

Myanmar Literature Project

မြန်မာစာပေစီမံကိန်း

Hans-Bernd Zöllner (ed.)

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Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

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About the Contributors

Myint Swe (1917 - 1996) was born in Mawlamyine-Kun, a small town in the delta region of lower Myanmar. As a novice he studied Buddhist literature and Pali language in Mawlamyine and Yangon before the Second World War. At the age of 17, as a novice, he began writing articles for Myanmar periodicals like the *Dagon Magazine*, the then most well-known monthly Myanmar Magazine and *Toetetye* (The Progress). In 1938 he wrote a book entitled "Thakin Kodaw Hmaing Athokepatti Ahmatawpon" (A Critical Study of Mr. Maung Hmaing's Life) in Myanmar with the pen-name of Beikkhu Kawthanla, his elder brother and later became U Kyee Khin, the owner of Myanmar-pyi Book Publishing House. During the Second World War he left the religious order and became a lay-person called U Myint Swe. From 1950-52 he was an executive member of Myanmar Writer Association. He wrote numerous essays and some books on Myanmar literature and history. He also edited "Twinthin Mahayazawin (New Myanmar Chronicle) Vol-I written by Twinthin Taikwun Maha Sithu U Tun Nyo (1726-1806). Some of his famous works are "Myanmar Literary Movement of Colonial Period" (1970), "The History of Early Myanmar Printed Books" (1971), "The Disappeared or unknown literature of Thakin Kodaw Hmaing" (1977). On January 30, 1996 he passed away in Yangon.

Tin Hlaing born in 1941, in Thakutpinle village, Monywa district, comes from a rural background. He studied physics at Mandalay University and from 1972 onwards he did graduate work at the London University where he received his Ph.D. degree. Tin Hlaing taught at several universities in Burma for the past 30 years and became later a Director-General in the Ministry of Science and Technology. Since his retirement Tin Hlaing writes books and articles on science, technology, culture, history and education. His translation of Abdul Kalam's book 'Ignited Minds' won the National Literary Award for Translation.

Ye Nyunt was born February 10, 1960 in Yangon. He received his first science degree in 1982 while he worked as a clerk at the New Light of Myanmar Daily. He got a Diploma in Journalism from the "International Institute for Journalism, Berlin, Germany" in 1990. In 2000, he obtained his master's degree specializing in International Relations from the "International University of Japan, Niigate". He is married and has a daughter. He is currently working for the weekly Popular Journal as the chief translator in Yangon.

Nwe Ni Aung received her B.A. from Yangon University in Mathematics. She worked for some years at Myanmar's Statistical Department before it was transferred to Naypyidaw. She is now the Coordination Manager of the Myanmar Literature Project in Myanmar.

Maung Zeyar is a grandson of Thakin Ba Thoung, the founder of the Dobama Asiayone and Deputy Director of Myanmar's National Library.

I. INTRODUCTION (Hans-Bernd Zöllner)

This paper is just a container. It aims at storing various kinds of material related to the Nagani Book Club which may help to gain more insight into the development of the club, its relation to the contemporary intellectual and political environment both in Burma and internationally and into later perceptions of the enterprise. Since this series of working papers is just the first attempt in a Western language to shed light on Nagani, this volume will mainly contain translation of various contributions dealing with various aspects of Nagani. Hopefully, this material – as the whole corpus of The Myanmar Literature Project - will be useful for scholars for their research on different topics of Burma studies in particular and Southeast-Asian studies in general.

As all other papers of this series, it is an invitation to provide more material. There is a lot of more space in this container.

For the time being, the content of this volume is stored in four divisions. The first one is entitled “International Relations”. It will provide material about the various relationships between the Club and the international “world of books”. Division two contains documents and information related to the book club during the time of its existence between late 1937 and the retreat of the British troops from Burma in early 1942. The third division presents writings on Nagani published in retrospect. Maybe, another division will be added containing material on the Burma Translation Society established after independence was gained and other activities in Burma that in a way can be seen as a continuation of Nagani’s work. Finally, there will be the section “miscellanea” speaking for itself.

The following paragraphs give a short introduction to texts presented here and provide some links to other papers of this series.

International Relations

Here, up to now just one piece of information can be introduced, an overview about the publication of the Left Book Club. As pointed out in the introducing volume to this series,¹ this enterprise founded by Victor Gollancz served as a model for Nagani. Moreover, the new undertaking channelled the model’s books from England to Burma as the following notice shows:

Book-Catalogues ready!!!

Kindly send For Catalogues, without any obligation. Send your orders. For Any Books. Books which are out of stock, will be ordered directly from Our Agents in England. Kindly contact us, without any obligation, regarding choice of Books. – We announce with regret

¹ Vol 1, p. 20.

that owing to some misunderstanding between the Left Book Club and ourselves, the books for those members – who have lately joined the Club, will Be delayed for some time. – TUN AYE, Book Sellers, 151, Scott market, RANGOON.¹

The list of the books published in London is taken from the internet. It may be useful to assess the differences between the two undertakings within their specific cultural-political climate and with regard to their target group of readers. On the other hand, the list is important to find out which Left Book Club publications books were adapted or reviewed in Burma and which not. A first look suggests that only few publications were translated or adapted. This observation underlines the autonomous way of selecting ideas from abroad by the young Burmese revolutionaries of the thought. Burmese nationalists resisted “slave education” from the beginning and this refusal to go along with foreign ideas uncritically played a role in the choice of themes and books published by Nagani. What combination of motives may have guided the choice of ideas regarded as worth to be adopted and transferred into the Burmese world then and now is, maybe, one of the big unanswered questions concerning Burma’s and Myanmar’s relationship to the world.

This division may be added by some more detailed information on the links between London and Rangoon regarding the transfer of books and ideas as well as information on activities in other Asian countries on the subject of adaptation of foreign ideas into the political and cultural sphere of nationalist movements. This adaptation happened in all countries of the region. It would be helpful to know how this task was performed elsewhere in order to assess the particularity of Nagani in a more differentiated way.

Documents and Information

Here, a variety of texts are assembled. All of them may help to provide a more particularised insight into how Nagani “functioned” and how it was related to “others” at that time.

1. The Dossier on Tun Shwe

The origin of the document is somewhat obscure. It was given to the editor along with some other material on Nagani by a Burmese collector of material that might be helpful for historians. The paper seems to be part of a larger collection of dossiers collected by the Burmese police officers about Burmese people opposing the British government. The text handed over to the editor is in Burmese and a transcript of another text. Maybe, it was the work of a Burmese police inspector. The names of some officers who might recognise the target of observation are mentioned in the text.

¹ Nagani News No. 2, p.32. The above text renders the English original printed in the News.

The dossier is interesting for many reasons. It shows how closely the movements of the Thakins, the Communists and others supposed “adversaries” and it sheds light on the interrelationship between some key players of Burma’s struggle of independence. Finally, it demonstrates how closely Nagani was involved in this struggle.

2. Thakin Kodaw Hmine’s “Nagani Tika”

The extract from Myint Swe’s book on Thakin Kodaw Hmine (1876-1964) presented here delivers insight into a piece of work of the eminent author which has not yet been known at least in Western accounts. It did also not attract the attention of most Burmese scholars.¹ This is because of two facts. First, as the title of Myint Swe’s book suggests, many writings of Thakin Kodaw Hmine are “dormant” and he intends to revive them. But the book taking up this task in a way suffered the same fate as the writings it wanted to expose. The copy of the text translated for this paper was given to the editor by a user of a “hidden library” in Mandalay which is established by the famous Ludu Press but not accessible to the broad public.

Because of the special conditions prevailing in Myanmar with regard to access to books, the chapter on the “Nagani Tika” released here must be labelled as just the beginning of further investigation. For example, it can be doubted that the title of the chapter is correct. It includes just a short poem of Thakin Kodaw Hmine on Nagani and elaborates at length about the request put forward to the “revered patron” by members of the Thakin organisation to write an exposition on horses and racing. For the time being, the text written by Thakin Kodaw Hmine about Nagani may just be called “The Great Congratulatory *Lay-cho* (Verse) for the Inaugural Issue of Nagani News”. If the term “Tika” can be applied depends on further studies starting with an exploration into the issues of the Nagani Journal which started to publish in August, 1940 as a Saturday weekly after another periodical, the Nagani News (နဂါးနိသတင်း) which accompanied the book production from 1938 on ceased after the resignation of its editor Tun Aye’s from Nagani.² It has to be seen, if the journal published more commentaries of Thakin Kodaw Hmine on Nagani which was the way his former commentaries on current affairs were published.³

¹ See ThanTun (1977), “Political Thought of Tikas by Hmine.” In: Shiroko: 85-98. For Than Tun like most other authors, the first of his Tikas (“commentaries” or “essays” was written in 1914 (“On Europeans”) and the last (“On Thakins”) appeared in 1935.

² It was not possible yet to have a look at copies of the journal. Some of them are displayed at another book keeping institution in Mandalay, the Centre for Ancient Myanmar Manuscripts (RCAMM). The Centre is open for Myanmar citizens but foreigners are not allowed to do research here.

³ Than Tun 1977: 87.

Anyway, the poem shows the close relationship between Nagani and Thakin Kodaw Hmine which was put in the limelight through the first book published by Nagani, Thein Pe' biography of the Great Teacher (*sayagyi*).¹

3. The Nagani Weekly

Vol. 1 of this series gives an overview over nine issues of the “Nagani News” published monthly in 1938.² The editor was Tun Aye. It is not yet clear if there were more issues published than the editor has been able to obtain. Anyway, the publishing of the News ceased when Tun Aye left Nagani in 1939. Some time after that another periodical accompanying the Club's activities came out, the Nagani Weekly. As Nu tells in his autobiography, even a daily newspaper was planned.³ Under Nu's and his remaining co-workers' guidance, Nagani thus attempted to outreach to a wider public. A preliminary view on the topics of the weekly journal – at the moment, an overview on five issues can be given - shows a change in style and content from the News from a concentration on strictly political issues to a broad spectre of themes.

There is a lot more material available because some friends of Nu copied many of these issues and put them on the internet as pdf-files.⁴

Writings on the Nagani Book Club

This section contains the initial information about the Nagani Book Club given by Kyaw Hoe in his thesis written 1975 preceding his bibliography on which this series is based. Two articles by Maung Zeyar follow. Many more articles were published on Nagani in the course of time and until today dissertations on this topic are written. It is anticipated that more writings on the Club will be added later and that a bibliography of Burmese works on Nagani to head this section will be finished in due time.

The first of Maung Zeyar's articles - “The Nagani Bibliography Revisited” - gives an overview on the 71 Nagani publications based on the bibliography of Kyaw Hoe.

Another renowned man of letters besides Thakin Kodaw Hmine associated with Nagani is Thakin Ba Thoung, the founder of the Dobama Asiayone. Maung Zeyar is his grandson. His second article - “Thakin Ba Thoung and Nagani” - provides some insight into the publication of four books which were published anonymously or under the pen name of another author, Mogyo, while Thakin Ba

¹ See vol 2 of this series.

² MLP 1: 71-86.

³ MLP 1: 67.

⁴ <http://peoplewinthrough.com/>, then click “Literary” and then “Nagani Magazine” down on the left side.

Thoung was in prison. According the Maung Zeyar, Thakin Ba Thoung translated the first three parts of Sun Yat Sen's "Three Principals"¹ in three volumes and a book on the Philippine national hero José Rizal.²

Maung Zeyar's comments have to be complemented. Ba Thoung not only published the novel Pantha-Ma-Sa-U in two volumes³ and a book on a German cruiser of World War I⁴ and – as one of the last publications of Tun Aye's Burma Publishing House an adaptation of Norwegian author Ibsen's play "An Enemy of the People".⁵

Thus, Nagani books provide information for a not yet undertaken survey of the many writings of Thakin Ba Thoung, both pre- and postwar and into the role of the prison as a place where Burmese literature was written.

Miscellanea

Here, photographs and other material will be reproduced that was received after the end of 2008.

Hans-Bernd Zöllner

November 2008

¹ Books no. 4 ("Nationalism"), 9 and 11 ("Peoples' Power Part I and II) according to Kyaw Hoe's list.

² Book no. 6 of the list (see Working Paper 7 of this series).

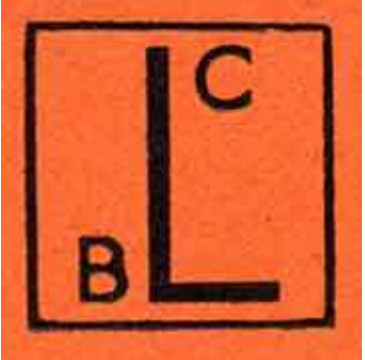
³ Books no. 30 and 31 of the list.

⁴ "Warship Wolf", book no. 63.

⁵ Book no. 99 of the list.

II. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

1. The Left Book Club¹

	<p>By 1936 people in Britain were recovering from the worst of the Depression. The Nazi threat was growing, foreign and popular forces were aligning themselves to face the challenge. Playing its own special role in this was the Left Book Club with rapidly growing membership that, reached some 57,000 by the war years, and with 1,500 organised study groups. Its aim was "to help in the terribly urgent struggle for World Peace and against Fascism by giving to all who are determined to play their part in this struggle such knowledge as will immensely increase their efficiency."</p> <p>The LBC continued through the war years, finally closing in 1948. Here follows a list of the books issued. The titles in red are missing from our collection. Donations will be gratefully received.</p>
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The first book listed for each month is the main choice. Optional books are identified in their series by the following:

(A) Additional books; (S) Supplementary books; (T) Topical books; (E) Educational series; (R) Reprints of classics; (P) Pamphlets

1936	May	Muller, H. J.	Out of the night: a biologist's view of the future
		Thorez, Maurice	France today and the people's front
	June	Olden, Rudolf	Hitler the pawn
	July	Dutt, Rajani Palme	World politics 1918-1936
	August	Malraux, André, 1901-1976	Days of contempt

¹ <http://www.wcml.org.uk/culture/lbcbooks.htm> (February 7, 2008); boldface: Books used for Nagani publications or mentioned in the "Nagani News" (to be updated).

