A humanitarian and his motorbike

The remote Chin State, one of the seven states into which the Union of Myanmar (formerly known as Burma) is divided, is almost the size of Switzerland, but with a population of only slightly over half a million people. The area, located in the Western part of Myanmar stretching along the border to India, is remote and mountainous. In this still underdeveloped region, a motorcycle has become a lifesaver.

The vehicle belongs to the Cung Hu Volunteer Blood Donor Foundation, founded in December 2004 by Cung Hu, a modest man who owns a bookstore and has a mission. Day and night, whenever donor blood is needed, Cung Hu jumps on the motorbike to pick up a voluntary blood donor and rushes them to the General Civil Hospital in the region's main city of Hakha.

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Cung Hu explains.

> "*Chin State is far away from the mainland Myanmar. Most people are simple and ignorant. It is very difficult to educate them about blood donation. I try to help others understand the needs of patients. Sometimes they have the wrong conception about giving blood*,"
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> *"There has always been a problem with usable donor blood. Since the hospital has no blood bank and because the supply of electricity to the town of Hakha is not regular, no blood can be stored. Therefore, no blood was available in time for transfusion when there was an emergency. The result was often death*," Cung Hu explains.

Whenever Cung Hu gets a call from the hospital that donor blood is needed he must immediately find a donor with a matching blood type. This is not without difficulties. The young donors, who depend on being picked up by Cung Hu and his motorbike, live between one and eight miles from the hospital and usually do not own a telephone. In addition, there are no trains, busses, or taxis in the capital of Hakha.

Cung Hu Volunteer Blood Donor Foundation "*is impartial, non-political and non-profit, with no discrimination against race or religion*."

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