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Women in Struggle, Paving the Way for the Future



©Lensa Srikandi / Tokyo Video Center

Rising from Shadows

Malaysia Lensa Srikandi / Tokyo Video Center

Indonesia, home to the world's largest Muslim population, is where we find Masriyah Amva, the first female principal of an Islamic boarding school. She fights against male skepticism over female leadership in their conservative society, by using an unconventional weapon: her interpretation of the Koran.



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Serving Up Success

India Theme Entertainment / IMPLEO

Having been forced to consume inferior and unpalatable grain for centuries, some downtrodden and marginalized women in Central India have, over generations, developed a unique bread recipe called Randani Roti. While handmade Roti became a successful local business led by women, wealthy men are now trying to take it away by introducing mechanical manufacturing. How long can these women keep up the fight?



Sunday Cinderella

Philippines Voyage Studio / Documentary Japan

Hong Kong is home to 190,000 Filipino maids. On Sundays, the maids congregate in a square and reminisce about their families back home. A beauty contest for maids is held each June where they dress in their finest in the hopes of winning the crown. But what really lies in the hearts of these Filipino maids?

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Young Mother on Vai Tai Peak

Vietnam Red Bridge / Temjin

The hill tribes in northern Vietnam still retain the tradition of child marriage where girls aged 14 or 15 years old are married off to start families. 16-year-old La once dreamed of being a professional singer before she was married at 14. Now she must raise her 10-monthold daughter and help her husband's family to farm. While taking the baby to visit her husband in high school, La wonders what life would have been like if she hadn't been married so young.