

Myanmar Hope Christian Mission, Inc. • 624 Garvey Lane • Chatham, Illinois • 62629-5086  
<http://www.myanmarhope.org> • [info@myanmarhope.org](mailto:info@myanmarhope.org) • (217) 415-9187

## MyHope's Five Year Anniversary Dinner a Resounding Success

On Friday evening, May 4th, about two hundred people came together to celebrate Myanmar Hope's fifth anniversary. The celebration capped off several months of planning and hard work, and by all accounts the evening was a great success!

The evening began with a silent auction, which was stocked with dozens and dozens of items and services donated by individuals and local businesses. There was something for everyone—from a week-long timeshare at a fabulous resort in the hills of North Carolina, to massages and manicures, to books and art, to jewelry, furniture and a vintage bicycle.

We are so thankful for everyone who came out and helped to make the evening such a success: all of the servers, the fabulous music team, our funny and talented M.C., and everyone else. You know who you are, and God knows, too, and He will surely bless you for your wonderful efforts.

Most of all, we want to thank all of the generous souls who came that night to show their love for Myanmar Hope. You all donated nearly seventeen thousand dollars toward the construction of our new girls' dormitory! Even as this is written, the preparation for construction is in progress. Thank you all, and God bless you!

## Congratulations to Dr. Neh Kho Lal

Last August, MyHope reported that Palal received his diploma from Lincoln Christian University for his Doctor of Ministry. On Saturday, May 12th, we had the honor of proudly watching him walk the stage at Hargrove Chapel and receive the congratulations of his professors and fellow students during a beautiful commencement ceremony.

Hearty congratulations Palal (Dr. Neh Kho Lal) on his outstanding achievement! Since he returned to Yangon, he has also officially finished his Master of Philosophy degree from Yangon University. He has also nearly finished a Master of Re-

### In This Issue:

Five-Year Anniversary Dinner .....	1
Congratulations to Palal .....	1
Hope Boarding School Update .....	2
Congratulations to HBS First Graduate!	
Meet HBS New Student: Miss Neng Nei Vah	
HBS Kids Enjoy Gifts from America	
Hope Preschool Update .....	3
Pastor Support Program Update .....	4
Family Support Program Update .....	4
Clean Water Projects .....	5
Khongsai Family Update .....	6
Leadership Training .....	7
A Summertime Appeal .....	8

search in Philosophy degree from the same institution.

A further congratulations is in order for winning first place in a university-wide "Impromptu Speech" contest earlier this year. Pala was invited to participate in the competition by members of the faculty.

The fact that the first place winner was a Christian from a minority tribe sent shock waves through the faculty and staff at the university. Praise God that He has placed Palal in Yangon "for such a time as this." We look forward to how God will continue to use him in shaping the culture and building the Kingdom of God in Myanmar.



## Hope Boarding School Update

Summer vacation is over for the HBS kids, and they are all now hard at work in their new school year. There have been some changes at the school since our last newsletter, though, and we want to give you an update.

Mr. Pao Tin Thang (Thangboi) and his wife, Mrs. Nem Siam (Simte) have been serving faithfully at HBS since the very beginning. However, late last year Thangboi had been feeling that he needed to return to his village so that he could take care of some much-needed maintenance on their property. So, earlier this year he and Simte, along with their son Lam Kho



Gin, one of our students, returned to their village in the northwest. Their daughter, Lhing Kho Nei, wanted to remain at HBS, and we gladly consented to that.

Palal returned with them to the northwest to recruit another couple to work at the school in their place. Thankfully, Mr. Khai Kho Sat and his wife, Lhing Kho Lam (parents of our student Mr. Sei Hao Chung), agreed to move to Yangon to help out.

### Congratulations to Our First Graduate

Congratulations to Miss. Hoi Kho Nei Lam (Lam Si), who has now finished her high school course work and final exams. As of this date the exam results have not been posted, but she said that she felt as though she did well on the exams.



Lam Si has since returned to her village to be with her family. After being away for over five years, she was ready to go home for awhile! Lam Si has not yet decided what she will do after high school, but we wish her all the best and are all very proud of her.

### Meet Neng Nei Vah, Our Newest HBS Student

Please welcome Miss Neng Nei Vah (Va Vah), our newest girl to come to Yangon and live at Hope Boarding School.

