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Sunday, 2 December 2018

Message sent by President U Win Myint on the Commemoration of the 98th Anniversary of National Victory Day

2nd December 2018

Dear Fellow Citizens of Myanmar,

On this auspicious occasion of the 98th Anniversary of National Victory Day of the Government of the

Republic of Myanmar which falls on the 10th Waning Day of Tazaungmone, ME 1380 (December 2), I wish you all "good health and all the best."

Looking back the history of the emergence of our National Victory Day celebration,

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends opening ceremony of Asia-Pacific Summit-2018

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and party attended the opening ceremony of the Asia-Pacific Summit 2018-Nepal held in Kathmandu, Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal yesterday.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and party arrived to the Hyatt Regency Kathmandu at 9:45 a.m. local time to attend the opening ceremony of the Asia-Pacific Summit 2018-Nepal.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Prime Minister of Nepal, the Cambodian Prime Minister, Philippines Vice President and leaders, Parliament Speakers, members of parliaments, and representatives of religious organizations from 45 Asia and Pacific countries totaling more than 1,500.



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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the speech at the opening ceremony of Asia-Pacific Summit 2018-Nepal. **PHOTO: MNA**

Honouring the 98th Anniversary of National Victory Day



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Message sent by President U Win Myint on the Commemoration of the 98th Anniversary of National Victory Day

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FROM PAGE-1

it originated from the protest against the restrictions of the Rangoon University Act on the right of Myanmar citizens to pursue university education by a group of patriotic Myanmar university students on the 10th Waning Day of Tazaungmone, ME 1282 (5 December 1920).

That protest aroused the national spirit of the students from all over Myanmar and it quickly spread throughout the country. Thus, that particular incident was not only concerned with university education but it also provoked strong patriotism against the unjust British colonialist rules. That national spirit grew considerably and became the sparks of revolution which finally led to gaining the Independence.

The ninth GCBA meeting held in

Mandalay in 1921 designated the 10th Waning Day of Tazaungmone, ME 1282, as the National Victory Day as it was the day when the university students organized the strike and achieved victory with the national spirit. Starting from that time, and even after the independence, Myanmar people have been celebrating the National Victory Day throughout the country in grand manner annually to uplift the national spirit of the people and to commemorate the great achievement in striving for the independence.

Now is the time Myanmar is convening the Union Peace Conference or the 21st Century Panglong Conference striving for the ultimate peace in the entire nation with the united effort of all nationals, and the success of which could pave the way to the genuine fed-

eral democratic rights for all nationals.

As Myanmar gained independence with the effort of the nationals and their strong national spirits, the people of Myanmar today can stand proudly as the citizens of the sovereign nation with great dignity. Due to the varied political beliefs held by different nationals and prejudices against each other, there have been conflicts among them, and consequently our country has been lagged behind.

Taking the lesson from the past all nationals must make every endeavor with firm determination and united effort to build a genuinely peaceful federal democratic nation and hand over the esteemed heritage to our young generation. This is the duty of all the nationals that we all must fulfill with the strong national spirit. We have put

great endeavor with complete unity to gain the country's Independence. In the same way, we all need to exert all our effort to build a genuine federal democratic nation. In order to do so, we must bear in mind the following objectives:

- Perpetuation and strengthening of Nationalism Uplifting the Union spirit
- Working together for the Union Peace
- Promoting all-round development of all national races
- Building a federal democratic nation

In conclusion, I would like to strongly urge all our fellow citizens to bear in mind these objectives when working hand in hand for the emergence of a federal democratic nation.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung inspects homes, roads in Rakhine State

UNION MINISTER for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung met with Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu in Sittway on 29 November and coordinated matters relating to regional development, human resources development, as well as road, bridge and low-cost housing construction works.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung also inspected 100 low-cost houses built by the Ministry of Border Affairs at Kyaukpandu Village, Maungtaung Township, and transferred the houses to the State Government to allocate local ethnic nationals. He also reviewed concerns raised by the local populace.

Afterwards, the Union Minister inspected the completed 13 mile Maungtaung-Waithali-U Daung concrete road constructed with fiscal year 2012-2013 funding, along with the Angumaw-Inndin-Kyaukpandu-Oo Daung concrete road built by Asia World Company.

In the evening, the Union Minister was briefed by an engineer-in-charge on the completed Shwezar-Pyinphyu concrete road, at the briefing hall. The Union Minister then inspected the completion of repair works on Pyinphyu-Hla



Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung meeting with authorities as he inspects houses in Taungbazar Village in Buthidaung. PHOTO: MNA

Phoe Khaung-Kyikanpyin road.

On the morning of 30 November, Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung inspected maintenance work performed on Buthidaung-Taungbazar Road, followed by a meeting with Mro and Thet ethnic nationals who were allocated 63 low-cost houses in Taungbazar Village, Buthidaung Township. The low-cost houses were constructed with funds from fiscal year 2017-2018.

The Union Minister also provided solar lamps to the ethnic nationals.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister inspected the Palinpyin-Aung Daing-Kyet Taw Pyin 3/1 mile road in Sittway Township and Shwe Mingan junction to Gangawkyun-Ywathit 3/1 mile earth road to be constructed with fiscal year 2018-2019 funding.

Also, the Ministry of Bor-

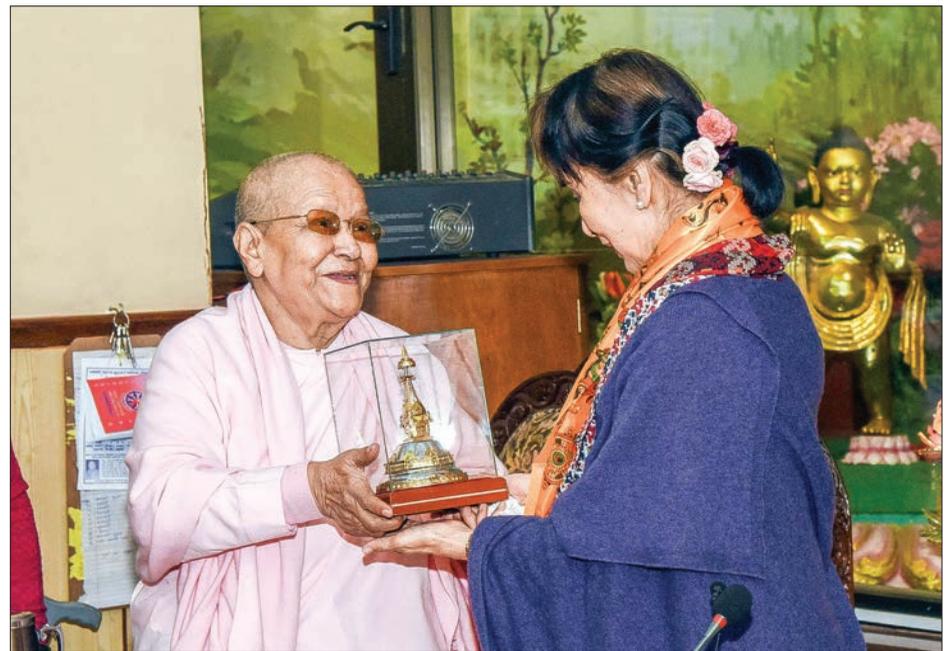
der Affairs is conducting border region development works consisting of constructing roads and bridges, acquiring potable and irrigation water, education, health, religious matters, provision of solar lamps and low-cost houses for local ethnic nationals.

In building low-cost homes for ethnic nationals in Rakhine State, the ministry has constructed 50 houses in Maungtaung

Township at Shwe Baho Village, 100 houses at Kyaukpandu Village, 50 houses at Nan Ya Kain Village and 18 in Khone Tai Village. In Buthidaung Township 63 houses were built in Taungbazar Village and 46 in Yathedaung Township in Awatar Village. Plans call to continue to fulfill requirements in other villages in the upcoming fiscal years, said an official. — MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi welcomed by locals at the Dharma Kirti Bihar nunnery in Kathmandu yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Nepalese nun Daw Dhammawadi presents a gift to State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in Kathmandu yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends opening ...

FROM PAGE-1

At the ceremony, Prime Minister of Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal Mr. K. P. Sharma Oli, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Philippines Vice President Hon. Maria Leonor G. Robredo and leaders, Parliament Speakers, members of parliaments, representatives of religious organizations from 45 Asian and Pacific countries delivered opening speeches.

The Asia-Pacific Summit, jointly organized by the Nepali Government and the Universal Peace Foundation (UPF), was held under the theme “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity, and Universal Values”

Later in the afternoon, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received Nepal-Myanmar

Friendship Association Chairman Mr. Shanker Ghimire, Advisor Mr. Sushil Bikram Shahi and members at the Soaltee Crowne Plaza Hotel and discussed matters relating to maintaining the good relations between peoples of the two countries and to create better friendship and relations and increasing bilateral cooperation.

Next, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi went to the Dharma Kirti Bihar nunnery and paid respects to Nepalese nun Daw Dhammawadi. Daw Dhammawadi had studied Theravada literature and scriptures in Myanmar and is conducting missionary works in Nepal to spread Theravada Buddhism.

Later in the evening the State Counsellor and party attended a dinner hosted at the Bao Xuang Restaurant by the Prime Minister of Federal



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for a photo together with Nepal-Myanmar Friendship Association Chairman Mr. Shanker Ghimire and members in Kathmandu yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Democratic Republic of Nepal heads of government attending (Translated by Zaw Min) in honor of heads of state and the summit meeting. — MNA ■

Mass walk held at Ngwesaung Beach as part of Ayeyawady Region Investment Fair

AS PART of the Ayeyawady Region Investment Fair, a mass walk was held for the first time at Ngwesaung Beach yesterday morning.



A mass walk event as part of Ayeyawady Region Investment Fair at Ngwesaung Beach yesterday. **PHOTO: PE ZAW**

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Magway Region Chief Minister Dr. Aung Moe Nyo, and Kayah State Chief Minister U L Phaung Sho were joined by Ayeyawady Region ministers, Hluttaw representatives, officials, diplomats, local and foreign business owners, tourists and local residents, who participated in the public walk.

The event was organized by the Ayeyawady Region government. It started off at Yamonar Oo Hotel at the beach, and included joint aerobic exercises near “Lovers’ Island” with an aerobic group, after which

participants walked back to the starting point.

Regarding the event, Directorate of Investment and Company Administration Ayeyawady Region Director U Soe Aung said, “This is the first time a mass walk has been held at Ngwesaung Beach. Many locals participated in the walk. It is good for health, as well as increasing cooperative relations among the people.”

As per the second day program of the Ayeyawady Region Investment Fair, a study tour of Ayeyawady Region, led by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung, officials from the Myanmar Investment Com-

mission (MIC) with JICA and JETRO, and local and foreign business persons, visited MIC permitted hotels and resorts, housing projects, and the Yuzana prawn and fish breeding ponds near Ngwesaung.

Later, the study tour visited projects carried out in Pathein Industry Park and Mya Kyun Tha Housing project.

The investment fair is being conducted with an aim for local and foreign businesses to understand the resources available and projects being conducted in the Ayeyawady Region and, ultimately, to attract more investment. — MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)

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Myanmar, Thai universities to ink MoU for cooperation

THE universities of Myanmar and Thailand plan to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for cooperation in the education sector very soon, according to Myeik University.

Myanmar's Myeik University and Thailand's Phetchaburi Rajabhat University will ink the MoU during the last week of January and the first week of February, 2019. The MoU will include extensive collaboration in education, cultural exchange programmes and research.

Delegates of seven universities from the Rajabhat Universities Network visited Myeik University on Friday, 30 November, prior to signing the MoU. On the first day of the study tour, the Thai delegates and faculty



Myeik University in Myeik, Taninthayi Region. Myeik University and Thailand's Phetchaburi Rajabhat University plan to sign Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation in Education. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

members of Myeik University discussed raising bilateral cooperation in 13 courses offered by Myeik University through a

sector-by-sector approach. Dr Ni Ni Oo, rector of Myeik University, said the key objectives of signing MoUs with overseas universi-

ties are to raise the skills of local students so they might assist in participating in the development of their region, as well as improve their employment opportunities.