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

		Bernstein, Hillel	Choose a bright morning	
	September	Macartney, Wilfred Francis Remington	Walls have mouths: a record of ten years' penal servitude	
		M'Gonigle, G. C. M. and Kirby, J.	Poverty and public health	A
	October	Salvemini, Gaetano	Under the axe of fascism	
		Noel-Baker, Philip Noel-Baker, Baron, 1889-1982	The private manufacture of armaments	A
	November	Strachey, John, 1901-1963 *	The theory and practice of socialism	
		Cripps, Sir, Stafford, 1889-1952	The struggle for peace	A
	December	Gannes, Harry	Spain in revolt: a history of the civil war in Spain in 1936 and a study of	
		Horrabin, J. F.	An atlas of current affairs	A
1937	January	Spender, Stephen, 1909-	Forward from liberalism	
		Serebrennikov, G. N.	The position of women in the U.S.S.R.	A
			The Nazi conspiracy in Spain / by the editor of The brown book of the Hitler	T
	February	Jellinek, Frank	The Paris Commune of 1871	
		Horrabin, J. F.	An atlas of empire	A
		Plummer, Alfred, 1896-	Raw materials or war materials?	A
		Cambridge Scientists' Anti-War Group	The protection of the public from aerial attack: being a critical examination	T
	March	Orwell, George	The Road to Wigan Pier	
		Osborn, Reuben	Freud and Marx: a dialectical study	A
		Collard, Dudley	Soviet justice and the trial of Radek and others	T
		Cox, Geoffrey, 1910-	Defence of Madrid	T
	April	Huberman, Leo	Man's worldly goods: the story of the wealth of	

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

			nations	
		Cole, G. D. H., and M. I. Cole, George Douglas Howard, 1889-1959	The condition of Britain	A
			The road to war: being an analysis of the National Government's foreign policy	T
	May	Sloan, Pat 1908-1978	Soviet Democracy	
			A textbook of marxist philosophy / prepared by the Leningrad Institute of Philosophy	A
			Christianity and the social revolution / edited by John Lewis, Karl Polanyi	S
		Donington, Robert & Barbara	The citizen faces war / with an introduction	S
		Orwell, George	The Road to Wigan Pier (Part One only)	S
		Hewlett Johnson, and others	Report of a Religious Delegation to Spain	T
	June	Hutt, Allen, 1901-1973	The post-war history of the British working class	
		Erckner, S.	Hitler's conspiracy against peace	A
		King, Beatrice	Changing man: the education system of the U.S.S.R	S
		Newitt, Hilary	Women must choose: the position of women in Europe today	S
		Odets, Clifford, 1906-1963	Waiting for Lefty: a play in six episodes	S
		Malleon, Miles	Six men of Dorset: a play in three acts	S
	July	Cole, G. D. H., George Douglas Howard, 1889-1959	The people's front	
			Towards the Christian revolution / by John Line...[et al.] / edited by R. B.	A
		Griffith, Edward F., Edward Fyfe, 1895-1987	Modern marriage and birth control	S

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

		Feuchtwanger, Lion, 1884-1958	Moscow, 1937: my visit described for my friends	T
		Burns, Emile (ed.)	A Handbook of Marxism	R
		Burns, Emile	Money	E
August		Attlee, C. R., Clement Richard, 1883-1967	The Labour Party in perspective	
		Gollan, John	Youth in British industry: a survey of labour conditions today	A
		National Congress of Peace and Friendship with the U.S.S.R., 2nd, 1937, London	For peace and friendship: proceedings of the Second National Congress of Peace and Friendship	S
		Hammond, J. L., and Barbara, John Lawrence, 1872-1949	The town labourer 1760-1832: the new civilisation	R
		Sacks, George	The Jewish question	E
September		Brady, Robert A.	The spirit and structure of German fascism	
		Harrisson, Tom, 1911-1976	Savage civilisation	A
		Macardle, Dorothy	The Irish Republic	S
		Strachey, John, 1901-1963	The coming struggle for power	R
		Gillespie, James	An introduction to economic botany	E
October		Snow, Edgar, 1905-1972	Red star over China	
		Webb, Sidney and Beatrice	Soviet Communism: A New Civilisation?	R
		Arnot, R. Page	A short history of the Russian Revolution: from 1905 to the present day	E
November		Hannington, Wal	The problem of the distressed areas / with a preface by	
		Sigerist, Henry E.	Socialised medicine in the Soviet Union	A
		Clark, F. Le Gros and Ida	The Adventures of the Little Pig and Other Stories	S

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

		Acland, Richard	Only one battle	T
		Loewenstein, Prince, Hubertus, 1906-1984	A Catholic in republican Spain	T
		Tawney, R. H., Richard Henry, 1880-1962	The acquisitive society	R
		Lewis, John, 1889-	Introduction to philosophy	E
	December	Koestler, Arthur, 1905-1983	Spanish testament	
		Fraser, Geoffrey	Leon Blum: Man and statesman: the only authorised biography	A
		Arnot, R. Page	A short history of the Russian Revolution: from 1905 to the present day	E
	January	Levy, Hyman	A philosophy for a modern man	
1938		Daiches, David, 1912-	Literature and society	A
		Hirschfeld, Magnus	Racism / translated and edited by Eden and Cedar Paul	S
		Huberman, Leo	The labour spy racket	S
		Baker, Joseph	The Law of Political Uniforms, Public Meetings and Private Armies	S
		Rathbone, Eleanor F.	War can be averted: the achievability of collective security	T
		Collier, Henry	An interpretation of biology	E
	February	Belfrage, Cedric	Promised land: notes for a history	
		Petersen, Jan	Our street: a chronicle written in the heart of fascist Germany	S
		Hunter, Neil	Peasantry and crisis in France	S
		Farrington, Benjamin, 1891-1974	The civilisation of Greece and Rome	E
	March	Strachey, John, 1901-1963	What are we to do?	

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

		Allen, Frederick	Can capitalism last?	A
			The left song book / editors Alan Bush & Randall Swingler / assisted by members of the Workers' Music Association	S
		Mahon, John A.	Trade unionism	E
April		Brontman, L.	On top of the world: the soviet expedition to the North pole 1937	
		Osborn, Reuben	The psychology of reaction	A
		Thompson, W. H.	Civil liberties	E
May		Morton, A. L., Arthur Leslie, 1903-1987	A people's history of England	
		Jewkes, John and Sylvia	The juvenile labour market	A
		Vigilantes	Why the League has failed	E
June		Freeman, Joseph, 1897-1965	An American testament: a narrative of rebels and romantics	
		Jellinek, Frank	The civil war in Spain	A
		Young, Edgar P.	Czechoslovakia: keystone of peace and democracy	S
		Crowther, J. G., James Gerald, 1899-	Science and life	E
July		A Barrister (Mavis Hill)	Justice in England / by a barrister	
		Kolnai, Aurel	The war against the West	A
		Timperley, H. J.	What war means: the Japanese terror in China: a documentary record	T
		Salvemini, Gaetano	Italian fascism	E
August		Jones, F. Elwyn	The battle for peace	
		Fagan, Hyman	Nine days that shook England: an account of the English people's uprising in	A

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

		Brailsford, H. N.	Why capitalism means war	E
		Haldane, J. B. S., John Burdon Sanderson, 1892-1964	A.R.P	
		Duncan-Jones, A. S., Arthur Stuart	The struggle for religious freedom in Germany	A
		Hannington, Wal	A short history of the unemployed	E
		Greaves, H.R.G. & Thomson, David	The truth about Spain	P
	October	Vespa, Amleto	Secret agent of Japan: a handbook to Japanese imperialism / with an introduction by	
		Birtles, Bert	Exiles in the Aegean: a personal narrative of Greek politics and travel	A
		Janowsky, Oscar I.	People at bay: the Jewish problem in East-Central Europe	S
		Bibby, H. C.	The evolution of man and his culture	E
	November	Allan, Seema Rynin	Comrades and citizens: [Soviet people]	
		Bartlett, Francis H.	Sigmund Freud: a Marxian essay	A
		Rowland, John	Understanding the atom	E
		Haldane, J.B.S.	How to be safe from air raids	P
	December	Smedley, Agnes, 1892-1950	China fights back: an American woman with the Eighth Route Army	
			Poems of freedom / edited by John Mulgan	A
		Moore, W. G.	The geography of capitalism	E
1939	January	Addison, Christopher, Viscount Addison	A policy for British agriculture / by Lord Addison of Stallingborough	
		Joesten, Joachim	Denmark's day of doom	A
	January	Swingler, Stephen	An outline of political thought since the French revolution	E

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

February	Gedye, G. E. R., George Eric Rowe	Fallen bastions: the Central European tragedy	
	Campbell, John Ross	Soviet policy and its critics	A
	Morris, Max, 1913-	The people's schools	E
March	Barnes, Leonard, 1895-	Empire or democracy?: a study of the colonial question	
	Vigilantes	Why we are losing the peace: the National Government's foreign policy: its	A
	Needham, Joseph, 1900-	The Levellers and the English Revolution / by Henry Holorensaw [i.e. Joseph Needham]	E
	Johnson, Hewlett	Act now: An appeal to the mind and heart of Britain	P
April	Werner, Max	The military strength of the powers	
	Schaffer, Gordon	Riches and poverty	E
	Gollancz, Victor	Is Mr. Chamberlain saving peace?	P
May	Blanco White, Amber	The new propaganda	
	Segal, Charles S.	Penn'orth of chips: backward children in the making	A
	Beck, Alan, 1912-	Chemistry: a survey	E
June	Coombes, Bert Lewis	These poor hands: the autobiography of a miner working in South Wales	
	Stewart, Neil	Blanqui	A
	Burns, Emile	What is Marxism?	E
July	Haxey, Simon	Tory M.P.	
	Schmidt, Carl T.	The corporate state in action: Italy under fascism	A
	Bibby, H. C.	Heredity, eugenics and social progress	E

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

	August	Simon, Ernest Darwin, Baron Simon of Wythenshawe	The smaller democracies	
		Kuczynski, Jurgen	The condition of the workers in Great Britain, Germany and the Soviet Union,	
		Davies, Ernest	"National" capitalism: the government's record as protector of private monopoly	A
		Stone, Hannah & Abraham	A marriage manual	S
	September	Wilkinson, Ellen, 1891-1947	The town that was murdered: the life-story of Jarrow	
		Gruber, Ruth, 1911-	I went to the Soviet Arctic	A
	October	Rader, Melvin, 1903-1981	No compromise: the conflict between two worlds	
		Ripka, Hubert	Munich, before and after: a fully documented Czechoslovak account of the crisis	A
	November	Woolf, Leonard, 1880-1969	Barbarians at the gate	
		Cole, G.D.H.	War aims	
	December	Johnson, Hewlett, 1874-1966	The socialist sixth of the world	
1940	January	Strachey, John, 1901-1963	A programme for progress	
	February	Belfrage, Cedric	Let my people go	
	March	Hannington, Wal	Ten lean years: an examination of the record of the National Government in	
	April	Frölich, Paul	Rosa Luxemburg: her life and work	
	May	Dutt, Rajani Palme	India to-day	
	June	Verulam, Frank	Production for the people	
	July	Burdekin, Katharine, 1896-1963	Swastika night / by Murray Constantine	
	August	Huberman, Leo	"We, the people"	
	September	Strachey, John, 1901-1963	Federalism or Socialism?	

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

	October	Petegorsky, David W.	Left-wing democracy in the English Civil War: a study of the social philosophy	
	November	Laurat, Lucien	Marxism and democracy	
	December	Paul, Oscar	Farewell, France!: an eye-witness account of her tragedy	
1941	January	Strachey, John, 1901-1963	A faith to fight for	
	February	Pied Piper	Rats! / by the Pied Piper [i.e. J. P. W. Mallalieu]	
		ed. Victor Gollancz	The betrayal of the left: an examination & refutation of communist policy f	A
	March	Snow, Edgar, 1905-1972	Scorched earth, Pt. 1	
		Dodd, William E., William Edward, 1869-1940	Ambassador Dodd's diary 1933-1938	A
	April	Snow, Edgar, 1905-1972	Scorched earth, Pt. 2	
		Populus	My dear Churchill, and other open letters to persons in authority	A
	May	Koestler, Arthur, 1905-1983	Scum of the earth	
	June	Werner, Max	Battle for the world: the strategy and diplomacy of the Second World War /	
	July	Evans, Jon	The Nazi new order in Poland	
	August	Maynard, Sir, John	Russia in flux: before October	
	September	Edelman, Maurice	Production for victory, not profit!	
	October	Cole, G. D. H., George Douglas Howard, 1889-1959	Europe, Russia and the future	
	November	Torrès, Henry	Pierre Laval	
	December	Acland, Richard	What it will be like in the new Britain	
1942	January	Deva, Jaya	Japan's Kampf	
	February	Smith, Aubrey Douglas	Guilty Germans?	

