



PHOCOS 2019

The 4th Photo Contest of SUN
(Silk-Road Universities Network)

Trade and Markets along the Silk Roads

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PHOCOS 2019

**TRADE AND MARKETS
ALONG THE SILK ROADS**

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Trade and Markets along the Silk Roads

History of PHOCOS

Initiation: Photo Contest of SUN was approved as an official program unanimously by the participants of the Inaugural General Assembly of SUN on August 23, 2015 with the initiation by Secretary General Sungdon Hwang.

Purposes: This contest is designed to achieve through the medium of photography the following purposes. Firstly, to share the beauty of cultural diversity existing along the Silk Roads with all people around the world. Secondly, to provide the young generation with opportunities to understand the value of this cultural diversity of the Silk Roads as a healthy condition for peaceful co-existence and co-prosperity of mankind. Finally, to nurture the youth to respect and embrace cultural differences of other people as the reason for celebration rather than segregation because it is ever so humble and tiny.

PHOCOS 2016: The 1st Photo Contest of SUN

- Theme: "Diversity of University Campus Lives along the Silk Roads"
- Photos Submitted: 163 photos from 46 universities in 9 countries
- Grand Prize Winner: Mr. Benjamin Ong Jia Ming (University of Malaya, Malaysia)
- Exhibition & Award Ceremony: August 8 ~ 12, 2016 at Obama Hall, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (HUFs), Seoul, Korea

PHOCOS 2017: The 2nd Photo Contest of SUN

- Theme: "The Roads – People, Culture, History and Any Scenes on the Silk Roads"
- Photos Submitted: 224 photos from 17 universities in 12 countries
- Grand Prize Winner: Mr. Aliasghar Heydari (Alameh Tabataba'i University, Iran)
- Exhibition and Award Ceremony: November 8 ~ 12, 2017 at the Main Lobby, Vietnam National University – Ho Chi Minh City University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

PHOCOS 2018: The 3rd Photo Contest of SUN

- Theme: "Masks and People along the Silk Roads"
- Photos submitted: 102 photos from 13 universities in 11 countries
- Grand Prize Winner: Ms. Ksenia Varegina, (Moscow State Linguistic University, Russia)
- Exhibition & Award Ceremony: August 29 ~ September 1 at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Venice, Italy

Overview of PHOCOS 2019

Theme: "Trade and Markets along the Silk Roads"

Photos Submitted: 217 photos by 60 students of 18 universities in 12 Silk Road countries
(Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Ecuador, Greece, Iran, Italy, Kazakhstan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Uzbekistan)

Application: September 1, 2018 ~ June 30, 2019

Selection of Prize Winning Photos: July 10, 2019 by the review committee

Announcement of Prize Winners: July 15, 2019

- Grand Prize Winner: Ms. Elaha Sahel (Herat University, Afghanistan)
- Excellence Prize Winners: 2
- Special Selection Prize Winners: 6
- Selection Prize Winners: 12

Publishment of the Booklet of Awarded Photos: September 18, 2019

Exhibition: September 16 ~ 21, 2019 at the Library (4th Floor) of Al Farabi Kazakh National University, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Award Ceremony: September 18, 2019 at the site of the welcoming reception dinner for the participants of the 5th General Assembly of SUN to be held at Al Farabi Kazakh National University, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Organizer's remark of appreciation



Marzieh Maddahi
President
United Students of
Silk-Road Universities
Network (USSUN)

“ They make your heart beat, and echo inside you by touching something deep and real.”

We are very visual creatures. Vision is the most active of the senses. So it's instinctive we are drawn to imagery. The art of photography is your own lens into the world of creating images. Pictures play an important role in everyone's life – they can be vital memory cues that connect us to our past, and remind us of people, places, feelings, and stories. They can help us to know who we are.

Fully aware of the important role that photographs can play, every year, Silk-Road Universities Network (SUN) Secretariat & United Students of the Silk-Road Universities Network (USSUN) organize the Photo Contest of SUN (PHOCOS). It has been officially announced that the main aim of PHOCOS is to share “the Beauty of Diversity” existing along the Silk Road, through the medium of photography. The winner's works are made into a collection and shared by all over the world.

This year, I have the honor to welcome you to the PHOCOS 2019 photo collection. The theme of the competition has been “Trade and Markets along the Silk Roads”. As you are well aware, the Silk Road is famous for being an ancient network of trade routes. The collection contains something of trade-related activities, facilities and commodities and of scenes in and around traditional markets along the Silk Road.