Students and faculty members of Myeik University will also attend a study tour in Thailand for the third time.

Myeik University has signed eight MoUs with foreign universities and organisations, conducting research in Myeik, a city in Taninthayi Region located on the coast of an island on the Andaman Sea. Its activities include conservation of the natural environment, prevention of illegal wildlife trade and preservation of water resources.—Khaing Htoo (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin) ■

HIV infection in Sagaing Region mainly caused by drug injections

HIV infections in Sagaing Region occur chiefly because of intravenous injections, according to Sagaing Region Government Minister for Social Welfare Dr. Zaw Win.

"In Sagaing region, HIV infections can be attributed mainly to intravenous injections, with 20.77 per cent of infected patients having IV injections, as opposed to being infected by

female sex workers, which accounted for 4.85 per cent, and men who have had homosexual intercourse at 4.81 per cent.

World AIDS Day, which is held on 1st December annually, was also held at Township office complex in Monywa Town, Sagaing Region.

At the ceremony, Sagaing Region Government Minister for Social Welfare Dr. Zaw Win

delivered the opening speech, while Sagaing Region Public Health Department Head Dr. Win Lwin read a message sent by the Union Minister for Health and Sports in recognition of World AIDS Day.

Following the speeches, the World AIDS Day essay and art competitions winners were presented with prizes by officials.

"A total of 14 dispensaries

in Sagaing Region are offering methadone to HIV patients. Moreover, officials from Sagaing Region are providing supervision for conducting HIV blood testing and education campaigns to migrant workers, youths and prisoners," said Dr. Sandar Oo, deputy director for Sagaing Region Public Health Department.—Myo Win Tun (Monywa) (Translated by Hay Mar) ■

Heroin, Yaba tablets seized in Bhamo

Police seized heroin and Yaba tablets, valued at over Ks 10 million, from a house in Bhamo Township, Kachin State, on 1 December.

Acting on a tip, police searched a house belonging to Thar Oo, 50 in Thabyaygone Old Village, Bhamo Township,

Kachin State, where they discovered 4.5 grams of heroin and 2925 Yaba tablets.

Additionally, during their search of the house police found five soap boxes of heroin, weighing 50 grams and valued at Ks 11.3 million, along with Ks 38,000 earned

from drug sales.

Thar Oo reportedly jumped from a window when the police approached his house.

Police are now searching for Thar Oo, who escaped.—Win Naing (Kachin Myay)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Suspected drug user arrested in Indaw

A suspected drug user was arrested on Friday, 30 November, in Mawlu-Henu area, Indaw Township, Sagaing Region, according to a police report.

Htwe Aung, also known as Phoe Kya, was detained following an investigation by a special police unit comprising members of Indaw Township police and ward/township administrators. Acting on a tip-off, police raided Aung's home in Mawlumin Ward in Henu Village at around 5 p.m. on Friday. During the raid, officials said Htwe Aung attempted to flee from his home and threw away a plastic bag containing 0.3 grams of opium powder. The suspect has been charged with drug use, in violation of Section 16 (c) of the country's Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Ni Toe (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin) ■

30 tons of illegal teak logs seized in Bago

OFFICIALS arrested 11 men for illegally logging teak in Bago Yoma in Yedashe Township, Taungoo District, Bago Region, from 27 to 28 November, according to the township's forest department.

Acting on a tip-off, a combined team comprising forest police carried out raids in three areas in the forest for illegal logging over two days.

During the raids, they found 92 logs of teak wood, weighing about 19 tons, and 732 pieces of teak timber, weighing 10 tons, near mile post No.18 on the Koebin-Thagaya road and in an area south of the forest. They also confiscated nine motorbikes, five bullock-carts, ten cattle, a logging engine, and other equipment.

The authorities arrested 11 suspects, who will be charged under the Forest Law.

Bago region's forest department is making concerted efforts to crack down on illegal logging and smuggling in the region with cooperation from residents and relevant government departments.—MNA (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin) ■

Mineral exports decrease 28.6% in current fiscal year

THE export of mineral products during the current 2018-2019 financial year totalled US\$178.4 million, down by over \$71.5 million, or 28.6 per cent, compared with the same period last year, according to the Myanmar's Ministry of Commerce.

From 1 October through 23 November this year, private exporters sold \$178.3 million worth of mineral products to trading partner countries, whereas the public sector exported only \$0.049 million of minerals.

When compared with this time last year, the current export value of minerals by the public sector dropped significantly by \$88.4 million. Last year, the sector exported minerals valued at \$88.515 million.

Other products that saw a downward trend in export growth in the current FY included forest and agricultural products. Over the first 54 days



Photo shows ruby stones. Mineral exports decrease over US\$ 71.5 million compared with the same period last year. PHOTO: MNA

of this FY, the country's export of forest products declined slightly to \$26.07 million from

\$29.8 million, whereas agricultural exports decreased by only \$1.3 million.

According to the ministry, the country earned a total of \$2.113 billion from the export of

its seven major groups of commodities, consisting of agricultural, mineral, marine, animal and forest products, as well as manufactured goods and other products.

The figures went up by over \$450 million from this time last year.

During the mini-budget period from April to September this year, the country's mineral exports were valued at over \$1 billion, an increase of \$368 million over the same period last year.

In the ministry's yearly trade report, the export value of minerals was \$897 million in the 2011-2012 FY, \$399 million in the 2012-2013 FY, \$1.339 billion in the 2013-2014 FY, \$1.498 billion in the 2014-2015 FY, \$968 million in the 2015-2016 FY, and over \$1 billion in the 2016-2017 FY.—Swe Nyein (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Trade with Germany up \$76 mln in mini-budget 2018

MYANMAR-Germany bilateral trade exceeded US\$370 million during the mini-budget period from April through September this year, up \$76 million, or 25.5 per cent over the same time last year, the Ministry of Commerce reported.

During that period, exports between the two countries amounted to \$282.8 million, while imports were worth \$90.5 million. Germany, a member of the European Union (EU), is Myanmar's principal trading partner in the EU. Garments, coffee, dried tea leaves and agricultural products have been imported by Germany, which exports machinery, transport equipment, chemicals, foodstuff and beverages, aquaculture products and cosmetics, among other products to Myanmar.

Myanmar's exports out-perform its imports in bilateral trade with Germany. The trade between the two countries peaked during the

last 2017-2018 fiscal year at \$584 million, which saw an increase in value by over \$240 million from that of the previous 2016-2017 FY, when bilateral trade was \$342 million.

Myanmar-Germany trade was \$137 million in the 2011-2012 FY, \$187 million in the 2012-2013 FY, \$123 million in the 2013-2014 FY, \$147 million in the 2014-2015 FY, and \$153 million in the 2015-2016 FY.

According to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration, there were no new investments from Germany in the mini-budget period. Its investment in the 2017-2018 FY totalled \$10.4 million. Investments from EU member states mostly go into petroleum and natural gas enterprises, hotels and tourism firms, manufacturing and transport sectors, and livestock businesses.—Shwe Khine (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Border trade reaches \$1,229 mln, exports increase by \$185 mln

THE value of border trade from 1 October to 23 November this fiscal year increased by US\$ 204 million, compared to the same period in the last fiscal year.

Border trade this fiscal year hit \$1229 million, including \$865 million in exports and \$363 million in imports. This time last year, border trade was valued at \$1024 million.

Myanmar is trading with China, India, Bangladesh and Thailand. Sino-Myanmar border trade is carried out through the Muse, Lweje, Kanpiketee, Chin Shwe Haw and Kengtung gates,

while Myanmar is conducting its border trade with India via Tamu and Reed. The country's border trade gates with Bangladesh are Sittway and Maungtau, as well as Thailand via Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthaung, Myeik, HteeKhee, Mawtaung and Maese.

The increase in exports through border trade is due to the major growth in the Muse border trade camps, which performed the largest amount of trade among all 16 border trade camps.

The Muse border gate sees the largest volume and value

of total border trade, with an estimated value of more than \$537 million this FY, followed by Htee Khee with \$344 million and Myawady with \$119 million.

Myanmar exports agricultural products, forest products, animal products, minerals, fishery products, manufactured goods and other products, while capital goods, raw industrial materials and consumer products are imported into the country.

Currently, some 80 per cent of the country's external trade is carried out via sea routes.—Zwe (Translated by Hay Mar)

Winter crop cultivation loans granted in Pwintbyu Township

MYANMAR Agricultural Development Bank (MADB), under the Ministry of Planning and Finance, began issuing winter crop cultivation loans for 2018 to local farmers on 29 November, said U San Lwin, the bank manager of the MADB branch in Pwintbyu Township.

The loans are being granted, with the aim to enable local farmers to cultivate winter crops.

This year, the bank in-

creased the amount of loans for local farmers. Last year, the bank granted agricultural loans amounting to Ks 50,000 per acre, but this year the loan amount was doubled to Ks 100,000 per acre.

There are two village-tracts to be provided with agricultural loans this year, namely Ashay Lay Eain and Paukkon village-tracts, with 63 local farmers residing in the area.

There are 351 acres under

cultivation for winter crops in these villages.

Therefore, the bank is providing winter crop cultivation loans totaling Ks 35.1 million for 135 acres, said U San Lwin.

The borrowers have to submit their farmland ownership certificates, also known as form-7, on the availability of collateral to receive loans from the bank.—Ye Win Naing (Nyaung U) (Translated by Hay Mar)

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47-member leading committee meeting of 7th SSMN Committee concludes

THE 18th meeting of the 47-member leading committee of the 7th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee continued at the Wizaya Mingalar Dhammathabin Hall on Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon yesterday.

Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maharattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Suddhamma Jotika Bhamo Sayadaw Dr. Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa presided over the second day meeting and Joint-Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Agga Dhamma acted as the master of the ceremonies.

The meeting was attended by member Sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee.

At the meeting, member Sayadaws discussed the code of conduct, religious affairs and educational affairs, and the



7th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee concludes its 47-member leading committee meeting in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Joint-Secretary Sayadaw sought approval for the report of the work done in the six period by the

sub-committee. Also present at the meeting were Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture

Thura U Aung Ko, Deputy Minister U Kyi Min, Director-General of the Religious Affairs Department

U Myint Oo and officials. —MNA ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

BEHS (1) Lanmadaw marked as urban heritage with YHT commemorative Blue Plaque

BASIC Education High School (1) Lanmadaw, originally known as St. John's College and later as St. John's Diocesan Boys School, was honored with Yangon Heritage Trust's 24th commemorative Blue Plaque yesterday.

"This school turns 154 years this year. This school produced prominent persons, including Martyr Thakhin Mya, Sayargyi Min Thu Wun, Bo Moe Nyo and Thakhin Kyaw Sein, who was a member of the Thirty Comrades, and also outstanding persons in the military, civilian, political, economic, education, sports and arts fields," said U Aung Myat Kyaw, Chairman of the St. John School's Alumni Association.

The ceremony to inaugurated the Blue Plaque was attended by Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun and members of the Yangon Region Cabinet, members of the Yangon City Development Committee, members of the Yangon Herit-



BEHS (1) Lanmadaw in Yangon accepts the 24th commemorative Yangon City Heritage Blue Plaque yesterday. PHOTO: YANGON HERITAGE TRUST

age Trust and members of the school's alumni body.

The school, which is now known as B.E.H.S (1) Lanmadaw, was one of the earliest Christian missionary schools in Yangon. The school was founded in 1864 by Rev. Dr. J.E.Marks, who was also its first headmaster.

Originally, the school was temporarily housed in, including the Cottage and later the Woodlands, which were turned into study halls and accommodations for boarders. In 1869, the present site was secured to build a school building, for

which the foundation stone was laid by then-Commissioner of Burma Mr Albert Fytche. The buildings seen today was built from 1900 to 1908.

