

NATIONAL

Rakhine State Chief Minister delivers aid to Hindu women returned from Bangladesh
PAGE-2

**NATIONAL**

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker attends ceremony to hand over new fire engines
PAGE-2

SUNDAY SPECIAL



Pull-out supplement

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IV, No. 174, 3rd Waning of Thadingyut 1379 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Sunday, 8 October 2017

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi called on His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah of Brunei Darussalam yesterday afternoon at Istana Nurul Imam royal palace in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.

During the meeting, matters relating to increased bilateral relations and cooperation, especially conducting closer cooperation in the energy, health and education sectors, were discussed.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin, Myanmar Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam U Cho Tun Aung and officials accompanied the State Counsellor to the meeting. Accompanying the Sultan of Brunei Darussalam at the meeting was Brunei Darussalam Prime Minister's Office Minister, Foreign Affairs and



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi shakes hands with His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah of Brunei Darussalam in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. **PHOTO: MNA**

Trade Minister (2) H.E. Mr. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng.

Earlier in the day, the State Counsellor received Brunei Darussalam Prime Minister's

Office Minister, Foreign Affairs and Trade Minister (2) H.E. Mr. Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng at the State Guest House.

In the afternoon, Daw Aung

San Suu Kyi went to the Myanmar Ambassador's residence in Bandar Seri Begawan and met with embassy staff and families and discussed education, health

and social matters.

Yesterday evening, the delegation led by the State Counsellor departed from Brunei International Airport via special flight and was seen off by Brunei Attorney General, H.E. Datin Seri Paduka Hajah Hayati POK Dato Seri Paduka Haji Mohd Salleh, officials from the Brunei Royal Army and Police Force, the Chief of the Protocol Department, Myanmar Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam U Cho Tun Aung, Myanmar embassy staff and families. The delegation led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi arrived back at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport at 6:45 pm and was welcomed by Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, Brunei Darussalam Ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Pehin Dato Abdu'r Rahmani Dato Basir and officials. —Myanmar News Agency ■

U Nyi Pu pledges to improve infrastructure in N-Rakhine

RAKHINE State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu met with residents of villages in northern Rakhine State yesterday where terrorist attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) occurred in August, pledging to improve the communication, transpor-

tation and electrification there within a year's time.

"The state government is taking measures to improve the health, social, education, economy and livelihood of the people as the situation in Maungdaw returns to stability. So, the local

people should work hard with unity and can seek help from the state government," said U Nyi Pu at the meeting with the villagers.

Along with state government cabinet members, the Chief Minister visited the villages of Aungthayar, Hpawutchaung, Tarrein,

Thinbawhla and Laungdon and Taungpyolatwe in Maungdaw District.

The government is making arrangements to build the necessary infrastructure in the area while giving priority to the transportation, communication

and electrification sectors, said U Aung Kyaw Zan, Rakhine State Minister for Electric Power, Industry and Transportation.

During the trip, the officials fulfilled the immediate food and monetary needs of the local ethnic villagers.—GNLM ■

Want to Top up other phones?

Want to pay salary to your employees ?

Want to transfer money ?

Want to transfer withdrawal anytime ?

Want to shop at Gamone Pwint ?

Be Proud using mobile money service on

MPT, MECTel Sim Cards

Myanmar anywhere anytime anyone

MOBILE MONEY

First Myanmar Phone Money

STARMART Nine Mile Showroom- (9)Mile, Pyay Road, Yangon Township. Ph- 09 30860180, 01 9669713, 01 9669714 www.starmartninemileshowroom.com

Office- No(51), Boyarmyunt Street, Dagon township, Yangon. Ph: 09-31001520, 0931001521, 09-31001530, 09-31001531 Call Center- 1211, 1212 Hot Line: 3636, 3939 Website - www.myanmarmobilemoneyeasypay.com



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than hands over two fire fighting engines allocated to the township reserve fire brigade by the Myanmar Fire Service Department. **PHOTO: MNA**

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker attends ceremony to hand over new fire engines

A ceremony to hand over two fire fighting engines to the township auxiliary fire brigade was held at the fire brigade office in ward 4, Myawady, Kayin State yesterday morning, with the attendance of Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than.

“We were chosen by the people, so we will serve the people. We believe that we are responsible not only for our township but also for the whole country. We will fulfil the requirements of the people as much as possible”, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker said.

Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than then handed over a Dong-

feng fire engine allocated to the township auxiliary fire brigade by the Myanmar Fire Service Department. An Isuzu fire engine donated by the Border Guard Force command and central advisory general secretary Col. Saw Chit Thu and wife was also handed over on behalf of the donor by Major Naing Maung Zaw and was accepted by township auxiliary fire brigade official U Aung Soe. Afterwards, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, Hluttaw representatives and departmental officials sprinkled scented water onto the fire engines, as is the custom. —Htein Lin Aung (IPRD) ■

Rakhine State Chief Minister delivers aid to Hindu women returned from Bangladesh



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu delivers aids to Hindu Women. **PHOTO: THANT ZIN WIN**

U Nyi Pu, Chief Minister for Rakhine State, met with Hindu women and children who were abducted by ARSA extremist terrorists to an IDP camp in Bangladesh at the Maungdaw District General Administration Department yesterday.

At the meeting, the chief minister comforted eight Hindu mothers and presented K50 million to them. Eight Hindu women and six children who were abducted by ARSA extremist terrorists to an IDP camp in Bangladesh were brought back to Myanmar yesterday and gave their accounts of a bloody massacre by Muslim terrorists that killed at least 45 Hindu men who ended up in mass graves, according to local authorities. The eight Hindu women who witnessed the killings of Hindu villagers from Yebawkya Village by

extremist terrorists on 25th August were returned to Myanmar with a police escort following the government's demand to bring back them through diplomatic channels during the visit to Bangladesh on 2 and 3 October of a delegation led by the Union Minister for the State Counselor's Office. The eight women — Rica, 28, Onnica 20, Fawmilla, 18, Gaungga 20, Gura Puni, also known as Rushila, 19, Bina Falar, 22, Puja alias Rabia, 18 and Raj Kumari, 15, recounted their experiences on 25th August. A group of about 500 Muslims terrorists led by a foreigner in black clothing and Noru Lauk from Khamaungseik Village entered their homes in Yebawkya village at about 8 am on 25th August and attacked. They took away their belongings, jewellery and mobile phones.—Thant Zin Win ■

120th birthday event of Thakin Mya held in Yangon

The 120th birthday of Thakin Mya, the Chairman of Dobama Asiayone, was celebrated at Thakin Mya Park in Ahlone Township, Yangon yesterday morning by family members of Thakin Mya and Dobama Asiayone (New Generation) group.

In the morning, breakfast and offertories were donated to the Sayadaws as a 120th birthday donation of Thakin Mya.

After the donations to the sanghas, the attendees saluted the sanghas, people and students who sacrificed their lives for independence and democracy and observed eight seconds of silence to pray for the victims of the extremist terrorist attacks of the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) in northern Rakhine State.

The chairman of the event then delivered an opening speech and Yangon Region Chief

Minister U Phyo Min Thein and U Jimmy of the 88 Generation (Peace and Open Society) delivered speeches of honour and remembrance.

U Hla Kwunt, a political researcher, then read about the political life of Thakin Mya after putting on record the birthday messages.

“Thakin Mya played a primary role in the Myanmar Independence movement. Bogyoke Aung San and Thakin Mya have no political differences and are on the same page, i.e., thinking in a similar way. This history of Thakin Mya needs to be exposed for the people to know. Another thing is the disappearance of Dobama Asiayone nowadays. The event was organised because today's youth don't know about what 'Thakin' is”, said event organising general secretary U Aung Naing.

U Ye Myint Aung, the son

of Thakin Mya said “I am happy that this event is held. We were holding this event every year at our home. I am especially happy that this event was now being permitted to be held openly in Thakin Mya Park during the present government's time. A new generation of youths need to know the path made by Thakin Mya.”

The event was attended by Yangon Region ministers, persons from political circles, invited guests and residents. Alinka Wutyi traditional music band performed songs of national pride.

The Dobama Asiayone (New Generations) will continue organising annual commemorative events of Thakin Mya and will strive toward the erection of a Thakin Mya statue in Thakin Mya Park, Ahlone Township, Yangon. —Zaw Gyi ■



Chairman of Dobama Asiayone and attendees celebrating the 120th birthday of Thakin Mya at Thakin Mya Park in Ahlone Township, Yangon on Saturday. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI**

We need to respond to false news with true ones promptly

By Khin Maung Oo

THESE days, much has been said that a lie will go round the world while truth is still pulling its boots on. Quite right in saying so! Prior to making true news known to the public, destructive elements have already spread false news across the world, by fabricating invented news. That being so, international figures, especially those from western countries have been found to have put pressure in various ways on a smaller and weaker nation such as Myanmar, holding those false news as truth.

