



www.ourdevelopingworld.org
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Need energizing? Come on our **Burma Reality Tour**
Dec. 28 '12-January 10 '13



"The struggle for democracy and human rights in Burma is a struggle for life and dignity. It is a struggle that encompasses our political, social and economic aspirations."

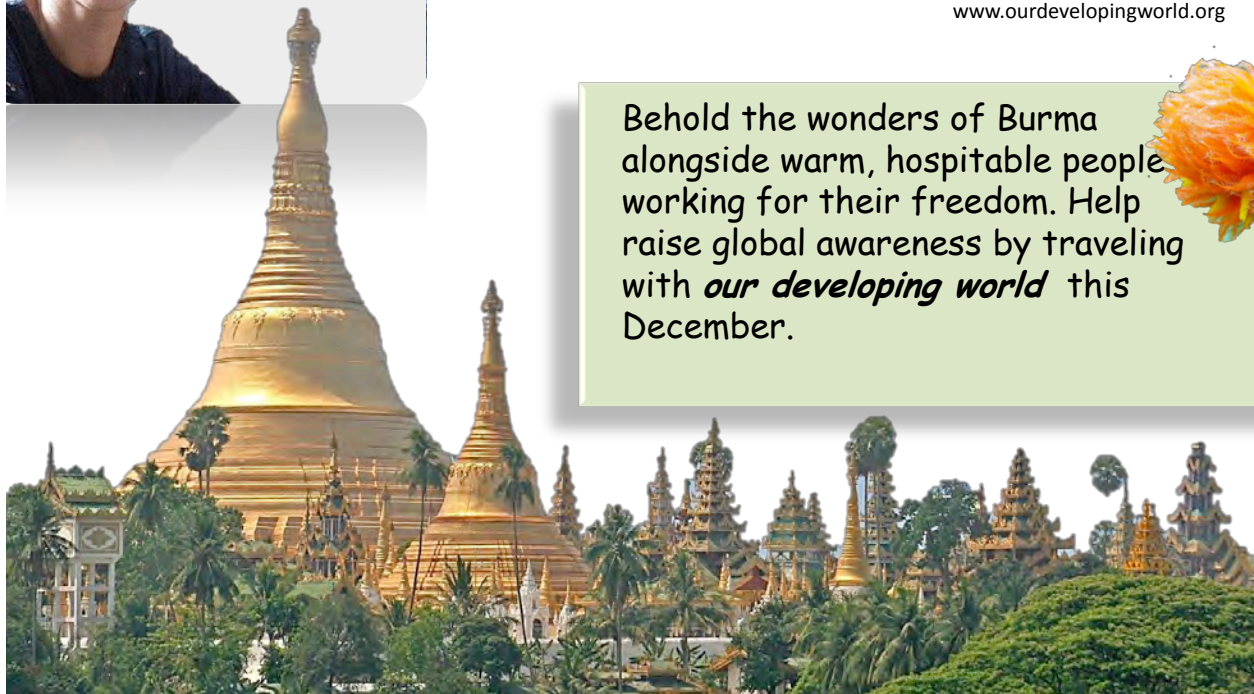
- Aung San Suu Kyi (political leader)



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Behold the wonders of Burma alongside warm, hospitable people working for their freedom. Help raise global awareness by traveling with *our developing world* this December.



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or Cuba People to People May 2013



\$2850 includes charter flight from Miami, visa, license, all transport in Cuba, Lodging, breakfasts, welcome and farewell dinners

12 flexible travelers (Health care, Education, Social Work, Law, Clergy) who want to experience the warm hospitable Cubans in similar professions to learn the similarities and differences. We'll meet many diverse people in different parts of the island.

\$200 deposit saves your place. First received, first accepted.

Applications and deposits Feb 29, 2013. Latest March 10 we need full payments. Let's talk if you really want to go but can't make that deadline. This is the most exciting itinerary we've ever had for Cuba and we really want it to go! Hope you'll be with us! And talk with friends, family, colleagues and neighbors! Applications and itineraries on www.ourdevelopingworld.org

or South Africa/Botswana July 2013

Nozizwe and Jeremy-Routledge in front of a Capetown mosaic wall of Mandela.

Email us for more information.
ourdevelopingworld@gmail.com



Burma

"When the Nobel committee awarded the peace prize to me, they were recognizing that the oppressed and the isolated in Burma were also a part of the world, they were recognizing the oneness of humanity." Aung San Suu Kyi, delivering her acceptance speech for the Nobel Peace Prize this year, awarded in 1991 when she was under house arrest. - (Source: [Guardian](http://www.guardian.co.uk))
Changes are happening but reform has not yet come. Human rights abuses p2

against ethnic minorities by the military are still happening in the provinces. Daw Suu urged renewal of sanctions till that stops. Sadly the EU and Obama have lifted sanctions in the scramble for rights to exploit their natural resources. We can still urge our Senators to renew sanctions.

Oil: a driving force (from Burma onward)



From: guardian.co.uk

Sir Paul McCartney and Greenpeace want to turn the Arctic into a no-go area for oil companies – but there are already signs that financial groups are getting cold feet about polar drilling.