According to Dr. Marks' autobiography, entitled "Forty Years in Burma", the school started as "S.P.G Mission School" and was later named "St. John's School". However, the same was used by the Roman Catholic Girls' School, so the school adopted the name "St. John College, S.P.G". Originally the school only accepted boys, though in 1866 a nearby

house was rented to open another school for girls, (now B.E.H.S (1) Pabedan), with the help of Miss Cooke.

After WWII, this school continued to be famous as St. John's Diocesan Boys School, with its motto "WE ARE ABLE", and produced generations of famous alumni. The school was nationalized in 1965 and became B.E.H.S (1) Lanmadaw.

The school also became co-ed during the 1991/2 academic year when girls were offered admission for the first time. This school was famous as a

place where football was introduced to Myanmar (Burma). In 1878 one of the teachers, (Sir) James George Scott, also known as Shwe Yoe, taught students football. The first-ever organised match was played on the lawn of the school in 1879.

Daw Moe Moe Lwin, the Director of Yangon Heritage Trust, noted, "Among all the high schools in Yangon, B.E.H.S (1) Lanmadaw school, which was formerly known as St. John College, has not only historical value, but also the heritage values with its original settings as a school from the old days. Many generations of St. John's alumni would be proud of their alma mater, just as their school would be proud of them. It is important to fully use the established heritage of the city, including this school, and to conserve them for the future through proper maintenance."

Phillip Electronics Singapore Pte Ltd. contributed US\$ 75,000 for the Yangon Blue Plaques initiative. Aside from highlighting key cultural heritage locations, the contribution will also support research about historical sites, and the creation and installation of Blue Plaques that share the historical relevance and background of notable people and places across the city.—Myint Maung Soe ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)



Myanmar Broadcasters Association holds AGM, elects BOD

THE Myanmar Broadcasters Association (MBA) held its Annual General Meeting to elect its Board of Directors at Sky Star Hotel, Tamway Township, in Yangon yesterday morning.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint said the Myanmar Broadcasters Association was formed after the Myanmar Broadcasting Law was enacted in 2015.

The law guarantees the forming of a Broadcasters' Development Group, Broadcasting Council and Broadcasters Association. The law was enacted after the situation in 2015, and prior to 2015, were taken into consideration. However, amendments and changes are made to laws depending on changing situation.

While enforcing the laws, they need to be amended, added to, and sometimes revoked, depending on the arising of new situations.

"The Myanmar Broadcasting Law has been amended and related rules are still being drawn up. Once the rules are

enacted, a Broadcasting Council will be formed, its operation will start, and the council will be linked with the MBA," said the Union Minister. "Broadcasters believe that there should be a broadcasters' association. Today, it has been seen that some rules of the association are to be amended to ensure the work of the association can be performed speedily and efficiently. At the same time, thoughts must also be given towards how the association will function once the rules and Broadcasting Council come into existence," said the Union Minister.

Also, MBA Chairman U Khin Maung Htay delivered a message of greeting, and Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) Director General U Myint Htway, who chaired the meeting, explained the duties and responsibilities of MBA. Following this, the MBA Board Of Directors Report, Annual Financial Statement/Report and amendments to the memorandum and articles of association were approved and the



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint delivers the opening speech at the annual meeting of Myanmar Broadcasters Association in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

resignation of the current board was accepted.

Afterwards, the election and confirmation of a new MBA Board for the second three-year term, consisting of 16 directors, was conducted. Board members U Ko Ko of Shwe Than Lwin Media Group, U Khin Maung Htay of Forever Group and U Zaw Thet Maung of Myanmar International

Television (MITV) were elected and confirmed as Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary.

After the Board election, newly elected MBA Chairman U Ko Ko delivered a message of greeting and MRTV Director General U Myint Htway, who chaired the meeting, delivered a concluding speech.

Following the meeting, Un-

ion Minister Dr. Pe Myint and attendees took a commemorative group photo. The meeting was attended by officials from the Ministry of Information, MBA members, broadcasters and representatives.

MBA was formed in December 2015 and includes some 160 members.—MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Minister U Thein Swe meets representatives of Chin CSO in Kuala Lumpur

UNION Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe met on Thursday with representatives of a Chin civil society organization (CSO) in Malaysia at the Le Meridien Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. The meeting was organized by the Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia.

At the meeting, the Union Minister welcomed Myanmar citizens who want to return to Myanmar, advising them to directly contact the ambassador and labour diplomat at the Myanmar embassy. He continued to say

that the Government welcomes citizens who want to return to Myanmar, saying that abiding by the law can make it easier to obtain labour and social rights.

He stressed the need to find overseas jobs through licensed foreign employment agencies in Myanmar.

His ministry is raising awareness of seeking overseas jobs at departments as part of efforts for helping migrant workers not to be fall victims of brokers. —MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Union Minister U Thein Swe receives Chin CSO representatives in Kuala Lumpur. PHOTO: MNA



The 2nd day of Singapore Festival 2018 crowded with visitors in Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

Singapore Festival 2018 day two teeming with visitors

THE second day of Singapore Festival 2018 was continued on Bogalay Zay Street between Mahabandoola Road and Merchant Street, Botahtaung Township in Yangon at 4 p.m. yesterday, and was soon teeming with visitors.

U Win Aung, a visitor who lives in Botahtaung Township, said the festival is interesting because it displays many interesting things about Singapore, and is also unique for including events

for children, as well as the old.

In the second day of the festival, crowds were seen at food stalls, graffiti demonstrations by two experts, and photo shoots with wall posters of Singapore's major attractions, including Sentosa Island, Garden by the Bay, Resort World Sentosa, Wildlife Reserves Singapore. Other activities in Singapore were displayed through the combination of arts and Augmented Reality (AR) in

typical Singapore using modern electronic arts images, along with a screening of "7 Letters", There was also a drama film selected as Singapore's entry for the Best Foreign Language Film at the 88th Academy Awards, songs by Hellay and 88 Degrees Jazz Band, magic shows, a children's painting area and mini-playground for children.—MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

National spirit from a broad perspective

WITH National Victory Day upon us, let us take some time to ponder on its origins and what it means to possess national spirit. Looking back at the history of National Victory Day celebrations, we will find that it originated from the protests by a group of patriotic Myanmar university students on 5 December 1920 against the restrictions of the Rangoon University Act on the right of Myanmar citizens to pursue university education. That protest aroused the national spirit of the students from all over Myanmar and it quickly spread throughout the country. That particular incident was not only concerned with university education but it also provoked strong patriotism against the unjust British colonial rule. That national spirit grew considerably and became the spark of revolution which finally led to gaining Independence.

National spirit is the term for the collective thoughts and beliefs of an entire nation. It can also be simply defined as one's love for their country and their people. If we were to expand on that definition, it can also encompass the duty to defend and preserve the freedom and property of the nation and its people from disintegration.

In the period before independence, we swore to protect our people and our nation. After attaining independence, we swore to protect our nation and people. The writer urges the people to make these declarations deeper and heard clearer in the present age. This is because we are no longer living in the age of colonialism. Any shortcomings from our side can lead us to a state no better than being subjugated.

The national spirit from the past was based on the anticolonial mindset that desired to be free from oppression. National spirit in the present springs forth from the will to stand with integrity on the international stage.

Nowadays, political views centered on nationalism have become more prolific and puts into consideration the future wellbeing of Myanmar and the world.

In this age of globalization, we cannot focus solely on benefits for ourselves, our family, and our community. Our national outlook must be all encompassing and entail benefits for our villages, our townships, our nations, our world, and all of existence. Only then will the next generation of youths be able to stand with dignity and prestige in the middle of the dynamic global political mainstream. Only then will they be able to remain free from oppression and a life no different from enslavement.

The millions of youths in the country should be able to perceive the path we are all walking on. They must see with clarity the effects of climate change, economic disparity, threats to global healthcare, moral corruption and drug trafficking, all of which have a profound effect on the global population. This is the national spirit that is needed in this present age.

In this regard, the progenitor of our national spirit and our independence, the 98th Celebrations of National Victory Day has arrived and it is our duty to adopt a national spirit that embraces the wellbeing of all of Myanmar and all of humankind.

It is our duty to adopt a national spirit that embraces the wellbeing of all of Myanmar and all of humankind.

Hailing 98th Anniversary of National Victory Day

By Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dhaza
Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

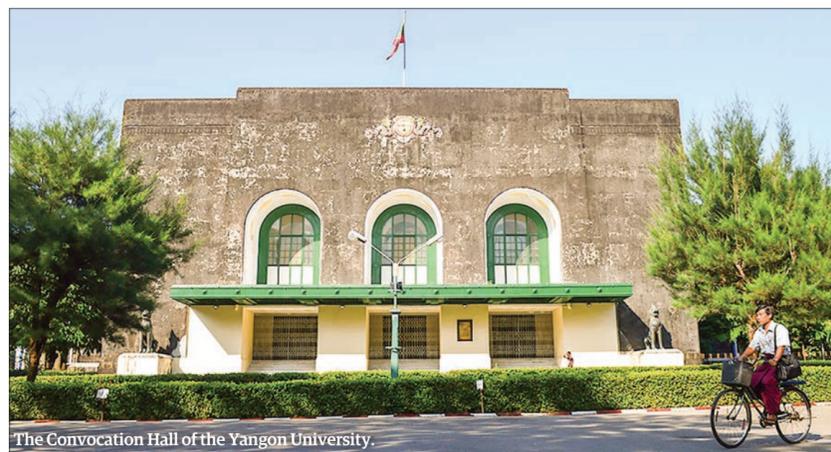
TODAY we all Myanmar people celebrate the 98th anniversary of National Victory Day (Amyotha Aung Pwe Nay) in Burmese. (အမျိုးသားအောင်ပွဲနေ့.)

This day is unique because all Red Letter Days of Myanmar Political history is marked in accordance with the Gregorian calendar. The National Victory Day is the only red letter day marked in accordance with Myanmar Lunar Calendar Myanmar Era (M.E). So the 98th anniversary falls on 10th waning moon of Tazaungmon (2nd December).

Other Red Letter Days are British annexation of Lower Myanmar in 1824, Upper Myanmar in 1885 and deposition and deportation of the last Myanmar king, King Thibaw and his family to Ratnagiri in India, Anti-Fascist Resistance Day, later Myanmar Armed Forces Day (Tamadaw Day) 27th March, Peasant Day March 2nd, Union Day 12th February 1947, Martyrs' Day 19th July 1947, Independence Day 4th Jan-



Marble stone slab inscribed the names of the eleven students at the Shwedagon Pagoda. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH



The Convocation Hall of the Yangon University.

uary, 1948. So National Victory Day of this year 2018 falls on 2nd December.

Among many landmarks of National Victory Day across the country, outstanding ones are in Yangon. Firstly at the south-west corner of the Shwedagon Pagoda precincts is a stone monument marking the site of the rendezvous where eleven Yangon University students gathered together. In the month of Tazaungmon 1282 on the 8th waning to boycott the Yangon University Act which the British Colonial Government arbitrarily passed despite public protests.

Secondly, there is an old monastery called Taing Tayar Kyaung (တိုင်တင်ရာတော်ဇာ) in the precincts of Gya Tawya (ကြားတောရ) within walking distance of the Shwedagon Pagoda Hill. A wooden monastery with 100 teak thick posts, built in the

middle forest. East, West, North and South forest in old days surrounded the Shwedagon Pagoda hill. Middle forest between East and West Forest was known as Gya Tawya. It was at this big teak monastery that the boycotters set up their headquarters and Council of National Education was formed to protest against the British Colonial education which produced Anglicized "Black English men" to serve colonial Government. The boycotters set up National Education to invoke patriotism by teaching Myanmar History, Myanmar language and literature, archaeology, culture.

Thirdly, Myo Ma High School was the first National High School in Yangon which produces many

National schools and National College were established across the country. Graduates of National College became teachers at national without pay or later with scanty allowance but to train new generation of patriotic leaders was their only target.

