Mai Ja Yang School campus. One day, government artillery shells struck Roi Nan's hometown, killing three people and injuring four. One of the badly injured was her 8-year old youngest sister. It was a difficult year for Roi Nan. However she was resilient and hardworking. At the end of the school year, she finished among the top 25 in class and qualified to go on to her second year at the school. She is now attending Level II and her favorite subject is English Writing. She is determined to serve her community as a teacher. After graduating from Mai Ja Yang school, she wishes to attend the Liberal Arts program at Kachin Theological College in Myitkyina, the capital of Kachin State, Northern Myanmar.

Aik Mong, 22, is an ethnic Shan. He graduated from high school in 2012 and became only the second person to ever graduate from high school from his village. Aik Mong's favorite subject is Economics. When he joined Mai Ja Yang Intensive English School this year, he came with a very good recommendation from his high school principal and the local community leaders as a good asset for the village. After graduation, he plans to open his own motorcycle workshop to support his younger brother and himself through further schooling and get involved in his local community.

Lahkang Nu Nu, 23. She joined the Mai Ja Yang Intensive English School this year to enhance her English because she was not satisfied with the education she has received previously. After graduation, she intends to go to Israel to study agriculture and development. She is married and has a daughter. Even though she misses her daughter, her husband encourages her to attend school because he is not educated but understands that Nu Nu's education will benefit him, their family and the community at large.