

National Symbols

Maung Day

Day after day, people walk in the shadows of statues and monuments that carry in them a violent past and are laden with nationalist political narratives. These narratives creep into people's psyches and influence the way they think and behave in their everyday life. However, the essence of these political narratives and imagery do not reflect local realities which are always changing with time. Over a period of time, this propagandization process instills a passive mindset in people towards their own political past. Maung Day's video *Monument of Doubt*, shot in Ho Chi Minh City during his stay in the Vietnamese city on a residency programme, questions political symbolisms and nationalist nostalgia that nurture passivity and closedness within a society.