Thirdly, Myo Ma High School was the first National High School in Yangon which produces many

The boycotters set up National Education to invoke patriotism by teaching Myanmar History, Myanmar language and literature, archaeology, culture. National schools and National College.

outstanding students, politicians, lawyers, teachers, ambassadors, engineers, medical doctors, writers, actors, actress, etc. Thakhin Aung San, Thakin Nu, Pantanaw U Thant, U Khant, Thakhin Thein Pe etc. were products of National Schools of their localities.

Fourthly, the Yangon University with Convocation Hall, Central hostels, library, Yangon College Students' Union Build-

ing, gymnasium, sanatorium, the Chancellor Road, the University Avenue Circus at main Gate are important landmarks. Due to unfortunate events in the sad years of military rule, many had been wiped out especially students' union headquarters building "Ta-Ka-Tha".

Though 8th waxing of Tazaungmon was the day of

and literature were introduced into curricular. Burma Research Society BRS was set up in 1912 and journal of Burma Research Society J.B.R.S. was patronized. Though complete national freedom was the ultimate goal which was reached yet, at 1920 Yangon University Boycott was the first victory of Myanmar over British colonial Rule.

This boycott has far-reaching beneficial impact on both British Colonial Government and Myanmar people who were now awakened from their political lethargy as their eyes were opened to changing world outside by English Liberal education. Myanmar new generations are no longer intended to return to old outdated monarchic times. They had learnt from British history that political economic and socio-cultural aspects needed to change inconsonance with time, place and circumstances.

The British on their part also learnt to adapt their policy to time, place and circumstances.

The British on their part also learnt to adapt their policy to time, place and circumstances. The British Empire had lasted long enough encompassing almost all continents. Colonies were their children, now grown-up trying to set up family household of their own. So mother country Great Britain must let them go but build all family houses within the compound of mother country. So the British Commonwealth of Nations or English speaking world emerged.

Though Myanmar Government that time chose independence outside the British Commonwealth, Myanmar many be called de facto British Commonwealth member because, English language and literature, legal system and liberal education and the rule of law still dominant in Myanmar.

On the suspicious day of 98th anniversary of National Victory Day, we, especially young generations should know and understand its background history, essence and importance. Observe and implement the four objectives of this year's National Victory Day Anniversary with the slogan "For all-round progress and development of all ethnic peoples, let us co-operate together in the building of the Union Peace".

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order 44/2018

8th Waning of Tazaungmone, 1380 ME
30 November, 2018

Bago Region ministers transferred

In accordance with the provisions stated in article 262, Sub-section (f) and Section 8 (g) of Region or State Government Law, the following persons have been transferred as Bago Region Ministers of the Ministries shown against each of their names.

1. Daw Nyunt Nyunt Htay Ministry of Social Affairs
2. Dr. Saw Nyo Win Ministry of Natural Resources, Environmental Conservation and Development Affairs

Sd/ -
Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Correction

Please read "Notification 91/2018" instead of "Order" in the notification on Page 9 in 1st December edition of the *Global New Light of Myanmar*.—Ed

On the Auspicious Day of the National Conquest: Yatu in Three Full Verses

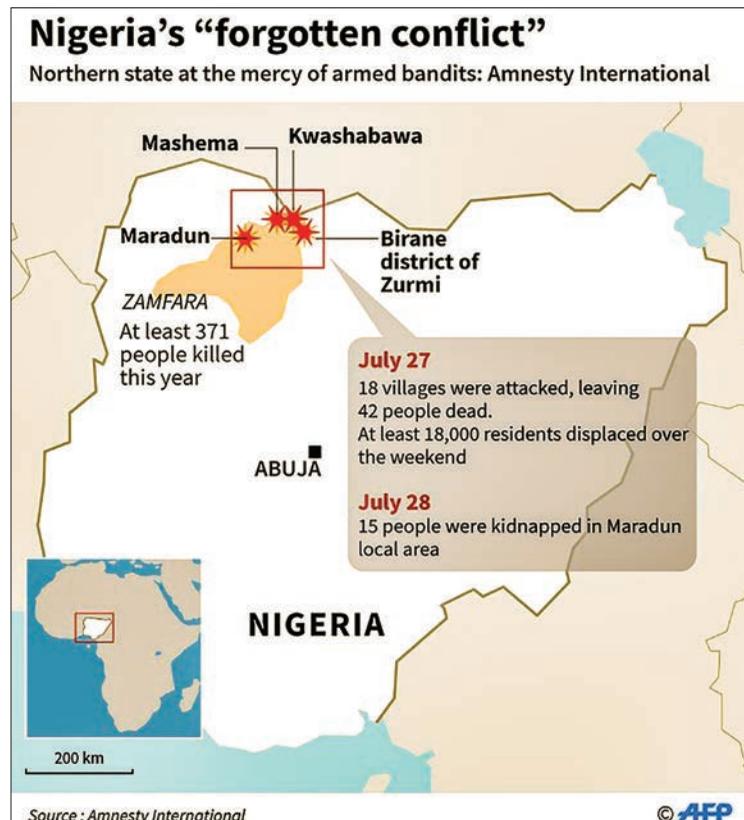
DESCENDANTS from King Maha Thamada, with all the noble attributes of the radiant Sun, in the hues of purest gold, in the centre of the Universe, dispelling the darkness, from King Abiraza of Tagaung down to dynasties through the successive periods of Srikestra, Bagan, Myinsai, Sagan, Pinya, prosperous Inwa, Taungoo and Pyi and Konbaung, the Crowns beneath the shade of the White Umbrellas, flanked by the ministers of various ranks_ this is what we Myanmar people should recall, stirring with patriotic blood.

Fluttered the Banner free bearing the emblem of the Peacock in the Sun. With the foul play of Fate, gone was the Crown, and down toppled the Throne under the British colony. On 10th waning day of the month of Tazaungmone, in 1920, the University, the Mansion of the Sun, found it unacceptable the Rangoon University Act. Foreseeing the future, the university students' flame of nationalism was fanned, and the whole country quaked.

On the platform of the Shwedagon, where the sacred hair relics shining in the radiance of gold, were enshrined, where Man and the Deities take refuge, where the scaffolding of the National Spirit has already been constructed for the sake of reviving the power of patriotism, this auspicious occasion marks the ceremony of raising to the pinnacle of the pagoda the tiered and ornamental Fial, adorned with streamers and sweet-scented flowers, placed in the Float for the conveyance of Myanmar's Independence to the top_ the Fial shedding the shade all over Myanmar. Shall we all concertedly raise the sacred Fial?

Zaw Gyi

(From Vansa Yuwa Magazine, Vol. 1, No.1, 1924)
Translated by Zaw Tun
Source: Zaw Gyi. 2015. Sar Su Khin. Book 2. Seikku Cho Cho Sarpay. pp. 10-11



Nigeria's Zamfara state has been plagued by violent crime throughout 2018, with Amnesty International warning in July that people living in the impoverished state were "at the mercy" of armed bandits who take hostages and raid villages. **PHOTO: AFP**

Nigerian police kill over 100 'bandits' in crackdown

LAGOS (Nigeria) — Nigerian police claimed on Friday that over 100 "bandits" had been killed in a crackdown targeting crime in the northwest state of Zamfara, following a surge in kidnappings for ransom and cattle rustling.

Zamfara has been plagued by violent crime over the past year, with Amnesty International warning in July that people living in the impoverished state were "at the mercy" of armed bandits who take hostages and raid villages.

A joint operation team on Thursday "repelled ambush attacks from armed bandits" at Mahanga Forest in Zamfara State and "in the process killed one hundred and four bandits," national police spokesman Jimoh Moshood said in a statement.

Confirming the death toll Moshood told AFP: "Yes, 104 bandits (were killed). Not people, armed bandits that had been terrorising and killing innocent people." Over 1,000 policemen had been deployed to Zamfara at the beginning of the month, the statement said, adding that since then 85 people have been arrested in connection with kidnappings and cattle rustling.

Amnesty International Nigeria spokesman Isa Sanusi said it was difficult to assess the success of security operations in the remote region.

"In many cases, the pronouncements of security agencies are quite contrary to the

situation on ground in Zamfara state," Sanusi said.

"Bringing the killers to justice is more important in taming the tide of impunity that allowed the security situation in Zamfara state to continue deteriorating."

The kidnappings are just one security concern putting pressure on Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari who is seeking a second, four-year term in closely contested February polls.

Facing criticism for an increase in Boko Haram jihadist attacks, among other security threats, Buhari is working to show that his government is able to tackle rising violence in Nigeria, Africa's largest oil producer.

The problem has sparked the concern of neighbouring Niger.

In August, Niamey announced it was sending security reinforcements to the Maradi area on the south-central part of the border, which abuts Zamfara.

Nigeria's interior minister said in October that at least 30 bandits were killed in their troubled frontier.

In the last two years, kidnapping for ransom has reached unprecedented levels in the region, where entire villages have been deserted for fear of raids and kidnapping by criminal gangs.

Those abducted are often released within days if the ransom is paid but residents say they can be killed if no money is forthcoming, and their bodies dumped in the bush. — AFP ■

Jobs in Mexico replace American dream for some caravan migrants

TIJUANA (MEXICO) — Stranded on the US-Mexican border with little hope of entering the United States, thousands of people from a migrant caravan are letting go of their American dream and settling on a Mexican one.

Under a work program set up by the Mexican government, 2,250 migrants in the northern border city of Tijuana — out of the roughly 6,000 who trekked here in the caravan from Central America — have signed up to get jobs, visas and social security benefits in Mexico.

The program is designed to induce them to stay here, rather than press on to the United States, where wages are higher but where President Donald Trump has made his hostility toward the migrant "invasion" plain.

But it is a long process: just 15 migrants have actually been employed so far.

'I'll do well'

Denny Guevara, a 26-year-old Honduran man, is one of them.

"It turns out this was my destiny," he says, smiling ear to ear as he carefully arranges bottles of honey on the shelves of a Tijuana supermarket, the Smart & Final.

"What I wanted was a better life, to escape the violence in my

country, an opportunity to find work."

He managed to do that without ever reaching the United States.

In the week since he arrived in Tijuana, which sits across from San Diego, California, he has managed to find a job and get residence papers.

"My plan is to stay here. I think I'll do well," he says.

Looking smart in his navy blue uniform, the former bank employee says he still can't get over the seemingly endless abundance of products on Mexican supermarket shelves, which look more like American ones than Honduran.

"This is still all pretty new. I'll have to get used to it little by little," he says.

His next dream: to make enough money to send for the wife and three children he left behind in Honduras.

First, he needs to find a place to live.

He is currently staying at the shelter set up for the caravan, where "there's nowhere to wash your clothes and you have to stand in a long line to shower," he says.

'I've done it before'

Yansy Lopez, a 23-year-old Salvadoran woman, is pushing



Denny Guevara, 26, has found work at a supermarket in Mexico; his next dream is to make enough money to send for the wife and three children he left behind in Honduras. **PHOTO: AFP**

her crying baby in a stroller as she snakes through the line for breakfast at the shelter.

There are hundreds of people ahead of her, and she is in a hurry: she needs to get to a job interview.

"They're offering me 12 hours a day packing boxes, from Monday to Saturday, for 2,000 pesos (about \$100) a week," she says enthusiastically.

She did the same job back in El Salvador for a US clothing brand, but left after members of one of the country's notoriously violent gangs tortured and killed her stepson.

She made the same salary there, plus bonuses.

"I was the fastest, I packed more boxes than anyone," she says.

"If they give me the job here -- well, I've done it before," she adds with a smile.

'Felt like giving up'

Edwin Garcia, a 27-year-old auto mechanic from Honduras, has also found work in the same supermarket as Guevara, stacking fruits and vegetables in symmetrical pyramids in the produce aisle.

"I'd never had a decent job before," he says.

He left Honduras because he was too poor to even buy milk for his baby daughter, he says.