Accordingly, we are required to promptly respond to the false news which had covered up the true news and information. In performing the urgently needed task of getting rid of false ones with the true news, we are doing in our mother tongue, hence failure to gain success as hoped, in the international sphere because of the

language barrier. We are still suffering from false allegations until now. So, our media needs to be endowed with good command of the English language, skill in penetration, systematic analysis of complicated affairs and professional abilities so that news and information of truth can penetrate the wall of deliberate falsification erected by destructive elements for the global community to know the true situations.

In responding to the false news with accurate news and information, accuracy and promptness are of great importance. As regards evidence, it is necessary for us to acquire directly connected news and directly related things. Just after receipt of these, if we can expose true news and evidences via our media that can send them by courtesy of effective foreign languages to our targets—respective persons and media, surely we can get rid of false news and allegations.

In our effort to eradicate false allegations on northern Rakhine State affair, the latest evidence and disclosure of their relations are the ones of great essentiality.

Those evidences and their disclosure can erase groundless and inhumane allegations of ethnic cleansing and genocide.

After committing a massacre of Hindus at the refugee camp, eight Hindu women were abducted by ARSA extremist terrorists to the refugee camp in Bangladesh. Now, bringing them back to Myanmar is a sheer luck for them as well as the acquisition of solid evidence for the country to respond to false allegations with exact evidence. By using the English language as a communication tool effectively, the real image of the destructive elements has been uncovered vividly. Now the global community which has been inundated with false news and allegations can see

the true situation clearly.

Recently, one of the Muslim clerics in Syria, Sheikh Ahmad Badreddin Hassoun has spoken out in an interview with Indian News channel “World is One” that western media are exaggerating the amounts of Bengalis who fled Myanmar to Bangladesh many times a day, differently one from other. He added these were really fabricated in dubious ways, saying that these media, contrariwise failed to disclose the fact that Saudi Arabia put nearly 9 million Yemen refugees into trouble. His statement reveals that many media are posting false news.

We certainly must try ourselves for truth to cover the whole world by upgrading our media in quality and technology, for spreading evidence of truth worldwide through the effective use of the international language, in responding to news of falsity with genuine ones. ■

First global pledge to end cholera by 2030

GNLM with World Health Organization

CHOLERA, which is spread through contaminated water, kills about 100,000 people every year.

It is the first time governments, the World Health Organization, aid agencies and donors have made such a pledge two days ago to end cholera by 2030 while the preventable disease still sickens 2.9 million people every year and kills 95,000 people is a global badge of shame.

Disease of the poor

Cholera is an acute diarrhoeal infection caused by ingestion of food or water contaminated with the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*.

Cholera is a diarrheal disease. The bacteria that causes cholera lives in coastal waters and in brackish rivers. It thrives where there is poor water treatment, poor toilet sanitation and poor hygiene. It's caused by eating or drinking contaminated food and water.

It can spread quickly and widely in cramped, dirty conditions.

The infection is cheap to treat with rehydration salts, and easy to avoid altogether if people have access to clean water and decent toilet facilities.

But about two billion people globally lack access to clean water

and are potentially at risk of cholera, according to the World Health Organization.

The UN health agency says weak health systems, and outbreaks not being detected early enough also contribute to the rapid spread of outbreaks.

Forty-seven countries are affected by cholera, and the WHO expects the global cholera situation to get worse, which is behind its urgency to end the disease.

Malnutrition plays a role

Malnutrition is also a factor. Jesse Hartness is the senior director of emergency health and nutrition at Save the Children, an agency that has been working to control the cholera outbreak in Yemen.

“There’s a cycle of illness and malnutrition where you have a child who is sick, and they lose their appetite,” Hartness said.

“They are dehydrated from having diarrhea, they lose weight, and, once they are malnourished, that also drives their vulnerability to additional illness.”

Anyone can get cholera, but children, pregnant women and the elderly are most at risk.

Yet, cholera is not difficult or expensive to treat. Hartness said it is simple if the disease is caught early and if you can provide hydration to

the less severe patients so they don’t become severe patients who require more intensive treatment.

But in places ravaged by flooding and other natural disasters, or by manmade disasters like war, or in crowded refugee camps, sanitation is hard to maintain. Water can’t be treated properly. Human waste can’t easily be disposed of hygienically, so in addition to providing aid, organizations like Save the Children find themselves trying to rebuild sanitation systems.

No more disease of the poor-cholera-by 2030.

tion systems.