Va Vah comes to us from Sulpi Village, a small remote village in the rural north-west. The village is so remote that there are no roads into the village, only paths for walking and motorcycles. MyHope recently completed a water project in Sulpi Village, which you can read about later in this newsletter.



Miss Va Vah has two brothers and two sisters. Her parents are very poor subsistence farmers who do not have enough income to send all of their children to school.



Va Vah and one of her sisters were attending school, but they had to walk for thirty minutes each way over steep hills and through treacherous forests to get there every school day.

Va Vah's dream is to one day become a school teacher in her home village. Please pray for her as she adjusts to life at HBS, that she will remain in

good health, and that she will get along well with the other children.

### HBS Students Enjoy Gifts from America

When Palal returned to Yangon last month, he was loaded down with much luggage. Most of that luggage was filled with clothes and gifts from friends and HBS sponsors in America. One friend donated an entire duffel bag full of brand new clothes for the HBS kids, and then paid the shipping charge to get the bag over there!

The kids were excited beyond belief when their long wait was over and Palal finally arrived. They knew that he would be bringing presents from America, and they were nearly sick with anticipation!



The girls were, I think, especially anxious for Palal's arrival. Last December, when Chuck and MaryAnn were talking with each of the students individually, we asked each one if there was anything that they needed. Most of them said, "No," there was nothing at all. Then we asked them if there was anything that they *wanted or wished for*.



It usually took a few minutes for them to grasp the nature of the question. These children are not used to thinking about "wants." They all come from such poor families that most of their waking hours are spent thinking about their next meal, and they have no concept of going to the store to purchase new toys or clothes.

When we asked Neng Nei Cing (Ci Cing) what she wanted, it almost brought us to tears. Ci Cing, who will soon be fifteen years old, looked wistfully into the distance and said, "Toys." "What kind of toys?" asked MaryAnn. "Baby doll toy," said Palal. "You mean a baby doll?" asked Chuck. "Yes, baby doll, that is what she means," Palal said.



Her request shook us. Ci Cing is such a beautiful, sweet girl. Back in her home village she would be getting close to marrying age. She had spent nearly all of her short life in poverty, knowing little besides constant hard work and persistent hunger. And now, after living at HBS for nearly two years, she

still had to be prompted to think about what she would wish for. And what was her wish? That she could have a baby doll to call her own.

We determined, right then, to make sure that all of the girls at HBS had their very own baby dolls.

In America, one woman read MyHope's Facebook post and ordered two dolls. MaryAnn then asked the ladies of "Alive With Christ" Bible study at West Side Christian Church if they would help us purchase dolls for all the rest of the HBS girls. They gladly agreed, and over the next couple of months a variety of high-quality baby dolls were donated for Palal to take with him to Yan-gon in May, which he did.

Seeing the pictures of Ci Cing and the other girls receiving their dolls caused us to weep with joy. Thank you so much to all who donated the dolls, as well as all of the clothes, toys, school supplies, and vitamins that Palal was able to take back to Myanmar this past May. Your generous gifts brought untold happiness to the children, and will continue to influence their lives for years. God bless you!



## Hope Preschool Update

### Thanks for the New Supplies!

Thanks to the generous donations from Lakeside Christian Church in Springfield, Illinois, our children at Hope Preschool have new school supplies and uniforms! The children love their new supplies, and the parents of these children are extremely grateful. They know that their children are being prepared for school in a loving, Christian environment, and that American believers are making that possible.

If only everyone who donates funds, or prays for the work, would have the chance to sit down and interact with these children and their families! They have so much love, and are so grateful for every little thing that they get. They take nothing for granted, and they know what a tremendous blessing their children are receiving.

Please continue to pray for Tamu's preschool teacher, the children, and their families. Also, please consider sending a

regular donation in support of Hope Preschool. There are so many more families who need to send their children, but MyHope does not have enough resources to take care of them all. Thank you!



## Pastor Support Update

### Pastor Ot Kho Let



In April, Pastor Ot Kho Let was hit by a motorcycle and was badly injured. He was taken to the hospital at Tamu, where he remained in a coma for several days.

He is slowly recovering, but he still needs our prayers. His

family also needs help paying for his medical expenses. Pastor Ot Kho Let is a very gentle soul with a heart of gold. He is a dedicated servant of God who really loves the Lord.

Please pray for him, for his family, and his congregation as he recovers from this near-fatal accident. Also, please consider sending a one-time donation to help pay his medical bills.