His new job "is like a dream that I haven't woken up from yet. I'm trying to take it all in... It's a beautiful thing to feel like I'm integrating into (Mexican) society."

He says he is still traumatized by the trek to the border.

"I walked a lot of the way. I felt like giving up in Mexico City. 'I can't go on,' I said to myself," he says, choking back tears.

"But I looked at my pictures of my daughter, and that made me want to try. And here I am." — AFP ■

US airstrike kills 11 terrorists in southern Libya

TRIPOLI — The US Africa Command (AFRICOM) on Friday claimed responsibility for an airstrike on the previous day, saying that 11 terrorists were killed in the operation.

"In coordination with the Libyan Government of National Accord (GNA), US Africa Command conducted a precision air strike near Al

Uwaynat, Libya," AFRICOM said in a statement.

The statement said that 11 al-Qaida members were killed and three vehicles were destroyed.

The statement said that no civilians were injured or killed.

"AFRICOM will use precision strikes to deny terrorists safe haven in Libya. We will keep

pressure on their network, and they remain vulnerable wherever they are," said US Marine Corps Major General Gregg P. Olson, director of the AFRICOM operations.

Local media reported on Thursday that an unidentified warplane killed several militants near the southern Libyan city of Ghat. — Xinhua ■

Alaska hit by powerful earthquake, buildings damaged

LOS ANGELES (United States)—A powerful earthquake rocked Anchorage on Friday, violently shaking homes and businesses, sending scared residents into the streets and damaging buildings in Alaska's largest city.

The 7.0-magnitude quake struck at 8:29 am local time (1729 GMT), in the middle of the school run and as workers were heading out for the day. The US Geological Survey said the epicenter was about eight miles (13 kilometers) north of Anchorage at a depth of 25 miles. Police in the city of around 300,000 said it had caused "major infrastructure damage."

"Many homes and buildings are damaged," the police department said in a statement. "Many roads and bridges are closed. Stay off the roads if you don't need to drive." There were no immediate reports of significant injuries. A tsunami warning was issued for the Cook Inlet and the Kenai Peninsula following the massive quake but was quickly lifted.

Residents posted pictures and videos to Twitter of damage to their homes and stores — belongings knocked off of shelves, broken windows and pictures scattered on the floor.

Local CBS affiliate KTVA posted a video of a room shaking back and forth with panels falling from the ceiling and lights flickering on and off as people hid under desks.

"Everyone just sprinted out of the coffee shop I was at in Anchorage in the middle of a huge earthquake," Nat Herz, a reporter with news portal Alaska's Energy Desk, posted on Twitter.

"Car alarms going off, etc. But not seeing any serious damage here aside from random stuff falling over. People going back to computers, meetings," he added.

Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski said the authorities were worried about access to power following the quake. "It's winter. It's cold. It's dark. And we're not sure what the power situation is,"



People walk past a crack in the road after an earthquake near Northwoods on the Kenai Spur Highway in Kenai, Alaska on 30 November 2018. PHOTO: AFP

Murkowski said. "We're worried about breaks in gas lines."

University, airport closed

ENSTAR Natural Gas company asked residents to beware of gas leaks while the main water company said there had been water main breaks. Municipal Light & Power warned of possible downed power lines and said it was seeking to restore electricity to affected customers. About two and a half hours after the quake,

Municipal Light & Power said approximately 7,000-10,000 customers were still without power. The company said there was no damage to electricity generation infrastructure. The University of Alaska announced it was closing for the day. "All non-essential personnel should go home," it said in a tweet.

Anchorage airport temporarily halted incoming and outgoing flights after the air control tower was evacuated.— AFP ■

Security operation keeps G20 protest far from leaders

BUENOS AIRES—Tens of thousands of protesters vented their fury in crisis-stricken Argentina Friday, marching through the streets of a locked-down capital as G20 leaders met. Argentina's security minister Patricia Bullrich had warned that police would show zero tolerance towards unrest and demonstrators filed peacefully through the downtown 9 de Julio avenue under the watchful eye of security forces.

"We are demonstrating against the presence of the rep-

resentatives of the big powers, we want them to know they are not welcome in our country," said Florencia di Llelo, at the head of the march. Around her, a dozen topless young women, their bodies painted with the colors of the G20 nations, held a giant banner reading "they want war but we are giving them peace."

The marchers took aim in particular at US President Donald Trump, and held up banners denouncing Argentine President Mauricio Macri and the Inter-

national Monetary Fund. A \$56 billion IMF bailout for Macri's cash-strapped government has necessitated harsh cuts in government spending and state subsidies, sparking near-daily street protests amid a deepening recession. "I have painted myself in the colors of the United States to denounce Trump's imperialism and his lack of respect for women," said Mariana Torres, 23, a social studies student.

"Argentina is a colony, in different ways, the powers want

to decide for us, to decide our future. Here, it's the IMF that's in charge," said Hector Aguirre, 50, an unemployed militant with the Socialist Workers Movement.

Argentine authorities had declared Friday a national holiday to limit disruption.

Fears of violence

Bullrich had pledged there would be no repeat of the violence that marred last year's G20 meeting in Hamburg.

Some recent protests have ended in clashes with the police, and Buenos Aires hit international headlines when fan violence just ahead of the G20 forced the relocation of a showpiece football final to Spain. "If it goes badly, I'm going to run for it," said Claudia Martinez, 27, a psychologist who came to the march with friends. Magdalena Tosoni, in Buenos Aires for a conference, was planning to spend Friday visiting museums when she found the city in lockdown, so she joined the protest. "Argentina is a poor country. There's no money to repair or build schools, hospitals. Why put money into organizing a G20?" said the 53-year-old sociology professor.— AFP ■



Riot police stood guard during a protest against the G20 summit, after Argentina's Security Minister Patricia Bullrich vowed there would be no repeat of violence that marred last year's G20 meeting in Germany. PHOTO: AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

One killed, two injured in S. Korea firefighting helicopter crash

SEOUL (South Korea) — A South Korean firefighting helicopter crashed into a river in Seoul Saturday, killing one and injuring two others on board, rescue authorities said.

The chopper was hovering over the Han River in eastern Seoul to draw water into its tank when it went down, they said.

The craft had been deployed to fight a bushfire on nearby hills.

Two pilots survived with injuries but a mechanic was killed.

The wildfire on Mount Yeongchuk has since been under control.

Police said they were investigating.

"Two people are still recovering from injuries, so it's difficult to get their statements at this moment," police said according to Yonhap news agency.— AFP ■

Abe, Macron agree to keep stable ties in Japan-France auto alliance

BUENOS AIRES — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and French President Emmanuel Macron agreed Friday on the importance of Nissan Motor Co., Renault SA and Mitsubishi Motors Corp. maintaining their stable relationship, a senior Japanese official said. The two leaders reached the agreement during a meeting in Buenos Aires amid growing uncertainty about the future of the Japanese-French automobile alliance following the arrest of its leader Carlos Ghosn last week.—Kyodo News ■

Former U.S. President George H. W. Bush dies at 94

WASHINGTON — Former U.S. President George H. W. Bush, who as American leader declared the end of the Cold War with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in the 1980s and ushered in an era of rapprochement between the superpowers, died on Friday night, his office said. He was 94.

George H. W. Bush, the 41st U.S. president and father of the 43rd President George W. Bush, signed with Gorbachev the first nuclear arms reduction treaty with the Soviet Union in July 1991 before the Communist state's collapse at the end of the year.—Kyodo News ■

Xi, Putin, Modi agree to increase trilateral cooperation

BUENOS AIRES — Leaders of China, Russia and India had an in-depth exchange of views on cooperation among their countries under new circumstances at an informal meeting held here Friday on the sidelines of the Group of 20 (G20) summit.

Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi agreed to strengthen coordination, build consensus and increase cooperation among their countries to jointly promote world peace, stability and development.

Xi pointed out that China, Russia and India are all major countries of important influence, and they are each other's important strategic cooperation partners.

The three countries have extensive common interest and similar development goals, and bear great responsibility for the future of the region and the world as a whole, Xi said.

Common development and close cooperation among China, Russia and India under current circumstances have become an increasingly important force for stability and certainty in the transformation of the world landscape, Xi said.

In the past over 10 years, Xi said, the three countries have actively conducted trilateral di-



Chinese President Xi Jinping(C), Russian President Vladimir Putin and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi hold an informal meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 30 November 2018. Leaders of China, Russia and India had an in-depth exchange of views on cooperation among their countries under new circumstances at the meeting. PHOTO: XINHUA

ologue and cooperation in the spirit of openness, unity, mutual understanding and trust, and have made important progress.

He called on the countries to further advance trilateral cooperation in the face of fresh challenges.

He suggested that China, Russia and India advocate a new type of international relations, keep consolidating political mutual trust, establish partnerships instead of alliances, and strive for a virtuous cycle in major-country relations and win-win cooperation.

He also called on the three countries to strengthen coordination and cooperation in important multilateral mechanisms

including the Group of 20, BRICS and Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

China, Russia and India should advance liberalization and facilitation of trade and investment, promote an open world economy, take a clear-cut stand against protectionism and unilateralism, and jointly safeguard the multilateral trading system as well as the common interest of emerging economies and developing countries, he said.

The three countries, he added, should actively champion a vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, strengthen regional and global counterterrorism

cooperation, promote political settlement of hotspot issues, and play an even bigger part in safeguarding peace and security in the region and the world.

For his part, Putin said Russia, China and India are friendly countries to each other and have developed sound relations based on equality and mutual respect.

Under the current circumstances, it serves the interest of all three countries and bears positive significance on the world that Russia, China and India strengthen cooperation, he said.

He called on the three countries to dedicate themselves to building a fairer and more just international system, promoting world peace and stability,

strengthening cooperation in economy and finance and on issues on the G20 agenda, and boosting the synergy between the Eurasian Economic Union and the Belt and Road Initiative.

In his remarks, Modi said it is very necessary for the three countries to compare notes on major issues faced by today's world.

There are increasing uncertainties on the international horizon, with rising unilateralism and cliquism posing challenges to multilateralism, he said.

Modi said developed countries have failed to meet their assistance commitments to developing countries, and that there is a long way to go before the realization of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

India, China and Russia, as major countries in the world, have the responsibility to maintain close communication, and actively play their parts in safeguarding international and regional stability, promoting economic prosperity, sharing development experience and jointly meeting new challenges, so as to safeguard multilateralism and maintain the multilateral system, he added.

The three leaders agreed to further strengthen the cooperation mechanism among their countries. —Xinhua ■

France, Japan uphold auto alliance amid Ghosn crisis

BUENOS AIRES — The leaders of France and Japan on Friday stood by the Renault-Nissan auto alliance despite ructions from the arrest of its chief executive, officials said.

President Emmanuel Macron and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Argentina hours after a Tokyo court extended the detention of sacked Nissan chief Carlos Ghosn.

“The president for his part recalled his commitment that the alliance be preserved, as well as the stability of the group,” a French official said.

The partnership also includes Mitsubishi Motors.

The Kyodo news agency quoted a senior Japanese official as saying Abe and Macron agreed on the importance of all three companies “maintaining their stable relationship.”

Macron is well versed in the sensitivities of the car-making partnership. As a young economy minister in 2015, he triggered a crisis in the alliance by increasing the French state's stake in Renault, a move that rattled Japan.

The move doubled the French state's voting rights, alarming the Nissan side, which saw itself at risk of coming under French control.

Paris subsequently reduced its stake in the alliance.

The rules of the partnership state that Renault chooses the alliance's CEO, who wields a tie-breaking vote in board decisions, while Nissan names the deputy.

Ghosn was arrested on November 19 amid allegations he under-reported his salary by millions of dollars over five years.

Ghosn denies any wrongdoing. —AFP ■

North Korean soldier defects to South across border

SEOUL (South Korea) — A North Korean soldier defected to South Korea on Saturday across their heavily fortified land border, which the two sides have begun to demilitarise as relations between the Cold War-era foes warm, the South's military said.