I would like to thank all the participants, and congratulate all the awardees warmly on the beauty they have created. I would also like to invite you to browse the collection. The photographs taken demonstrate the students' artistry with a camera. They have risen to the level of mastery. They each tell you a story. They make your heart beat, and echo inside you by touching something deep and real. They give you a vision that change the way you see yourself and the world forever!

I hope you enjoyed the collection as much as I did!

4 August 2019

Reviewer's Comment



Sang-yun Lee

Professor
Department of Advertising
in Photography and Image
Pai Chai University, Korea

Overall quality enhancement in this year's works of PHOCOS 2019

The 4th PHOCOS 2019 International Photo Contest was held under the theme of "Trade and Market of Silk Road". This competition was organized by the Silk Road University Federation for the purpose of rediscovering the society and culture of each country through photography that highlighted the beautiful environment and cultural exchange of the Silk Road. 60 students from 18 universities in 12 countries submitted more than 217 works, and the number of works more than doubled compared to last year.

This year is 180 years since photography was invented. The original inventor of the photograph was officially known as Louis Jacques Mande Daguerre(1787-1185). His 'Daguerreotype' was published worldwide by the Royal French Association (Science Academy) on August 19, 1839, as a standard process for photography. For nearly 200 years, photography has been executed with various types of equipment that captured sight. Today, digital devices play a major role, and after the digital revolution, photography culture has entered a whole new era. As the recipient of photography became the creator, photography made a quantum leap beyond its predecessor in quality and quantity. The works submitted to the competition each year illustrate this fact. The works that capture the scene with creative and original ideas that go beyond the "traditional" of photography confirm the fact that photography is now everyone's.

Digital photography along with smartphone have become universal expressions of people of our time. It has become an important medium for expanding the human eye and for communicating and empathizing quickly. Photographs taken with smartphones in this contest are a meaningful attempt to connect modern times with the Silk Road University Federation.

Three experts were in charge of judging, and here is a brief review. The evaluation method decided by the event organizer is as followed.

- *Is it consistent with the topic?*
- *Did you express the beauty of each country's cultural heritage?*
- *Are the composition of the theme and background generally natural?*
- *Are the shooting techniques and interpretations fresh and creative?*
- *Coordination between universities and countries for diverse exhibitions of entries*

According to this evaluation method, the winning works were selected as follows.

Grand Prize

Bitter stories

Elaha Sahel _ Afghanistan

The reason for the existence of the market begins with two. : 'Labor and survival'. Those words are even intense, especially during war, and the life of an Afghan mother who is responsible for her family's livelihood !!

The expression "survival stitching" that anyone can sympathize with the shooting skill is back-side light, highlighting the concentration of work with strong contrast and expressing the realism through it. The judges unanimously selected the work due to the overwhelming score difference.

Excellence Prize

Trade of Silk Road

Amir Hosein Golpour _ Iran

The difference in the exposure of sunlight shining through the eaves in the market alley was well utilized, and the screen composition in the 6x17 panorama size represented the arrangement of objects and people well.

Excellence Prize

Diverse Nepal

Dipak Timalsina _ Nepal

The portrait of the mother who was captured in the moment with a smartphone is a good representation of the mother's life in Nepal, and the screen is corrected through photo retouching. The artist's attempt to see life and the ecological environment from a different perspective is well represented.

As mentioned above, the evaluation was mainly focused on choosing winners. As the judges, we tried to evaluate fairly according to the judging criteria set by the event organizer. However, the selection is based on the judge's preferences and is not absolute. Even if you don't win, you would still have created a beautiful piece of art. However, it needs to be said that the selection of overlapping photographs was selected according to the selection criteria, and works that used novelty and camera equipment were selected first. Congratulations again to the winners.

WINNERS OF THE PHOCOS 2019



Grand Prize
The Woman and A Bitter World (Herat City, Afghanistan)
Elaha Sahel
Herat University
Afghanistan

Why I took a picture of 'The Woman and A Bitter World' ?

Elaha Sahel

Grand Prize Winner,
Herat University
Afghanistan

When you lift up your head in a country where its history belongs to Setara* who had her nose and lips cut off due to family violence, Rakhshana* who was murdered just because of women's obligation to innocence or Farkhonda* who was shed in blood in streets just due to fanaticisms; You find out that this land is called Afghanistan where is always the bitter cradle life-history of womanhood.