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

	March	Paul, Oscar	Underground Europe calling
	April	Oliveira, A. Ramos	A people's history of Germany / translated by Eileen
	May	Davies, Joseph E., Joseph Edward, 1876-1958	Mission to Moscow: a record of confidential dispatches to the State Department
	June	Davies, Joseph E., Joseph Edward, 1876-1958	Mission to Moscow: a record of confidential dispatches to the State Department
	July	Mallalieu, J. P. W.	"Passed to you, please": Britain's red-tape machine at war
	August	Neumann, Franz	Behemoth: the structure and practice of National Socialism
	September	Maynard, Sir, John	The Russian peasant: and other studies
	October	Maynard, Sir, John	The Russian peasant: and other studies
	November	Cole, G. D. H., George Douglas Howard, 1889-1959	Great Britain in the post-war world
	December	Browne, Lewis	Something went wrong: a summation of modern history
1943	January	Werner, Max	The great offensive: the strategy of coalition warfare
	February	Hagen, Paul	Will Germany crack?: a factual report on Germany from within
	March	Burger, John	The black man's burden
	April	Brailsford, H. N.	Subject India
	May	Braunthal, Julius	Need Germany survive?
	June	Myklebost, Tor	They came as friends / [by] Tor Myklebost / translated by Trygve M. Ager
	July	Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson	Appeasement's child: the Franco regime in Spain
	August	Levy, Louis	France is a democracy

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

	September	Monte, Hilda	The Unity of Europe
	October	Cole, G. D. H., George Douglas Howard, 1889-1959	The means to full employment
	November	Salvemini, Gaetano and La Piana, George	What to do with Italy
	December	Smedley, Agnes, 1892-1950	Battle hymn of China
1944	January	Sturmthal, Adolf Fox	The tragedy of European labour, 1918-1939
	February	Laski, Harold J., Harold Joseph, 1893-1950	Faith, reason and civilisation: an essay in historical analysis
	March	Zilliacus, Konni, 1894-1967	The mirror of the past: lest it reflect the future
	April	Campbell, Alexander	Empire in Africa
	May	Heinemann, Margot	Britain's coal: a study of the mining crisis
	June	Padley, Walter	The economic problem of the peace: a plea for world socialist union
	July	Brockway, Fenner, 1888-1988 and Mullally, Frederic	Death pays a dividend
	August	Russell, A. G.	Colour, race and empire
	September	Heiden, Konrad	Der Fuehrer: Hitler's rise to power
	October	Heiden, Konrad	Der Fuehrer: Hitler's rise to power
	November	Paloczi-Horvath, George	In darkest Hungary
	December	Simon, Ernest Darwin, Baron Simon of Wythenshawe	Rebuilding Britain - a twenty year plan
1945	January	Hogg, George	I see a new China
	February	Josephs, Ray	Argentine diary: the inside story of the coming of fascism
	March	Reimann, Guenter	Patents for Hitler
	April	Korngold, Ralph	Citizen Toussaint

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

	May	Aguirre, José Antonio de	Freedom was flesh and blood
	June	Anderson, Evelyn	Hammer or anvil: the story of the German working-class movement
	July	Braunthal, Julius	In search of the millennium
	August	Campbell, Alexander	It's your Empire
	September	Mosley, Leonard	Report from Germany
	October	Cohen, Max	I was one of the unemployed
	November	Coldwell, M. J.	Left turn, Canada
	December	Rau, Santha Rama	Home to India
1946	January	Gelder, Stuart	The Chinese communists
	February	Bateson, F. W., Frederick Wilse	Towards a socialist agriculture: studies by a group of Fabians
	March	Gant, Roland	How like a wilderness
	April	Roth, Andrew	Dilemma in Japan
	May	Acland, Richard	Public speaking
	June	Blum, Léon	For all mankind / translated by W. Pickles
	July	Gollancz, Victor, 1893-1967	Our threatened values
	August	Wolfendale, Wilfrid	History has tongues: a study of the comparative development of ancient and
	September	Davies, Ernest	National enterprise: the development of the public corporation
	October	Brockway, Fenner, 1888-1988	German diary
	November	Palencia, Isabel de	Smouldering freedom: the story of the Spanish republicans in exile
	December	Carter, Barbara Barclay	Italy speaks
1947	January	Schlotterbeck, Friedrich	The darker the night, the brighter the stars: a

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

			German worker remembers (19
	February	Young, Michael, 1915-	Labour's plan for plenty
	March	Barou, Noah	British trade unions
	April	Hill, Russell	Struggle for Germany
	May	McNeill, William H., William Hardy, 1917-	The Greek dilemma: war and aftermath
	June	Sternberg, Fritz	The coming crisis
	Summer	Crum, Bartley C.	Behind the silken curtain: a personal account of Anglo-American diplomacy
	September	Pearlman, Maurice	Adventure in the sun: an informal account of the communal settlements of Pa
	October	Schuschnigg, Kurt von	Austrian requiem
	November	Keppel-Jones, Arthur	When Smuts goes: a history of South Africa from 1952 to 2010 first publishe
	December	Bhattacharya, Bhabani	So many hungers!
1948	January	Moulin, Léo	Socialism of the west: an attempt to lay the foundations of a new socialist
	February	ed. Barou, N.	The co-operative movement in Labour Britain / edited for the Fabian Society
	March	Zweig, Ferdynand, 1896-1988	Labour, life and poverty
	April	Lingens-Reiner, Ella	Prisoners of fear
	May	Walker, Oliver	Kaffirs are lively: being some backstage im-pressions of the South African democracy
	June	Haag, Lina	How long the night
	Summer	Braunthal, Julius	The tragedy of Austria
	September	Zweig, Ferdynand, 1896-1988	Men in the pits
	October	Cole, G. D. H., George Douglas	The meaning of Marxism

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

	Howard, 1889-1959	
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III. DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION

1. Tun Shwe's Dossier

Translation: Ye Nyunt

Antagonist No. 26
Issue on January 1, 1942

Antagonist No. 26:

Maung Tun Shwe (a) Thakin Tun Shwe (a) Nagani Tun Shwe

Father:	U San Pyayt (deceased)
Birth place:	Boke Kai Village, Theyetchaung Township, Dawei District.
Year of Birth:	1914
Career:	Journalist, editor, Nagani Publishing House
Current residence:	188, 49 th Street, Yangon (Now in prison)
Height:	5 feet 7 inches
Physique:	Thin and erect
Hair:	Black, long, brushed backward
Eyebrows:	A little curved, thick
Forehead:	Wide and high
Eyes:	----
Sight:	----
Nose:	Straight, erect and small
Mouth:	Seems big, but fair, middle indent on the upper lip conspicuous
Ears:	-----
Head, face and neck:	Narrow occiput, narrow, bulging face, thick-looking skin, oval, conspicuous Adam's apple
Beard:	Does not wear
Moustache:	Does not wear

- Complexion: Brown (A little dark for an average Myanmar)
- Marks: a slanting callus, 2-inch-long and 0.5-inch-wide, on the nape, two moles on the left of the chin, a mole on the forehead, pimples and small growths on both cheeks.
- Usual dress: “Pinni” Myanmar traditional Jacket (worn like a Western coat), sometimes British cloths, regularly wears “longyi” (male’s lower garment), rarely wears quarter-pants, uses “Ein-daw-ya” parasol.
- Those who recognize him:
Police Inspector U Soe Myint and Sub-Inspectors of Police Maung Ngwe Gaing and Maung Hla Maung of Burma Criminal Investigation Department.
- Relatives: Maung Htoo On of Boke Kai Village and Maung Lu Gye of Thayetchaung Village (Elder brothers); Maung Nyan Lin and Maung Tin Aye of Boke Kai Village (Younger brothers); Ma Saw Khin of Boke Kai Village (Elder sister); Maung Aung Kun of Swe Zak Village and Maung Bo of Sin Chan Village (Uncles); and Ma Dwe and Ma Swe (Aunts)
- Acquaintances: Thakin Mya (Member of Parliament), Ba Hein, Maung Hla Pe (alias) Calcutta Hla Pe, Htein Win and U Saw Maung, ex-managing director of Nagani Publishing House.

Biography:

Maung Tun Shwe (son of U San Pyayt)) was born at Boke Kai Village, Thayetchaung Township, Dawei District, in 1276 Myanmar Era (About 1915). At age 7, he was sent to Reverend U Soma’s Monastery for childhood education. Three years later, Reverend U Acinda, abbot of Bagaya Taik (Monastery), of Kyi-myin-daing Township, brought him to Yangon. The monk made him go to St. Michael’s school. He passed the Secondary School Teacher ship examination in 1928. Then he joined the Municipal Indigenous Language School, and worked there up to 1938. In that year, without obtaining the consent of the headmaster, he held a meeting of boycott students at school, and constantly instigated the students to prolong their riots and protests. For that he was transferred to Tarmwe Indigenous Language School. While teaching at Pazundaung Municipal Indigenous Language School, he helped the editorial staff of “Dee-dok” daily. Through Deedok U Ba Cho, he established contacts with Thakin Nu and Calcutta Hla Pe of Nagani Books Associations, who occasionally visited U Ba Cho’s house to discuss political affairs. Later, he joined the NBA and became an important member, and editor. Though he was on friendly terms with the majority of the extrem-

ist Thakins (meaning “Master”, an honorific put before the names of the resistance-fighters in defiance or mockery of the British colonialists), he did not show any conspicuous movement.

He was responsible for forming the 50-member Thanmani Force (Thanmani means “Steel”) at Pazundaung Municipal Indigenous Language School on November 22, 1939. The Force was aimed at protecting the rights and privileges of indigenous nationals in Myanmar; providing military training to them; bringing about the unity, discipline and health of them, and keeping colonialism off the earth’s surface. He was the commanding officer as well as a lecture.

On August 26, 1940, he attended a mass rally at Jubilee Hall organized by 40 political parties. Motions were tabled and approved. The motions called for the British Government in serious terms to immediately declare Myanmar an independent nation, denounced the British government for keeping Myanmar under its rule despite the people’s demand for national independence, protested to the British behaviour in pulling Myanmar into the war without attaining the wishes of the people, and denounced the cruel act of the British government in suppressing under its defence rules the monks and lay-persons striving to regain independence.

In January 1941, students and Thakins held a meeting at the residence of Thakin Tin Maung, chairman of the Doh Bamar Association (DBA), with intent to urge him to establish a “United Front” or a “National Assembly.” Thakin Tin Maung refused to attend the meeting, and their motive came to naught. The supreme aim of their proposal for a “United Front” and “the National Assembly” was to engage themselves in anti-war movements as in India where people were defying the authority.

On January 20, he attended a reception hosted by the All-Burma Students Union of journalists. ABSU Chairman Maung Hla Maung requested the journalists to help and support the students in their struggle for independence. Tun Shwe, then an editor, and others assured the students their support. Tun Shwe was suspected of being one of the compilers of a paper issued by the Burma Communist Party, which was printed by a copying machine. The BCP Organizing Committee instructed, in the paper, the district parties to follow the orders and to organize workers, peasants, students and soldiers into joining them in instigative activities.

In March, BCP brought out another paper “The Vital Issue for Burma: What Shall We Do?” Tun Shwe was believed to have taken part in writing it. The paper advised the formation of an organization made up of permanent resistance-fighters who would have to obtain financial assistance from the people. The organization was to engage in propelling the people to rise up against the British.

At the end of April, a Thakin in Mandalay was found together with a communiqué in which a 68-stage task was detailed. In fact, Tun Shwe put the paper in a package of books, published by Nagani, and sent it to Thakin Tin Aung, Nagani's circulation agent of Mandalay, with the instruction that copies of the paper be made and dealt out to others.

The communiqué carried points of advice as to establishment of an independent government as follows:

- To resort to any means to disturb the foreigners' government, violently or peacefully;
- To strive for causing the demoralization of government employees in every department, who would eventually renounce their allegiance to the government;
- To upgrade small-scale instigative activities to large-scales ones;
- To cause the collapse of relations between the government and the people in political, economic and religious affairs;
- To bring about formation of the unions of workers, peasants and students;
- To instigate workers' unions to announce economic wars and inject political ideas into the economic wars in a bid to create general grievances;
- To create a situation in which the government would see these grievances as mere economic concerns;
- To organize boycotts with shows of strength, and processions around the factory;
- To cause conflicts between boycotters and authorities concerned, and taking advantage of this, to make people lose faith and trust in the government;
- To stage demonstrations, going around police stations, prisons and offices;
- To fuel an anti-war campaign through pamphlets and books of individual approach;
- To oppose authority, taking advantage of the international warring situation;
- To form military units, basing on the existing defence forces;
- To go on long-distance marches to be familiar with geographic layout.
- For Myanmar to join the military to know the strategies and tactics of the armed forces;
- To teach the recruits the latest military science;
- To bide the time for grasping opportunities in a bid to combat colonialism.

Tun Shwe was one of those who wrote motions tabled at the Students' Conference on July 6 and 7, 1941. The crux of the Motions was to denounce that it was the aggressive invasion of the coloni-

alists the caused the loss of independence in small countries, and to insist that it was the own right of Myanmar to establish an independent, democracy country that has the right to self-prescription. It was in accordance with the military aims of the British, and demanded that the right be recognized.

Tun Shwe also attended a meeting of the commanding officers of the Bama Letyone Units of Yangon at the Doh Bamar Association headquarters on April 30. The meeting decided on the flag of the Bama Letyone Force. The flag was 6 feet long and 4.5 feet wide, with a circle which was coloured yellow, green and red. In the middle of the circle, there was a logo of hammer and sickle.

He was also believed to be one of those who published a Communist paper, entitle “Mee Bwa” (Sparks) in May, 1941. The aim of the Burma Communist Party were to dislodge the British from Myanmar, and the eliminate colonialism with the help of the Soviets. Those who read the paper were requested not to contribute to the war fund, and instead, to rise up in armed resistance.

He attended the second-day session of the Sixth Annual Conference of all-students in Myanmar in the Yangon Union Hall on July 7.

Tun Shwe and Thakin Ba Hein called a secret meeting of the Burma Communist Party at 51, 5th Street, Yangon, on July 15, and the latter explained each paragraph of the Communist paper “Bamah Taw-hlan-hmu” (Burma’s Resistance).

That paper was distributed at the end of July in 1941. The aim of the party under heading “Our Declaration” was to abolish the British government and form a Communist government. It was mentioned that the only way for Myanmar to regain her independence was for the proletariat to openly take up arms and fight back. Also what was mentioned under the heading “News and Remarks” was the notification that the downfall of the British Empire was nearing day after day, and the Revolution was soon to come by. The paper also pointed out that the fact that there was only a small number of bomb shelter holes meant lack of consideration for the security of the people. The only means for Myanmar not to be pulled into the war was to rebel against. As the majority of the resistance leaders were in jail, the remaining ones must prepare for rebellion soon after Myanmar was pulled into war. The Doh Bamar Association, after they had destabilized the balance of the British colonialism must cooperate with “the poor” (Members of the Dr Ba Maw’s Proletariat Party), who were complete with a sense of resistance. A new party, called Let-yway-sin (Selected Ones) should provide support to DBA, which could even penetrate the Police Force, and persuade police spies to come to take part in the resistance. The paper called on the Taw-hlan-yay Party (Resistance Party) to provide training to the people. The party should also educate the peasants, stressing the fact that not paying the taxes was an important weapon. This was mentioned under the head-

ing “Peasants.” Finally, the paper called for holding meetings in protest against U Saw’s government which was arresting political leaders. As Tun Shwe thought that he would be arrested when the paper came out, he attempted to hide himself. At that time, Thakin Ba Hein had already gone into hiding.

