

# Contents

## i. Writer's Note

### 1. Religious Edifices/ Buildings

1. The International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University (ITBMU)
2. The Sule Pagoda
3. Holy Trinity Church
4. St. Mary Cathedral
5. The Chauk Htet Kyee Pagoda
6. The Ka Ba Aye Pagoda
7. The Tooth Relic Pagoda

### 2. Literature

1. C. J Richards
2. Reading A George Orwell Novel In A Myanmar Teashop
3. A New Beautiful Sky
4. Reflecting On Paul Theroux's Trip
5. Visitors! A List Of Books For You
6. Meeting James Joyce At Pansodan Scene
7. Mandalay By Rudyard Kipling
8. Pablo Neruda In Rangoon/Yangon

### 3. Downtown (Heart Of The City)

1. The City Hall
2. Downtown Yangon
3. Enjoying At Parisian Cake And Coffee Shop
4. Yangon: Now And Then
5. Urban Twilight

6. The Attraction Of Anawratha Road	91
7. The Value Of A City	95
8. Spending An Enjoyable Time At Ruby Mart	99
9. A Glimpse On Aung San Stadium	104
<b>4. Parks</b>	<b>109</b>
1. Mahabandoola Park	110
2. People's Square And People's Park	114
3. Kandawgyi Lake	118
<b>5. Trips</b>	<b>123</b>
1. Hpa-an City	124
2. Dawei	127
3. A Day's Trip	131
<b>6. Museums</b>	<b>137</b>
1. Bogyoke Aung San Museum	138
2. National Museum	143
3. The U Thant House	148
<b>7. Exhibitions/Event</b>	<b>153</b>
1. Golden Land Photo Exhibition	154
2. Finding The Past	160
3. Art For Mental Satisfaction	164
4. Moat Thone 9th Solo Show	168
5. The Yangon Gallery Presents "Story Telling Reality"	172
6. Three Standup Comedians In Yangon	176
<b>8. Galleries</b>	<b>181</b>
1. Silver Art Gallery	182
2. Lokanat Art Gallery	187

## 9. Personalities

1. Sayar Min Thu Wun
2. A Tribute To Htoo Eain Thin

## 10. Festivals

1. Thingyan Festival
2. Kasone

## 11. Book Shops/Music Store

1. Bagan Book House
2. "New Vision" Book Shop
3. Pyi Taw Oo

## 12. Memories

1. Memories Of Chinatown
2. Finding The Sacred Lake

193

194

199

203

204

209

213

214

218

224

229

230

236

## Writer's Note

In 2013, I had a chance to write a weekly article to "Home and Services Journal" and it lasted for almost a year to have all these articles. In fact, I felt really happy to share my own opinions and ideas in this journal because I had to explore places, events, people in this busy and crowded city.

I saw the interesting happenings in Yangon so that my life was full of surprises and excitement. The whole year gave me stamina, resilience and persistence which I needed for my writing career, because I had experienced how hard to find a new article for every week. One of my friend's admiration was that one day I would run out of ideas, and I would be at a loss what to write more because we all know all things have limits.

But my insatiable enthusiasm kept me from not to enter such a debacle for me because the more I wrote the more I became adhered to it. Later I found out the exciting city would not be deprived of excitement every willing person was looking for.

Nowsaday Yangon has become a vibrant city which is never lack of events or exhibitions in one place or other. But, we have never heard of them before. Several bistros, bars and grill, cafes and restaurants have been spawned up around the city. That has shown that the city life is still going on.

The city invites entrepreneurs, artists, writers, businessmen, restaurateurs, expats all the time. In this way, it has become a cosmopolitan city, diverse in everything.

Even once I met three stand-up comedians from England in Yangon. It was a rare chance to see them here.

(ii)  
England in Yangon. It was a rare chance to see them here. Previously we have never heard of their brilliant performance here in Yangon.

Similarly, I have already known that several foreign authors like Rudyard Kipling, Somerset Maugham, Paul Thearaux, etc visited Rangoon/Yangon in their times. They expressed what they thought of the city which I am usually proud of.

I am willing to share my experiences and feelings to other people how this city gives us the chance to enjoy life and to add meanings to our existence. In this sense, I have compiled all the articles into this book.

There are people whom I would like to express my thanks to, among them are the editor U Min Htet Maung, and the editor-in-charge U Moe Oo who have given me the opportunity to write these articles in the journal, Mr Bob Percival who encourages me to write more and Mr Lucas Stewart who enjoys literature together throughout these three years.

Without that chance, the book cannot be in readers' hands.

As a Yagon-based freelance writer, I have tired to keep track of events, exhibitions, etc. I hope this will help people, local and foreign, to understand more about the city they live in or they have just passed by.

I am not saying that this is the complete book about Yangon. I sincerely say that it is just a page to start to read with or a door just to open to see more if someone wants to know more about it.