

# Chu May Paing

## EDUCATION

- In progress **PhD in Cultural Anthropology**, (expected degree award date - 2024)  
University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Anthropology
- 2020 **MA in Cultural Anthropology**,  
University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Anthropology  
Thesis: “Worldmaking Media: A Review on the Anthropology of Mediation and the Case of Myanmar.”
- 2017 **BA in General Linguistics (graduated with summa cum laude)**,  
Queens College, City University of New York  
Honors Thesis: “To Know a Bāthā: Family Language Socialization among Buddhist Burmese Immigrant Families in New York City”

## FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2019 – 2024 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (up to \$150,000)
- 2017 – 2021 CU Boulder Office of Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement Fellowship (\$4000)
- 2020 – 2021 CU Engage Arts and Humanities Fellowship (\$2000)
- 2020 – 2021 SEARG (Southeast Asia Research Group) Committee Pre-dissertation Fellowship (up to \$2000)
- 2020 – 2021 CAORC Inya Institute Pre-dissertation Fellowship (\$4275)
- 2019 Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute Fellowship (\$2500)
- 2019 CU Boulder Center to Advance Research and Teaching in the Social Sciences Grant (\$1000)
- 2016 – 2017 CUNY Pipeline Fellowship (up to \$6000)
- 2016 – 2017 Queens College Honors in the Social Sciences Fellowship
- 2016 – 2017 Presidential Scholar, Queens College, CUNY
- 2016 – 2017 Finch College Alumnae Foundation Scholarship (\$4000)
- 2016 Linakis Research Scholarship, Queens College, CUNY (\$1500)

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & MENTORSHIP

- 2018 – present Refugee Language Project (RLP); EMBARC (Ethnic Minorities from Burma Advocacy and Resource Center); SEAD (Southeast Asian Diaspora) Project  
**Burmese Language and Culture Consultant**  
Consulted on RLP’s Burmese language storybook project. Translated documents such as community flyers, announcements, and interpreted in different legal and social settings.
- 2021 – present [Baydar Collective](#)  
**Co-founder and Content Creator**  
Organized community fora to bring awareness about the current political and social struggles in Myanmar and in the diaspora in the US.
- 2018 – 2020 Graduate Students of Color Collective, CU Boulder  
**Social Event Organizer**  
Organized events and activism for graduate students and faculty of color for campus community.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Spring 2022 **Instructor** – “**The Sociality of Feeling**” (taught in Burmese), Spring University Myanmar, School of Arts and Social Sciences  
**Guest Lecturer** – “**The Politics of Doing Research with People**”, Thabyay Education Foundation, Myanmar; “**Decolonization in the context of Myanmar**”, Reading Justice: Dictatorship and Opposition in Myanmar, University of Wisconsin Madison
- Fall 2021 **Teaching Assistant** – “**Mellons May Undergraduate Fellowship Seminar**” Mellons May Undergraduate Fellowship Program, Queens College

- Spring 2021 **Guest Lecturer** – “Myanmar (Burma) Country Seminar”, Cornell University, Department of Anthropology
- Adjunct Instructor** – “Cross-cultural Psychology,” “Language and Social Diversity”, Graceland University, Department of Psychology; Queens College, City University of New York, Department of Linguistics and Communication Disorders
- 2017 - 2019 **Guest Lecture** – “Transnational and Comparative Human Rights Studies”, Drake University, Department of Political Science
- Teaching Assistant** – “Languages of the World,” “Introduction to Linguistics,” “Language in US Society”, University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Linguistics

## WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2020 – present **Founder/Director**, [Aruna Global South](#) Non-Profit Organization  
Directed programming initiatives highlighting marginalized scholars working on Asian Global South.
- 2017 – 2019 **Graduate Student Program Director**, [The Literacy Practicum Program](#), CU Boulder  
Coordinated volunteering activities for CU undergraduate students and local literacy organizations.

## SERVICE

- 2022 **Board Member**, [FORSEA \(Forces of Renewal Southeast Asia\)](#)
- 2021 **Peer Reviewer**, Ethos, Journal of the Society for Psychological Anthropology
- 2019 – 2021 **Graduate Peer Mentor**, Institute for Behavioral Sciences, CU Boulder
- 2019 – 2020 **Social Media Committee Lead**, Grad Student Association, Department of Anthropology, CU Boulder

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- In preparation Isn't it What Buddha Says? Genre of Affective Hate Speech in Radical Buddhist Sermons of the Myanmar's 969 Movement.
- 2021 [Talking back to white “Burma Experts”](#). *Agitate Now!*. University of Minnesota. (co-authored with Than Toe Aung). (*editor-reviewed*)
- 2020 [“Viral Satire as Public Feeling in Myanmar.”](#) In “Pandemic Diaries: Affect and Crisis,” Carla Jones, ed., *American Ethnologist website*, May 20 2020. (*editor-reviewed*)
- 2020 In Need of Daughters of Good Lineage: Placing Gender in Burmese Buddhist Nationalist Discourse. *Journal of Southeast Asian Linguistics Society*. [Special Issue](#). (*editor-reviewed*)
- 2018 To Know a Bāthā: Family Language Socialization among Buddhist Burmese Immigrant Families in New York City. *Journal of Southeast Asian American Education and Advancement*, Vol 13: Issue 1, Article 10. (*peer-reviewed*)

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 [Anthropology has cheated on me](#). FORSEA Blog. January 3.
- 2021 [Yet to be earned](#). *Position Politics*.
- 2021 [Coping with the Coup while Poking Some Fun](#). In University of Colorado Boulder Center for Asian Studies Newsletter. March 1.
- 2020 [Exposed Soul](#). *Pandemic Posts*. Center for Humanities and Arts. CU Boulder.
- 2020 [Ethnography: Rethinking from the Interstice](#). *The New Ethnographer*. April 20.
- 2019 [Subtitled Dreams](#). Online Blog Post. Society for Linguistic Anthropology. December 9.

