

Overview

We at Thabyay Education Network's Arohana Scholarship Fund would like to extend our gratitude to all of you who have donated to our 'University Scholarships for Students from Burma' project on GlobalGiving. So far, we have raised a total of US\$ 66,653 since the 1st September 2010 so we are well on our way to our target of US\$ 99,000!

After the deduction of GlobalGiving administrative fees, we have now received a total of approximately US\$ 64,275 in disbursements from GlobalGiving for the University Scholarships for Students from Burma project (funds are received over time in Thai Baht at different exchange rates, so USD figures can only be approximately calculated).

By the 24th December 2014, we had disbursed approximately US\$ 63,269 to scholarship awards.

Selection and awards

Since the last report on 12th October, the Arohana Scholarship Fund Committee has made three further awards totalling approximately US\$ 493.

The total funds now raised by the 'University Scholarships for Students from Burma' project have therefore supported 56 awards enabling 46 students from marginalised communities across Burma to start or continue their Bachelor's, Master's or PhD studies at universities across Asia.

The recipients of these awards comprise 22 women and 24 men, ranging in age from 16 to 51 (average age of approximately 24, representing nine ethnic groups, studying 30 different majors at 17 different universities in 5 countries across Asia).

The award recipients were as follows:

Recipient 1:

Name: *Thar*

Age: *26*

Sex: *Male*

Ethnicity: *Karen*

Subject Studied: *IELTS intensive*

University: *Kant Kaw Education Center*

Award Amount: *US\$ 210*

Award Type: *Full scholarship*

Recipient 2:**Name:** *Tawng***Age:** *20***Sex:** *Male***Ethnicity:** *Kachin***Subject Studied:** *IELTS test fee***University:** *British Counsel***Award Amount:** *US\$ 157***Award Type:** *Full scholarship***Recipient 3:****Name:** *Wah***Age:** *16***Sex:** *Male***Ethnicity:** *Karen***Subject Studied:** *IELTS Preparation***University:** *Kant Kaw Education Center***Award Amount:** *US\$ 126***Award Type:** *Full scholarship*

N.B. Names of award recipients have been changed to protect their identities.

Future Plans

The Arohana Scholarship Fund remains committed to helping key community actors gain access to appropriate higher education to optimize their positive impact in Burma in key sectors including health care, education, community development, rights and media. The Arohana Scholarship Fund is currently waiting for further funds to be received from GlobalGiving before the Selection Committee meets to decide on further scholarship awards.

Closing Statement

We hope that this report shows clearly the potential of these scholarship recipients to become catalysts for incremental social change in Burma, and that you can appreciate the direct link between quality higher education and grassroots development in communities in Burma. We also hope that it demonstrates that even the smallest contribution of US\$ 10 can make a difference in terms of keeping a Burmese scholarship student in university education.

We would like to reiterate our gratitude to all of you who have helped raise funds for this project by making donations and spreading the word. We hope that this report will inspire you to continue to support

us in the future. The beneficiaries of these awards, the students, have individually expressed their gratitude to us for the support they have received. We would like to pass on their thanks to you.

If you have any questions about this report, or about our work, please do get in touch.

With our best wishes,



U Soe Lay

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Thabyay Education Network

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