The rare defection came as the two Koreas push ahead with a process of reconciliation in an effort to ease tensions, despite talks between Pyongyang and Washington on the North's nuclear weapons programme stalling.

The incident did not trigger any gunfire, unlike last year when a North Korean soldier ran across under a hail of bullets from his own side.

“A North Korean soldier was detected crossing the military demarcation line” by South Korean troops using surveillance equipment, the military Joint Chiefs of



Defections along the closely guarded inter-Korean border are rare. PHOTO:AFP

Staff (JCS) said in a statement.

“Related agencies plan to investigate him regarding the details of how he came to the South,” it said.

The JCS gave no further details, such as the exact location of the defection, the soldier's name, rank or unit or whether he was carrying a weapon.

“The soldier is safely in our

custody”, the JCS said.

The last defection involving North Koreans occurred in May when two civilians aboard a small boat fled to the South across the Yellow Sea.

In November last year, a North Korean soldier drove to the heavily guarded border at speed and ran across under fire from his own comrades. —AFP ■

Green finance blooms as investors look beyond profits

PARIS (France) — Environment-friendly finance is blooming thanks to investors willing to weigh profits against ecology, but decisions about meaningful investments can be complex.

At first sight the idea of “green finance” as a vehicle to protect the environment or help businesses in their transition towards a more sustainable future seems non-controversial.

But in fact, green finance lumps together a dizzying array of options and a debate is raging over which ones are truly worthy of green investor money — and which aren't.

Oil? Nuclear?

What about, say, oil companies? No way, respond critics, pointing to the damage that the exploration and use of fossil fuel has done to the planet.

But others say it would be ecologically responsible to help petroleum majors shift towards a greener future by developing alternative energy sources.

Nuclear energy is another hot potato. The industry was once unanimously reviled as the arch enemy by the environmental movement, but some now admit that the absence of damaging greenhouse gases from nuclear power stations has given them pause.

'Exponential growth'

A decade after the launch of the early green bonds — long-term borrowing for environmental projects — investors' options have grown dramatically, but the share of green instruments in global finance

is still small.

“Green bond issuance in 2018 so far have reached \$156.8 billion, which is around two percent of the global bond market,” said Frederic Gabizon, head of Debt Capital Markets at HSBC France.

“This may seem marginal, but growth has been exponential since the start,” he said, adding that investors needed to take the long view given the slow pace of green infrastructure growth. Pressure from civil society, governments and private citizens has prompted money professionals to look beyond purely financial motives as they respond to green investor interest, and to polish their image along the way.

It is true that green investments rarely outperform traditional placements in terms of short-term yields, but modern investors seem to be taking a broader view than just monetary returns.

'You can't breathe'

“We're seeing a new young generation of savers coming through now, who want slightly different things,” said Rob Hardy, head of EMEA corporate governance at JPMorgan.

“There is no point in earning a lot of money if you can't breathe the air,” he said. There is no binding global regulatory framework as yet for green finance, but most professionals apply the so-called “green bonds principles” issued by the International Capital Market Association to their own operations. —AFP ■



Combining profits and ecology is becoming increasingly popular among investors. PHOTO: AFP

Polluters in the room: big energy 'undermining' UN climate talks

PARIS (France) — Oil and coal giants are exploiting a lack of conflict-of-interest protection at UN climate talks to push for continued fossil fuel use despite its contribution to harmful climate change, several sources have told AFP.

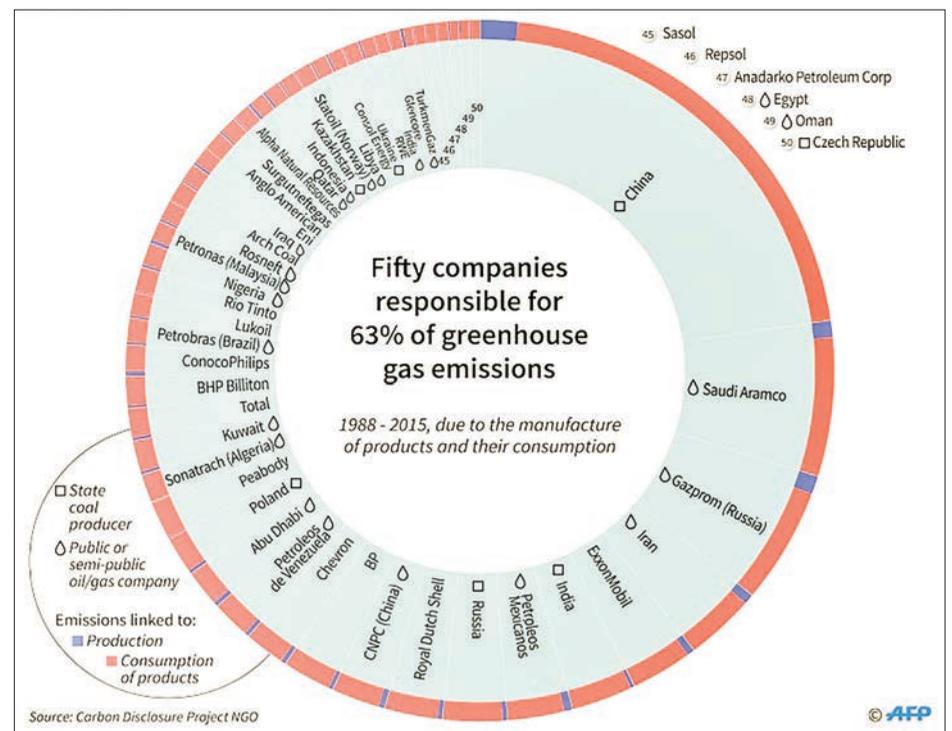
As policymakers from around the world prepare to gather in Poland for the COP 24 summit to finalise the Paris climate promises, officials and campaigners said that groups representing big energy are free to lobby with little or no oversight at the negotiations.

Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), non-state actors may apply to join the process, some in the form of so-called business-interest NGOs.

They may then participate in sessions as observers, walking the same corridors as the very policymakers who must decide on the future of our planet.

Under the Paris Agreement, the world's nations agreed to limit global warming to “well below” two degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit). The UN's top science panel concluded last month that the rise in temperature should be capped at 1.5C to avoid severe impacts.

Its report called for a radical drawdown in fossil fuel usage, starting as soon as 2020, and said it would need to be halved by 2030 to meet the 1.5C target.



Fifty entities responsible for 63% of greenhouse gas emissions. PHOTO: AFP

And yet, despite the scientific consensus that greenhouse gas emissions must be slashed in order to avoid climate disaster, the world's only international action plan still reserves a seat for major polluters.

Parallel UN processes, such as the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco, have conflict of interest protections woven into their text.

The UNFCCC has none. “Everyday we learn more about what big polluters continue to do to undermine climate policy, yet their trade associations are still free to stalk the halls at the UNFCCC,” said Jesse Bragg, from Corporate Accountability, a group that works to expose conflicts

of interest.

In January, the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) bloc submitted a formal request to add specific conflict of interest protections into the UN process.

The text warned that conflict of interest “may arise when a non-party stakeholder with a concern or aim that directly or indirectly involves limiting or influencing specific climate-related scientific understanding, actions or policies, is actively participating in the UNFCCC”.

'Threatens legitimacy'

It said the problem of fossil fuel representation in climate talks was so se-

rious that it “threatens the integrity and legitimacy” of the Paris accord.

Sources close to talks told AFP that the submission was shot down by developed nations during an intersessional meeting in May, and that the very existence of discussions surrounding it was scrubbed from official records.

The final text stated that nations agreed “the importance of enhancing the engagement of non-party stakeholders... and took note of the diverse views expressed”. A senior negotiator told AFP only that there had been “some amendments” to the submission. —AFP ■

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Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie reach child custody agreement



Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, pictured in July 2013, announced their separation after two years of marriage and 11 years together. **PHOTO: AFP**

LOS ANGELES — Hollywood superstars Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt have reached an amicable agreement on the custody of their six children, avoiding a potentially messy public trial, US media reported on Friday.

Pitt and Jolie announced their separation in September 2016 after two years of marriage and 11 years together.

Three of their children are their biological children, and the other three are adopted.

“A custody arrangement

was agreed two weeks ago, and has been signed by both parties and the judge,” Jolie’s lawyer, Samantha Bley DeJean, said in a statement carried by several US celebrity news outlets including TMZ.

“The agreement, which is based on the recommendations of the child custody evaluator, eliminates the need for a trial,” she said.

The couple had been set for a trial on December 4 -- the deal means they will not battle in court.

Jolie originally wanted to have sole custody of the children, while Pitt asked for shared custody.

The terms of the agreement are confidential, DeJean said.

The couple is still working out the details of their divorce, with the distribution of assets reportedly proving especially thorny. Jolie and Pitt did not have a prenuptial agreement.

—AFP ■

Heavily caffeinated: Indonesians sip 4,000 cups of Java

BATUSANGKAR (Indonesia) — Thousands of Indonesians lined up to get their mug of Java in the hopes of keeping alive a coffee tradition that dates back to Dutch colonial times.

“Everyone get your cup ready!” yelled an announcer to some 4,000 locals and visitors who sipped Kawa Daun coffee at a festival this week in Batusangkar on Sumatra island.

The area is home to a peculiar take on the drink that extracts flavour from the plant’s leaves rather than its beans.

It is an old-fashioned brew dating back to the colonial period when few locals could afford bean-extracted coffee.

So they boiled the throwaway leaves instead and served up the bitter beverage in cups made from dried coconut shells.

“I’m happy that we got to 4,000 cups of coffee -- it’s a new local record,” declared Abdul Hakim, head of the local tourism office.

But folks in this remote pocket of Indonesia will have their work cut out to smash a national record set last year which



Cups of Kawa Daun coffee -- which are made from the plant’s leaves rather than its beans -- are served in coconut shells in West Sumatra. **PHOTO: AFP**

saw some 1.9 million people sip a cup of coffee made the usual way.

At an open-air coffee shop near the festival, 37-year-old Efrizon was sipping a cup of Kawa Daun away from the caffeinated masses.

“It’s good for you and makes your body feel warm,” he said of the local drink.

“And you’ve got this unique coconut shell to drink from instead of a glass.”

The coffee competition is part of the five-day Minangkabau arts and culture festival, includ-

ing a culinary ceremony known as Bajamba where hundreds of women walk in a procession with large, food-packed trays on their heads.

Their destination is scores of hungry revellers who sit on the floor across from each other, ready to tuck into local chili-infused dishes and a hugely popular slow-cooked curry known as rendang. On Saturday, dozens of fearless racers will clasp the tails of angry bulls for a wet-and-wild race across rice paddies. —AFP ■



A woman jokingly reacts to a poster of former US first lady Michelle Obama at the opening of her multi-city book tour at the United Center in Chicago, on 13 November 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

Michelle memoir sells two million copies in two weeks

NEW YORK — It’s the talk of the town, the publishing phenomenon of the fall and now Michelle Obama’s memoir has sold more than two million copies in North America in two weeks.

Penguin Random House announced the sales figures in Canada and the United States for the first 15 days after “Becoming” was released on 13 November.

The hardcover edition of the book has sold more copies than any other book published in the United States in 2018, according to NDP BookScan data.

Being published in 31 languages, the memoir is also a bestseller in Australia, Britain, France, Germany, Israel, Korea, Finland, South Africa and Chinese Taipei, among other countries. Scheduled printing runs mean there will be at least 3.4 million copies of the hardcover edition in print in Canada and United States.

The former first lady is currently plugging it on a 10-city, 12-day US tour, before jetting across the Atlantic to appear at sold-out events in London and Paris on 3 December and 5 December respectively.

The 54-year-old mother of two—America’s first African American first lady and wife of the first black US president—is wildly popular at home and abroad, loved for her warm personality, intelligence and women’s activism.

In the book she writes that she can “never forgive” Donald Trump for questioning her husband’s US citizenship, accusing him and other “birthers” of putting her family at risk.