You can decide to be the narrator of your own era even if it is difficult, just grab your narrative tool and go ahead into populated alley and by-lanes of your territory with the wish of illustrating attempt, hardship, fight and resistance.

My picture has a wavy appearance of attempt, resistance and hope joint with anxiety. The day I had selected pictures for this festival, I did my best to narrate resistance, dynamic and defiance my women land. When it was announced that I received the first place award, I kept saying to myself; women of Afghanistan can, can and can be the best. I want to pave the ground and use the chance to highly appreciate the jury for this selection and show my gratitude to the organizers of this contest.

I hope to, the day Afghan-women's name get entangled with victory, achievement and success.

Setara*

A youth woman whose nose and lip was cut off by her husband with knife on Dec/13/2013 night.

Rakhshana*

A young woman who was stoned to death after accusing of adultery when she married her beloved one on Oct/25/2015 in Ghor Province. One week later, a video of her begging for her life and then being stoned to death was released.

FarKhonda Malekzada*

An Afghan woman aged 27, accused of burning the Holly Quran in Kabul, tens of wrathful men attacked and killed her and burnt her dead body in Kabul's river on Mar/19/2015



Excellence Award

Trade of Silkroad (Rasht Local Market, Iran)

Amir Hosein Golpour Navidenhinejad

University of Guilan

Iran



Excellence Award
Diverse Nepal (Nepal)
Dipak Timalsina
Kathmandu University
Nepal





Special Selection

Handcrafts and Food (Kabul old city, Afghanistan)

Ishaq Ali Anis
Kabul University
Afghanistan





Special Selection

Holy Lights (Jemaa El-Fna Square, Marrakesh, Morocco)

Chen Qiyuan

Beijing Foreign studies University

China



Special Selection

Tehran Grand Bazaar (Sa'd al – Saltaneh, Qazvin, Iran)

Bagher Nassir

Allameh Tabatabai University

Iran





Special Selection

Comparing Traditional Market over Time (Carpet Market, Iran)

Monir Shalbafan

Imam Khomeini international university

Iran





Special Selection

Mobile Street Vendor (Hanoi old quarter, Vietnam)

Calyn Tan Jen Ai
University of Malaya
Malaysia





Special Selection

Dolor of Dealer (Armanitola, Old Dhaka, Bangladesh)

MD Mohiul Islam
University of Malaya
Bangladesh





Selection

Love to Serve (Chawk Bazar, Dhaka, Bangladesh)

Mohammad Asif Hossain

University of Malaya

Bangladesh





Selection

The Legacy of Sharing Traditions (Namdemun Market, Seoul, Republic of Korea)

Fernando Checa

Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

Ecuador





Selection

Giykom (Grand Bazaar, Istanbul, Turkey)

Marina Satanaki

Ionian University

Greece





Selection

**Solitude from others
(The north of Iran)**

Fatemeh Movahhed
University of Guilan
Iran



Selection

Street Florists (Moscow, Russia)

Masoud Kazerooni

Allameh Tabatabai University

Iran





Selection

Carpet Sale (Tabriz Bazaar, Iran)

Saman Khodayari

Allameh Tabatabai University

Iran





Selection

Rasht Market (Fruit Market of Imam Khomeini Street, Municipality Square, Rasht , Iran)

Zeinab Noori

University of Guilan

Iran





Selection

From Silk to Plastic (Neighborhood store in Barcelona, Spain)

Blanca Tagliatela

University of Naples "L'Orientale"

Italy





Selection

Rice Seller in Bukhara (Bukhara, Uzbekistan)

Ramazan Shamilov

Kazakh Ablai Khan University of International Relations and World Languages

Kazakhstan





Selection

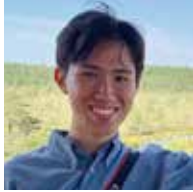
Got meat? (Taipei traditional market, Taiwan)

Donggyun Han

Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

Republic of Korea





Selection

Butchers (Zelyoniy Bazaar, Almaty, Kazakhstan)

Yumin Song

Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

Republic of Korea





Selection

National Customs (The Sherdor mausoleum, Samarkand city)

Makhmudova Khulkar

Uzbek State World Languages University

Uzbekistan



Purpose & Background of SUN

SUN aims to realize our vision of 'serving the world' by undertaking diverse projects that restore the historical value of the ancient Silk Roads which, as the birthplace of four major civilizations, has been a source of immense pride for centuries. The most valuable lesson from the history of the Silk Roads is that the key to peaceful coexistence and collective prosperity is to treat individual differences as a cause for celebration rather than segregation, best captured in *Silkroadia*-the spirit of ancient Silk Road. In line with this thinking, we believe that the coming together of universities can help realize this vision through fostering an exchange of ideas culminating into decisive action between intellectuals transcending national, religious and cultural boundaries. In addition, universities through educating and training the youth can create future leaders better equipped to promote peace and harmony in line with *Silkroadia*.

