

## Introduction

Our national leader General Aung San, as a keen writer has left behind many of his writings. During the fifty years since his death, his speeches have been compiled and published in book form. As it is my belief that his writings which have remained in obscurity contain constructive messages for the people and also that it is the duty of researchers to make known their findings to the public, I have compiled his writings some of which are not easy to find.

This book was first published in 2000 as a commemorative issue of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Myanmar Independence Day. As the book attracted a considerable number of reading public, both national and international, second printing was published as a commemoration of 62<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Myanmar Independence Day in 2010. I should like to thank the authorities of the National Library, the Universities Central Library, the Defense Services Museum and Archives, Universities Historical Research Centre as well as the private publishers for giving me access to their documentation. Many thanks also due to Daw Ni Ni Myint, former Director General of Universities Historical Research Centre for her encouragement to publish this book. My thank also go to Yan Aung Publishing House, for this publication.

This book contains eighteen articles. Out of them "Burma (Myanmar) and Buddhism", "Freedom of Dress in Schools" and "Life-sketch of the Author" are originally written by General Aung San in English. The rest are in Myanmar Language. Those Myanmar language articles are translated into English by U Thet Tun. So the author wishes to record his gratitude to Retired Ambassador U Thet Tun, a member of Myanmar Historical Commission as well as a Director of Tun Foundation Bank Limited, for his English translation.

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## Foreword

General Aung San made many speeches advocating nationalism, independence, ethnic unity and national development. His speeches have been compiled and published. However, his writings, though their existence was known, have never been compiled or published. I believe that such a compilation would make his style of writing and way of thinking known to the reading public much to their enlightenment. I am therefore gratified that researcher U Mya Han has succeeded in publishing the painstakingly located writings of General Aung San.

Reading them, I hope, will inspire love of independence, patriotism, ethnic unity, development of a modern and peaceful state, the very ideals that General Aung San has cherished.

**Daw Ni Ni Myint**

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