



*By: Kevin Rahim, Admission Executive*

## AJARN KEVIN PROMOTES ST TERESA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY IN YANGON DESPITE CHALLENGES

Yangon, Myanmar – Ajarn Kevin highlighted the university's diverse programs and international opportunities. "The response was overwhelmingly positive.", Kevin remarked. "Many students expressed strong interest in our programs, and I had the pleasure of guiding them through the application process."

Kevin Rahim, an Admissions Executive at St Teresa International University (TRSU), recently returned from a dynamic promotional tour in Yangon, Myanmar, where he played a pivotal role in attracting Burmese students to the university. From March 30 to April 8, Ajarn Kevin engaged in a series of high-profile events, showcasing TRSU's educational offerings and forging connections with prospective students, despite the significant challenges posed by the ongoing conflict in Myanmar.

Kevin's tour began with the Elevate Education Fair, hosted by Elevated Education and led by Managing Director Andrew Kyaw at the Novotel Max Hotel Yangon. Over 300 prospective students visited the TRSU booth, where

Kevin conducted visits to several international schools in Yangon. At Myanmar International School (MIS), Myanmar International School Yangon (MISY), Helix International School, and Y-Max University, he delivered presentations and provided individual consultations to over 200 students. These engagements offered in-depth insights into TRSU's curriculum, scholarships, and vibrant campus life. Grade 11 and 12 students were particularly enthused,

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A highlight of Kevin's trip was his participation in the Royal Thai Embassy's Songkran Festival on April 6. The festival, attended by dignitaries, embassy officials, and representatives from various Thai universities, featured Thai cuisine, cultural performances, and games. Kevin used this festive occasion to further network and promote TRSU.

The tour culminated in the AMAUT Education Fair 2024, held on April 7 at the Sedona Hotel Exhibition Hall. Organized by the Association of Myanmar Alumni from Universities in Thailand (AMAUT) in collaboration with the Royal Thai Embassy Yangon, this fair attracted over 3,000 prospective

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## SONGKRAN FESTIVAL @ TRSU

On April 10th, St Teresa International University hosted its annual Songkran Festival at the Joseph-Marie Building. Dr. Chaipat Wattanasan presided over the event, which was emceed by Mr. Phubet and Miss Supawadee, both education students. The afternoon was rich with cultural significance, respect, festivities, music, and

delicious food enjoyed by all attendees. The venue was adorned with decorations reflecting the themes of the Songkran Festival, and many students, lecturers, and administrators dressed in floral and Songkran-inspired attire.

It was a simple yet memorable celebration of one of the most renowned festivals in the Land of Smiles.

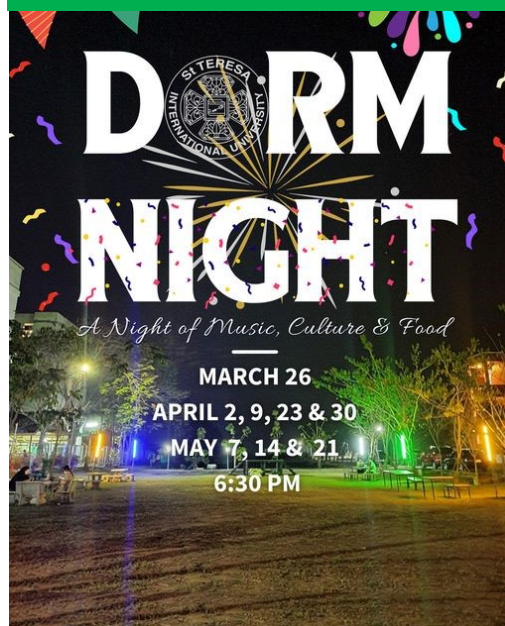


## PHRA WISUTTHIWONG SCHOOL STUDENTS NOW ARE TRSU FRESHMEN

St Teresa International University warmly greeted students from Phra Wisutthiwong School, marking a significant milestone in their academic journey and collaboration. Through the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two educational institutions, the commitment to ensuring achieving success is solidified. May this MOU signify the commencement of an enduring and strong relationship between the two

Below, you'll find photos capturing some of the activities, both within and beyond the classrooms, that have brought immense enjoyment to our freshmen.

## TRSU DORM NIGHT IN ITS 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR



It sounds like TRSU Dorm Night at St Teresa International University was a huge success! With a focus on providing entertainment, food, and bonding opportunities for the students, it seems like the organizing team truly went above and beyond to make it an unforgettable experience.

The inclusion of performances by freshy

students added an extra layer of excitement and anticipation to the event, while the delicious food and drinks provided by the guidance and marketing team ensured that everyone's appetites were satisfied.

The presence of administrators, deans, lecturers, and staff further enriched the event by fostering connections between students and faculty members, creating a sense of community within the university.

