



MIT NEWS

A Newsletter of **Myanmar Institute of Theology.**

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Vice Principal active during Summer



Dr. Maung Maung Yin

Rev. Dr. Maung Maung Yin, Vice-Principal and Director of Peace Studies Center of MIT, participated in the Fourth Global Baptist Peace Conference in Rome, Italy from February 7-14, 2009. He visited Central Baptist Theological Seminary in Shawnee, KS, USA to discuss the joint programs in partnership with MIT. During his stay in the United States (from April 24-May 21), Dr. Maung Maung Yin conducted leadership seminars, worship service and fellowship programs at Oakland Burmese Mission Baptist Church in Oakland and Greater Houston Burmese Christian Fellowship in Houston, Texas. Then our Vice-Principal proceeded to Kamakura Yukinoshita Church in Kamakura and Kanto Gakuin University in Yokohama in Japan to express the gratitude of MIT for their support.

Ordination of Saya Marip La Rip



Saya M. La Rip, Head of Biblical Department and Lecturer of Old Testament Theology, was ordained on March 22, 2009 at the annual meeting of Lower Myanmar Kachin Baptist Association held in Taung Gyi. The ordination was administered by the senior pastors from the association. Rev. M. La Rip is the son of the late Rev. Marip Awng La and Sayama Lahpai Nang Awn - both were awarded the Fellow of Distinguished Christian Service by MIT in 2002. In addition to his teaching and administrative responsibilities at MIT, Rev. La Rip is serving at Yangon Kachin Baptist Church, his mother church. He is happily married to Sayama Lahpai Nang Bawk and has three children namely Grace Nang Shawn, Joy Seng San, and Sunday Gum Ja Awng. In the coming fall semester he will join Hoseo University in South Korea for his Ph.D degree. **Congratulations and best wishes to Rev. M. La Rip!**

World Environment Day



Under the leadership of Judson Research Center, MIT celebrated World Environment Day on June 5, 2009 on its campus. Worship service, art exhibition, poem reciting, cartoon drawing, tree planting and eco-song service led by Christian Musicians Fellowship (CMF) were the highlights of the day. MIT is grateful to all who made this special day and its campus green.

UBCHEA Fellow

Saya Mang Tungg Thang, Executive Assistant of BARS program, finished United Board Fellows Program at Silliman University, Philippines, held from January to April 2009. His second placement will be in the United States next year.



Saya Mang Tungg Thang

Congratulations!



Saya Htoo Htoo Wah & Hnin Nandar

Finally, **Saya Htoo Htoo Wah**, 37, has found his soul mate. Htoo Htoo Wah and **Hnin Nandar Htun**, 31, held their wedding on April 4, 2009 at Lahazaung Karen Baptist Church in Apyauk, Taikkyi Township.

New Faculty

Theology Department of MIT has recruited **Sayama Esther Hkun Nu** as Assistant Lecturer this year. Sayama Eshter obtained M.Div degree from MIT in 2005. Before joining MIT faculty, she served at Lashio Kachin Baptist Church.



Sayama Esther

Faculty Development

Sayama Van Zing @ Elly Mang and **Sayama Kaw Mai** left for the Philippines for their further studies in early June this year. Sayama Elly will do her Ph.D. at Philippines Christian University while Sayama Kaw Mai will study for MBA program at the same university.



Sayama Van Zing



Sayama Kaw Mai

Saya Richard Chan Chum Hei left for Hong Kong on June 13, 2009 to take part in IASCTS 2009 (The Institute of Advanced Study in Asian Cultures and Theologies) at Divinity School of Chung Chi College.



Saya Richard

Service-Learning



Saya Joseph

Saya S' Joseph, Lecturer of Christian Religious Education and Dean of Students for BARS Program, attended "The 6th Pan-Asian Initiative on Service-Learning" and "The 2nd Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Service-Learning" held at Lingnam University, Hong Kong, and Sum Yet Sun University, China from June 1-5, 2009. He not only acted as moderator for other presentations but also did a presentation on "MIT-TLC (Tender Loving Care)," a small non-profit organization of which he is a founder. MIT-TLC has been providing health care to MIT faculty and students since its birth in 2005. The theme of the conference was "Crossing Borders, Making Connections: Service Learning in Diverse Communities." More than 250 participants from about 50 universities representing 15 countries attended the conference.

Special Talks



Prof. Dr. Haarr

A special talk entitled “**Gender**” was led by Prof. Dr. Robin Haarr at MIT on June 11, 2009. The talk was arranged by US Information Center.

Similarly, Tin Moe Lwin, a famous model and modelling instructor, gave a talk on “**Women and Beauty**” on the same day. Tin Moe Lwin is the founder of “Talents & Model,” a well-known model agency here.