***Silkroadia* (the spirit of ancient Silk Roads)**

- Recognizing and acknowledging individual differences as reason for celebration rather than segregation.
- Diversity is beauty; a source of strength and vitality for human flourishing.
- Pursuing peace and prosperity through mutual understanding, dialogue and collective action.

Participating Universities & Institutions

Nation (27)	City (61)	University & Institution (79)
Afghanistan	Kabul	Kabul University
Cambodia	Phnom Penh	International University Royal University of Phnom Penh University of Cambodia
Greece	Thessaloniki Athens	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
India	Delhi	University of Delhi
Indonesia	Jawa Barat	Universitas Indonesia
Iran	Teheran Isfahan Qazvin Rasht	Allameh Tabataba'i University (BM) University of Isfahan Imam Khomeini International University (BM) University of Guilan
Italy	Naples Venezia	Naples University "L'Orientale" Ca' Foscari University of Venice (BM)
Japan	Tokyo	Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (BM)
Jordan	Amman	University of Jordan
Kazakhstan	Almaty	Al-Farabi kazakh National University (BM) Eurasian Technological University Kazakh Ablai Khan University of International Relations and World Languages Kazakh National Agrarian University KIMEP Kazakhstan Institute of Management Economics and Strategic Research under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan	Bishkek	International Medical University
Malaysia	Melaka Kuala Lumpur	Melaka Museums Corporation University of Malaya (BM)
Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar	Mongolian State University of Culture and Arts National University of Mongolia (BM)
Myanmar	Yangon Mandalay	University of Yangon University of Mandalay
Oman	Muscat	Sultan Qaboos University
People's Republic of China	Beijing Hong Kong Lanzhou Shanghai Xi'an	Beijing Foreign Studies University (BM) Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Lanzhou University Shanghai International Studies University Xi'an Jiatong University
Poland	Kraków Warsaw	Jagiellonian University University of Warsaw
Portugal	Lisbon Coimbra	Nova University of Lisbon University of Coimbra (BM)
Republic of Korea	Andong Changwon Daegu Gyeongju Gyeongsan Jeonju Mokpo Pohang	Provincial Government of Gyeongsangbuk-do ** Changwon National University Keimyung University Dongguk University at Gyeongju (BM) Daegu Haany University Daegu University Yeungnam University Chonbuk National University Mokpo National Maritime University Handong Global University

Nation (27)	City (61)	University & Institution (79)
		Pohang University of Science and Technology KDI School
	Sejong Seongnam Seoul	Gachon University Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (BM) * Korea National University of Arts Konkuk University Dongyang University
Romania	Sibiu Brasov Bucharest	Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu Transilvania University of Brasov University of Bucharest (BM)
Russia	Ekaterinburg Moscow Irkutsk Omsk	Ural Federal University Moscow State Institute of International Relations Moscow State Linguistic University (BM) Irkutsk National Research Technical University Omsk State Institute of Service
Spain	Valencia	University of Valencia (BM)
Sri Lanka	Kelaniya	University of Kelaniya
Turkey	Ankara Erzincan Kayseri	Ankara University (BM) Erzincan University Erciyes University
UAE	Dubai	British University in Dubai Canadian University Dubai
Uzbekistan	Tashkent Samarkand Urgench	Uzbek State University of World Languages (BM) University of World Economy and Diplomacy Samarkand Agricultural Institute Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages Silk Road International University of Tourism (SIUT) Urgench State University
Vietnam	Ho Chi Minh	University of Social Sciences and Humanities – Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City

* Chair University
** Honorary Chair Institution
(BM) Member of the Board of Directors