And of course, the raffle draws added an element of excitement, giving attendees the chance to win some prizes and making the Tuesday nights even more memorable for everyone involved.

Overall, it sounds like TRSU Dorm Night was a wonderful opportunity for the TRSU family to come together, enjoy each other's company, and create lasting memories.



## STUDENTS' SELFIES DURING TRSU DORM NIGHTS

Tuesday nights have become a regular occasion for our TRSU students to relax, dine, and socialize together during TRSU Dorm Night. Aside from the organized activities and performances, one of the standout features is the Selfie Contest at TRSU Dorm Night. The creativity of our students shines through as they capture photos and craft the best captions to distinguish themselves from other entries. This time, students from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, majoring in Communication Arts - Digital Media and English for Business Communication, emerged as the winners. Recognition and tokens were awarded to our selfie champions.

Congratulations to all the winners!





students and their parents. TRSU's booth saw over 500 visitors, with high interest in TRSU programs such as Aviation, Business, and Education. "This trip has proven to be a valuable endeavor.", Kevin stated. "We are excited to welcome the new batch of Myanmar students who will join and contribute to our international community."

Promoting TRSU in Yangon came with its unique set of challenges. Due to the current situation in the country, Kevin had to adhere to a curfew before midnight and was advised to stay indoors after 9 PM. Public transport was limited after 10 PM, making it a bit tricky to find a ride back to his hotel after dinner hours. Navigating the city independently, he faced some difficulties in locating money

exchange services. He was mindful to avoid certain areas and stayed updated with the news to ensure his safety. Notwithstanding these difficulties, Yangon offers a diverse array of attractions such as the Shwedagon Pagoda, various shopping malls, and bustling bazaars. Moreover, the people of Myanmar were exceptionally friendly, genuine, and helpful, which made a significant positive impact on his experience. "Despite these challenges, the resilience and enthusiasm of the students and their families were truly inspiring," Kevin reflected.

Thinking back on his experiences, Kevin noted, "I learned a tremendous amount from these events, particularly new marketing skills and recruitment strategies that

will be invaluable in future endeavors. Additionally, I had the pleasure of meeting and learning from a myriad of fascinating individuals with diverse backgrounds. It was never easy, but the satisfaction of seeing students inspired to enroll at TRSU made it all worthwhile."

Ajarn Kevin Rahim's efforts have not only increased the number of Burmese students enrolling at St Teresa International University but also strengthened its international presence and reputation. His dedication and strategic approach to recruitment have paved the way for TRSU's continued growth and success on the global stage, despite the adversities faced in Myanmar.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: MINGALABA LADIES AND GENTLEMAN

Hello everyone. My full Burmese name is Myo Pa Pa, but you can call me Joy. I am from Yangon, Myanmar, and at 22 years old, I find myself immersed in various facets of life. My parents are landlords residing in Yangon, and although I am their only child, I am fortunate to have 12 cousins who feel like true siblings, offering unwavering support.

My hobbies lean towards the simple pleasures of life. I enjoy watching movies, delving into books, and swimming as a sport. Movies serve as my gateway to expanding my vocabulary and understanding real-world conversations. Reading provides solace when I seek relaxation and aids in maintaining clarity of mind. As for swimming, it not only serves as a means of physical exercise but also as a form of relaxation, prompting me to hit the pool two or three times a week to keep my body in shape.

While I identify as an introvert, it doesn't hinder my ability to communicate. I thrive in quieter, less crowded spaces, yet I possess the skills to engage with others, share my perspectives, forge new friendships, and embrace novel experiences. My innate leadership qualities shine through as I adapt my approach to interact effectively with individuals based on their unique characteristics. Additionally, I pride myself on being outgoing and easy to get along with.

Teaching captivates my interest, driving my pursuit of a Bachelor of Education degree. The vastness of the teaching profession appeals to me, and I relish the opportunity to delve into its diverse realms. Furthermore, I harbor a profound fascination for exploring different cultures, prompting me to

chart plans for travel. I aspire to immerse myself in varied customs, cuisines, and landscapes, enriching my understanding of the world.

My dreams are modest yet profound. I aspire for financial stability to support my family and yearn for a tranquil existence. Moreover, my desire to explore the world remains fervent.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, I pursued studies in Industrial Chemistry at the University of Yangon for three semesters. My alma mater, renowned for its academic excellence, provided enriching experiences that I cherish dearly.

Currently, I am pursuing a Bachelor of Education in Mathematics at St. Teresa International University in Thailand. My journey here has been nothing short of remarkable, despite initial concerns about cultural disparities and language barriers. The professionalism exhibited by my teachers, coupled with their adept management of classrooms and lessons, has been commendable. I find myself eagerly absorbing teaching methodologies from my mentors. The warmth and hospitality extended by everyone here have made my transition seamless.

