Nyanmar



Where is Myanmar?

- Location: In Southeast Asia, sharing borders with India, China, Thailand, Bangladesh, and Laos
- **Capital:** Naypyidaw (pronounced "Nay-pee-daw")
- Fun Fact: Shaped like a kite, similar in size to Texas!
- **Distance:** A flight from London, Berlin, or New York to Myanmar takes 10-15 hours.





What is the weather like?

- **Climate:** Tropical with three main seasons
 - Cool: November Februaury
 - Hot: March May (up to 40°C (104°F))
 - Rainy: June October
- Agriculture:
 - 60-70% of Myanmar's population relies on agriculture as a livelihood
 - Farmers depend on monsoons for rice and crops



Main Occupations

- Agriculture: Largest Occupation
 - Rice is the main crop, and Myanmar is one of the top rice producers in Asia.
 - Other crops include beans, corn, sugarcane, and tobacco.
- Fishing: Common in coastal and river areas

 Fish and seafood are vital to the diet
 and economy
- Forestry: Rich forests with valuable resources.
 - Valuable timber like teak and hardwoods and non timber plants like bamboo, rattan are exported as well as used for construction, crafts, etc.

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Languages in Myanmar

- Language: Burmese (official language), spoken widely
- Ethnic Diversity: 135+ ethnic groups, each with unique languages or dialects
- Major Ethnic Languages: Shan, Karen, Kachin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine
- Multilingual: Many people speak 2-3 languages
- Fun Fact: Myanmar has over 100 languages, making it one of the most linguistically diverse countries



Min ga la ba! (Hello!)

Nei kaun la? (How are you?)

Education in Myanmar

- Low Literacy: Some areas with rates as low as 35%
- Teacher Shortage: Over 33,000 teachers needed
- Limited Access: 1 in 3 rural children lack classrooms
- Language Barriers: 135+ languages create learning challenges
- Under-Resourced: Many schools are overcrowded and lack materials





Culture and Religion

- **Buddhism**: Around 90% of the population practices Theravada Buddhism.
- Indigenous Beliefs: Many ethnic groups follow animism (belief that spirits inhabit natural objects like trees, rivers, and animals) and traditional practices.
- **Cultural Heritage:** Traditional arts like lacquerware and puppet shows are important.
- **Buddhist Influence**: Monasteries, pagodas, and statues are key cultural symbols.





Major Festivals

Thingyan (Burmese New Year): Celebrated in April, it's a joyous occasion marked by water splashing, parades, and cultural performances.



Tazaungdaing Festival: Held in November, this festival is a celebration of light, featuring illuminated pagodas and colorful decorations.

Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda Festival: Thousands of pilgrims gather to worship the sacred Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda, celebrated during the Burmese lunar month of Thadingyut, usually in September/October

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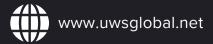
Myanmar's Political History

- British Rule: Myanmar was a British colony until 1948.
- **Democracy:** Brief democratic period postindependence.
- **Military Coups:** 1962 coup led to decades of military rule.
- Transition to Democracy: Reforms and movement towards democracy began around 2011
- **2021 Coup:** February 2021 coup ended democracy, causing ongoing civil war















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