

7. April 2015

Scholarship 2015

Dr. Poe Poe – Self-introduction

About me

I am Poe Poe from Taunggyi, Southern Part of Shan State, Myanmar and my parents are U Htun Myint and Daw Khin Win. I passed the matriculation examination with three distinctions from No. (4) Basic Education High School, Taunggyi in 2001. I studied at the University of Medicine - Magway from Central Burma region for my Medical degree. I served my internship at Lashio General Hospital and Taunggyi Sao San Htun Hospital from January 2007 to December 2007. I received my Medical degree in March 2008.



Perception

- To help people who are destitute and living in areas where it is difficult to seek health care. Myanmar is one of the developing countries and still needs to improve in economical, educational and health aspects.
- To fight for the lives of poor ones though we are in the middle of difficulties and there will always be a way to go forward.
- I would like to provide health care not only to my national people but also to the others around the world who are suffering from diseases by using my medical knowledge.
- I would like to give more support especially to those who are abandoned because of their infectious diseases like HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR TB).
- I have shared my knowledge with colleagues and will continue to do so.

Medical experiences

The very first experience was working in Delta areas with Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) - Holland Myanmar mission in May 2008 as a volunteer in the Emergency response to Nargis Cyclone. I worked in Hygyi and Laputta for one month respectively. 2 months of working in Delta area made my eyes open widely. A lot of people suffered both physical and mental trauma left behind by the storm.

From that time, I have understood more about the important value of volunteering in helping people who suffer from natural disasters. By participating in this kind of emergency situation, it has strengthened my commitment of helping those poor and needy people. Volunteering in helping those in need is a noble job. Therefore, I had decided to continue to work with MSF- Holland for the people who were being abandoned and discriminated because of their diseases. I am very proud to be part of MSF's hard work.

I worked with MSF - Holland Myanmar mission, which is giving health care focusing on HIV, TB, malaria and STI (Sexually Transmitted Infection) for nearly five and half years as HIV/TB doctor in Myitkyina Project and Yangon Project. I also took responsibility of PMTCT (prevention of mother-to-child transmission) focal person in Myitkyina Project.

What I came to realize was that I could know and share the feeling of people who were discriminated by other people because of their status. People died because of AIDS, TB/MDRTB, severe malaria and the complications of opportunistic infections. I have noticed that the barriers of seeking for their health care include low education, poor income and health knowledge regarding these diseases. During these long period, my effort included not only the treatment of their diseases but also promoting their knowledge about health and family planning. My medical skills have improved a lot because of my patients, and my interest in Infectious disease has grown ever since.

I then worked as a medical trainer. The organization is PU-AMI Thailand which is an International NGO serving Primary Health care, disease prevention and capacity building to the refugees of Myanmar origin. My work was mainly capacity building which included training and teaching the medical knowledge to the refugees for them to be able to work as a medic in camp clinics.

While working for the beneficiaries, I have prepared myself for my further medical knowledge and career. After sometime, I decided to make myself more specialized in infection diseases. This has made me choose Mahidol University of Tropical Medicine. In order to support my study, I tried to look for scholarships and I found Bettina-Kattermann-Foundation's scholarship program (cooperating with KAAD) from Germany.

Fortunately, I have been chosen as one of the scholarship grant recipients in 2015. Now, I am studying at the Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University, for Diploma and Master Degree of Clinical Tropical Medicine with the support of Bettina-Kattermann-Foundation/KAAD.

With warm gratitude,
Poe Poe
Email: ps.poepoe@gmail.com

Links

- [About Dr. Zaw Zen Let](#)
- [About Dr. Poe Poe](#), scholarship holder 2015
- [About Dr. Chit Ye Zaw](#), first scholarship holder 2014

- [Information about the Bettina-Kattermann-Foundation in English](#)
- [Information about the Bettina-Kattermann Foundation in Burmese](#)