FOREWORD

Serious students of Burmese language and literature have often found themselves handicapped and hampered for lack of an up-to-date and comprehensive dictionary of the Burmese language. The need for such an indispensable work of reference has long been felt, but little has been done to meet it. The serialized Burmese-Burmese Dictionary compiled some years ago by the Translation and Publications Department of the Rangoon University, through a commendable effort as far as it has gone, has not progressed beyond the letter *ta* (*hsa-lein*) and is out of print in any case. The more ambitious work planned by the Burmese Language Commission has been under preparation for some time and it was recently announced that the first two volumes of an abridged five-volume edition of it is expected to come out by the end of this year. In the meantime, we have had to make do with what we actually have, namely, the century-old Judson's Burmese-English Dictionary.

It is heartening to know, therefore, that U Hoke Sein, B.A.(Hons.), B.L., the octogenarian compiler of the remarkable **ngay-ya-ti-ka-ya-ma-ne-ti** has now, after twenty years' patient and devoted labour, produced a complementary volume in the form of a popular Burmese-English-Pali Dictionary. It was a happy idea to combine two dictionaries (Burmese-English and Burmese-Pali) in a single volume—a device that cannot but enhance the value and utility of the work.

The very up-to-date and comprehensive character of this Dictionary may be judged from the scope, scope and modernity of the vocabulary it contains and the extensive source materials it has resorted to. All the major arts and sciences (indigenous as well as foreign) are well represented in the numerous definitions it offers of scientific and technical terms. While on the one hand the learned lexicographer has given special attention to **ewlyan** (Pali-derivative) words, thus assisting the reader in his study of classical Burmese literature, he has not neglected on the other hand to include words of recent origin and coinage in current use, that deal with latter-day developments in the country's political, economic, social and cultural fields.

Compiled in the manner it has been, with such a wealth and variety of words and their definitions, this Dictionary will doubtless prove to be an invaluable aid both to the scholar in his specialized department of study and research and to the general reader seeking information and enlightenment pertaining to the Burmese words he comes across.

U Hoke Sein richly deserves to be congratulated and honoured for having selflessly dedicated the evening of his long and useful life to the production of such a notable and sorely-needed work of reference, thereby placing the world of Burmese letters and learning under a lasting debt of gratitude to him.

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Rangoon.
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ကျမ်းဦးစကား

ဤ မြန်မာ-အင်္ဂလိပ်-ပါဠိထပ်တူအဘိဓာန် ရေးသားပြုစု လုပ်ကိုင်ကြသည် ကျွန်တော်နှင့် ယှဉ်လို သောသားတပည့် ကျည်ချိုတော်သည်၊ ဤအဘိဓာန်တွင် နေ့တွေ့ ခေတ် ဆေးတွေ့ စီကဲ့ခြားရေး ရှုပ်ထေး၊ စပ်ကွေး၊ အဆောက်အအုံတိုင်ကြီး အိုကွဲပြန်ပေါ်ပါ။ ယောဟေ ဝေယ်ယံ၊ လှမ္ဘေနှင့် ကြီး၊ ဂျီးရေး၊ လမ်းမီးခွက်ထက်ပေါ်ရောနေနှင့်ကြားခံ ခေတ်ကာလတေ၊ စိတ်ပါသောနှင့် ဂဟေ ကေ၊ ဝေတပ်ခြင်း စရိုးသားမြင်၏။ ဘဘောဘောနှင့် အနေဝေး အဝေးကြီးမှာ ဒီပိတ်ရယ်ပါ။ အနေဟုခေါ် ဝိတ်ရှိသပ်ပါစေရေ၊ ဥပဓေ၊ ဒီပိုင်ရေးနှင့် အပါးခုံရေး ဘေး ဘာဘေရတ်ထပ်ပေါင်းပြီးကျန်ခဲ့ ထက် သွယ်ကောင်ပေါ်ဟေရှာ၊ ဝေါရှာတရား သံယိုကြိုက် ရေမေးကုရုရှာနေနှင်ထက ဝတမ္ဘက်ခေတ် ဧရေတ်ကုမ်ဏီတော ကောင်းသောအစီအစဉ်ကို ရေးဆဲ-ရေးပြီးကောင်းပြီး ထို့ပြင် သရ ထည့်ခြင်နှင့် ယှဉ်ကွဲသော အကျုတမ္ဘာကိုလည်း အစိတ်ခွဲပေးလိုက်စေ၊ ကြောင်းပေါ်ပြီး ဤဖြင်သော အကျုတ ရှာကေတ္တိုင်ပင်ဆေး ပြီးပေါ်ပေ။ ဒီစာတည်းသည် ကိုရောဝေ ကျမ်းတော်ကြီး ကျမ်းတော်ခွဲ