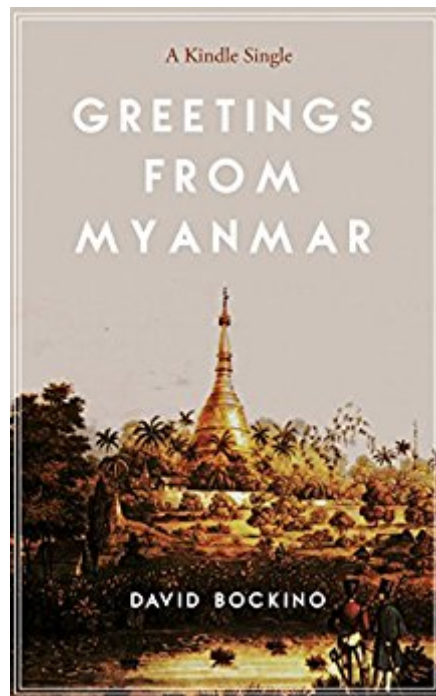


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Greetings From Myanmar: Exploring The Price Of Progress In One Of The Last Countries On Earth To Open For Business (Kindle Single)



Synopsis

In just a few years, Myanmar has gone from destitution, dictatorship, and isolation from the international community to being hailed "World's Best Tourist Destination" a seemingly impossible transition that led David Bockino, in 2015, on a search to find out exactly what happened, and how. Traversing the country, he encounters a pompous Western businessman swindling his way to millions, a local vendor with a flair for painting nudes, and long ago legends of a western circus. Sensitively written and expertly researched, *Greetings from Myanmar: Exploring the Price of Progress in One of the Last Countries on Earth to Open for Business* is the story of a flourishing nation still very much in limbo and an answer to the hard questions that arise when tourism not only charts, but shapes a place as well. David Bockino is an assistant professor in the School of Communications at Elon University. He was born and raised in New York and currently lives in Durham, North Carolina with his wife, son, and daughter. More information available here: www.davidbockino.com. Cover design by Evan Twohy.

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Customer Reviews

Myanmar or Burma is a mystery for many tourists due to strict controls imposed by the ruling military faction. To go to Myanmar as a tourist is almost akin to visiting the Hermit Kingdom of North Korea. Bockino mentions that it was easier for some backpackers who may have been hanging out in

Thailand or Cambodia with indefinite travel plans and lots of time on their hands. While true, that particular group seemed to always be under suspicion of trying to get to Myanmar's poppy supply. I was not a backpacker but lived in Thailand for more than fifteen years. I had no desire to go what I perceived to be a hostile country as far as the military rulers were concerned. With the return of Aung San Suu Kyi, things have changed; I am now interested in visiting Myanmar. I found *Greetings From Myanmar* by David Bockino interesting in its clear delineation of major historical events and periods. There were several new pieces of information (for me) that I found. I did not know that the origin of the Padaung women's wearing of the neck rings was unknown. It seems that this area would be a tourist attraction but Bockino mentions it is actually an addition to the traditional route of four sites visited. I would not have guessed that a tourist attraction would be the Drug Elimination Museum in a country famous for poppies needed in drug production. Bockino's account of the abrupt relocation of the nation's capital to Naypyidaw is very informative in its accounts of how much planning is really required to move an entire national capital. And why that capital does not need twenty lane highways or penguins.

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