On August 11, he and Thakin Ba Hein urged Maung Ba Swe, Chairman of the University Students Union, and of the All-Burma Students Union, to join the University again so that he could organize students into the Burma Communist Party.

He was responsible, along with MP Thakin Mya, Ba Hein and three others, for sending youths to Japan in June, 1941. The youths left for Hainan Island from which they were to proceed to Japan where they would be train for the fifth columns.

Tun Shwe was believed to be the organizing Secretary of the Burma Communist Party.

On September 9, 1941, he and Thakin Ba Hein sent BCP members to various regions where they would be engaged in the Motorists’ Cooperative Society, and at the same time learn driving so that they could follow and carry out the instructions from Yangon. It meant it was expected that war with Japan would break out in November 1941, and that those who were under training in Hainan Island would come back in time, bringing with them arms.

Tun Shwe was not only the secretary of the BCP, he was also believed to be playing the leading role in teaching military science not only to the steel (hard-core) propagandist units but also to amateur forces, operating clandestine counter-movements, and organizing members of the Armed Forces into the BCP.

In the third week of September, Issue No 2 of the “Bama Taw-hlan-hmu” pamphlet appeared. The pamphlet carried exhortations: to instigate Myanmars to rise up in rebellion; for Myanmar soldiers to mutiny; and to strive for the downfall of the British colonialism in the Eastern Colonial War. Though it seemed that the downfall of British colonialism was to be regarded as encouragement to Japanese fascism, the motive was to negotiate with Japan for peace after grabbing power from the British government, and to combat Japanese colonialism in collaboration with other forces. The pamphlet concluded that by turning the colonial war into the domestic one, Myanmar would eventually reach the goal of regaining independence. It was greatly suspected that “Nagani Tun Shwe has compiled the pamphlet.

On September 25, the government banned the Issue No 2 of “Bama Taw-hlan-hmu” pamphlet. This obviously suggested the leakage of information. However, Tun Shwe reportedly told Hla Moe,

a teacher of Myoma High School, at Nagani Publishing House that despite the ban, the pamphlet could be distributed without any interruption.

On October 14, he was detained under Section 26 of the Defence Act.

Tun Shwe was an inscrutable young man. It was assumed that Thakin Nu and Thakin Than Tun foiled him when he tried to join the Nagani Books Association and Publishing House. While working with the NBA as an editor, he was submerged under the influence of Nu, Than Tun and Aung San who utilized the books association with their extremist and communist beliefs. Though it was not possible for him to become a great leader, he was shrewd and original (resourceful). It is surprising that he possessed qualities and disposition needed to be a secret propagandist. In accordance with the saying, "The pen is mightier than the sword," he could be classified as a species of Goebels.

2. Myint Swe, Nagani Diga¹

Extract from 'Dormant Writings of Thakin Kodaw Hmaing'

Translation: Tin Hlaing

Rising Tide of Anti-colonialism

The Second World War began in Europe on September 3, 1939.

We have mentioned previously in the chapter on 'The History of Unity-1' that, during the First World War (1914-18), because of people's demand for self-determination, the British government had granted Burma diarchy form of government.

Although diarchy was not the type of government the people wanted, and they intensely disliked it, it has to be acknowledged that it was a step-advanced administration.

During the First World War, the spirit of anti-colonialism and independence movement were not very strong yet. During the Second World War, nationalism was stronger, perhaps reaching its peak, and the independence movement very vigorous. The leaders of the struggle believed they would achieve full independence. And the people thought likewise.

English Woes is Burma's Opportunity

As the war began, Britain and her allies suffered heavy losses; they lost badly. As Winston Churchill admitted in his book, "The Second World War", the British had a lot to worry in the early phase of the war.

But the Burmese got hold of the concept that 'Britain's woes is Burma's opportunity.' They formed the multi-party alliance of '*Bama Htwet Yat Gaing Gyi*', also known as Burma Revolutionary Party. It adopted the slogan "Britain's woes is Burma's opportunity."

Under the vanguard of the Burma Revolutionary Party were the *Doe Bama Ah-si-ah-yone* (We Burmans Party), Dr Ba Maw's *Sin Ye Tha Ah-pwe* (The Proletarian Party). In addition, students, farmers and workers rallied to it in organized units. Dr Ba Maw was Chairman, and Thakin Aung San secretary of the Burma Revolutionary Party.

¹ Published January 1977

Burmese woes had been Britain's opportunity

In 1885, the Burmans were disunited, the palace was facing problems. Britain exploited the chance to capture King Theebaw and colonized the whole of Upper Burma. In those days, Burma had woes and Britain enjoyed the opportunity.

The result was Burma's loss of independence and her status as a subject nation under Britain.

The Burmese people can never forget this fact. They had been anxiously waiting to see Britain in troubles, and they were determined to exploit the situation when it comes to regain their independence. They had vowed to repay the historic debt.

The time arrived when the Second World War came. To make full use of this chance, various political groups had rallied under the leadership of the Burma Revolutionary Party.

Thakin Kodaw Hmaing took part in this great cause, along with Thakins, members of his Doe Bama Organization.

Nagani Book Club

While politicians were active in the anti-British campaign, men from the world of letters, arts and culture were also taking up their roles in the anti-colonial struggle.

That was the reason why it was the most prolific period of anti-colonial music and literature.

The greatest publisher of anti-colonial literature at the time was the Nagani Book Club; it had been producing political works since 1937. By the time the Second World War began, its publications had reached its peak, in volume and variety. Along with the books, Nagani also published the weekly Nagani News Journal for propaganda.

Sayagyi (Great Master) Thakin Kodaw Hmaing felt satisfied with the work of Nagani; he thought it a force to rely on. When the Nagani News was launched, he was only too ready to write, for its first issue; his contribution is titled the “*Nagani Ta-thin Phwe Htaw-pa-nar Lay-cho-gyi* – The Great Congratulatory *Lay-cho* (Verse) for the Inaugural Issue of Nagani News.” Following is the translation of the Great *Lay-cho*.

1. As many nations begin to boil up,

Nagani makes its debut.

For me, it's time to reflect, in Dhamma-sekkya meditation.

Oh!, once upon a time I had dreamed

The Master's royal dream.

2. *Alas, there's the subject to introduce:*

The Great monk named U Wisara.

Lay-men and women, who do not yet know,

I want ye told,

How he roamed the country and talked

Of 'thirty laws,,,' and the sort he opposed.

Torture and jail he got;

And his sacred robe, the Buddha's legacy,

They stripped off his body.

Silly act indeed;

They denied him the right to do

The Buddhist monk's rites in company.

A life not worth its meaning, he began fasting.

A hunger strike, he resolved,

Like the Embryo-Buddhas in ages past,

Whose resolve he took to the last.

He went on with the fast,

And to higher abode in Havens he passed, we're told;

His tale a legend, we'll ne'er think old.

3. *In the lofty realm, the Great monk and the like stay;*

On earth, His disciple in shivers lay,

To nap and dream for the day.

The Monk's body he saw,

Not lacking the Peacock banner after all.

Oh! That's renewal of the old!

Isn't that great omens fore- told

Of Myanmar's brilliance to behold?

4. *Then comes in new form,*

And fashion that's truly Bamar.

A 'zayat' of brick or meeting hall,

*that's open to all;
Inside, the monk's body lay,
Exuding odour that's not good for the day.
And there's Saturn's creature,
A red Naga, or Dragon for sure.
Poised to attack the offender,
Restless and hissing in anger.
As if to relax the stiffness in that posture,
It changed into a lady fair,
Like camouflage we see in cinema.
There's Saw Lon, the woman of Bagan up there,
Whom the lady compares.
Of mid-age, she's graced with fine points that count to five;
They're the features that bring her alive.
Clearly did I see her, a girl disciple.
Morning comes for me to ponder,
If the dream would really bring wonders.
In haste, I came to Ahle-tawya;
In that monastery hall I saw professors assembled;
Enlighten me, I asked.
But sorry, with my query they seemed embarrassed.
The abbot of Shwe-ye-saung I wrote to ask;
He's the famed patriarch
In the upper city of Yadanabon.
'It's all for good results,' says he;
'In a little while, we'll see our country in prosperity.'
Alas, there's nothing to worry;
Like after bad times of faded past,
There's rising Myanmar, the mother land,
In glory it will stand.
The time has come, it appears,
In Dagon, the capital, my pupils dear,*

*They've organized Nagani,
That club of unity.
Nagani News, that's what they now do.
'Cause their task is the nation's task,
I cannot keep myself apart.
In spite of jail,
In and out, and in and out I hail;
From Maung Nu, I couldn't keep away,
For he's the chap I like any way.
"Victory! Victory for you!" I say;
This is the song I compose to endorse your cherished way.*

Saya Hmaing published the above in the August 10, 1940 issue of Saturday Nagani Journal, with the following preface.

"I, Thakin Kodaw Hmaing, learned sage, residing in the ravine of Sagaing in Jayapura state, have been devoting in turns, to alchemy, teaching, meditation and preaching female disciples. Although I have been busy with a lot of things to do, I say these truthful words for all dear students. I cannot remain indifferent to their cause."

Request by Saya Hmum of Mandalay

Later, on the 5th waxing moon day, of the month of Nattaw, of the year 1301 (December, 1940), Sayagyi reported in the Mandalay daily, Thuriya, about a melodious verse by Mandalay Saya Hmum, requesting him to write "*Myin Diga* (Exposition on Horse and Racing)". The request is mentioned below.

Verse of Melody by Mandalay Saya Hmum

*1. I address thee, revered patron Hmaing,
Founder of Thakin Party,
Dedicated to making history,
And devoted to promoting the Bamar,
In the pleasant land of Myanmar.*

2. *Monks and laymen know,
Your fame aglow.
But, even the memory of a sage could err,
As the saying the old used to mutter.
Your wisdom in the past, I consider,
Relevant as well for the future.
I, Maung Hmum, of Mandalay proper,
And your younger brother,
Seek your counsel for a healthy, wealthy future.*

3. *Those rotten parties in politics, I compare,
To that horse with head start at the 'gate;'
But for awful jockey's sake,
It's dragged to lag, for unfair money to make,
Fouled in the tracks, and finishing not to make.
Too bad, that's history rotten parties wrote.*

4. *Good start perhaps,
But in the past, for money's sake,
Like the monarch of Tagaung,
Who's ever drunk and addicted to the juice of toddy-palm,
They have spoiled the country,
And left a darkened history.
Now, Hmaing, the sage, with whip he trains,
'Good horses' not to go lame,
And keep 'jockeys' away from the crooked lane.
There's the right track to tread,
To lead the nation forever ahead.
So, now I ask, Saya Hmaing,*

“Please try. Bring back to Myanmar Taing²,
The Great peacock throne,
That symbol of greatness
Our new history’s witness.”

Request made by Mandalay Saya Hmun

Myin Diga

It wasn’t Saya Hmun alone who requested Saya Hmaing to write the *Myin Diga*. We know that Sayagyi himself has written:

“Following the verse of melody from Saya Hmun, our friend in Mandalay, I have received similar requests. They asked me to write ‘Myin Diga,’ an exposition on ‘All that concerns horses.’ Those who have made the request are Thakin Ba Htwe of the village of Alon, Thakin Ant Gyi, of Koe-Min, Koe-Chin (Our King, Our Government) Party, who is Member of Parliament for Pakokku, and Thakin San Tun Hla of the suburb of Bahan in Yangon. I have envisaged taking on the task of writing a book – a *Myin Diga*’; but the job has been [copy distorted]

This tells us that Sayagyi had indeed contemplated writing a *Myin Diga*.

In fact, since 1925, he had already written one *Myin Diga* in *Zeya* newspaper. This is a fact we have already mentioned in an earlier chapter. He had written it not because of any request. There was no request made then; he only wrote it in *Zeya* in response to the ‘horse racing news and tips’ which began to appear in the newspaper *Thuriya*.

In it, Sayagyi made a satire saying, “the *Thuriya* is now printing news and tips on horse racing; in future, it may even include ‘*lar* news’ and ‘*lar* tips.’”

(Translator’s note: The word *lar* literally means a donkey; but it can also be taken as a vulgar euphemism, referring to the male sex organ. *Lar si*, literally ‘to ride a donkey’ is actually a Myanmar Spoonerism; when the vowels are reversed, it becomes *Li Sar*, which means ‘to eat penis.’)

Now, Sayagyi Hmaing was saying again that he was planning to write a new *Myin Diga*, a new one, because he has been requested by people.

² *Taing* = nation.

Had he actually succeeded in writing it, one wonders if the new version would be full of hot stuff, criticisms, satires, even harsher mockery than the previous one in Zeya.

However, it did not come out. He gave the following reason for the failure to write it.

The business of writing Myin Diga had been held up because:

“On the greatness of our (Master)

There’s something I like to utter.

Once upon a time, in the upper land of our country,

A lad came to the city to study.

Those were Myanmar days,

When we had our King, the supporter of religion always.

(The chap) had an ambition,

So he took his path in wise men’s tradition,

To become somebody in high position.

He worked hard for a degree in religion,

And came out first in competition.

To become a great monk in royal tradition,

In the golden city he studied;

And, Mahothada, he envied.

But that’s digging a mine empty of treasure.

Royalty’s gone;

Being somebody is no longer a pleasure,

When one has to serve a foreign master.

To avoid a shameful career,

He roamed, with female followers, throughout the land,

On pilgrimage to stupas and pagodas, all grand.”

In a manner similar to this record, female disciples, whom I cannot ignore, requested me to take them to famous pagodas up and down the country. I appreciate their appeals. I was in Shwe Min-wun Hill, near Sagaing, discussing with Kaytha Waddy, Baydar Yee and others to plan a country-wide pilgrimage. Just then, out of the blue, came the news that my former students, Thakin Nu, Thakin Soe, Thakin Than Tun, editors of Nagani Saturday Journal, had been arrested by the gov-

ernment. This news perturbed me, leaving me unable to decide whether it was for me to feel jubilant or sorry.