The WHO says about 2 billion people globally lack access to clean water.

‘Badge of shame’

The charity Wateraid estimates it would cost \$40 (£30) per person to provide water, sanitation and hygiene.

“Looking around the world, the map of cholera outbreaks is essen-

tially the same as a map of poverty and marginalisation.

The oral cholera vaccine is another important part of the fight against this enduring disease.

It only offers protection for up to 3 years. But in situations where outbreaks are highly likely, it can save thousands of lives.

“The vaccine alone doesn’t solve the problem, the water and sanitation is a more long-term solution,” said Dr Seth Berkley, chief executive of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisations.

“In the interim, we need to work to ensure we are doing both.”

Northern Europe and the US managed to eliminate cholera 150 years ago.

Tuesday’s pledge aims to, finally, achieve that goal for some of the world’s poorest people.

Estimated global annual cholera cases:

- India: 675,188 cases, 20,266 deaths
- Ethiopia: 275,221 cases, 10,458 deaths
- Nigeria: 220,397 cases, 8,375 deaths
- Haiti: 210,589 cases, 2,584 deaths

Source: Johns Hopkins University

Three communities still live peacefully in two of the villages we visited: Robert Chua

A wide-ranging interview with Singapore Ambassador to Myanmar Robert Chua by the Global New Light of Myanmar and MRTV touched upon democratic and economic reform, peace process and bilateral relations between Singapore and Myanmar.

Q: Singapore and Myanmar started diplomatic relations in 1966 so please tell us how there will be strengthening ties between Singapore and Myanmar.

A: I think our two countries' relationship reflects a relationship between neighbors and old friends. Our founding Prime Minister Mr. Lee Kuan Yew visited your beautiful country to see Myanmar's development and to build close relations at the leaders' level and economic cooperation.

We are always confident in the calibre of the Myanmar people. So we have concentrated on supporting Myanmar in capacity building of your civil servants through training programmes and study visits in Singapore as well as setting up here the Myanmar-Singapore Training Centre in 2001 in support of Myanmar as a new member of ASEAN. I'm glad through all these years of training programmes, we have been able to contribute to the training of over 15,000 civil servants across all fields. When people say that Myanmar lacks capacity, I say "no", as countries like Singapore have been contributing to Myanmar's human resource development. The other areas we are helping in this field are scholarships for your talented students to study in Singapore and our Prime Minister Lee Hsien Long opened the Singapore-Myanmar Vocational Training Institute (SMVTI) in Yangon last year. It offers training in electronics and electrical work, facilities management, engineering services, and hospitality and tourism. We believe these areas are needed in Myanmar's opening economy. The courses are designed in consultation with the Myanmar government. I'm happy that three batches have graduated so far. SMVTI will contribute 800 trained workers yearly for the Myanmar economy. I'm confident that Singapore will continue to support Myanmar in its journey to become a middle-income country and a democracy in the years to come.

Q: Can you tell us your impression about Myanmar's democratization process?

A: When I first visited your beautiful country as a young diplomat in August 1980, I got a glimpse into your country at that time when it was under socialism. I've



Singapore Ambassador to Myanmar Robert Chua speaks during the interview with GNLM and MRTV at the Embassy of Singapore in Yangon. **PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR**

But I was heartened that in two of the villages we visited amid all these conflicts and tensions, three communities could still live peacefully - Muslims, Rakhines, and Hindus. I asked them "why is it you can still live peacefully after so many years" and they said they learned to live together with common interests.

seen three governments' governance since I came back and started my diplomatic posting in 2006. It's challenging as Myanmar has a big geographical size and 135 different races. I think for any government and any leader of the day, to bring together such diverse peoples is a challenge. Your leaders since independence led by General Aung San have grappled with this challenge. I ask myself as a political science student, what does it take for a country that has all the resources that a country needs, to succeed in democracy? I think it is the challenge of nation building and bringing all the States and Regions together in the spirit of moving forward together. It is like a football team which I call "Myanmar United" where all players learn to work together to succeed.

I see the wisdom of the Myanmar people in a time of the euphoria about what's happening in the world of the 'Arab Spring'. The Myanmar people have been wise to want a 'Myanmar Summer' of warmth, reconciliation and finding a way forward after so many years of civil conflicts. This can be done with love and forgiveness as practised in all the religions in

this country. It is now a time of great hope and enthusiasm but some critics say "Is Myanmar ready for democracy?" I believe this transition started off with great hope and at times has become messy, and it is at an important turning point now. After the unfortunate events in Rakhine State, it is a critical time for the people and the government to come together in unity to preserve this process of creating a democracy that is appropriate for Myanmar. As a political science student, I understand that democracy is a concept that each country can fashion within its own circumstances. Singapore's democracy has been different because we've borne in mind that we are multi-racial too and we chose a path of political accommodation where all our races are accommodated within the principles of the rule of law and meritocracy under a policy of integration so that all our citizens can live, study and work together harmoniously.