### Pastor Lun Kho Thang

Praise God for Pastor Lun Kho Thang's new walls! Last issue we requested donations to help rebuild Pastor Lun Kho Thang's house. It was open on three sides, and did not protect his family from the elements. Because of the poor construction of his house, Pr. Lun Kho Thang



suffered from regular bouts of pneumonia.

We are so thankful to report that MyHope was able to put new walls on his house, and now Pastor Lun Kho Thang and his family are able to stay warm and dry during the rainy season. Thank you to all who prayed and donated to this project!

## Family Support Update

### A New House for Mr. Myint Aung

You will be happy to know that Myint Aung, his wife, and his father-in-law have a brand new hut! After the walls were put up on Pastor Lun Kho Thang's house, there were enough funds left over to reconstruct the little house where Myint Aung and his family live.

If you're reading about Myint Aung for the first time, he is a former elder in Bokkan Christian Church. He contracted leprosy back in the late 1980's, and as a result lost all feeling in his extremities. He has since lost all of his fingers and toes, and most of his eyesight.



Myint Aung and Nyo Hlah in front of their old, broken-down hut.

Myint Aung and his wife used to have a business making and selling high-quality bamboo baskets. They are converts from Buddhism, and they were very generous with the little that they had. Since his leprosy, Myint Aung has been unable to help make the baskets, or do any physical labor at all. His wife works hard to help support the family, and for the past five years they have been on our Family Support Program.

Last December, Myint Aung's wife, Mrs. Nyo Hlah came to the Kuki Christian Convention in Kalay to request help for their family. Her husband could not keep warm in their old, broken down hut, and he would sit too close to the fire. Since he had no feeling in his hands and feet, sometimes he would burn himself and not even know it. She was concerned that he would get an infection and die. Nyo Hlah asked if MyHope could fix their

house so that they could stay warm on the cold nights, and dry during the rainy season.

Chuck and MaryAnn said they would do what they could. When they came home, the need for donations was made known, and praise God, enough money came in to meet the need!

While Palal was in their village in May, he conducted a one-day training session for the youth leaders in the area. After the session, he challenged them to help the poor and needy by providing the labor to rebuild Myint Aung's house.

The youth leaders gladly agreed, and in one day they dismantled the old hut and, using the new materials provided by donations, they completely rebuilt a brand new hut!

Thank you so much for your donations to the Pastor and Family Support programs. Your prayers and financial support enable our brothers and sisters in Myanmar to do the work of the Gospel and take care of the truly poor and needy among us!



The happy couple in front of their new hut

## Clean Water Projects

### Sulpi Village

Sulpi is a small, remote village located high in the hills of northwest Myanmar. The nearest village is six miles away, and the only way to get to Sulpi is on foot. Our newest member of Hope Boarding School, Miss Neng Nei Vah, comes from Sulpi.

When Palal was at Sulpi, the village leaders requested help with their water supply. They were using a leaky old hollowed-out log as a water storage tank. It was not big enough to supply their water needs, and it was very unsanitary.

Palal requested a grant from I.D.E.S. to help replace their water tank with a new brick and concrete tank that would be

both cleaner and large enough to meet their needs.



Sulpi Village's original water supply tank

I.D.E.S. graciously supplied the requested funds, and Palal coordinated the purchase of the necessary construction materials. A problem quickly arose, however. How were they going to deliver the materials to Sulpi? There are no roads leading to the village, and the only way to get there is by foot.

After conferring with the local leaders, it was decided that the best plan was to deliver the materials to the next nearest village, Khampat. From there, volunteers would carry the materials to Sulpi.

About two dozen men and women from Sulpi volunteered to carry the cement mix in baskets on their backs. It took them three trips back and forth up and down the mountain side, but eventually they carried it all.

Later, a man skilled in constructing water tanks came to the village and built their new tank. In the meantime, someone at the United Nations Development Fund heard about Sulpi,



and they also donated funds to build a second water tank! Praise God! Now Sulpi Village has enough capacity to supply the entire village with clean water, and they have extra capacity to meet their needs as the village grows and their population increases.

You can see more photos, and watch a video of the Sulpi villagers carrying the cement by visiting our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/myanmarhope>. The direct link to the Sulpi video is <http://goo.gl/HhQ56>

## New Canaan Village

As mentioned earlier, Palal also requested a grant to help New Canaan Village with their water supply. As you can see in this photo, they were in desperate need of help:



New Canaan's water supply

I.D.E.S. graciously provided enough funds to help rebuild an old well that had fallen in and was no longer able to be used. The old well was dug out and the walls were lined with rings of concrete for reinforcement.



