



International Student Spotlight

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From the Heart of Thailand to BUSA Executive Vice President 2026–27



There are stories that rise quietly, like the first light over the mountains of Chiang Mai, soft, steady, and full of promise. And then there are stories like **Aden Chris Sundaresan's**, whose journey from **Saraburi, Thailand**, to the heart of Burman University shines with purpose, courage, and calling. Today, we celebrate not only his journey, but his historic achievement as the **incoming BUSA Executive Vice President for 2026–27**—a remarkable accomplishment for a freshman whose leadership has already captured the admiration of the student body.

Rooted in Thailand, Shaped by Heritage

Born in the warm, sun-washed province of **Saraburi**, Aden grew up surrounded by the gentle rhythms of Thai life, temple bells in the distance, bustling markets, and the lush green landscapes that stretch toward the horizon. His home was a place where culture, learning, and faith intertwined.

His parents, both university professors of Indian heritage, shaped his love for knowledge and service.

- His father teaches **Accounting**
- His mother teaches **English**

Education was not just a value in their home, it was a lifestyle. And with siblings who studied at Burman and now live in Red Deer, Aden's path was already gently pointing toward Canada.

A Leap Toward Something New

After graduating high school, Aden felt a stirring familiar to many young dreamers: **the desire to step beyond the familiar and discover something new.** He had lived in the same place for 18 years. He wanted a horizon that stretched wider. Burman University became that horizon. It wasn't entirely foreign, his siblings had walked these halls, and Dr. Loren Agrey, Burman's University President, had lived and served in Thailand, making Burman feel less like a leap into the unknown and more like a bridge between two worlds. And of course, the mountains, those majestic Alberta peaks pulled at his heart like a promise.

A Scholar with Purpose

Aden is now completing his first year as a **Religious Studies major, Pre-Professional track,** preparing for a life of ministry. His summers back home were spent serving in his high school's student association and working various jobs, experiences that shaped his leadership, humility, and work ethic.

On campus, he works at the **Burman Ministry Centre (BMC)** and with **Custodial Services,** serving the community with quiet dedication.

A Campus Presence That Cannot Be Missed

Aden's involvement on campus is as vibrant as the floating lantern festivals of Thailand:

- **Burman Futsal Team**
- **Burman University Singers**
- **BUSA Social Team**
- Bass guitarist for worship services
- Active participant in campus ministries

His presence is steady, uplifting, and deeply relational—qualities that resonate with students across cultures and backgrounds.

A Historic Win: BUSA Executive Vice President 2026–27

When the dust settled on the **March 3, 2026 BUSA Elections,** one name rose to the top:

Aden Chris Sundaesan — Executive Vice President.

For a freshman, this is extraordinary.

For Aden, it is the fruit of authenticity, service, and genuine connection. His impact, influence, and involvement spoke loudly, and the student body responded with their votes.

The International Office is profoundly proud of him and stands ready to support him as he steps into this significant leadership role.

This moment echoes the timeless words of Ellen G. White:

“The greatest want of the world is the want of men—men who will not be bought or sold; men who in their inmost souls are true and honest; men who do not fear to call sin by its right name; men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole; men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall.”
— *Education*

Aden is becoming such a man.

A Calling That Runs Deep

Aden plans to pursue **pastoral ministry**, living to reflect Christ in how he speaks, acts, and thinks. His goal is simple yet profound:

To help others build a personal relationship with Jesus.

He sees himself contributing to campus and society by connecting with people, serving them, and building community, because fellowship and service are the heartbeat of God’s love.

Aden is a lover of nature, especially **beaches and mountains**, which makes sense for someone raised in a land where golden coastlines meet emerald forests. He loves music, and he is a passionate car enthusiast. His interests reflect a spirit that is curious, grounded, and full of life.

Aden’s Journey Continues

From the vibrant streets of Saraburi to the snowy paths of Burman University, Aden carries with him the warmth of Thailand, the strength of his heritage, and the calling of God on his life.

His story reminds us that leadership is not about age or status, it is about character, service, and authenticity. And as he steps into his new role as **BUSA Executive Vice President**, we celebrate not just what he has achieved, but who he is becoming.

Congratulations, Aden. Your Burman family is proud of you.