Q: What do you think will be the challenges in the transition from war to peace?

A: I think the first step is how to stop the

fighting and you need a workable concept of a ceasefire that all parties must honour and implement. Then you can move to political dialogue to discuss the current proposal of a federal system. Federalism will mean some form of political, economic and administrative autonomy for each State and Region, and at the same time, addressing key issues like national security, sharing of resources and an education framework using a national language. All are touchy nation-building issues that Singapore also went through. The critical issue now is "what is a workable ceasefire"? If you have the current situation of "talk, talk, fight, fight", then of course mutual suspicion and trust deficit will continue. I think it is a tragedy for any country that protracted fighting is going on and will affect future generations, when peace can be restored and development can follow.

Q: Can you tell us about your recent visit to Rakhine State?

A: I will give my personal view on what I've seen. I looked back to my first visit to Rakhine State ten years ago in 2007 when a diplomatic tour was organized by the UN and the Myanmar government. When I look back at that visit and the recent one on 2 October 2017, I came back saddened. Ten years ago, I saw the different communities living side by side peacefully with some tensions. Today, I see destruction of homes, loss of lives, displaced people and the violence that started with the terrorist attacks last year. Violence starts a cycle of violence.

SEE SUPPLEMENT-H

Interview with Singapore Ambassador Robert Chua

FROM SUPPLEMENT-G

But I was heartened that in two of the villages we visited amid all these conflicts and tensions, three communities could still live peacefully - Muslims, Rakhines, and Hindus. I asked them “why is it you can still live peacefully after so many years” and they said they learned to live together with common interests. They do business together and respect each other, and if there is any concern, then it is a common concern for the whole village discussed in an inter-faith committee.

As your neighbours in the ASEAN family, we wish that urgent humanitarian assistance that will be delivered by the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Centre, can come in to support your government to help all the affected communities. The ASEAN family also shares the view that the violence must stop, and once stability is restored and the communities can come back to their villages, then it is time to look for a long-term political solution in this complex inter-communal situation with deep historical roots that will require reconciliation, dialogue and a peace process. Rakhine State has fertile soil and the rice is growing but because of the conflicts, the people cannot harvest the rice.

My personal view is that as the gov-

ernment work towards a recovery programme for all the communities, it can consider the integration approach that I saw in the two villages. Segregation can cause hatred and resentment.

Q: Singapore has so far been listed as the top investor in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone so what are the major challenges for Singaporean entrepreneurs making investments in Myanmar?

A: I'm glad that the data shows that cumulatively, Singapore is the second largest investor in Myanmar and consistently Myanmar's third largest trading partner. This shows Singapore's confidence in Myanmar's potential to grow as an economy and succeed. I've met Singaporeans who have been working and investing here for more than 20 years and that reflects their faith in the economic potential of your country. But for foreign investors, what gives them confidence for investing is political stability because investors don't like political risk. So the government of the day must create a stable political system. On the economic side, investors want certainty, rule of law, clear investment policies, rules and regulations, and also

a dispute mechanism to resolve business problems.

I've seen in the past five years from U Thein Sein's government till today, there has been a strong effort to open up the economy to welcome Foreign Direct Investment. But for a country that has been closed for quite some time, opening up requires confidence that FDI coming in will not swallow up local businesses.

Q: Could you explain more about law and order and clarity for investment policies?

A: I think investors that go to any country need clarity that there is clear and firm rule of law so that if there is any business dispute, they can seek recourse like arbitration or take it to the courts. Clarity is important when there are new policies. I understand from businessmen that whenever there is a new investment law, it is the implementing rules and regulations that give clarity on how their investments can be implemented.

Q: Singapore's Emeritus Senior Minister Mr. Goh Chok Tong held talks with President U Htin Kyaw over the development of SMEs, trade, invest-

ment. Could you tell us the current efforts of the bilateral achievements and challenges?