Thailand holds a special place in my heart for two reasons. Firstly, the warmth and friendliness of its people are truly remarkable, always willing to extend a helping hand and eager to share their rich culture. I fondly recall my friends Anutt, Green, and Phantee, who introduced me to the vibrant atmosphere of the night market during the Loy Krathong festival, providing me with invaluable insights into Thai culture. Secondly, Thailand's



stunning beaches beckon me, although I have yet to explore them firsthand. Nonetheless, my research has unveiled a plethora of breathtaking beaches and islands that I hope to visit in the near future.

Allow me to shed light on a cultural tradition close to my heart: the "Communal Festival," known as "Nate Ban Zayy" in Burmese. This beloved festival, celebrated on the full moon day of the 8th month in the Myanmar calendar, epitomizes community spirit and generosity. In its essence, donors distribute free goods to all attendees. Over time, the festival has evolved, with attendees now receiving numbered cards, guiding them to corresponding households where they can claim complimentary food and household items. It remains one of Myanmar's most cherished and delightful festivities, embodying the spirit of unity and sharing. **(Myo Pa Pa, Education Mathematics, Year 2)**

*My name is Htet Htet Oo Wai, and I hail from Yangon. Currently residing in North Dagon Township, Yangon, I hail from a family deeply rooted in entrepreneurship. My father, Thant Zin Min, and my mother, Maw Maw Lwin, have been running a business selling "Mote Phat," known as "Khanom Jeen" in Thailand, for nearly three decades. Additionally, we are involved in the rental taxi car business in our country.*

*My educational journey began*

*in a government school until I completed Grade 8. Following that, I attended the private institution, "Myat Arr Man," until I passed the matriculation examination. Subsequently, I pursued studies at Yangon University of Foreign Languages, majoring in Korean for nearly two years. However, the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic halted our educational pursuits. Adapting to online learning proved*

*challenging amidst our country's*

*ongoing developmental struggles. Consequently, due to the turbulent political climate, I made the difficult decision to discontinue my studies at the government university, resulting in a hiatus from learning for nearly three years.*

*During this period, I enrolled in Business Management at "Strategy First Private University," a renowned institution in my country.*

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However, due to safety concerns amid the political unrest, my English teacher recommended that I seek education abroad. Consequently, I

chose to forego my enrollment at SFU, Thailand. Celebrated around mid-opting instead to pursue studies in Thailand, where the cultural similarities, cuisine, and convenience of returning to my homeland appealed to me. Currently, I am enrolled in the Education Development Program at St. Teresa

International University while simultaneously working as an assistant teacher at an international school from my country through online platforms.

Despite my academic pursuits, my passions lie in activities such as dancing, singing, and indulging in cinematic experiences. I have been part of a cover dance group from 2018 to 2020, aspiring to become a renowned dancer. Additionally, I enjoy singing accompanied by guitar melodies.

Reflecting on cultural similarities, I am eager to share insights into Myanmar's "Thingyan Festival," known as "Songkran" in

English, Year 2)

Looking towards the future, my aspirations are simple yet profound. I dream of owning a modern house adorned with stylish décor, possessing a car, and securing a stable, high-paying job. While I harbor ambitions of eventually relocating to Western countries, I find myself drawn to Thailand for its reasonable cost of living and cultural affinity.

In summary, my journey encapsulates a blend of academic endeavors, cultural exploration, and personal aspirations, all rooted in a pursuit of growth and fulfillment.

Greetings, I'm Arkar Min Hein, though my friends often refer to me as Jerry. Originally coming from Myanmar, also known as Burma, nestled in Southeast Asia, I'm on the cusp of turning 19 next month. However, aging isn't a simple journey for me. Alongside the passage of time comes a cascade of emotions—depression, self-concerns, financial worries, and ponderings on attitude and other matters.

I attended Practicing High School Yangon University of Education, known locally as TTC Kamayut, a prestigious institution in my city. Currently, I'm pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Aeronautics at St Teresa International University, laying the foundation for my aspiration to become a pilot. This career path holds promise for financial stability, enabling me to support my family financially, cover my younger brother's educational expenses, provide for my parents' housing needs, and treat my grandparents to memorable vacations.

My academic journey faced a hiatus of 3 to 4 years due to political turmoil, leading me to abandon government high school—an action my family supported at the time.

While it's true that had I not taken this detour, I might have been a third-year university student by now, I harbor no regrets. Despite initially dreaming of representing my nation in football, I've reconciled that this ambition may no longer be feasible.

Opting to pursue my studies in Thailand stemmed from both cultural affinity and geographical proximity. The familiarity of Thai culture and the relative closeness to home made it an appealing choice. Moreover, the tropical climate, hotter than that of Myanmar, caught me off guard initially, prompting me to question the intensity of the heat on my first day here.