Shell wants to lead the exploration charge off Alaska, repeatedly declined

to say what the potential cost of an oil spill would be, but some lenders are voting with their feet.

(Hopefully enough will leave to stop the misadventure)

Greenpeace' 237-foot-long ice-class Esperanza ship left Dutch Harbor, Alaska early July, en route to document conditions in the Arctic waters near where Shell plans to drill up to five exploratory wells this summer. Jackie Dragon, Greenpeace's lead Arctic campaigner, said activists were "headed to the Arctic to show how little is known about this pristine ecosystem before Shell's rigs move in to destroy it." Dragon and other Greenpeace activists say the baseline data will be gathered before Shell moves in is essential to document the effects of the company's exploratory drilling. Greenpeace plans to launch submarine research in the deep canyons of the Bering Sea, using the Esperanza as a platform for the work. Later, scientists on the Esperanza will use submersible vessels and acoustic monitoring equipment to document marine habitats, wildlife and underwater sound near Shell's planned drilling locations. The submersible vessels that will be used for the work also will carry high-definition video cameras and robotic arms to retrieve samples.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, and Rep. Doc Hastings, R-Washington, p 3

pressed the heads of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement to detail their plans for monitoring Greenpeace's activities — and how they might affect marine life.

Corporations have the rights of personhood but not the responsibilities!!!! in matters of oil, too!

The Supreme Court ruled in favor of Royal Dutch Shell and against the plaintiffs, Nigerian Ogoni activists who had threatened to disrupt Shell's operations because of the devastating health and environmental effects of unregulated drilling practices. The plaintiffs are either victims of torture themselves or had relatives who were executed. Esther Kiobel, the plaintiff after whom the suit is named, is the widow of a victim.

Multinational corporations — particularly in mining and other extractive industries — could draw the lesson that it is now safer to forge alliances with autocratic regimes that have poor human rights records because they will not be judged culpable in the way individuals can be.

The Supreme Court rulings thus, in Justice Steven's words “undermine the integrity of elected institutions across the nation” by treating corporations as people to let them make unlimited political contributions, even as it treats corporations as if they are not people to immunize them from prosecution for the most grievous human rights violations.

Excerpted from “Should Corporations Have More Leeway to Kill than People Do?” by Peter Weiss.

Amy Goodman | Memorial Day: Honor the Dead, Heal the Wounded, Stop the Wars *Amy Goodman, Truthdig*

Goodman writes: "Leading thousands of protesters in a peaceful march against NATO's wars, each veteran climbed to the makeshift stage outside the fenced summit, made a brief statement and threw his or her medals at the gate." [READ MORE](#) Isn't it time not to just honor Vets, but listen to them? They know most what war is. Perhaps we can then learn that killing isn't the way to peace?

When the World Outlawed War!

“When the World Outlawed War,” by David Swanson provides a fascinating part of history following World War I, climaxed with the signing of the Kellogg-Briand Pact in Paris on August 27, 1928. A potential peace agreement between the United States and France, eventually resulted in a treaty among over 50 countries Outlawing War. In January 1929 the U.S. Senate, by a vote of 85 to 1, ratified the Kellogg-Briand Pact, and in July 1929 President Hoover declared it to be binding as the Supreme Law of the Land as it is today.

It didn't take long for President Roosevelt and all succeeding presidents and congresses to ignore the law. Over eight decades have passed and we seem to have developed a collective amnesia. I can understand why the military-industrial complex wants this amnesia to persist indefinitely! “War,” which we generally call “Defense,” is our major industry, consuming about 60 percent of the federal discretionary budget. But is amnesia the proper response?

Frank Goetz, West Suburban Faith-based Peace Coalition www.faitpeace.org
In a letter to his Illinois senator he suggests:

August 27, 1928 was the greatest day in human history and should be a National and International Day of Reflection. Not a holiday that can easily be co-opted to promote consumerism or even militarism, but a time to remind ourselves of the day we outlawed war. Not even a day off work – just a one hour break to reflect on our response to Kellogg-Briand. [In case you are not aware, Sen. Durbin, much of the popular grassroots support to get Kellogg-Briand passed in the Senate was led by Chicago's own Jane Addams.] Don't we owe it to her and the many people in many countries who invested so much of their lives to banish war? Any realistic reassessment of “defense” by moving towards peace must be nonpartisan or ,bi-partisan. Jointly agree to co-sponsor the First Annual Nationwide Peace Teach-in on Monday, August 27, 2012: (1) announce real major reductions in every aspect of war and (2) measure our progress in keeping with the spirit and letter of Kellogg-Briand, the law of the land.

As *odw* sees it, this could be a first step toward changing from an economy and foreign policy that thinks first of military solutions... a vital goal if we're to survive as a species and a planet! The US military pollutes, wastes and fights for oil all over the world, increasingly in Africa through Africom. let's write to our Senators.

Scholars and Human Rights Organizations Demand End to U.S. Military and Police Aid to Honduras

Over 40 Honduran scholars, with the support of over 300 additional signatories from 29 countries (including over 200 signers from the U.S.) sent a letter to President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton demanding an end to U.S. police and military aid, including training, to Honduras.

