



1988

Photographer - Htein Win

The 30th. Anniversary of

8888 The Uprising

Photo Exhibition

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နှစ်(၃၀)ပြည့် ဓါတ်ပုံပြပွဲ



25th August 1988

West Bank of Shwedagon Pagoda
Yangon (Birma)



ဝါတ်ပုံ-ထိပ်ခင်း
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8888 The Uprising

Photo Exhibition

Photographer – Htein Win



Htein Win (also known as "Dat-pone Htein Win" or "Photo Htein Win") was born in 1946 in Bassein (Patheingyi), in the northern Irrawaddy Region of Burma.

He studied at the Institute of Medicine 1, Rangoon, from 1966 to 1974, where he fell in love with photography, learning from teachers in the photography laboratory in the Anatomy Department. He started to work as a professional photographer in 1974 at the Rangoon Arts and Sciences University (RASU). It was there, in that year, that he photographed the student demonstrations when the body of the deceased former United Nations Secretary General, U Thant, was returned to Rangoon. Students wanted to ensure an honorable funeral for this well-loved and respected Burmese statesman. Due to strict censorship, Htein Win was only able to publish a book of these pictures 40 years after the event in 2014.

Htein Win worked as a freelance photographer and publisher up until the 1988 Uprising, when he took photos of the events between July and September. He hid many of the photographs, and although he lost approximately half of these, he managed to save the remainder against great odds. These were hidden in friends' houses, then smuggled out of the country and stored in an international archive in the Netherlands, until now.

The 100 photographs in this exhibition were selected from those remaining in this archive. Despite the risks to Burmese photographers, during the 1988 uprising, Htein Win pounded the pavements, chronicling the everyday activities of those involved. He documented some of the most significant events of this period, capturing a range of key players from all sectors of society including well-known actors, actresses, artists, film directors, comedians, journalists, students, writers, doctors, nurses, lawyers, monks, nuns, and even some soldiers, as they marched on the streets and gave speeches. He also immersed himself in the lives of ordinary students and factory workers, who made up the bulk of the protestors.

The 8888 Uprising was a nationwide movement, and there were strikes and demonstrations in towns all over the country. In addition to Htein Win's photographs, 20 pictures from a photographer in Mandalay are also included in the exhibition. These have also not been seen in an exhibition before, and capture the vast numbers of people, from housewives to firemen, who took to the streets in Mandalay in peaceful protests for democracy.

Htein Win has worked on assignments and has produced photo essays about children, reproductive health and HIV and AIDS for international agencies including: UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, World Vision and other NGOs. He also worked on photos of the work of the International Federation of Red Cross Societies (IFRC) and the Myanmar Red Cross in the aftermath of Cyclone Nargis in 2008. Since the mid-1990s, Htein Win's work has been featured in over 20 solo and group exhibitions in Myanmar and internationally, including Thailand, South Korea and India. He participated in the high profile "ASEAN and Korean Contemporary Arts" exhibition in Seoul in 2011. His solo photo exhibitions include "Portraits of Artists", "Lives of Ordinary People in Myanmar", "The Grand Families", "HIV and AIDS in Myanmar", "Reproductive Health in Myanmar", and "Victims of War: Children away from Home" (photographed in the internally displaced persons camps in Kachin State near the China border).



Time: 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Date: 8th. to 12th., August, 2018

Venue: Beikthano Art Gallery
113/3B, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road,
Bahan Township, Yangon.

Tel. 01 542 560 (Htein Win : 0944 8010903)