She also digs into personal issues, detailing a miscarriage, conceiving her daughters Malia, 20, and Sasha, 17, by in-vitro fertilization and marriage counseling.

While some Democrats would love to see her dive into politics and run for president, she has shot down any suggestion of being interested.

While the precise terms of the book deal were not released, the Financial Times reported that the Obamas were paid more than \$65 million for global rights to twin memoirs about their time in the White House.

Barack Obama is already a bestselling author, chalking up “Dreams From My Father” in 2004 and “The Audacity of Hope” in 2008. —AFP ■

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Facial recognition deployed at China marathon to stop cheats

SHANGHAI (China) — Facial recognition will be deployed at a marathon on Sunday in China to crack down on cheating, state media said, after a half-marathon was blighted by widescale flouting of the rules.

Running and marathons are fast becoming popular in China, with participants sporting the latest trendy gear and wearable technology.

But the sport has also made unwelcome headlines and a

half-marathon last weekend in Shenzhen later found that 258 runners had cheated, including many who took shortcuts.

Chinese authorities have now vowed to get tough.

For this Sunday's Kunming Marathon, which is expected to draw 6,000 runners including foreign athletes, organisers will use facial recognition to ensure people do not get someone else to run for them.

"Competitors must carry a

valid ID and carry out verification through the facial-identification system," Xinhua news agency said.

Xinhua on Thursday called the cheating at the run in Shenzhen, over the border from Hong Kong, "deeply shameful".

China has been rolling out facial recognition across the country for everything from fast-food orders and airline check-ins to catching criminals.

—AFP ■



China has been using facial recognition technology for everything from fast-food orders to catching criminals. PHOTO: AFP

NASA selects commercial companies to make lunar robotic payloads

WASHINGTON — The United States space agency NASA on Thursday announced nine commercial American companies in a partnership to develop lunar robotic landers in the coming decade.

NASA would buy space on commercial robotic landers to deliver payloads to the lunar surface, missions that could start as early as next year.

Those companies are eligible for competing for NASA's contracts valued at 2.6 billion U.S. dollars, according to NASA.

"The relatively small and inexpensive payloads delivered via the CLPS program would be followed by more traditional medium- and large-class missions," said NASA administrator Jim Bridenstine.

CLPS stands for Commercial Lunar Payload Services. It is an experimental part of the

agency's plan for Americans to orbit the Moon starting in 2023, and land astronauts on the surface no later than the late 2020s.

"These early commercial delivery missions will also help inform new space systems we build to send humans to the Moon in the next decade," said NASA.

Those companies are Astrobotic, Deep Space Systems, Firefly Aerospace, Intuitive Machines, Lockheed Martin, Mastern Space Systems, Moon Express, Draper and Orbit Beyond.

Orbit Beyond, a spacecraft company, is expected to fly its spacecraft to the Moon by 2020.

Mastern Space Systems has a fleet of lunar landers that it plans to send to the Moon in 2021 while Moon Express also has a host of landers that vary in size and capability.

Astrobotic Technology has

built a lander called Peregrine, and have obtained backing from NASA to create a standalone system to land on the moon.

Lockheed Martin is planning for a massive lander that could ferry four astronauts from the Lunar Gateway to the moon, while Deep Space Systems is an aerospace engineering company developing the Mars Phoenix lander.

Firefly Aerospace designs, manufactures and operates launch vehicles for the small satellite and Draper works to provide payload operations guidance systems for the lunar lander.

Intuitive Machines, based in the state of Texas, specializes in autonomous systems.

Bridenstine said it was not a "guarantee" that all those missions would be successful, but even failed ones would be equally important. —Xinhua ■



An Oldowan core (stone tool) freshly excavated at Ain Boucherit from which sharp-edged cutting flakes were removed. PHOTO: AFP

East Africa may lose its crown as 'cradle of mankind'

ALGIERS (Algeria) — Archaeologists in Algeria have discovered stone tools and cut animal bones that may be up to 2.4 million years old, bringing into question East Africa's title as the cradle of humanity, according to research published Thursday in the journal *Science*.

The artifacts — more ancient than those discovered in the region until now — were found in Setif, some 200 miles (300 kilometers) east of Algiers, by a team of international researchers, including Algerians.

The tools closely resemble those called Oldowan, found until now mainly in East Africa.

The tools were unearthed near dozens of fossilized animal bones which contained cut marks, as if relics of prehistoric butchers.

The bones came from animals including the ancestors of crocodiles, elephants and hippopotamuses.

"East Africa is widely considered to be the birthplace of stone tool use by our ancient hominid ancestors — the earliest examples of which date as far back as about 2.6 million years ago," said the report in *Science*.

"The new findings make Ain Boucherit the oldest site in northern Africa with in situ evidence of hominin meat use with associated stone tools and they suggest that other similarly early sites could be found outside of the Eastern Africa Rift."

One hypothesis is that early ancestors of modern day humans quickly carried stone tools with them out of East Africa and into other regions of the continent.

Another is a "multiple or-

igin scenario," in which early hominids made and used tools in both East and North Africa.

"The site of Ain Lahnech is the second oldest in the world after Gona in Ethiopia, which goes back to 2.6 million years ago and is widely considered the cradle of humanity," lead author Mohamed Sahouni told AFP.

The discoveries were made in two layers — one dating to 2.4 million years ago and the second dating to 1.9 million years old.

More in the Sahara?

The findings suggest that the ancestors of modern people were present in north Africa at least 600,000 years earlier than scientists thought.

Until now, the oldest known tools from northern Africa were 1.8 million years old, and were found at a nearby site.

No humans remains were found. Therefore, scientists don't know what species of hominids were at the site, or what ancient cousin of homo sapiens (who appeared much later), used these tools.

The dig was undertaken by experts from research institutions in Spain, Algeria, Australia and France.

"Now that Ain Boucherit has yielded Oldowan archeology estimated to 2.4 million years ago, Northern Africa and the Sahara may be a repository of further archaeological materials," the study said.

"Based on the potential of Ain Boucherit and the adjacent sedimentary basins, we suggest that hominin fossils and Oldowan artifacts as old as those documented in East Africa could be discovered in North Africa as well." —AFP ■

Olympic organisers working for boxing at Games despite freeze

TOKYO — The organisers of Tokyo's 2020 Olympics said Saturday they would continue working to stage a boxing tournament at the games despite a freeze by the International Olympic Committee. On Friday, the IOC said it was freezing preparations for boxing at the 2020 Games and launched a probe into the sport's troubled governing body -- the International Boxing Association (AIBA).

It said it wanted the sport included in 2020, but warned its inquiry could see boxing excluded.

On Saturday, Tokyo 2020 CEO Toshiko Muto said that while "official level contact" was halted by the IOC's decision, working-level contact with AIBA would continue.

"Working level contact is allowed, that's our understanding. So we will liaise, we will keep our collaboration, coordination," he told reporters after a meeting with the IOC's executive board in Tokyo. "We will make efforts in preparation so that we have no delay in responding to the eventual decision which might come to implement the competition (of boxing)," he added.

"Venue preparation will proceed accordingly."

The IOC's final decision on whether to include boxing in the 2020 programme is not expected until next June, Muto said. But he sought to reassure athletes that Tokyo would be ready if the IOC permitted a boxing tournament at the Games. —AFP ■



Boxers fear a knockout blow at the IOC meeting in Tokyo. PHOTO: AFP



Players from Ayeyawady Region U-12 team (red) fight for the ball with players from Kayin State U-12 team (yellow) in the opening match of MFF U-12 Boys' States and Regions Tournament yesterday. PHOTO: MFF

MFF U-12 Boys' States & Regions Tournament opens in Yangon

THE opening ceremony at the U-12 Boys' States and Regions Tournament, supervised by the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF), was held yesterday on the pitch of the National Football Academy in Yangon.

The ceremony was attended by President of the Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw, officials from Basic Education Departments in Yangon, team

administrators, teachers and under 12-year-old football players.

The opening ceremony was begun at 8 am on the pitch of the Myanmar National Football Academy.

During the ceremony, MFF President U Zaw Zaw delivered the opening speech, following the cutting of the ceremonial ribbons.

During the opening of the

Group A matches, the Kayin State U-12 football team played against Ayeyawady Region U-12 team, while Bago Region U-12 football team played against Kayah State team.

Kayin State U-12 team played to a 3-3 draw with Ayeyawady Region U-12 team, while Bago Region team defeated Kayah State team by a score of 3-0.—Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■

Euro 2020 draw offers unique incentive for 12 host nations

DUBLIN (Ireland)—For the first time 12 nations will head into Sunday's qualifying draw (1100GMT) for Euro 2020 with the extra incentive of playing on home soil should they make it to the 24-team tournament in two years time.

Amsterdam, Baku, Bilbao, Bucharest, Budapest, Copenhagen, Dublin, Glasgow, London, Munich, Rome and Saint Petersburg are the 12 cities that will host matches across the continent to celebrate the 60th anniversary since the first European Championships. The draw in Dublin will see UEFA's 55 nations split into 10 groups with the top two in each section making up the first 20 teams to qualify.

However, a maximum of two of the hosts nations can be paired together in each group to give all 12 the chance of experiencing a home tournament with a guaran-

tee of at least two home games in the group stages.

England stand to gain most from home advantage with both semi-finals and the final, as well as three group games and a last 16 tie set to be played at Wembley.

The Three Lions have enjoyed arguably their best year since winning the World Cup on home soil in 1966 as Gareth Southgate's side reached the semi-finals of the World Cup in Russia and then beat Spain and Croatia to reach the inaugural finals of the Nations League next summer. Southgate is well aware of the extra inspiration of playing in a major tournament at home as he was part of the England side that reached the semi-finals at Euro '96. "What the players are going to experience is close to what we experienced in 1996 and in '66. That's incredible for every-



London is one of 12 host cities for Euro 2020 with the semi-final and final taking place at Wembley Stadium. PHOTO: AFP

body," said the England manager.

The Wembley factor could be key to ending England's half century without winning a major tournament with Southgate's exciting young squad having reorganised a nation's support.

"I think the most pleasing thing of the year has been the

connection with the fans and being able to share brilliant experiences with them," added Southgate after exacting some measure of revenge for defeat to Croatia in the World Cup semi-finals in a thrilling Nations League group finale earlier this month.

"I can't remember the new

Wembley like that. We have exciting players that give them excitement." England, Switzerland, Portugal and the Netherlands are guaranteed to end up in a five-team group to free them up from qualifiers for the Nations League finals in June.

'Germany will qualify'

World champions France, Belgium, Croatia, Italy, Poland and Spain make up the rest of the top seeds, as Germany's relegation from their Nations League group with the French and Dutch means they slip into pot two.

After also crashing out at the first hurdle at the World Cup for the first time in 80 years, Germany coach Joachim Loew needs to bounce back in qualifying with Munich playing host to five matches, including a quarter-final. —AFP ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

2 DECEMBER 2018
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Why a positive mindset matters



By Aung Kaung Sett Hein
3rd year medical student

IF I were to pick out a fundamental force or factor that determines whether the outcome of an individual is a failure or an achievement, I would have to say it is his or her positive attitude, mindset, or thinking. A positive attitude sees every problem or challenge as an opportunity, while an opportunity turns into a challenge or obstacle in a negative person's scope. Someone with a positive mindset is ready to calmly face a problem ahead of him and learn from his mistakes and imperfections, while constant disappointment and anger are likely to overwhelm the other type of person. That is why we say positive minds are efficient minds. With a powerful mind filled with positivity and determination, the feeling of being not good enough instantly dissolves and a genuine energy to keep going emerges within.

Nobody's life can always head in the direction he or she wants it to. No matter how carefully planned our day is, even a slightest nuisance like an unexpected traffic can get in the way and make us feel somewhat upset. But it all comes down to our take on things and our choice to react to events a certain way. Yes, no one can be 100% positive all the time, depending on circumstances they find themselves in, but we also need to remember our attitude or mindset largely impacts our actions and quality of life. When we do not let our mind solely taken over by constantly changing situations but employ a wise attention to keep it in check, we feel a sense of inner peace. Not only that, positive mindsets also bring on positive energy, which has the potential to contagiously spread to people in the vicinity.

