

Introduction

This booklet is compilation of the principal speeches and addresses delivered by me on various occasions since the expulsion of Japanese invaders from Burma, explaining the condition, problems and aspirations of contemporary Burma. It does not pretend to be an exhaustive or capable treatment of her problems and processes. Nevertheless, I hope it will serve to indicate general trends of events and questions of the day in Burma.

Burma, as all the world knows, was fought over twice during World War II and now almost forgotten by the outside world though it had been a principal theatre of war a year ago and was one of the two countries besides China, the other being the Philippines, which notably organised Resistance Movements against militarist Japan. Moreover, it's inevitable importance in the strategy of the Far and South East Asia, apart from its no mean economic potentialities, though the country is small and the population not considerable (17 millions only), merits or rather demands much more interest and active attention from the outside world, especially from those vitally interested in the maintenance of creative peace in the East and the world. It is necessary for them to know what Burma is, has

been and will be, what it can offer to and receive from the outside world and so on. I have thus chosen for this booklet, the title "**Burma's Challenge**", for it does, without doubt, challenge the world's attention, understanding, sympathy and positive support for Burma's Case, the case for the independence of Burma.

Aung San

Rangoon, the 15th July 1946.