<http://quotha.net/node/2292> Join them: send letters and letters to the editors

Fukushima Never Again, a must-see film on Japan's reality and cover-up should speak to San Onofre

The lies told endanger our own organic mother world



film is not only an expose of the the Japanese people by the government and TEPCO about the but how the people have met councils, protested, done their clean-up. etc. Chieko Siima, an farmer, mother and grand-said they're trying to get the to cancel all nuclear power

plants. US nuclear regulators just published an update on California's troubled San Onofre power plant July 12, sparking an expert warning that the problem is more serious than first thought.

A reactor at the nuclear power plant near San Diego shut down in January after a radiation leak, although the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said there was no danger to the public. Investigations found unexpected erosion on tubes that carry radioactive water, and the entire plant was shut down, forcing Californian authorities to fire up alternative power generation facilities. An update on the tube erosion, posted on an obscure part of the NRC's website, showed the situation had worsened.

"This reveals a far greater problem and raises serious questions whether it is safe to restart either unit," said Daniel Hirsch, a nuclear expert at the University of California, Santa Cruz. The new data shows more than 3,400 steam generator tubes in the new steam generators at San Onofre are

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damaged -- about 1,800 in Unit 3 and 1,600 in Unit 2 -- he said.

"Edison had been trying to get Unit 2 back on line at summer's end; now we know to do so they would run with a large number of damaged tubes," Hirsch told AFP. A spokeswoman for operator Southern California Edison did not immediately respond. The NRC did not comment on the figures, which were presented as tables. San Onofre produces energy for 1.4 million homes, according to SCE. California's other nuclear reactor, is PG&E's Diablo Canyon. Agence France-Presse July 13, 2012

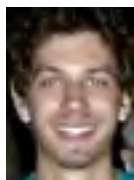
THANK YOU *from our scholarship students to our donors, and from odw!*
We raised those scholarships thanks to you! We hope to raise three more, hopefully six, for our coming reality tours. **PLEASE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE** for young people. They are our future! All donations are tax deductible



Excerpted from Ava's letter:

our developing world's Burma, a reality that I never would have experienced otherwise. Our guides were incredibly warm, inviting us into their homes to meet their families, eat with them, answering all of our questions well and with a sense of humor. The trip, beautiful and enjoyable, also challenging forcing me to think about the world as more complicated. What's so special about the *odw* trip is that they connect to real people-- a highlight was visiting the elementary schools and the spoken English classes, where I got to talk extensively with individuals. Although the students and I lived very different lives, on a fundamental level we were very similar.

Big changes in Burma and our trip coincided with the release of hundreds of political prisoners! It was fascinating to hear our guides' thoughts on politics and their stories, fascinating and heartbreaking. That *odw* connected me to them has been invaluable to my understanding of the world. It allows you to conceive of the world as a more whole place. My experience in Burma was really the experience of a lifetime. I am so grateful. I thank all who made it possible.



Excerpted from Owen's letter:

I would just like to thank everyone who made our trip to Burma possible. It was truly an unforgettable experience, and one that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. Having never been to a third world country before, I now think it is something that everyone should experience. It was shocking to see the hardships many had suffered

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under the oppressive government, especially our tour guides, one of which had been detained, the other whose mother p 7 had been jailed. Despite Burma's hardships, its people were optimistic about their future. The National League for Democracy and to see Aung San Suu Kyi, if only briefly was great. Burmese schools around the country, another highlight – the students were always so eager to learn, whether kindergarteners taught by monks, or high schoolers learning English in a puppet theater. Again, thank you everyone who made this trip possible. Thank you to our tour guides, Barby and Vic, for organizing this entire experience. And last but certainly not least, thank you everyone who helped fund this incredible journey – not possible without you.



Excerpted from Merina's:

Thank you so much for helping sponsor my trip to Burma. It was truly a lifetime experience and would not have been possible without your generous contribution! Each day was filled with eye opening experiences and countless opportunities from which to learn and grow: textile facilities, monasteries, boat rides down the river, different school, clinics and really meeting with people who are making small changes that slowly began to have a positive impact on their communities. Such warm and loving people, even after all they have been through. they still have hope for their people and their country. It was truly inspiring. Each day opened my eyes a little more.

The most vivid experience was a school for the blind founded by a blind Monk, the staff completely voluntary; many graduates saw teaching was giving back to their community. What a gift to be able to be exposed to an entirely new culture! I can't thank you enough for helping send me, without you it would have not been possible! I now see just how important my role as a global citizen is and I will continue to use what I learned during this trip though out my life. Thank you so much!

And *odw* again says THANK YOU SO MUCH for helping us make a difference in these future leaders' lives, our scholarship students! Let's repeat these valuable lifetime experiences for more low income students!

odw speaking tour on Burma or US Latin American Foreign Policy or Starvation or Survival Simulation in classes 5th grade through university:

Starting in Vancouver BC September 3 and going south. Please email odw@magiclink.net if you have a class or group or want to have us in your home for a program!