About the writing of Nagani Diga

Saya Hmaing goes on to tell about the writing of Nagani Diga as follows:

“While I was unable to decide whether it was for me to feel jubilant or sorry, a man named Maung Aung Thein, from the editorial staff of Nagani, came to me. As he asked me to write a Nagani Diga (Exposition about the Red Dragon); ---“

However, it seems he did not continue to make a series after one issue. If that is true, it may be construed that the failure to continue was due to the political situation in the country.

Thakins who worked for Nagani

After the beginning of the Second World War, when the English men had their heads burning, nationalism and the struggle for freedom were rising day after day.

In this situation, the British were like a mad dog chasing after every man in sight, to bite. The government launched a vigorous campaign to arrest all political leaders.

In August 1940, Thakin Than Tun, consultant editor of Saturday Nagani Journal was arrested together with Thakin Nu and Thakin Soe, members of the advisory panel. In addition, in the third week of August, the government detained the executive editor of the journal, U Tun Shwe (pen name: Pan Wut Shwe).

The government arrests increased daily, and became more lawless. Among those arrested, the Thakins were the majority.

In the face of these arrests, which he had seen and heard, Sayagyi Thakin Kodaw Hmaing felt sorry, as he mentioned in the Nagani Diga. As he felt sorry, he developed hatred of the British, far more intense than before.

Thakin Aung San

During the Japanese reign, General Aung San had written an article in the August 3, 1943 issue of Bamakhit daily about the political situation in those early days of the war.

Just two days before the war was declared, the national executive of Dobama Ahsi-Ahyone held a special meeting. It decided to form a Bama Htwet Yat Gaing (Burma Revolutionary Party), includ-

ing Dobama Party and Dr Ba Maw's Sin Ye Tha Party. Everybody, regardless of party affiliation, who loves national independence must rally to it.

While only a little had been done to promote the party, the government started nation-wide arrests. All important leaders of the Burma Revolutionary were sent to jail.

I was the only one to remain outside; but the warrant for my arrest, supposed to be a government secret, was known to many.

Thakin Aung San evaded arrest. He went to Japan to work for the country's independence. With assistance from Japan, he became a pioneer and foremost leader of Thirty Comrades. The date he left the country was August 8, 1940.

There were only two days between the publication of Nagani Diga in the Saturday Nagani Journal and the date Thakin Aung San left the country.

As his student disciples had either gone to jail or abroad, Sayagyi might have been physically free, but mentally bound; or it might have been both. That would have seriously effected his efforts for national freedom and anti-colonialism.

For this reason, we assume that Sayagyi was unable to continue writing the Nagani Diga.

His First and Last Diga

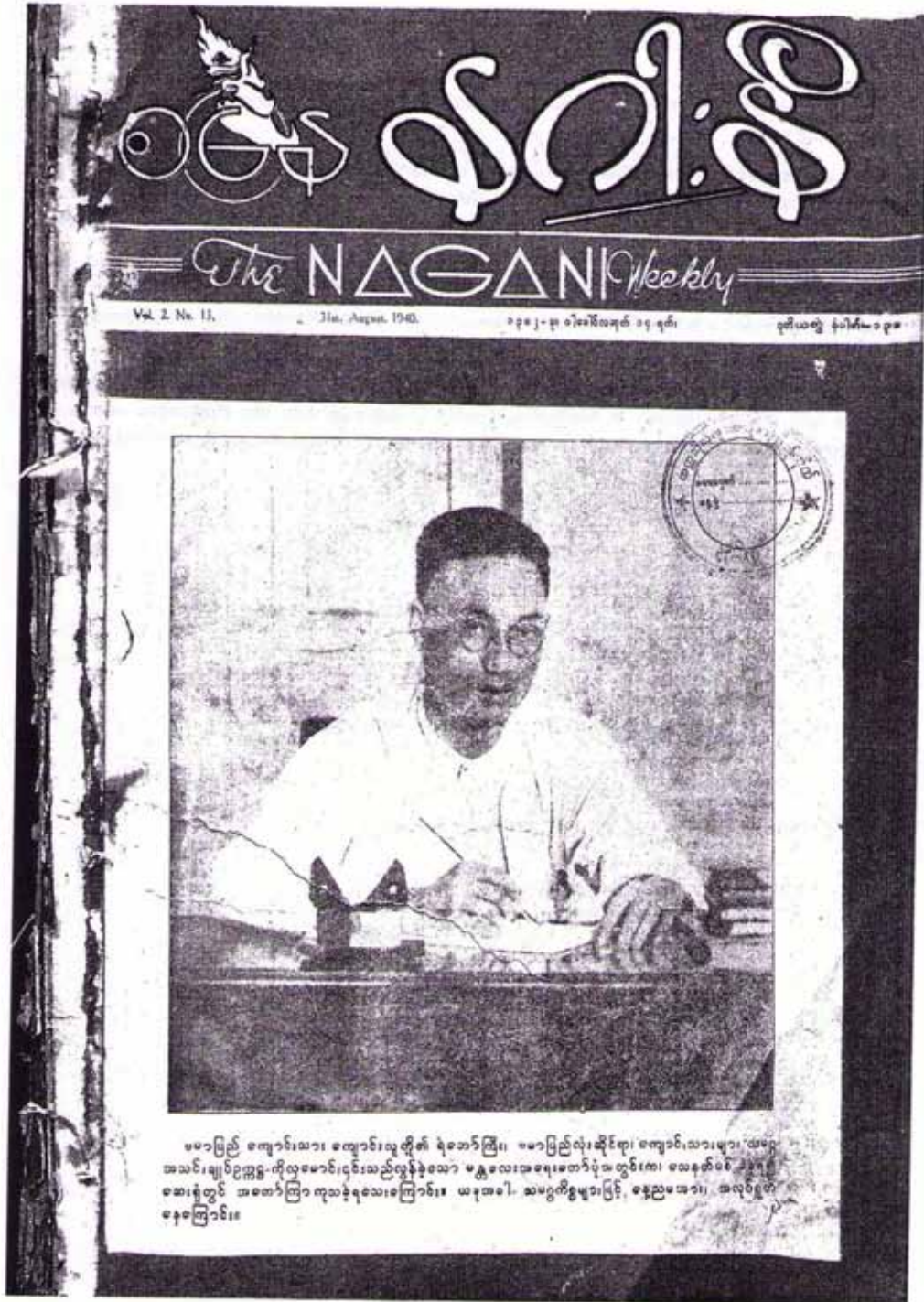
Bo Diga (Discourse on Englishmen) is known to be the first Diga written by Sayagyi. It was written in the Thuriya newspaper.

While Bo Diga is listed as the first of his Digas, we do not find any Diga written after Nagani Diga was published. Thus, (that one instalment of) Nagani Diga has to be recorded as the last of Thakin Kodaw Hmaing's Digas.

3. Nagani Weekly

Information on the content was put together by Nwe Ni Aung.

3.1. Vol. 2, No 3 (August 31st, 1940)



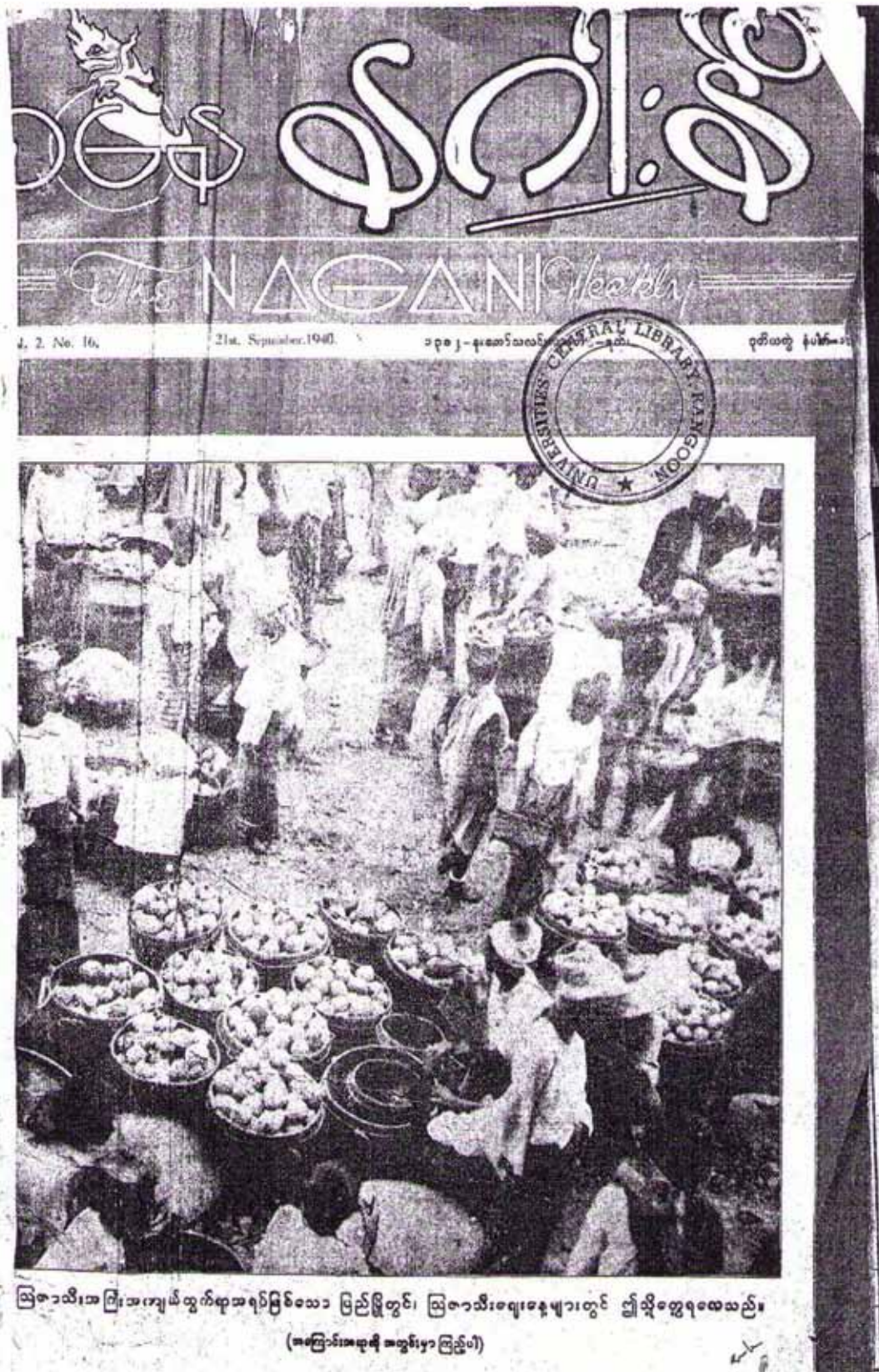
Contents

Page	Title	Section	Writer	Short information
1	Photo of Ko Hla Maung	-	-	Ko Hla Maung was Chairman of the Students Union of Burma
2	Parliament (People's Assembly)	Weekly News in Brief	Parliament news reporter	Brief news about the session of the parliament which was held on 2-8-1940
3	-	Letters and replies	-	-
4-5	Secret outlet of the Empire (Defence for the India boundary)	Foreign news	Foreign news reporter	According to the world geographical map, India played an important role in world politics and its border became the most important also (showing the map of the Northern Indian border and photo of Gandhi who served as amateur soldier in south Africa battle)
6	Firing by long rang artillery	Foreign news	Myo Nyunt	The news about the shooting of German artillery from the coast of France to England's East coast.
7	The night in which I was falling in his hand	Story	Min Thon-daya	Writing by a lady who had first hand experience of being hypnotized in America (two photos are showing the lady and hypnotizer)
8	Grace Lady (Sao Mon Hla)	Story in series	Thibaw Swe	The story of Shan hereditary prince's daughter Sao Mon Hla
9	The old man and a virgin	Foreign news	Ko Kwe	-
10	Secret for young ladies	Say Whisper	-	-
11	Democracy and communism	Politics	Ko Lay (Pa-thein)	While there is madness about democracy in Europe, English, American, French democracies will be conquered
12	Comrades, breed the	Foreign story	Ma Khin	Hitler's concept of women. He loves

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

	babies		Than (B.A)	pretty women and wants them to bear many children. (With a photo showing Hitler and a female dancer)
13	The day on which the old ugly back folded man was coronate by the crazy people	Brief story	Mya Daung Nyo	The world famous author Victor Hugo's book – The Hunchback of Notre Dame - in brief. (with photo of the author)
14-15	Exploitation to the Exploiter	Foreign news story	Thinkhar	Counter activities to the brilliant people's secret movements in war time.
16	The age in which the problem-started (The problem of Shakespeare-Bacon)	Translation	Dr. Htin Aung	The argument Bacon's alleged writings of Shakespeare's plays.
17	Dominium (What kind of chance it got?)	Translation of broadcasting preaches	Khin Aye Myint	The collection of the broadcasting preaching of the famous Indian good speaker Dr. Sat Stary
18-19	Student's Union	Patriotic moral	Editor	The history of the building of the Students' Union. (Shown are the photos of the building and rooms of the union)
20-30	-	Complementary	-	-
31	-	Advertisements	-	-

3.2. Vol. 2, No 16 (September 21st, 1940)



Contents

Page	Title	Section	Writer	Short information
Cover	The Bazaar of Pyay	-	-	-
2	Two cuts at one stroke	-	-	In the post World War I era, Spain, Japan, Germany and Britain kept watch on one another's movements
3	Letters for editors	-	-	-
4	How were the internal affairs of France that had lost the war?	Political article	Foreign news reporter	Political situation in post-war France (showing two photos first is General Wagan, the next Marshal Petain)
6	Attacks and retaliatory attacks in the parliament	-	Parliament news reporter	Allegations and rebuttals among parliamentary members of Myanmar
7	-	Article for women	-	
8	Literary criticism	article	Dr Htin Aung	Critiques on the writings of Bacon and Shakespeare
9	Illiterate persons are out of the political world	article	Ko Ko	Illiterate persons from Russia couldn't take part in politics.
10	Article for young people	-	-	-
11	How to get thin	Taking physical exercise	-	-
12	Hitler's spiral operation	-	-	Feature on the military strategy at Maginot Fort as in the 1914 strategy
13	Articles for brides and brooms	-	-	-
14-15	The person who helped catch Mata Hari	Real-life drama	-	The person who caught lady spy 'Mata Hari'
16	Continue from last week articles	-	-	-
17	-	Letters and replies	-	-