A: First, I'd like to backtrack that when Mr. Goh Chok Tong was our Prime Minister, he encouraged the first wave of investors to come in the 1990s and he had the wisdom to suggest to our businessman to help Myanmar's tourism given its beautiful scenery and rich cultural tapestry. He believed that if you grow your tourism sector, then it brings good revenue and creates jobs. Today we are looking at how other sectors can support Myanmar's economic development and for that, we have created the Singapore-Myanmar Joint Ministerial Working Committee that started over ten years ago. It focuses on three areas: financial cooperation, legal cooperation, and trade and investment. These are three areas that we believe from our economic development experience will support Myanmar's financial reforms and legal reforms which are important to underpin your foreign investment law and economic development. Both sides are now working to conclude a Bilateral Investment Treaty by the end of this year that will benefit our businessmen.

Some Different Attitudes and Opinions by Different Stakeholders on the Present Education System

FROM SUPPLEMENT-C

(4) Lack of Job Opportunities for these Arts Combination students

It is the most serious cause. After graduating with these Arts Combinations, they have lack of Job Opportunities except the chance of becoming tutors in their own departments, and as it is a very rare chance, they all have worries for their whole lives.

(5) Lack of Interests and Capacity on these Subjects by Teachers

It is also the important cause for this issue. As the System has been going on like that for many years since 1970s, all individuals who did not get higher marks forced to take the Arts Combinations, so many teachers on these subjects lacked higher levels of teaching skills. They all were so used to learn by heart whether they like it or not, whether they value it or not. But they study by heart just because they want to pass the examination. Their intention is just to pass the examination by hook or by crook.

These conditions cause to lower down the capacity of the teachers too.

(Here the researcher wants to say clearly that it does not mean all these graduates and teachers are lacking in capacity.) But most lack the ability to motivate their students and make the subjects interesting. They do not know how

to explain the bigger picture as they do not know themselves how these subjects are related to national development and fostering a love for the country and our different national races.

Imagine how these Arts teachers can encourage the whole Nation through their students to have patriotism and love for the country and the Nation during the time of fighting for our Independence. They can encourage the whole Nation indeed.

And even during our days as SATs in the High Schools, we had History and Geography Teachers who were the ideal persons for their students and all their classrooms were echoing with words of patriotism and love for the country and Nation.

But, it's a Great but too, after long, long years of these systems, people who value these Arts Combinations are becoming less and less. Teachers trained by Universities and Colleges are mostly with Science combinations, as they got higher marks to join the Institutes (now Universities) and Colleges of Education.

Sometimes there were no History or Geography teachers in a school. Most of the people come to believe that these are the subjects to learn by heart and then the principal asks any teacher to go and teach these subjects. As teachers who did not study these subjects in their University days had to go and teach

these subjects, they teach as if students have to learn by heart. They cannot get the real objectives of these subjects, for example, to study history is to learn what happened in the past, to take lessons from their mistakes and take examples from their victories. They lacked the capacity to teach these subjects well because they were not the persons who had studied these subjects in their University days. Far from encouraging patriotism and love for the country and the people, they could not even achieve the objectives of teaching arts subjects such as history and geography.

That is what is happening in our Basic Education Schools nowadays.

And one more thing is, as all parents think these subjects can be gained by their children only by learning by heart, they do not want to let their children go to tuitions for these subjects. So, these become non-tuition subjects and teachers do not have interest to teach them. When one was assigned to teach it, it means to let that teacher go into the dark corner, the teacher becomes down-hearted and antagonistic to the subjects, so it leads to the lack of capacity and interest by the teachers and it also leads to the lack of interests by the students. The students fail to see the value of these arts subjects.

It is really a very sorrowful condition not only for the subjects, but also for our country and our youth.

(6) Shortage of Teachers who can point out the Importance and Usefulness of these Subjects

As the writer has discussed in the above 6th cause, most of these subject teachers do not have the capacity and ability and even interest to point out the Value, Importance and Usefulness of these subjects, therefore the students also do not realize the value of these subjects. Sometimes, just because of the present conditions of being Exam-centered conditions of our country, the teachers do not bother to explain the value, importance and usefulness of these subjects.

What a sorrowful condition in our country. And what a sorrowful finding for the researcher when she had to read such attitudes and opinions submitted by the students.

So, it is a serious issue to solve as soon as we can for the sake of our country and for the sake of our youth.

Let's continue to discuss what we can do for these issues in the coming week. The writer will discuss as much as she can but it is a matter for the whole nation and our country.

So, the writer would like to invite all who are interested in this matter to please contact her at the email address given below: email : <dr.numuwintin.rose.dawn@gmail.com>