

Sixth Book in Unique Series Provides Children a Basic Introduction to Life in Myanmar (Burma) and the Buddhist Culture

I See the Sun in Myanmar (Burma) by Dedie King and Judith Inglese

In a world where global events dominate the news and our children are exposed to other cultures only superficially, author Dedie King and illustrator Judith Inglese have once again combined their talents to offer a unique perspective for young readers that is simply not available anywhere else.

I See the Sun in Myanmar (Burma), the sixth book in the award-winning *I See the Sun* series, takes place in a small town on the Irawaddy River in Myanmar, the country formally known as Burma. Lush illustrations and a bilingual story in English and Burmese offer Aye Aye's view of her beautiful country that until recently has been something of a mystery to most of the rest of the world. Aye Aye's father is a fisherman on the river and her mother is a nurse in a nearby hospital. The story also provides an elementary introduction to Buddhist culture and the tradition of *metta*, a practice of saying phrases of loving-kindness. The day unfolds with the verses of *metta* that Aye Aye whispers to herself. Her wishes of kindness and compassion to those around her mirror the deep-rooted Buddhist culture present in Myanmar.

"*I See the Sun in Myanmar (Burma)* is a delightful introduction to an ancient Buddhist culture. Heartwarming in its simplicity," said Joseph Goldstein, author and co-founder of Insight Meditation Society.

I See the Sun in Myanmar (Burma) was first written in English, then translated into Burmese by PawSHtoo B. Jindakajornsri, who works at the Translation Center at the University of Massachusetts.

The book is richly illustrated with collages made from original photographs and colorful drawings. It also includes an overview of Myanmar, a glossary of unfamiliar words, and a map that highlights where Myanmar is on the globe.

"Both Dedie and I have lived in other countries. We hope that by depicting a child's experience in a country we can show the essential humanity of each culture," says illustrator Inglese. "It's an age-appropriate introduction to life in other countries."

The *I See the Sun* series includes *I See the Sun in Nepal* (2010); *I See the Sun in China* (Learning Magazine's 2011 Teacher's Choice Award for the Family); *I See the Sun in Afghanistan* (2011, a finalist in Foreword Magazine's Book of the Year Awards); *I See the Sun in Russia* (2012) and *I See the Sun in Mexico* (2012) Honorable Mention in the Children's Picture Book category for Foreword Magazine's Book of the Year Awards. The next title in this unique series will be *I See the Sun in India*.

For more information, visit the series website at www.iseethesunbooks.com.

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/Editor Note: Review copies, hi-res art, and interviews with author/illustrator are available upon request. /

I See the Sun in Myanmar (Burma) by Dedie King w/illustrations by Judith Inglese
Satya House Publications • July 9, 2013
40 pages • Trade paper • 8.5 x 8.5 • Full-color illustrations throughout
Bilingual in English and Burmese, with glossary and country overview
For children ages 5 and older
ISBN: 978-1-935874-20-1 • Price: \$12.95
Distributed by Midpoint Trade Books