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

18	Cover Story	-	-	-
19-23	complementary	-	-	-
27-28	-	Short Story	-	
29	-	Advertisement	-	

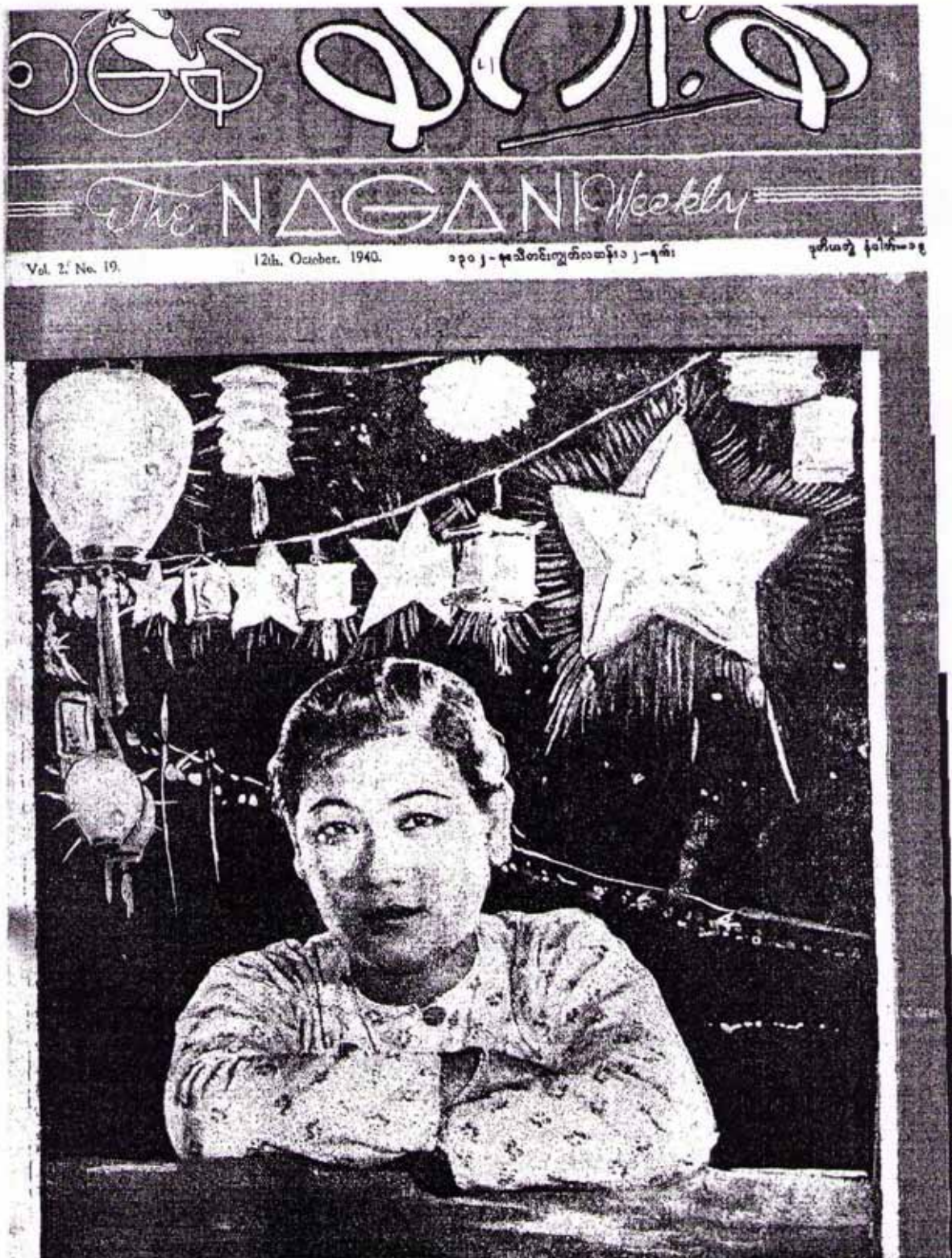
Contents

Pages	Title	Section	Writer	Short information
1	Cover	-	-	Picture of children in the Soviet Union.
2	How was the future of Indochina created?	Politic	-	After Japan's military entered Hainan, the facts that should be known about Indochina which was a France colony.
3	-	Letters for editors	-	-
4-5	Soviets and Nazis (What is the attitude of Russia?)	Foreign news	Foreign reporter	Relationship between Russia and Germany before World War II. A photograph showing Stalin and Ribbentrop
6	-	Article for students	-	-
7	-	Short Story	-	-
8	The first step of Japanese Navy	Foreign article	Tin Oo	After they had been fought by British, the Japanese knew that they must have the best navy to protect the country. In 1854, a Russian soldier arrived in Japan and started to build a ship for trading. Then they built for military purposes. The navy started first battle with China in 1894 and succeed. From 1894 to 1939, within 45 years, the navy increased by seven times.
9	King's lover	Short Story	Man Tin	About Austria King's lover, the dancer Kathi Schrott
10	-	Article for women	-	-
11	The way to take exercise	-	-	-
12	-	Short Story	-	-
13	Did Marshall Goering fly?	Article	Unknown	In this criticism, the author couldn't decide whether Marshall Goering was dead or alive. According to the announcement from British government, Marshall Goering was shot, when he was flying above London. As soon as this news appeared, the denial came out from Ber-

Additional Material related to the Nagani Book Club

				lin. Goering was alive and told the enemies who would be happy with his death and that his military was so strong and well-armed that he could destroy the enemies' military.
14/15	Suicide parachute squad.	Article	Thakin Ba Thoung	How Germany did occupy Poland.
16	Letter of longing	Article	Thinkar	Comparison of Eastern and Western style of love letters.
17	Having more advantage	Article	Parliament reporter	At parliament, representatives were discussing about the price of rice that suddenly increased.
18/20	The opinion by the world on China-Bamar Road	Article	Unknown	Showing their interest on the reopening of China-Bamar road by Germany, Japan, Russia and America.
21	Nagani Puzzle	-	-	-
22	-	Advertisement	-	-
23/27	Captive	Story	Tin Tun	His experience of British Soldier "Major Hatz" in World War I.
30/31	Complementary	-	-	-
33	Advertisement	-	-	-

3.4. Vol. 2, No. 19 (12th October, 1940)



Contents

Pages	Title	Section	Writer	Short information
1	Cover	-	-	Thadinyut (Full Moon) festival and famous actress May Shin
2	Advertising during religious festival	Criticism	Myint Tin	Merchants advertised their good in Thadinyut Festival (religious festival)
3-4	Problem between open-door America and Eastern countries	Political article	Foreign news reporter	Because there is a war in Europe, the economic links with Europe and Eastern countries are going down. At that time, the policy of America to Eastern countries is becoming important. Especially in China, America treats Asia as their colony and tries to occupy its market by an open-door policy. When Japan fights China, America borrows 250 million \$ and 450 million \$ to both China and Japan.
5	Article for students	-	-	-
6	A script which costs 24,000 kyats	Criticism	-	-
7	Who would take Stalin's position	-	-	It is discussed who could replace Stalin in case of his death. At that moment, Soviet Prince "Andrei Zhdanov" had the best chance. He was the leader of communist party in Leningrad.
8	"Molotov's bread baskets" in the sky	Article about weapons	-	The weapons called "Molotov's bread baskets" which was from Germany included over hundred magnetic bombs.
9	-	Short story	Thinkar	-
10	Arriving at St. Christopher Camp	-	-	An experience of being in St. Christopher Camp for refuges which is 40 miles away from New York City
11-13	Missing	-	-	-

3.5. Vol. 2, No. 35 (February 8th, 1941)



Contents

Pages	Title	Section	Writer		Short information
1	Cover		-		
2	The patient who had to take Vichy medicine made by the Nazis	Political satire	-		After French dictator Marshal Petain and the representatives of the government of Vichy had met in discussions, Hitler and Mussolini also made discussions together with their foreign ministers. Caricature [see below] is from Reuters news agency.
3	News and remarks	-	-		-
4-5	Defense of America	Foreign article	-		America which entered the World War I - which broke out in 1914 - in 1918, was also nonchalant in World War II. In 1940, America made a treaty with England to promote military strength for defence.
6	a) Nagani is watching b) My thought	Critique			The facts to observe for Myanmar.
7	Will there be a national association or not?	Devoting	-		Arguing over the matter about whether a national association of farmers, workers and poor people would come into existence or not.
8	Selfishness and sacrifice	Transformation article	Thinkar		Everybody must have the spirit of sacrifice and describing that the difference between China and Japan lies in their sacrifice spirits.
9	Say Whisper	-	-		-
10	The woman who was loved by the nation	Short story	-	-	-
11	Being in this hand for country	Critique	Min Thon Daya	-	-
12	Undutiful municipal administrator	Critique	U Thein Aung		Assuming that the duty of the municipal administrator and how civilians are faced with difficulties.
13	Keeping secrets by newspapers	Transformation article	Khin Mg Than		The duty of newspapers: to be non aligned and keep the rule

14-16	Emerging for good son	Transformation	Tet Toe		Whether a good son will emerge of the race will disappear if contraception is applied.
17-20	-	Sport article	-	-	-
24-32	Advertisement and the rest parts of some stories	-	-	-	-

Page 2 (enlarged)



LOS ANGELES JOURNAL

IV. WRITINGS ON NAGANI

1. Kyaw Hoe, Inception and Objective of the Nagani Association¹

Translation: Ye Nyunt²

Although Myanmar had fallen under the rule of the British, its nationals always resorted to various means to liberate themselves from servitude, by peaceful means, by holding weapons or by staging boycotts. They never relented and knelt down before the enemy. Resistance fighting had risen like flood tides since the last Myanmar king was dethroned in 1885. In 1930, some patriotic Myanmar youths assumed the honorific “Thakin” (Master) before their names, and established Doh Bamar Asi-Ayone (We, Burmese, Organization (DBA). Under its banner, patriotic students and people of all strata, who were deeply committed to wrestling back independence, assembled. Their slogan was:

“Burma is our country!
Burmese is our literature!
Burmese is our spoken language!
Love our country!
Appreciate our literature!
Respect our language!”

Fighting for independence had become violent since the emergence of Nagani Association. At the same time, publications had to be brought out to instigate the spirit of patriotism, to disseminate knowledge and to promote the standard of Myanmar literature. Thus, on November 4, 1937, the Nagani Books Association was found with the slogan, “Let’s open the World Literary Bank with 10-pence key!” Those who founded it were none other than a group of Thakin, who were willing to fight for independence.

The year was 1936, at the end of the Boycott against Slave Education System (Colonial Education System) led by Maung Nu with a Thakin Spirit. Those who spearhead the NBA were Thakin Nu, Thakin Soe and Thakin Than Tun. The NBA office was located at Tun Aye Literary House, No

¹ Kyaw Hoe, Nagani Bibliographie: 2-13.

² Translator’s note:

- (1) Burma’s currency under the colonialists: There are 16 pennies in on kyat.
- (2) The Name “Tun Aye” is sometimes spelt “Tun E”

150, Scotts Market (Now Bogyoke Aung San Market). Thakin Nu and U Tun Aye contributed K 500 each to set up the association, with the latter as secretary. Later the duties of the secretary were taken over by Ko Tun Shwe. Thakin Chit, Ko Tun Shwe, Thakin Htein Win and Myoma Saya Hein later joined the NBA. The initial executives of NBA were (1) Myoma Saya Hein, (2) Thakin Soe, (3) Thakin Nu. (4) Thakin Than Tun and (5) Ko Tun Shwe.

Executive of Nagani Books Association (NBA)

(1) Myoma Saya Hein	Chairman
(2) Ko Tun Shwe	Secretary
(3) Thakin Htein Win	Joint Secretary
(4) Ko Chit	Treasurer
(5) Thakin Nu	Selection of literature
(6) Thakin Than Tun	Selection of literature
(7) Thakin Soe	Propagandist

The Doh Bamar Thakins became more active as the aim for independence drew near. University students also joined NBA, and took part in its activities actively. They staged one boycott after another. Shadows of war were looming over the West. It had become essential to disseminate progressive ideas, international experiences in resistance struggle and biographies of personalities who had work for the welfare of the nation among the Myanmar people. NBA was a copy of the Leftist Literature Publication Club in England. They made a clarion call, “Let’s open the World Literary Bank with a 10- pence key.”

Nagani publications carry an explanation as to “What Nagani is”:

“Nagani is a books association that translates English books into Burmese and sells them at 10 pennies per copy. The books deal with world-famous novels, history, economy, politics and sciences. There are no admission and monthly membership fees. Members do not need to attend meetings. They do not need to follow rules as in other political, religious and economic associations. If a person buys a book per moth for six months, he will became an NBA (normal) member. A person who subscribes for six moths (3 kyats and 12 pennies) or for one year (7 kyats and 8 pennies) at 10 pennies per copy is recognized as an NBA (special) member, and will be given special rights. The book published on the 1st of every month on the Roman calendar is included in the NBA’s specially se-

lected series, and its price for NBA members is 10 pennies. For non-members, the price is at least 2 kyats. The books in the specially selected series are translated from world famous books in English, French, German, Italian and Russian into Burmese to guide the Burmese to good methods of securing welfare. As the original books are expensive, their prices ranging from 5 to 20 kyats, and every cannot afford to buy them, they are made available in Myanmar version, The present is not like the past when a person who had studied in an English or who could afford money, or who had got an I.A. or a B.A. could access would-famous books and international knowledge. Now, owing to Nagani's responsiveness, even young persons at monasteries in rural area can easily grasp world literature and knowledge. Only when the Burmese know the world will the world know the Burmese. Only when the Burmese have international knowledge, will the world think highly of Burma. Only when the Burmese study the world economy, the Burmese economy will develop. Hence, Nagani is now publishing the world literature in translation so that the Burmese know the world, the world has a high opinion of Burma and Burmese economy develops. Even when bees build a hive on one's beard, if he does not move his tongue, he will miss the taste of honey. Hence it is high time that every Burmese joined NBA, and read the selected publications every month. Join NBA today. Nagani Publications Ltd bring out books in selected series for NBA members. NBA (special) members will also enjoy cheaper prices for other books than non-members. If you want to be an NBA (special) member, you can subscribe to the following address, paying in 3 kyats and 12 pennies for six months and 7 kyats and 8 pennies for 12 months. Do not forget to collect the receipt and membership certificate if you do so. Nagani Publications House (Ltd), 248, Lewis Street, Rangoon Post Box No. 901. Telephone: 1310. "Dignity of the nation will rise by the glory of Nagani."