Lining the well with concrete retaining walls

When they were finished, New Canaan had a great new source of fresh, clean, water. Thank you, I.D.E.S.!!

## Khongsai Family Update

Since our last newsletter, both Palal's and Kikim's fathers became very ill, and both nearly died.



Kikim's father being taken to Khompat Clinic on an "ambulance"

Palal's father was taken to the hospital at Kalay, where it was expected that he would die very soon. Palal's mother passed away in the very same hospital just a couple of years ago, and Palal was unable to make the trip up there to be with her before she passed. We wanted to be sure this didn't happen with his father, so we put out the word that some emergency donations were needed. You responded!

Palal, Kikim, Solomon, and Cherry were all able to make the trip to Kalay. When they first arrived his father was unable to sit up or speak, and many village elders were coming around to pay their last respects. However, it was not yet time for him to leave this earth, and after a few days he was well enough to travel to his home. "I do not want to die here," he told Palal.

Back at home, his health began to improve, and Palal was able to visit several of our churches in the area to check on the progress of various projects, conduct a number of Leadership Training seminars, and to confer with the Kuki Christian Church Executive Committee.

Also, Kikim and the children were able to spend some quality time with her father. This was good, because about a month after they returned to Yangon, he collapsed and had to be taken to the hospital where he, too, was considered to be

Donations to our Family Support Program are way down this summer.

Will you send a gift today to allow us to continue helping poor widows, orphans, the disabled, and single mothers? Thank you!

near death.

Kikim's mother was able to travel to their home village to be with her husband before he passed away. As his health continued to deteriorate, he kept asking, "Where is Kikim? Where is Kikim?" Finally, Kikim decided she should go and visit him. There were not enough funds for her to fly up there again, so this time she took the long route—three days by bus and taxi.

Kikim was able to be with him and the family for about a week before she had to return to Yangon to help with the HBS student registrations and to serve as a witness for the land purchase.

In the meantime, her old father decided he wasn't ready to go yet, either, so now both fathers are still alive. Even though they are weak and frail, and could go Home at any minute, they remain a steadfast example of truly sacrificial Christianity for all who know them.

## Bible and Leadership Training

While Palal and Kikim were in the northwest to visit Palal's father, they took advantage of the opportunity to preach and teach as many times as possible to as many people as possible. One of their first stops was at Namihan Village. Here is Palal's quick report from that day:

*Today we held Bible and Leadership Training at Namihan Christian Church. We held our class from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm. We had young and old believers from Namihan Christian Church and from other churches.*

*I shared Bible messages from the Creation Story and also from John 1:1; how God and the Word are related. It was hard for them to understand as we talked about The Word.*

*I also taught from Psalm 73 (Please read the Scripture). It is related with the lives of our brothers and sisters in Myanmar. They are very encouraged when I preached about their life from the Scriptures.*

*In the afternoon, Kikim taught the class from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm. There were many women who attended. When Kikim shared her testimony, many were encouraged.*



*We are so thankful to all who are praying and donating funds for our training. We provided meals and tea for them.*

*God bless you,  
Palal*



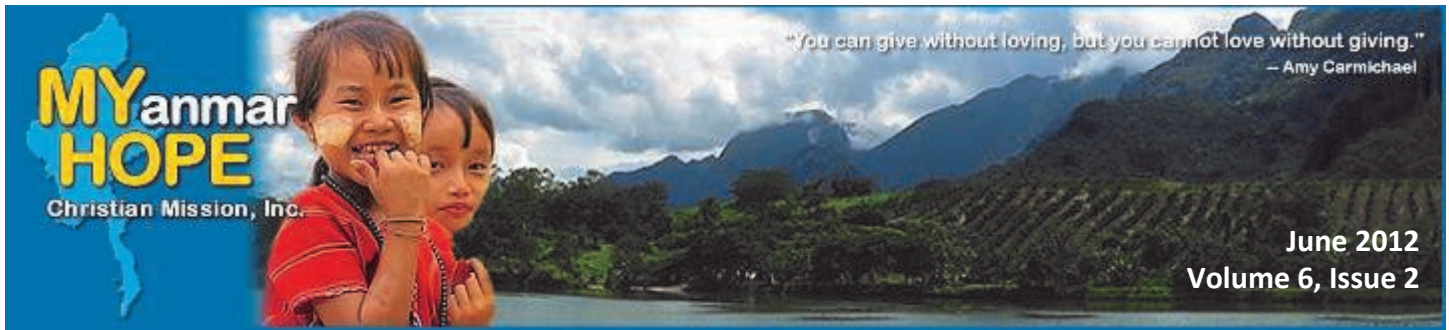
Bible Training at Namihan Christian Church