## PUBLICATIONS UNDER PEN NAME “MA CHINTHE”

- Forthcoming မမိမိ (Memory). In *Jakarta Biennale Moethauk Blog*. (*short story, in Burmese*)
- 2022 [မြန်မာပြည်က မမိမိနှင့်စင်ကို ပြန်လည်သုံးသပ်ခြင်း](#): (Rethinking Myanmar's Feminism). In *Revolutionary Point Zero*, January 7. (*essay, in Burmese*).
- 2021 [ကူးဆက်ခြင်း \(Grafting\)](#). In *Jakarta Biennale Moethauk Blog*, Oct 5. (*poem, originally in Burmese*).

2021 [ပဝ်တိုင်းထောင် \(Pyitinehtaung\)](#). In *Aruna Global South Blog*, June 26. (*short story, in Burmese*).

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 **“Gali-hto-thaw Images: Dangerous Laughter as Viral Spread in Contemporary Myanmar”**. Southeast Asian Graduate Student Conference, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. March 11-13.
- 2021 **“AAA Roundtable: Truth, Responsibility, and Mental Health in Anthropology.”** American Anthropological Association Conference, Baltimore, MD. November 17-21.
- 2021 **“IBSC Roundtable: Access, Ethics, and Risk in Knowledge Production.”** International Burma Studies Conference, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL. September 16-19.
- 2021 **“Talking back to white Researchers in Burma Studies.” (Outstanding Abstract Award)** Co-presented with Than Toe Aung. International Graduate Student Conference, University of Hawai'i at Manoa. February 11-13.
- 2020 **“Secrets and Foreign Agents: Myanmar’s Narratives of Belonging and Resistance.”** CU Boulder Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference, University of Colorado Boulder. Feb 14.
- 2019 **“Daughter of Good Lineage and Bitchy Prostitutes in Buddhist Nationalist Discourse.”** Anthropology of Language Workshop on Mainland Southeast Asia Languages, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia. Aug 19-21.
- 2019 **“Encompassing Language and Religion in Transnational Burmese Identities.”** Conference on Asian Linguistic Anthropology, Pannasatra University of Cambodia, Siam Reap, Cambodia. January 23-26.
- 2018 **“Women in the Race and Religion Laws of Myanmar.”** International Gender and Language Association (IGALA) 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana. June 20-22.

#### PUBLIC TALKS

- 2022 **“Poetry against Tyranny: A Conversation with Three Burmese Poets.”** Harvard Asia Center & Aruna Global South, Feb 4.
- 2021 **“Experts in Myanmar Affairs: Usurping Local Voices and Doing Harm.”** FORSEA Dialogue, December 23.
- 2021 **“Burma in the Context of Global Uprising against Militarized Violence.”** Aruna Global South and York Center for Asian Research. June 18.
- 2021 **“Myanmar in Mind.”** SEAD (Southeast Asian Diaspora) Project, May 25.
- 2021 **“Queens College Asian American Heritage Month Celebration.”** Queens College, Office of Alumni Relations, May 10.
- 2021 **“The Political Crisis in Myanmar: Nuanced Perspectives on the Nation’s Past, Present, and Future.”** Center for Asian Studies, CU Boulder and Aruna Global South, Feb 24.
- 2020 **“Together against anti-Blackness: Eradicating Discrimination in Latinx, Arab, Asian, and Indigenous Communities.”** OLA Colorado (Observatorio des les América) Webinar, July 24.
- 2020 **“Guided Dialogue on Racism and Privilege: Politics of Allyship.”** Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado Boulder, June 19.
- 2019 **“Legalizing Intimacy: The Effects of Myanmar Nationalist Anti-Rohingya Agenda.”** Spring 2019 Luncheon Series, Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado Boulder.

#### MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 2021 [Opinions and Thoughts Burmese Podcast](#). July 9. (*In Burmese*)
- 2021 [“On Feminism and Feminists of Myanmar’s Freedom Struggles.”](#) The Arts of Travel Podcast. March 16.
- 2020 [“Immigrant Tales #1,”](#) Model Minority Uniquely American Podcast, December 29.
- 2020 [“A One-way Ticket from Myanmar to the US.”](#) Asian Avenue Magazine, 15(7): July.
- 2018 [“Immigration at CU: Where is Home?”](#) CU Boulder CU Independent Student News, April 6.

#### LANGUAGES

- English – speak fluently and read/write with high proficiency
- Burmese – native speaker