



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

Guide to the Charles Shontz collection, 1955-2009

Human Studies Film Archives  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Human Studies Film Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Charles Shontz collection
<b>Date:</b>	1955-2009
<b>Identifier:</b>	HSFA.1990.22
<b>Creator:</b>	Shontz, Charles, 1926-2019
<b>Extent:</b>	2 Film reels (47 minutes; black-and-white silent; 1700 feet) 2 DVD Slides Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Received from Charles Shontz in 1990, 2008 and 2009.

### Provenance

Previously titled "Charles Shontz Footage of Burma 1955-1956."

### Processing Information

Titles are supplied by the archivist for untitled films.

### Preferred Citation

Charles Shontz collection, Human Studies Film Archives, Smithsonian Institution

### Restrictions

The collection is open for research. Please contact the archives for information on availability of access copies of audiovisual recordings. Original audiovisual material in the Human Studies Film Archives may not be played.

### Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

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## Scope and Contents

Footage shot during Shontz' year as a Fulbright teacher in the Union of Burma. Documented are aspects of daily and ceremonial life primarily in the locations of Taunggyi, Yaung-whe (on Inle Lake), Namkhan, Kentung, and Rangoon. Scenes of ethnographic interest include: the annual Buddhist Festival of Lights in Taunggyi; a *pwe* festival sponsored by a Lisu chief at Kentung near the Laos border which includes shots of Ekaw, Lisu, and Palaung (Ta-ang) peoples; masked dance by Black Karens in Taunggyi; Intha "leg rowers" on Inle Lake towing a float with Buddah images; a festival of the northern Shans in Namkan; and Hindu fire walkers and Siamese dancers in Rangoon. Arch Nicholson was director.

Collection also includes 35mm color photographic slides, 2008 DVD of slides with Dr. Shontz' annotation, 2006 DVD of film with Dr. Shontz' annotation (video has earlier annotation by Dr. Shontz), correspondence and other paper records associated with the film and photographs.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or Anthropology Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

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## Local Number

HSFA 1990.22.1

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Agriculture
- Dance
- Festivals

Types of Materials:

- silent films

Places:

- Burma
- Southeast Asia