Tin Moe Lwin

Library News

To promote library science, MIT conducts **library internship** every summer. This year 14 persons attended the internship from March 30 to April 30.



Library internship participants & instructors



Five Myanmar Theological Librarians at TTC

Saya Alan Po, MIT Librarian, attended the 5th Workshop and Consultation of the Forum of Asian Theological Librarians held at Trinity Theological College, Singapore from March 10-14. Forty librarians from 14 countries - including five from Myanmar - participated in the workshop.

American Corner



A workshop on “**Using Popular Culture to Implement Critical Thinking in the Classroom**” was conducted by Mr. Robert Riski on June 10, 2009 at American Corner, MIT library. The workshop was attended by teachers, students and interested persons. Robert Risky is Director of Courses at the American Center.

Sayama Nwe Ni Hla, Assistant Librarian, attended a training on “**Supporting and Sustaining Your American Corner**” held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia from April 22-24. This program aims at promoting the knowledge and skills of the staff of American Corners in Southeast Asia. The new American Corner at MIT was inaugurated on October 27, 2008. It is well-stocked with updated books, periodicals, CDs and DVDs.

MIT Summer School

The closing ceremony of MIT Summer School was held on May 24, 2009 at Mooler Hall. Principal Rev. Dr. Simon Pau Khan En delivered the closing speech. The three-week intensive courses were attended by 204 students. Language courses (English, Greek, Hebrew, German) and theology courses (Walk through the Bible, Christian Ethics for Daily Living, Reading the Bible with the Eyes of Women, Reading the Bible through the Lenses of the Poor, Introduction to Counselling, A Trusting Faith Community: Christian Buddhist Relations) and Music courses were offered this year. MIT Summer School, which was previously known as MIT Summer Language Program, was started under the guidance of former Principal Dr. Anna May Say Pa in 2000. Since then MIT has been running this program every summer.

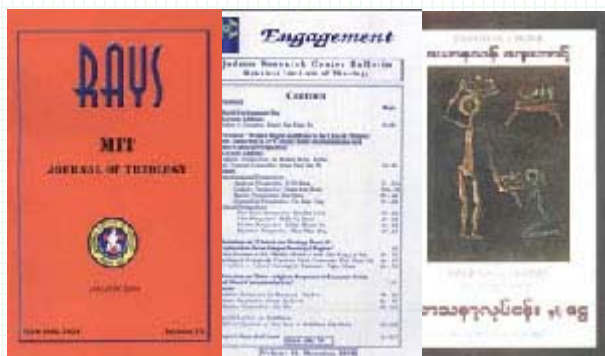
Freshers Welcome

Freshers welcome program was held on June 6, 2009 at MIT chapel. The welcoming speech was delivered by Sayama Lily Kadoe, Dean of Students. **Sai Myrrh** and **Mary Seng Ra** were crowned as fresher king and fresher queen and **Thein Tun Oo** and **Martha** as Mr. and Ms. MIT.

Future Programs of Judson Research Center

August 1: "Inter-religious Youth Fellowship"
August 15: Workshop on "Journalism and Christian Literature"
September 5: Celebrating the "Life and Thought of U Pe Thwin"
October 5-9: Ecumenical Training on "Christian Solidarity for Life, Justice and Witness"
November 6-7: Inter-religious conference on "Love Your Neighbor"
December 5: Special lecture on "Buddhism as Philosophy of Life"

New Publications



English Intensive Course

Cetana Academic Program for English (CAPE) has been offering 14-week intensive English courses at MIT since 2007. The seventh batch, which started on April 27, 2009 will end on July 31, 2009 and the eighth batch will begin on August 17, 2009. CAPE is a joint program between MIT and Cetana Foundation.

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Opening Convocation

School opening convocation for 2009-2010 academic year was held on May 31, 2009 at MIT chapel. Rev. Dr. L. Zau Lat, Professor of Old Testament Theology, spoke on the school theme of this year, **"Equipping the People of God."** MIT Principal Rev. Dr. Simon Pau Khan En also spoke on the occasion highlighting his four visions for the school:

- 1) To achieve academic excellence;
- 2) To promote spirituality;
- 3) To form ecumenical spirit and family;
- 4) To embrace and promote contextuality.

The opening ceremony was attended by MIT faculty and students. A total of 121 new students were admitted to the school this year. Currently 925 students, including those in Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies - a liberal arts program - are studying at MIT.

Condolence

MIT was greatly shocked and saddened by the sudden demise of its staff Ma Khin Khin Naing, who died in a car accident on March 27, 2009. She is survived by Saw Samuel, who is serving at Myanma Institute of Christian Theology, and five young children - one of whom is very sick. The bereaved family is in need of help especially for the children's health and education.

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