Prize Winners of PHOCOS 2019 at a Glance

Grand Prize



12
The Woman and A Bitter World
 (Herat City, Afghanistan)
 Elaha Sahel
 Herat University
 Afghanistan

Excellence Award



16
Trade of Silkroad
 (Rasht Local Market, Iran)
 Amir Hosein Golpour Navidehinejad
 University of Guilan
 Iran



18
Diverse Nepal (Nepal)
 Dipak Timalsina
 Kathmandu University
 Nepal

Special Selection



20
Handcrafts and Food (Kabul old city, Afghanistan)
 Ishaq Ali Anis
 Kabul University
 Afghanistan



22
Holy Lights (Jemaa El-Fna Square, Marrakesh, Morocco)
 Chen Qiyuan
 Beijing Foreign studies University
 China



24
Tehran Grand Bazaar
 (Sa'd al – Saltaneh, Qazvin, Iran)
 Bagher Nassir
 Allameh Tabatabai University
 Iran

Special Selection



26
Comparing Traditional Market over Time
 (Carpet Market, Iran)
 Monir Shalbafan
 Imam Khomeini international university
 Iran



28
Mobile Street Vendor
 (Hanoi old quarter, Vietnam)
 Calyn Tan Jen Ai
 University of Malaya
 Malaysia



30
Dolor of Dealer
 (Armanitola, Old Dhaka, Bangladesh)
 MD Mohiul Islam
 University of Malaya
 Bangladesh

Selection



32
Love to Serve
 (Chawk Bazar, Dhaka, Bangladesh)
 Mohammad Asif Hossain
 University of Malaya
 Bangladesh



34
The Legacy of Sharing Traditions
 (Namdemun Market, Seoul, Republic of Korea)
 Fernando Checa
 Hankuk University of Foreign Studies
 Ecuador



36
Giykom
 (Grand Bazaar, Istanbul, Turkey)
 Marina Satanaki
 Ionian University
 Greece

Selection



38
At the gate of North
 (The north of Iran)
 Fatemeh Movahhed
 University of Guilan
 Iran



40
Street Florists
 (Moscow, Russia)
 Masoud Kazerooni
 Allameh Tabatabai University
 Iran



42
Carpet Sale
 (Tabriz Bazaar)
 Saman Khodayari
 Allameh Tabatabai University
 Iran



44
Rasht Market
 (Fruit Market of Imam Khomeini Street, Municipality Square, Rasht, Iran)
 Zeinab Noori
 University of Guilan
 Iran



46
From Silk to Plastic
 (Neighborhood store in Barcelona, Spain)
 Blanca Tagliatela
 University of Naples "L'Orientale"
 Italy



48
Rice Seller in Bukhara (Bukhara, Uzbekistan)
 Ramazan Shamilov
 Kazakh Ablai Khan University of International Relations and World Languages
 Kazakhstan



50
Got meat?
 (Taipei traditional market, Taiwan)
 Donggyun Han
 Hankuk University of Foreign Studies
 Republic of Korea



52
Butchers
 (Zelyoniy Bazaar, Almaty, Kazakhstan)
 Yumin Song
 Hankuk University of Foreign Studies
 Republic of Korea



54
National Customs
 (The Sherdor mausoleum, Samarkand city)
 Makhmudova Khulkar
 Uzbek State World Languages University
 Uzbekistan

The 5th Photo Contest of SUN *Silk-Road Universities Network*

PHOCOS 2020

Theme of the Contest COLORS OF SILKROADS

Submission due: May 31, 2020

Contact: sunofficialphocos@gmail.com

www.sun-silkroadia.org

Eligibility

Students from member universities of Silk-Road Universities Network (SUN)

*Students of non-member universities are eligible for application, but no additional award other than certificate will be given.

How to apply

Fill out the entry form available on the website of SUN (www.sun-silkroadia.org) and email it along with your photo up to 5 photos to sunofficialphocos@gmail.com.

Prize & Privilege

- Grand prize (1 Awardee): Round-trip ticket to Venue of the 6th General Assembly with accommodation in addition to certificate of merit
- Excellence award (2 Awardees): Accommodation in addition to certificate of merit
- Special Selection(5 Awardees): Certificate of merit
- Selection (10 Awardees): Certificate of merit

The exhibition schedule during the 6th General Assembly will be announced later.

* The prize may be adjusted accordingly in case of insufficiency of fund.

2019 Grand Prize

The Woman and A Bitter World

Elaha Sahel

Herat University

Afghanistan

Hosted by



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UNIVERSITIES
NETWORK**

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<http://www.sun-silkroadia.org>