





Burma Culture Kits






- a complete list of items contained in each kit
 - #2 Ethnic Minorities
- featured themes
- curriculum ideas









Box 2: Ethnic Minorities






	<p>Large Kachin Shoulder Bag (Lweh-eit).</p>	<p>[in red and green] The so-called “Shan bags” used to serve as school bags for children. Today Burmese children prefer Western-style backpacks. But these traditional shoulder bags are still carried by women in rural areas of Burma and are often sold to tourists.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Stole</p>	<p>Stole is a neck piece worn for ceremonial purposes.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Baptist Church Banner</p>	<p>A black scroll with the image of a Karen Baptist Church. The Karen were some of the first converts to Christianity in Southeast Asia. About 30-40% of the estimated 300,000 Karen people in Burma are Christian, specifically Baptist.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Bag with Tiger</p>	<p>The shoulder bag also has a pin of the map and flag of Myanmar. The tiger is recognized as the national animal of Myanmar. It is one of the few places left where several subspecies of tiger are found.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Young Girl's/ Unmarried Women's Robe</p>	<p>Young girls and unmarried women wear a white smock-like dress that is typically decorated at the hems with embroidery.</p>		<p>2</p>



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	<p>Karen Men's Robe [Tan with white and orange stripes]</p>		<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Men's Robe [Red]</p>	<p>This Karen Man's robe shows the Karen flag and two musical instruments that are key symbols of the Karens' national identity: the buffalo horn and the brass frog drum.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Men's Shirts</p>	<p>The Karen are known for their elaborate weaving skills that find expression in their traditional dress, bags, and blankets. Karen boys and men traditionally wear the color red. (1) red with white, green, and yellow stripes. (2) white with vertical green, yellow, and red stripes. (3) white with vertical green, pink and red stripes. (4) red and white vertical wide stripes.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Women's Robe [Teal]</p>		<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Women's Shirt [Yellow with red pattern]</p>	<p>This woman's shirt was hand woven by members of the Karen ethnic group from Burma. The weaving is done on backstrap looms, using special cotton thread. The lower section of Sgaw Karen shirts are often decorated with repetitive geometric designs.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>

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	<p>Karen Calendar</p>	<p>Twelve Colors-Twelve Dreams of Displaced Karen Children” 2008 color calendar. Small standing flip-page calendar. Each page has a photo of a Karen child and is written in both Karen and English.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Myanmar Cherry Dolls</p>	<p>Ten pairs of wooden boy and girl dolls, each represents one of the national tribes of Myanmar.</p>	<p>10 pairs</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Keychain</p>	<p>Small keychain with picture of Ahlone Sangyaung Karen Baptist Church. Photo is in black and white.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Plush Dolls</p>	<p>Stuffed toy dolls, outfitted in traditional Karen dress with small wicker basket. Doll on the left is dressed in traditional boy clothing and the doll on the right is dressed in traditional girl clothing.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Swesome Brochure</p>		<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Number Flashcards</p>	<p>Various flashcards</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>2</p>

	<p>Photograph of Church Interior</p>	<p>Christian Church in Maymyo also known as (a former British hill station)</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Calendar (2)</p>	<p>2015 Calendar with beautiful illustrations of various Karen women throughout the seasons.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Poster of Ethnic Minorities of Myanmar</p>	<p>[Laminated] [English Translations] A map showing the different locations of the ethnic groups of Myanmar. Perfect for hanging in classrooms.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Poster of Mon State</p>	<p>Historically, Mon culture and language used to be dominant in ancient Burma and Thailand. According to Mon leaders their numbers are around four million. While Mon was the leading language in the creation of Burmese, the use of spoken Mon has greatly declined during the past 150 years. The drastic decline in Mon culture is perhaps the most poignant evidence of Burmanisation among all ethnic groups in Burma. Today most Mon speakers live in the Mon State, with Thailand to its east and Andaman coast to its west. Mon State is in the South of Burma.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Alphabet Poster</p>	<p>[Karen and Phonetic Pronunciation]</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>

	<p><i>Kyats</i> Money</p>	<p>Kyat is the Burmese currency. On all of the banknotes is the chinthe, a leogryph found mainly in front of pagodas and temples. The symbol has been promoted by the previous military government as the symbol of state and became more prominent only after 1988 - when it began to appear on almost all denominations of Burmese banknotes and coins. (5) - 10 (9) - 20 (10) - 50 (38) - 100 (27) - 200 (5) - 500 (34) - 1000</p>		<p>2</p>
	<p>Karen Headband</p>	<p>Karen textiles are handwoven on a backstrap loom. A main form of ornament in Karen textiles is warp stripes. Red and white Karen headbands accented with fringe and stripes.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>



Burma Culture Kits

Complimentary Library Materials

General

- *Burma/Myanmar: What Everyone Needs to Know* - David Steinberg
- *Mandalay* [VHS]
- *Wonderland of Burmese Legends* -Khin Myo Chit
- *Historical Atlas of Southeast Asia*

General Non-Fiction

- *Burma Chronicles* - Guy Delisle
- *Letters from Burma* - Aung San Suu Kyi
- *From the Land of Green Ghosts: A Burmese Odyssey* - Pascal Khoo Thwe

Children's Fiction

- *Shan's Lucky Knife* - Jean Merrill

Religion

- *Buddhist Monks and Nuns in Myanmar* [VHS] - Win Tin Tin

Food

- *Flavors of Burma/ Myanmar: Cuisine and Culture from the Land of Golden Pagodas*
- *Burma: Rivers of Flavor*

Language

- *Pocket Burmese Dictionary*
- *Burmese by Ear or Essential Myanmar*