Reflecting on Myanmar's diverse population, comprising eight major national ethnic groups and 135 indigenous ethnic communities, I feel a sense of pride in our rich cultural tapestry. The Bamar ethnic group, constituting 70% of Myanmar's population, holds sway, while the various states are predominantly inhabited by distinct ethnicities.

Lastly, I nurture a dream of exploring European countries, particularly Switzerland, alongside a



cherished companion who has shared both my joys and sorrows. Grateful for the opportunity to study here, I'm committed to redoubling my efforts in academics. (Arkar Min Hein, Aeronautics, Year 1)

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## ANOTHER BATCH OF PRACTICAL NURSING COMPLETERS



On April 26, a new cohort of Practical Nursing graduates strode proudly into the Joseph-Marie Building, marking the culmination of their journey with a long-awaited graduation ceremony. The event was graced by TRSU administrators, the Dean of the Faculty of Nursing, department heads, lecturers, and, of course, the beaming and supportive parents of our graduates. The venue was abuzz with celebrations and proud faces, brimming with anticipation for the promising career opportunities that lie ahead.

Among the achievers were scholarship recipients from the Help Without Frontiers Thailand Foundation's Save the Children's REACT Project, together with Save the Children and Tigermar Global. Among them were Ying and Chow Lay, children of migrant workers from Myanmar residing in Mae Sot, Thailand. Their educational journey and success serve as a beacon of motivation and inspiration for others facing similar circumstances.

Following the ceremony, the graduates congregated across the

campus, where they were greeted with the time-honored "boom boom" cheer from enthusiastic freshmen of the Faculty of Nursing. It was a heartwarming display of solidarity and encouragement from the TRSU community.

On behalf of the entire TRSU family, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to our graduates. May they spread their wings and soar high as they embark on this new chapter of their lives, filled with aspirations and endeavors.

## TRSU SUMMER INTENSIVE ENGLISH PROGRAM ACTIVITIES



St Teresa International University's Summer Intensive English Program has seen continuous improvement each year. The dedicated team responsible for planning and executing activities worked tirelessly to offer our incoming students an exceptional experience. Both classroom and extracurricular activities were carefully designed to meet the evolving needs of our learners.

Inside the classrooms, lecturers provided engaging learning experiences that resonated well with

most students. Additionally, weekly homeroom and faculty meetings provided valuable insights, fostering closer and deeper connections among students and faculty alike.

Beyond academics, activities focusing on moral, English language, and physical development were immensely beneficial for all participants. This holistic approach underscores TRSU's commitment to nurturing students in every aspect of their growth.

Despite the summer heat, our university and freshmen continued to

thrive, attaining success in the Summer Intensive English Program year after year. Spending summers at TRSU campus, surrounded by the TRSU family, has become synonymous with creating lasting memories and unforgettable experiences.





๒๔ เมษายน

**วันคล้ายวันประสูติ**

สมเด็จพระเจ้าลูกยาเธอ เจ้าฟ้าทีปังกรรัศมีโชติ  
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**ทรงพระเจริญ**






ควรมีควรแล้วแต่จะโปรดเกล้าโปรดกระหม่อม  
ข้าพระพุทธเจ้า คณะผู้บริหาร คณาจารย์ บุคลากร และนักศึกษา  
มหาวิทยาลัยนานาชาติเซนต์เทเรซา

## THE MOST-AWAITED WATER FESTIVAL IN TH



The eagerly anticipated again lived up to its reputation, Songkran Festival, also known as delighting festival-goers and tourists the water festival, in Thailand once alike. Across the nation, popular

roads and streets were thronged with people from various corners of the globe, joyfully engaging in a myriad of water-splashing activities. Likewise, renowned islands and beaches welcomed countless individuals who relished the peak of their summer holidays.

While some opted for lively celebrations, drenched in the festivities, others chose a quieter approach, cherishing moments with loved ones over shared meals and drinks. For many urbanites, returning home during this holiday has become a cherished tradition, capitalizing on the extended break from work afforded by the occasion.

## SUMMEREST SUMMER IN THAILAND

April is widely recognized as the hottest month of the year in the Kingdom of Thailand. Weather forecasts suggested that the country might experience its hottest summer ever. In response, people across Thailand seized the opportunity to cool off by indulging in water

splashing activities during the Songkran Festival, providing much-needed relief from the sweltering temperatures. Many took advantage of this summer holiday to enjoy refreshing swims at beaches, waterfalls, rivers, and other bodies of water, ensuring they stayed hydrated

to endure the intense heat of the sun.

Meanwhile, others opted to spend their summer in the northern region of the country, where the climate tends to be milder and more comfortable. Regardless of the destination, Thais cherished the bonding moments shared with their loved ones, creating warm and cherished memories amidst the summer heat.