



The Asia Foundation

# The Humanitarian

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Level 4



Lahpai Seng Raw was unpacking her bags. It was her first day of university, and she was excited.

As she set up her new room, Lahpai Seng Raw daydreamed about her future classes and classmates.

She was surprised to look up and see a group of boys staring at her from the doorway.

They looked surprised, too. "This is the boys' dormitory. Get out," they told her.



Lahpai Seng Raw was not intimidated.  
She grew up in a family of all boys.  
“My name is on the door,” she said calmly.

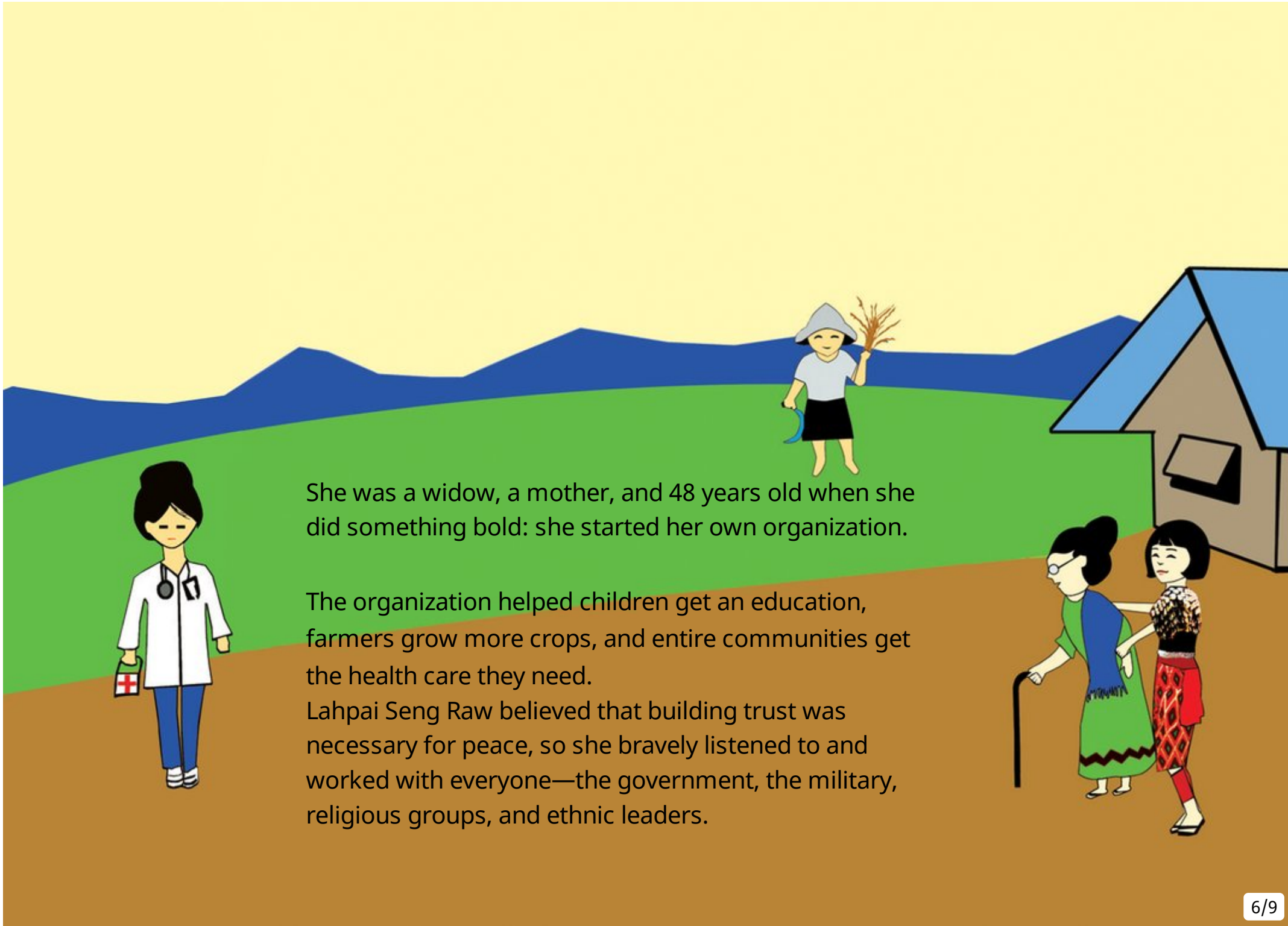
She later learned the university had confused her  
Kachin name for a boy’s name.  
But Lahpai Seng Raw never let that, or anything else,  
stop her.



Years later, Lahpai Seng Raw lived in Myitkyina,  
the capital of Kachin State.

Years of conflict had made life very hard in Kachin State.  
Roads were bad, hospitals were few, and parents were afraid to send  
their children to school.  
Many people fled their homes to escape the violence.

Lahpai Seng Raw wanted to help her own people, as well as other  
people around the country who suffered from conflict.



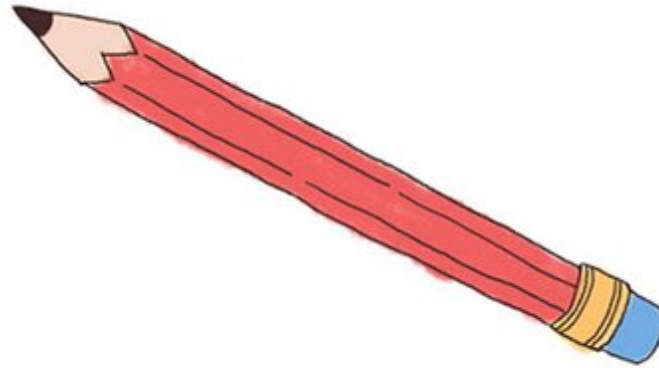
She was a widow, a mother, and 48 years old when she did something bold: she started her own organization.

The organization helped children get an education, farmers grow more crops, and entire communities get the health care they need.

Lahpai Seng Raw believed that building trust was necessary for peace, so she bravely listened to and worked with everyone—the government, the military, religious groups, and ethnic leaders.



Today, her organization helps thousands of communities across the country. After many years of leading the organization, Lahpai Seng Raw stepped down. It was time for new, young leaders to continue the work she began to build a strong, peaceful Myanmar.



Use these prompts to write your own story on a piece of paper.

When are you happiest?

What do you love doing?

Life can be tough sometimes.

Describe a tough moment in your life that you overcame.

Tell a story of your future.

What do you dream of doing?





Draw your portrait.

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# The Humanitarian

(English)

Lahpai Seng Raw never let anything stop her. Read about her amazing courage and ability to work with everyone to bring peace in Myanmar.

This is a Level 4 book for children who can read fluently and with confidence.



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