While the family was in Bokkan, Palal was approached by several of the youth leaders of the village. There are about seven hundred Christian youth in and around Bokkan, and their leaders asked Palal if he would speak to them about the importance of education and how they can improve their chances of getting a good education. Out of over seven hundred youth, only ten have earned degrees, and most the older kids have not even been able to pass high school.

A meeting was hastily scheduled and the training was held in the local Presbyterian church, which is the largest building in the village. Palal taught them for about three hours, and they followed up with an extended question and answer period. The training was very well received, and the youth leaders are hoping that Palal can come back and conduct more extensive training in the near future.

Training the next generation of Christian leaders is a task that weighs very heavily on Palal's heart. He is hoping to be able to hold a two or three week intensive leadership training program in the northwest in September of this year. Please pray that MyHope will have enough funds to cover this training in addition to all of the other ministry needs.

There are many Christians in the northwest, but the vast majority are uneducated, spiritually immature, and lack access to adequate training and resources. Palal is someone who will go anywhere and cross all denominational barriers to help people grow in Christ. Please help give him the resources he needs to build up God's people in Myanmar.



**Myanmar Hope Christian Mission, Inc.**  
624 Garvey Lane  
Chatham, Illinois 62629-5086  
217-415-9187

Place  
Stamp  
Here

Place address label here

**Bringing the eternal hope of Jesus Christ to the people of Myanmar in a holistic manner  
by addressing their spiritual, physical, emotional and educational needs**

[www.myanmarhope.org](http://www.myanmarhope.org) | [info@myanmarhope.org](mailto:info@myanmarhope.org) | [facebook.com/myanmarhope](https://facebook.com/myanmarhope) | [twitter.com/myanmarhope](https://twitter.com/myanmarhope)

Myanmar Hope Christian Mission, Inc. is a federally recognized, not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Illinois. All donations made to this organization are 100% tax deductible according to the IRS Code, Section 501(c)(3). Federal Tax Identification: 26-0324244. NGO License Number: BU-1679.

## A Summertime Appeal

If you follow one or more Christian ministries, which I'm sure most of you do, then you've probably heard something like this before: "It's Summertime, and during the summer our donations go down."

MyHope has noticed the same thing. For whatever reason, during the summer our regular monthly donations seem to fall way off. Maybe folks just get too busy with summer activities, family vacations, and so on, and they forget to send in that monthly check. Hey, it happens to all of us.

However, this year the "summertime effect" seems to be even more pronounced; I suppose it's because of the bad economic situation that many of us are struggling with.

So we are just going to be honest with you. **We need your help now more than ever.** Several larger donors have had to scale back because of personal or business reasons, and many folks who had previously committed to sponsoring a student, a family, or a pastor have stopped sending in their monthly donations.

Of course, it is understandable that situations change, people lose their jobs or have to cut back in order to make ends meet. However, the needs of the poor in Myanmar do not go away when the economy goes bad. If anything, the needs increase because the economic problems we are facing are global in scope.


So, here is our appeal: If you have previously committed to giving to Myanmar Hope, but have stopped for whatever reason, would you consider starting again? Maybe with a lesser amount, or possibly even a greater amount? If you have stopped because of something we did or did not do, will you let us know about it? Thank you.

If you have never given to Myanmar Hope, will you send a gift of any amount today? And will you consider giving on a regular basis?

There are so many needs, so many projects, so many people who need our help. Myanmar is still one of the poorest nations on earth, and God is still calling us to care "for the least of these" (Matt 25:31-46). Thank you, and may God bless you!

Chuck Cherry, Director  
Myanmar Hope Christian Mission, Inc.

P.S. If you would rather donate online, you can use this link:  
<https://goo.gl/ie6eM> (This goes to our Network for Good page)

 [Follow @myanmarhope](https://twitter.com/myanmarhope)

 [Find us on Facebook](http://facebook.com/myanmarhope)