In addition to books, NBA also brought out "Nagani News," a propaganda journal. The first issue was dated May 8, 1938. The editor in charge was Maung Tun Aye. The first issue had 44 pages, and its price was 3 pyas for non-members, and it was delivered gratis to members. The circulation was about 4,000.

Just as Nagani gained momentum, its activities became widespread. It distributed "Nagani Song". It was a song in vogue among the people of the time. People gave tumultuous applause when film actor Khin Maung Yin, dressed like 2 dragon, and film actress Thida Khin Htwe dressed like a princess, entertained the public with the song at the City Hall.

In 1939, U Tun Aye left NBA and founded Myanmarpyi Books Distribution Co. NBA was later formed into a company in which shares were contributed among others by Myanmar Alin U Tin (Myanma Alin was the name of a newspaper, meaning "The Light of Burma), Advocate Dr. (U)

Aye Maung and landlord U Maung Maung. NBA came to own a printing press. It also mentioned its financial strength to members in its publications. The following data showed NBA's progress:

Nagani Publishing Co. Ltd.

Capital (prescribed)	50,000
Capital (as of August)	15,000
Printing press and head office	248 Lewis St. Yangon
Sale centre in Yangon	151 Scotts Market, 4 Sule Pagoda Road.
Membership (Normal/Special)`	1,530
Number of books printed every month	10,000
Two amplifiers (K 600 each)	1,200
Motorcar for mobile sale	2,500
Printing press	2,500
Proceeds from sales of Nagani song records	1,750
(Demand surpassed supply)	

In 1940, "Saturday Nagani Journal" was brought out. Every writer, politician and journalist contributed to it short stories, people's voice, articles and poems. Towards the war, both the Nagani association and journal came to a stop. It was inevitable. It was a time when resistance fighters had to keep themselves ready for sacrificing their lives. They entered the war with their propaganda campaign successful. The role of Nagani played a great role in independence struggle. Some had lost their lives during the Japanese rule as their writings on the harm of fascism had been divulged. It is noble indeed to sacrifice one's life for the country.

The significant role played by Nagani

Nagani Books Association certainly achieved great success. It could disseminate ideologies instantly needed to know for independence struggle. Nagani showed that the Burmese could make collective efforts to achieve success in the economic causes. Expanded activities of Nagani demonstrated this.

Benefits enjoyed by NBA members

1. The Burmese, who know the Burmese language only, have to pay 10 pennies only for a copy of books that they have never had the opportunity to read, and the books of world literature that they would have to pay 10 kyats, 7 kyats and 8 pennies, 5 kyats or 3 kyats at expensive prices.
2. NBA members who have paid in 3 kyats and 12 pennies in a six months' subscription get 7 books in 7 months. (It has been decided to grant this right from the beginning of July to the end of September, 1939)
3. NBA members who have paid in 7 kyats and 8 pennies in a 12 months' subscription get a gift of a cupboard that holds 12 books published monthly by Nagani. The cupboard is neatly made of teak. (It has been decided to grant this right from July to the end of September, 1939.)
4. NBA members in Yangon can buy State Lottery tickets at one kyat and 13 pennies.- NBA members in rural areas can buy the tickets at the same price, but the postage is to be borne by themselves. The best way is for five members to collectively buy five tickets for 9 kyats and one penny. With postage 4 pennies, they are to remit 9 kyats and 5 pennies by postal Money Order. (Note: There pennies in one kyats). - (NBA members from rural areas are to attach the membership recommendation, endorsed by the NBA representative, with the Money Order.)
5. In a town where there are more than 50 members, if they have an occasion for religious and social affairs, involving all, (apart from national affairs), and need the Public Address system, they can inform, with signatures of all the members, the Nagani Books Ltd in Rangoon, Nagani will lend the amplifier with loud-speakers free of charge. If they hire them from other places, they will be charged 30 kyats per day. However, the transportation cost will be borne by the members of the town.
6. When a new Burmese film is shown, NBA will arrange for the members in Rangoon and those from rural areas on visit in Rangoon to see it at half the fare in 8-penny row and 1-kyat row. This will be arranged as opportune. The films under this arrangement will be advertised in newspapers.

“Reform the country with literature.” It is Nagani’s another slogan. Nagani strictly followed this slogan. It linked the people with literature. It even co-opted senior and junior government officials under the British into their fold. It was the true attitude of Nagani towards the people, which can be observed in the following NBA announcement.

Nagani Books Association

I called on Chief Minister Dr Ba. Maw and had discussions. He has said the Government of Burma agrees with the objective and action of Nagani Books Association, a centre of disseminating knowledge. He has assured me that the Government does not object to senior and junior government officials joining NBA as members.

Thein Pe
Nagani Books Association
151 Scotts Market
Rangoon

Nagani books distribution centre

“The best, the cheapest and the largest.” It was the slogan of the Tun Aye Centre (or) Distribution. U Tun Aye split from Nagani in June, 1939, and founded Burma Books Distribution Centre. When Nagani was transformed into a company, U Tun Aye, who was also keen on publishing, seemed determined to share a sense of politics, as the way Nagani did, with the people by bringing out literature of aesthetics and adventure and good biographies. He took part in founding Nagani, and undertook to distribute books published by Nagani.

The centre’s logo was a circle, inside which is the map of Burma in red. The word “circulation” was printed across the map. The first book it published was “Dhanashin Lawka” (The World of Capitalists), a well-known book authored by Thakin Ba Hein. In practice, Nagani and the Distribution centre played the head and tail of a coin in serving the literary duty in their struggle for independence.

Progressive Thakins, student leaders and political leaders wrote for Nagani, Tun Aye Distribution Centre also published books compiled by Nagani executives. Tun Aye was a suffix of Nagani. Books of Nagani and Tun Aye aimed at regaining independence and resistance. In the book “Lay

Nat Maung”, authored by Tet Toe and published by Tun Aye Centre, Theikpan Maung Wa wrote, “Nagani and Tun Aye Centre are the publishing houses that bring out good books. Nagani is involved in national affairs and Tun Aye in literature.”

When the distribution centre was separately setup and announcement was issued. The publications carry the words, “151 Scotts Market, Tun Aye Book Centre. Distributor: Tun Aye.” Later, the centre was named “Burma Books Distribution Centre,” located at 257-261 Phayre St. (Pansodan St). Later, a printing press was setup. As Nagani distributed “Nagani song,” U Tun Aye distributed the song “Dhanashin Lawka”. It nearly copied the book distribution system adopted by Nagani. It announced, “Reading Rates: 1 kyat and 8 pennies (for three months), 2 kyats 12 pennies (for six months) and 5 kyats (for 12 months). If those who wish to read for six months have remitted the fee in advance, books will be sent, free of postage.” Tun Aye Centre fixed the prices of books at not more than 8 pennies. This stirred the book publication circles. The books carried report. When Thakin Htein Win to Tun Aye Book Centre was arrested, the news was carried by books. Though the prices of ink and paper were rising towards the war, the centre announced that it would maintain the “8 pennies” price.

It has been announced on the back cover of “Bon Ar-nar-shin,” written by Thakin Tin Maung and published in May, 1940, that the book “Burma Parliament and H.G Wells” to be translated by Tet Toe would be published. However the book was not published. It is assumed that Tun Aye Books Centre came to a halt when the world war spread to Burma.

2. Maung Zeyar, Nagani Sarzu¹

Translation: Ye Nyunt

Nagani Sarzu means the list of rare books (except journals and magazines) published by the Nagani Book Club, which was formed on 4th November 1937. The Nagani Book Club (later the Nagani Publishing House Ltd) stopped publishing books during December 1941 when the flames of the Second World War reached Myanmar. It published altogether 71 books during its four-year existence.

The first book the Nagani Book Club Published was U Lun's biography written by Maung Thein Pe (Thein Pe Myint). The book was edited by Myoma Saya Hein and the additions to it were written by Deedoke U Ba Cho and Myoma Saya Hein himself. It also included photographs connected with the life of Saya Lun, who was also known as Thakin Kodaw Hmaing. It is a very popular book in Myanmar literature and it has been published many times. It was especially Thein Pe's foreword to it entitled "The Rebel Writer of Olden Days" that caused enormous repercussions in connection with Myanmar literary criticism.

The following are the books published by the Nagani Book Club and mentioned by alphabetical order² according to years.

1937

1. Burmese Drama (by Maung Nu); 2. Political History (by Ba Khine); 3. Nationalism (by San Yat-Sen); 4. U Lun (by Maung Thein Pe);

1938

5. *Kalar Barmar Taikpwe* (The riot between the Indians and the Burmese) (by Maung Thein Pe); 6. Jose Rizal (by Mogyo); 7. Socialism (by Thakin Soe); 8. The *Pyithu Arnar* (People's Power - First Volume), the French Revolution, (by Maung Thein Pe); 9. The *Pyithu Arnar* (People's Power - Second Volume), the English Revolution and the American War of Independence (by Mogyo); 10. Burma Affairs (by Writer Nyunt Paung); 11. How to produce one upmanship (First Volume) (by Thakhin Nu); 12. Way out of poverty (First Volume) (by Maung Nu); 13. Way out of poverty (Second Volume) (by

¹ Titel auf Birmanisch: နဂါနီဇာဇု. Veröffentlicht in *အမှတ်* (Recollection) 2005, Band 3, pp. 7-13.

² The alphabetical order follows the Burmese alphabet and is not changed in this translation.

Maung Nu); 14. Student's Strike (First Volume) (by Maung Thein Pe);

1939

15. Invisible Soldiers (by U Kyaw Tint); 16. Political Map (by Thakin Hla Pe); 17. World's God of death (by U Kyaw Tint); 18. *Kyaung Tharmyar Ah-ye-daw-bon* (The Students' Movement by Thakin Ba Hein); 19. Me and Michael Collins (by Myo Ma Saya Hein); 20. My fight for Irish Freedom (by Myo Ma Saya Hein); 21. Japanese Spy (an editor); 22. Japanese Spy (by U Ba Tin); 23. *Sit Yaung Chi* (The Rays of War) (by Dagon Khin Khin Lay); 24. Turkish Dictator (by U Tun Kyaing) 25. De Valera (by U Nyi Pu) 26. Capitalism (by Hla Shwe); 27. Pantha Ma Sa U (First Volume) (by Thakhin Ba Thaung); 28. Pantha Ma Sa U (Second Volume) (by Thakhin Ba Thaung); 29. Burmese Problems (by U Myo Shu); 30. Lenin (by Nagani); 31. Man (by Zay Ya); 32. How to produce one upmanship (Second Volume) (by Thakhin Nu); 33. Lincoln (by Shwe U Daung); 34. Student's Strike (Second Volume) (by Maung Thein Pe); 35. "Hitler and Chamberlain -- who is wrong?" (by Thein Pe); 36. What Hitler has done (by Shwe U Daung); 37. King Asoka Biography and stone inscriptions (by Thandwe Maung)

1940

38. *Kaba Yanthu* (The enemy of the world) (by Dagon Khin Khin Lay); 39. *Kaba Hlyow-het Ahthin-Myar* (The World's Secret Organizations) (by Mya Daung Nyo); 40. World War and Burma (by Thakin Aung San & Others); 41. Gandalarit (by Thakin Nu); 42. Suez (by U Tun Aung Kyaw); 43. Saw Mon Hla (by Ohn Myint); 44. Soviet Democracy: A first hand experience (by U Tun Pe); 45. Theory and Practice of Socialism (First Volume) (by U Ba Tin); 46. Long love – Life between Husband and Wife (by Hla Shwe); 47. Chinese Revolution (by Tun Pe); 48. Our Shan State (by U Ohn Myint); 49. Doctor Thaung Hteik (First Volume) (by Shwe U Daung); 50. Dr Thaung Htike's Sondauk-hmu-gyi-myar (Second Volume) (by Byuha Khin); 51. The Paris Revolution (U Kyaw Tint)³ 53. My beloved son (by U Aye Kyaw); 54. May (by Dagon Tayar) 55. Burma Today (by Myo Nyunt); 56. Our Duty (by Thet Phone Gyi Thakhin Thein Pe); 57. *Linn Yone Ni* (Red Eagle) (by Thakin Tin Maung); 58. Heroes, (by Pathein Ko Ko Lay); 59. Your fight and your fate (by Mya Daung Nyo); 60. This and That (by Myoma Maung and Others); 61. *Asia Ah-twin-ye* (The Inside Affairs of Asia) (by an Editor); 62. *The Ireland Thabo Bomb Ah Phway* (The Ireland

³ Number 52 is missing as well as the name of Thakin Ba Thoug's book on „Warship Wolfe“ which according to Maung Zeyar was not a Nagani publication (see below ...).

Bombing Team) (by Mya Daung Nyo); 63. Irish revolution (by Myo Ma Saya Hein); 64. Irish Martyr (by Thandwe Maung);

1941

65. Karl Marxism (by Thakin Bo); 66. My beloved husband (by Shap Ni); 67. *Yadanadipa* (Treasure Island) (by Dagon Shwehmar); 68. Fight for independence (by Thakatho Hsu Myaing); 69. *Thuhlyo Maryar* (The Guiles of a Spy) (by Byuha Khin); 70. Revolution (by Mya Daung Nyo); 71. *Ngwe Taung Yan* (Silvery Beach) (by Nagani Myo Myint Maung).

