

Resources on Karen Culture, History and Community in Minnesota

Compiled by the Karen Organization of Minnesota (Updated December 2016)

1. Karen Language Resources:

- Drum Publications – <http://www.drumpublications.org/>
- The Karen Teacher's Working Group – <http://ktwg.org/wp-content/uploads/karen-language-course/KTWG%20Karen%20Language%20Course%20v2.pdf>
- Karen Konnection – <http://karenkonnection.org/Say-It-in-Karen.php3>
- Memrise (*download the app on your smartphone*) - <http://www.memrise.com/course/459330/say-it-in-karen-book-i/>

2. Karen Culture and History Resources:

- Cultural Orientation Resource Center: Refugees from Burma – <http://www.culturalorientation.net/learning/populations/burmese>
- Karen Cultural Profile: EthnoMed - <https://ethnomed.org/culture/karen/karen-cultural-profile>
- Burma Link: Karen - <http://www.burmalink.org/background/burma/ethnic-groups/karen/>
- Culture Care Connection: Karen People in Minnesota – <http://www.culturecareconnection.org/matters/diversity/karen.html>
- ~~The Karen People: Culture, Faith and History –~~
http://www.karen.org.au/docs/Karen_people_booklet.pdf
- “From Burma to Buffalo” – This is a fantastic journalism series published in Buffalo, NY that addresses several of the challenges that refugees from Burma face during their new life in the U.S. <http://projects.buffalonews.com/long-reads/burma/index.html>
- Ger Kler: A Journey of Untold Strength 2014 – This 26-minute documentary was made by SJU/CSB university students last year. It features interviews with refugees from Burma in the refugee camps in Thailand and in Minnesota. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieJJ_gK0xj0
- The Road: A Journey Into Burma's War-Torn Karen State – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3iholvICIPM>

3. Karen News Outlets:

- Sign up for KOM's newsletter – Learn about what KOM is doing and find out about events in the Karen community of Minnesota by subscribing to this monthly newsletter. <http://mnkaren.us5.list-manage2.com/subscribe?u=71b96eb32cbf17860fd789c14&id=ef48a8847e>
- Karen News - <http://karennews.org/>

4. Karen Community Groups and Organizations:

- Karen Organization of Minnesota - <http://www.mnkaren.org/>
- ~~Karen Culture Organization of Minnesota –~~ <http://www.karenculture.org/>
- Karen Community of Minnesota – <https://www.facebook.com/KCM-Karen-Community-of-Minnesota-430589237016266>
- Karen Buddhist Society of Minnesota – <https://www.facebook.com/Karen-Buddhist-Society-of-Minnesota-108133982633410/>
- Karen National Union - <http://www.karennationalunion.net/>

- Karen Women's Organization – <http://karenwomen.org/>
- Karen Human Rights Group - <http://khr.org/>

5. Karen Religious Entities in St. Paul:

- Karen Buddhist Temple – 43695 Peaceful Valley Rd, Harris, MN 55032
- Trinity Karen Baptist Church (meets at LifePoint Church on Sundays at 1:00pm) – 2220 Edgerton St, Saint Paul, MN 55117
- Ebenezer Karen Baptist Church – 1055 Viking Drive East, Maplewood, MN 55109
- First Karen Baptist Church – 3000 Hadley Ave N, Oakdale, MN 55128
- Emmanuel Karen Baptist Church – 400 Oxford St N, Saint Paul MN
- Saint Paul Karen Seventh Day Adventist Church (meets on Saturdays) – 1220 McKnight Rd S, Saint Paul, MN 55119
- K'nyaw Baptist Church – 1544 Timberlake Rd, Saint Paul, MN 55117
- Karen Christian Fellowship (meets at Bethel Christian Fellowship on Sundays at 2:00pm) – 1466 Portland Ave, St. Paul, MN 55104
- Church of St. Bernard (Karenni Mass - Every 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 5:30pm) - 187 Geranium Ave W Saint Paul, MN 55117

6. Karen Grocery Stores in St. Paul:

- Shwe Karen Market & Deli – 230 Front Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55117
- Salween Grocery – 1543 Payne Ave #102, Saint Paul, MN 55130
- Original Karen Market & Deli – 1377 Arcade St, Saint Paul, MN 55106
- Kwe Ka Baung Grocery – 1133 Rice St, Saint Paul, MN 55117
- Golden Karen Grocery – 162 W Pennsylvania Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55103
- Karen & Hmong Market – 1648 Rice St, Saint Paul, MN 55117
- Little Burma Grocery – 1234 Payne Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55130
- City of Love Karen Market – 991 Arcade St, Saint Paul, MN 55106

7. Other Karen-Owned Businesses in St. Paul:

- Friends Café – 1711 Rice St, Saint Paul, MN 55113
- SKD Auto Tek – 80 Cottage Ave W, Saint Paul, MN 55117
- If you would like to buy Karen clothes, there is a shop inside the HmongTown Marketplace (217 Como Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55103) where you can buy them. You can also buy them at community events such as Karen New Year or at one of the Karen Weaving Circle's art fairs.

8. Important Karen Holidays:

- Karen Revolution Day (January 31)
- Karen National Day (February 11)
- Buddhist New Year/Water Festival (mid-April)
- Karen Martyr's Day (August 12)
- Karen Wrist-Tying Ceremony (August)

- Sweet December (November 31)
- Karen New Year (First Day of Pyathoe – generally the end of December or beginning of January)