The list of the books published by the Nagani Book Club as presented in this paper is based on "List of books published by the Nagani Book Club" by Maung Kyaw Hoe for the Yangon University Library Education Department in 1975 after being revised and necessary editing made on the basis of the Nagani books available at the National Library. For instance, in Maung Kyaw Hoe's list, the book *Tike Thinbaw Winpalway* (Sea wolf Cruiser) by Thakin Ba Thaung is shown as one published by the Nagani Book Club. He admitted that he had not found the original copy of the book and that he included it in his list on the basis of an article written by Maung Thit Lwin in the *Hanthawaddy Daily*. However, since we have found a copy of Thakin Ba Thaung's *Tike Thinbow Winpalway* at the National Library, we have excluded *Tike Thinbaw Winpalway* from the list of the books published by the Nagani Book Club. The fact is that *Tike Thinbaw Winpalway* was published by Myanmarpyi Publishing House of Nagani U Tun Aye, who had split away from the Nagani Book Club. Similarly *Ngwe Thaung Yan*, another Nagani Publication, was not included in the list, but we have found a copy of it at the National Library and we have included it in the list. The first page of the copy of *Ngwe Thaung Yan* is missing and we found the words "Nagani Myo Myint Maung" on the last page as well as *Thuhlyo Lawka* (The World of Spies) by Byuhar Khin on the last page. It is designated as the Nagani monthly special publication No.1. No date is mentioned.

There is usually a picture of a Nagar (Dragon) on the cover or inside page of the books published by the Nagani Book Club. In the books published earlier there is also the slogans *Dah Doe Pyay*, *Dah Doe Mye* (This is our nation:- This is our land) under the picture of a dragon, but the slogan is not found in the books published later.

Although some books were printed by the Nagani Publishing House, the words that these were published by the Nagani Publishing House, were not printed and in some books the publishers' names were separately mentioned. They were:

1. *Kalar Barmar Taikpwe* (The riot between the Indians and the Burmese) by Maung Thein

Pe.

2. *Kyaung Tharmyar Ah-ye-daw-bon* (The Students' Movement by Thakin Ba Hein)
3. *Kaba Yanthu* (The enemy of the world) by Dagon Khin Khin Lay
4. *Sit Yaung Chi* (The Rays of War) by Dagon Khin Khin Lay
5. "Hitler and Chamberlain - who is wrong?" by Thein Pe

There was no figure of a dragon on the *Kalar-Barmar-Taikpwe* (Riot between Indians and the Burmese). The publisher was Writer Maung Thein Pe himself. This book had the full support of the senior members of the Nagani Book Club and was distributed free to all the members of the club. This little book was published many times and over 100,000 copies were sold. Later the name of the book was changed to *Barmar-Kalar-Taikpwe*.

The figure of a dragon was also absent in the pages of *Kyaung Tharmyar Ah-ye-daw-bon* (The Students' Movement) by Thakin Ba Hein published in 1939. It is mentioned in the book that it was published by the All Burma Students Union for raising fund and distributed by the Nagani Publishing House. It was formerly announced that the book was to be written by Thakhin Aung San.

There was also no figure of a dragon in the *Kaba Yanthu* by Dagon Khin Khin Lay published in 1940. Although it was printed by the Nagani Publishing House, expenses were borne by a government department. Over 10,000 copies were sold out for government's propaganda purpose.

Although there was the figure of a dragon in Dagon Khin Khin Lay's book *Sit Yaung Chi*, it included the words -- Copy right is with entirely Dagon Khin Khin Lay's. Similarly there was no figure of a dragon in the pages of Thein Pe's "Hitler and Chamberlain" -- who is wrong? Published in 1939. The words "Published by Thein Pe, No. 29, Padonmar Street, Sanchaung" were found in the book. All these show that the number of books actually published by the Nagani Publishing House was 66.

The names of the authors were mentioned in *Lumyo-ye Tayar* (The Theory on Races) published in 1937 and "*The Pyithu Arnar* (First Volume), the French Revolution", published in 1938. It was Thakin Ba Thaug who wrote them. Similarly the name of the author of the books "Jose Rizal" and "*Pyithu Arnar* (Second Volume) the English Revolution and the American War of Independence" published in 1938 was mentioned as Mogyo but the real author of these books was Thakin Ba Thaug. At that time he was in jail and he wrote the books in the jail and they reached the publishers through Che-hlyin U Ohn Khin. The author of "The Japan *Thuhlyo*" (the Japanese Spy) published in 1939 was mentioned as "an editor" but the author was Reporter U Tun Pe (later U

Tun Pe of Htoon Daily). The author of the *Asia Ah-twin-ye* (The Inside Affairs of Asia) published in 1940 was mentioned as an editor, but the writer was U Ba Khine. U Ba Khine was the one who wrote "The Political History of Myanmar" published by the Nagani Publishing House in 1937 and he was popularly known as Fabian U Ba Khine. He was the one who wrote the *Dr Thaung Htike's Sondauk-hmu-gyimyar* (Second volume) and *Ngwe-thaung-yan* (A Silvery Sandy Beach). The author of *Thuhlyo Maryar* (The Guiles of a Spy) was mentioned as "Byuhar Khin": but actually it was U Khin Maung (Myanmar Byuhar Journal).

The book published by the Nagani Publishing House, "The Ireland Thabon Bomb Ah Phway" (The Ireland Bombing Team) and *Kaba Hlyowhet Ahtin-Myar* (The World's Secret Organizations) was banned by the British government. So it goes without saying that the books published by the Nagani Book Club were the authentic proof of the Aims and "Objectives as well as the activities of the Nagani Book Club. The Nagani Sarzu is presented to the public to enable them to correctly assess the role of the Nagani Book Club in the struggles for Myanmar's independence and its role and its endeavors in the Myanmar literary world.

3. Maung Zeyar, Thakin Ba Thaung & Nagani¹

Translation: Ye Nyunt

The Nagani Book Club was established on 4th November 1937. The founders were Thakin Nu, Thakin Soe and Thakin Than Tun. It was situated at No 150, Scott Market (Bogyoke Aung San Market). The fund for the establishment of the club came from Thakin Nu and Ko Tun Aye, who contributed K 500 each. Ko Tun Aye acted as the secretary of the club. Later Thakin Chit, Ko Tun Shwe, Thakin Htein Win, Tet Phone Gyi Thein Pe and Myoma Saya Hein became members. The name “Nagani” was given by Deedoke U Ba Cho. Thakin Nu and Ko Tun Aye were Saturday-borns and according to astrology their zodiac signs were “Dragon”, which is called “Nagar” in Myanmar and Deedoke U Ba Cho added “Ni” (red) to the name and so he coined a new word “Nagani” (The Red Dragon).

The aims and objectives of the Nagani Book Club were:

- (1) to enable one and all to systematically study and understand the true principles and policy of the Nagani Book Club
- (2) to ensure the coming into existence of selected political and military leaders and
- (3) to assess the strength and the steps of those fighting against imperialism in other parts of the world.

The Nagani Book Club carried out organizational work to get new members with its slogan “open the Treasury of World’s Literature with a ten-anna key” buying a copy a month. It sold to its members just for 10 annas a copy which cost two rupees and a half. A member had to pay a fee of three rupees and 12 annas for a six-month period and seven rupees for the whole year. They also received some books free of charge from time to time.

The Nagani Book Club had about 5000 members in those days. The main supporters of the club were the Doh Bamar Asiayone ‘Our Burma’s Organization’ and the student leaders.

The books published by the Nagani Book Club were about political concepts and theories, books on anti-imperialism, anti-fascism, anti-Nazism, the Socialist and Communist ideologies and theories and, biographies. There were also a few educative books, novels and plays published by it. The Nagani Publishing House stopped its publishing work early in 1941, the year the Second World War came to the East. During its existence for a little over three years the Nagani Book Club published

¹ Source: - The articles were translated by the

over 70 books which contributed towards the struggle for independence. The aims and objectives of the Nagani Book Club were printed on the latter pages of the books published by its publishing house.

The Nagani Book Club, which was established not for financial purposes but for contributing towards the fight for independence, published five books written by Thakin Ba Thaung, who was its founder. All of them, except “Pantha Ma Sar Oo”, a novel, were on political subjects. They were published not under his name “Thakin Ba Thaung” because he was behind bars during that period. The books were “Theory on Races (1937), “The First Volume of “Pyithu Arnar” (Peoples’ Power) and the “French Revolution (1938)”. “The Second Volume of Pyithu Arnar”. The English Revolution and American War of Independence (1938), and the biography of Dr. Jose Rizal (1938). “Theory of Races – 1937” is a translation of the “San Minhui Chu” (The Three Principles of the People) by Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the great national leader of China. The Nagani Publishing House published that book in 1937 without mentioning the name of the author. It was the fourth book published by the Nagani Publishing House. The foreword of the book was written by Deedoke U Ba Cho and dated 2-3-1938.

“The Pyithu Arnar, First Volume and the book..... in 1938 was a translation of the second part “Democracy” – “The three principles of the People” by Dr. Sun Yat Sen. The name of the author was not mentioned. The foreword of the book was written by Thein Pe and dated 25-7-1938.

The Pyithu Arnar, Second Volume..... and the 1938 book was also a translation of the second part of “Democracy - The Three Principles” of Dr. Sun Yat Sen. It was in two volumes and was published under the pen name Mogyo by the Nagani Publishing House in 1938.

The Nagani Publishing House published the biography of Dr. Jose Rizal also under the pen name Mogyo in 1938. It was the fifth book published by the Nagani Publishing House. Thakin Ba Thaung, the author of the book, admitted that he had translated it while he was in jail.

Thakin Ba Thaung translated all those books while he was in jail and his friend U Ohn Khin, helped him make contact with the Nagani Publishing House. U Thein Pe Myint later explained matters relating to those books. U Thein Pe Myint was the one who wrote the foreword of the First Volume of Pyithu Arnar (Peoples’ Power) under his surname Thein Pe. In it he explained, “The Nagani Publishing House came into existence just before the outbreak of the Second World War. At one time U Ohn Khin (Che Hlyin) brought out a book from inside the prison, and gave it to me. It was a book translated by Thakin Ba Thaung, who was under detention in prison. Thakin Ba Thaung translated the great Chinese leader, Dr. Sun Yat Sen’s San Minh Chu and other books. U Ohn Khin

stealthily brought them out. The Nagani Publishing House published books entitled “Lumyo Yayyar Pyithu Arnar” (Problems of Races and the People’s Power) and “Pyithui Wunsar” (the People’s Subsistence-Crops) with some of them under the pen-name “Mogyo”. They could not be published under Thakin Ba Thaug’s name. The manuscripts of the books given to me by U Ohn Khin were “The First Volume of Pyithu Arnar” (Peoples’ Power and the French Revolution). I edited them and wrote the forewords”.

V. MISCELLANEA

1. Bogyoke Market, March 2008



Scotts Market, West Wing No. 151, the first office of Nagani, March 2008,
with Thakin Hla Kun

2. Nagani Policy not Changed¹

(Translation: Chit Thein Oo)

I found an article entitled “Has Nagani changed its policy?” in the 12th Waxing Day of Ta-baung (Tuesday) issue of the Thuriya Daily. I would like to explain that the policy of Nagani has never changed and will not change in future. It will remain as it has always been.

I would like those wishing to know about Nagani to note that the Nagani Book Club and the Nagani Publishing House Ltd are two separate entities. The principal policy of the Nagani Book Club is to fight against imperialism and so the books and pamphlets which are published by the Nagani Book Club contain those that expose and attack imperialism. If it publishes books of knowledge, they will be ones that do not support or encourage imperialism.

Kaba Yanthu (The Enemy of the World), Sit-Yaung-Chi (The Light of War), Kaba Yokesone (The World of Pictures) and others were written by Dagon Khin Khin Lay and published by Dagon Khin Khin Lay’s Publishing House. The Nagani Publishing House (not the Nagani Book Club) accepted Dagon Khin Khin Lay’s books as job work and printed them and so the policy and ideas mentioned in “Kaba Yanthu” (The Enemy of the World), Lin-Yaung-Chi and Kaba Yoesone (The World of Pictures) are entirely Dagon Khin Khin Lay’s responsibility and they have nothing to do with the Nagani Publishing House. The Nagani Publishing House has accepted as job work not only books and pamphlets but also wedding invitation cards, and religious books. The Nagani Book Club is in no way responsible for the contents of these cards, and books. Before the Nagani Publishing House was established, Nagani books were published by “Law-ka-dan Publishing House” and “Myanmar Yokeshin Publishing House” (Myanmar Crimea). Those two publishing houses published Nagani books as job work and so they are not responsible for the policy and ideas contained in the Nagani books published by them.

¹ This text was published in April 1940 at the end of book number 45 (World War and Burma). For another translation and the Burmese text see Working Paper 8 of this series.

VI. APPENDICES

MYANMAR LITERATURE PROJECT



Starting with an investigation into the NAGANI BOOK CLUB

The project's

Working Papers

are published by

the **Department of Southeast Asian Studies of Passau University**

Already Published:

- No. 10:1, An Introduction into the Nagani Book Club
- No. 10:2, Thein Pe, *Saya Lun* and *Member of Parliament*
- No. 10:3, Ba Hein, *The World of Capitalists*
- No 10:4, Thein Pe, *Student Boycotters* (Two Volumes)
- No. 10:4.1, Additional Material on Students and Politics
- No. 10:5, Ba Khaing, *Political History of Myanma*
- No. 10:6, Nu, *Gandalarit*
- No. 10:7, Mogyo, *José Rizal*
- No. 10:8, Two Books on World War and Burma
- No. 10:9, Two Works on the History of the Russian Revolution
- No.10:10, Soe, *Socialism* and Chit Hlaing, *Memories*
- No. 10:11, Ba Hein, *Students' Revolution*
- No 10:12, Thein Pe, *Indo-Burmese Riot*
- No.10:100, Papers Presented at the Burma Studies Conference, Singapore 2006

Some Nagani Books
were scanned and are available on CD.
For details contact
habezett@t-online.de

All Working Papers published until now are available
at
<http://www.zoellner-online.org/mlp.htm>
and at the Online Burma Library
<http://www.burmalibrary.org/show.php?cat=2083>

INVITATION

Readers are invited to participate in the project by

- writing **comments and criticisms** on the contents of this and other volumes of this series;
- contributing **essays** on Burmese/Myanmar literature as a medium between the international world and Burmese society;
- providing **material** that sheds more light on the Nagani Book Club, its context and impact on Burmese intellectual and literary life;
- offering **assistance** as translators and commentators of book reports.

For contributions and questions, please contact:

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