We tend to blame other people for our misfortune and setbacks, but we forget to check if we are allowing our negative attitude and thoughts to determine our fate. When we fill ourselves with negative thoughts, we feel anxious and stressed about even trivial matters, and this stops us from doing things we could have done and leads to us missing out on experiences to grow and learn from as individuals. Whether it is in a workplace or college, we run into challenges from workloads, fellow colleagues, and our performance, and a positive attitude and approach towards things is necessary if we are to thrive and prosper and develop positive friendships. A lot of people like to be around positive thinkers, because they like to be empowered with unique perspectives and happiness. Who would love being with someone who says nothing but negative things and judges other people 24/7? Not me, certainly!

Having the courage to do what we want and never giving up on goals no matter what are the hallmarks of a positive attitude. One of the best examples goes to Jack Ma, a Chinese global entrepreneur who lived with a positive attitude despite multiple rejections and failures in education and career earlier in his life. He said the only thing is "to be positive, not to complain, to hold onto our dreams without giving up". Another real life example of a positive attitude would be Colonel Sanders, the founder of KFC (Kentucky Fried Chicken), who said, "I've only had two rules. Do all you can and do it the best you can". Colonel was born into a very poor family, and from being fired from various jobs to being rejected 1009 times, his whole life had been mostly full of adversaries. He started everything from scratch at 66, and despite countless downfalls, the strong positive attitude, which he never let go of, made him a multi-billionaire years after succeeding in his first recipe deal.

No matter what kind of life we are leading, having a positive mindset and positive thoughts is an asset we should attempt to acquire. In today's age, we human beings probably do not live to an age of 100, but we face more than a thousand problems in our life, and amidst all of these, holding on to a positive attitude matters, because it will be the huge motivation to help us keep going, and lead a less stressful life. It is easier said than done, but when we actually make efforts to practise from little things, whether that be developing an appreciation over little things we achieve or possess in our life, or being considerate towards people around us, our attitude gradually gets inclined towards positivity.



By C. T. O

(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

(B)

(a) ပြုလုပ်သူ (Subject ကတ္တား) ကို ဆက်လျှင် Who သုံးရသည်။ (Who အစား that ကိုလည်း သုံးနိုင်သည်)

ဥပမာ-

- 1. The children are from our school. The children are playing in the garden. The children who are playing in the garden are from our school.

ဥပမာတွင်ကတားနေသောကလေးများသည် ကျွန်တော်တို့ကျောင်းမှဖြစ်သည်။

- 2. The boy has been sent to the hospital. The boy fell off the bus. The boy who fell off the bus has been sent to the hospital.

ဘတ်(စ်) ကားပေါ်မှ လိမ့်ကျခဲ့သော လူကလေးကို ဆေးရုံသို့ ပို့လိုက်ပြီ။

- 3. This is the man. The man bought her car. This is the man who bought her car.

- 4. This is the policeman. He caught the thief. This is the policeman who caught the thief.

- 5. He sees. He looks. He who looks sees.

ကြည့်သောလူဖြစ်၏။

- 6. He will get cowdung and sand. He comes late. He who comes late will get cowdung and sand.

နောက်ကျလာသောသူ နွားချေးနှင့် သလဲရလိမ့်မည်။

- 7. They hear. They listen. Those who listen hear.

နားထောင်သောသူများ ကြားသည်။

(They အစား Those သုံးရသည်ကို သတိပြုပါ။)

- 8. They will pass. They work hard. Those who work hard will pass.

ကြိုးစားသောသူများ အောင်လိမ့်မည်။

(C)

ပိုင်ဆိုင်မှုနာမ်၊ နာမ်စားများဖြင့် တည်ဆောက်ထားသော စာကြောင်းများကို ဆက်လျှင် whose သုံးရသည်။ ပိုင်ဆိုင်မှုပြုနာမ်၊ နာမ်စားနေရာတွင် whose အစားထိုး၍ ဝိသေသပြုလိုသော နာမ်နောက်ကပ် ဆက်ရသည်။

လေ့လာပါ။

- 1. This is the girl. The girl's mother teaches us English. This is the girl whose mother teaches us English.

- 2. This is the boy. His father plays tennis with me every evening. This is the boy whose father plays tennis with me every evening.

ဤလူကလေး၏ ဖခင်နှင့် ကျွန်တော်သည် ညနေတိုင်း တင်းနစ်ကစားသည်။

- 3. The doctor has gone to see the police. His car was stolen this morning. The doctor whose car was stolen this morning has gone to see the police.

မနက်က သူ့ကား အခိုးခံရသော ဆရာဝန်သည် ရဲကို တွေ့ရန် ထွက်သွားပြီ။

(D)

ခံရသူ Object (ကံ) ကို ဆက်ရန် whom ကို သုံးရသည်။ ခေတ်သစ်အင်္ဂလိပ် စာတွင် whom ကို သိပ်မသုံးတော့သဖြင့် that ဖြင့်လည်း ဆက်နိုင်သည်။ ထိုကဲ့သို့ ဆက်ခြင်းကို Contact Clause ဟု ခေါ်သည်။

လေ့လာပါ။

- 1. This is the man. The police want the man. This is the man whom the police want. This is the man that police want. This is the man the police want.

ဤစာကြောင်းတွင် whom/that တို့ကို မြှုပ်ထားသည်။

- 2. These are the boys. The teacher punished the boys in class yesterday.

These are the boys whom the teacher punished in class yesterday.

These are the boys that the teacher punished in class yesterday.

These are the boys the teacher punished in class yesterday.

- 3. The doctor has gone to London. We saw the doctor at her house last Sunday. The doctor whom we saw at her house last Sunday has gone to London.

သူမအိမ်တွင် ပြီးခဲ့သည့်တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့က ကျွန်တော်တို့တွေ့ခဲ့သော ဆရာဝန်သည် လန်ဒန်သို့ ထွက်သွားပြီ။

The doctor that we saw at her house last Sunday has gone to London.

The doctor we saw at her house last Sunday has gone to London.

The doctor whom we saw at her house last Sunday has gone to London.

(E)

တိရိစ္ဆာန်များနှင့် သက်မဲ့အရာဝတ္ထုများကို ဆက်ရာတွင် ပြုလုပ်သူ (ကတ္တား) နေရာ၌ ရှိသည်ဖြစ်စေ၊ ခံရသူ (ကံ) နေရာ၌ ရှိသည်ဖြစ်စေ Which ကို သုံးရသည်။

Which အစား That ကိုလည်း သုံးနိုင်သည်။ Subject (ကတ္တား) ကို ဆက်ခြင်း

ဥပမာ-

- 1. This is the cow. The cow give us milk everyday. This is the cow which gives us milk everyday.

- 2. The dog has been killed. The dog bit three children. The dog which bit three children has been killed.

ကလေးသုံးယောက်ကို ကိုက်ခဲ့သောခွေးကို သတ်ပြီးပြီ။

The dog that bit three children has been killed.

- 3. This is the house. The house was built before the war. This is the house which was built before the war.

- 4. The plan will be discussed by representatives of the people. The plan was drawn up by experts. The plan which was drawn up by experts will be discussed by the representatives of the people.

ပါရဂူများရေးဆွဲသော စီမံကိန်းကို ပြည်သူ့ကိုယ်စားလှယ်များ ဆွေးနွေးလိမ့်မည်။

The plan that was drawn up by experts will be discussed by the representatives of the people.

(F) Object (ကံ) ကို ဆက်ခြင်း

- 1. This is the parrot. Father bought the parrot for me. This is the parrot which Father bought for me.

This is the parrot that Father bought for me.

(That နှင့်လည်း ဆက်နိုင်သည်။) This is the parrot Father bought for me.

- (Which, that တို့ကိုမြှုပ်၍ Contact Clause ဖြင့်လည်း ဆက်နိုင်သည်။) 4. The cake is delicious. Mother baked the cake for us. The cake which mother baked for us is very delicious.

အမေ ကျွန်တော်တို့အတွက် ဖုတ်ခဲ့သော ကိတ်မုန့်သည် အလွန်အရသာရှိသည်။

(G)

ပိုင်ဆိုင်မှုနာမ်၊ နာမ်စားကို ဆက်ခြင်း။ တိရိစ္ဆာန်နှင့် သက်မဲ့အရာဝတ္ထုများနှင့် ပတ်သက်သည့် ပိုင်ဆိုင်မှုပြုနာမ်၊ နာမ်စားကို ဆက်ရာတွင် of which ပုံစံကို သုံးရသည်။

ဥပမာ-

- 1. The house belongs to my uncle.

The roof of the house is painted green. The house the roof of which is painted green belongs to my uncle.

အမိုးကို ဆေးအိမ်သုတ်ထားသောအိမ်ကို ကျွန်တော်ဦးလေး ပိုင်သည်။

- 2. The book is mine. The cover of the book is torn. The book the cover of which is torn is mine.

အဖူးစုတ်နေသော စာအုပ်သည် ကျွန်တော်စာအုပ်ဖြစ်သည်။

- 3. This is the car. The engine of the car was made in Japan. This is the car the engine of which was made in Japan.

- 4. This is the horse. One of the legs of the horse was broken in an accident. This is the horse one of the legs of which was broken in an accident.

ဤမြင်းသည်သူ့ခြေတစ်ချောင်းမတော်တဆဖြစ်ပွားမှုတွင်ကျိုးခဲ့သော မြင်းဖြစ်သည်။

အောက်ပါတို့ကို လေ့လာပါ။

- 1. The corn lay in the house. Jack built the house. The corn lay in the house that Jack built.

ပြောင်းဖူးသည် ဂျက်ဆောက်သောအိမ်ထဲမှာ ရှိသည်။

- 2. The rat ate the corn that lay in the house that Jack built.

- 3. The cat killed the rat that ate the corn that lay in the house that Jack built.

- 4. The dog worried the cat that killed the rat that ate the corn that lay in the house that Jack built.

- 5. The cow kicked the dog that worried the cat that killed the rat that ate the corn that lay in the house that Jack built.

- 6. This is the girl that milked the cow that kicked the dog that worried the cat that killed the rat that ate the corn that lay in the house that Jack built.

သူမသည် ဂျက်ဆောက်သော အိမ်ထဲမှာရှိသော ပြောင်းဖူးကိုစားသော ကြွက်ကို သတ်သောကြောင်ကို၊ ခြောက်လှန့်သော ခွေးကို၊ ကန်သော နွားမကြီးကို၊ နို့ညှစ်ခဲ့သောမိန်းကလေးဖြစ်သည်။

(နာမဝိသေသနပုဒ်စု(adj clause) သဘောပေါ်လွင်စေရန်တင်ပြခြင်းဖြစ်ပါသည်။)

(H)

နေရာကိုဆက်ခြင်း။ နေရာကိုဆက်ရာတွင် where သုံးရသည်။

- 1. This is the town. I was born in this town. This is the town where I was born.

- 2. The village is at the foot of the hill. He left the car at the village. The village where he left the car is at the foot of the hill.

သူကားထားပစ်ခဲ့သော ရွာသည် တောင်ကုန်း၏ မြေရင်းတွင်ရှိသည်။

- 3. This is the place. They play at this place every day. This is the place where they play everyday.

အောက်ပါလေ့ကျင့်ခန်းများလုပ်ကြည့်ပါ။

- 1. The girl has been selected Luyechun. The girl painted this picture.

- 2. The actor has won the Academy Award. The actor plays the leading role in this film.

- 3. These are the troops. The troops defeated the rebels last week.

- 4. I know the man. The man bought the car from her.

- 5. This is the girl. The girl's father made a speech at the PTA meeting yesterday.

- 6. The woman has gone mad. Her jewellery was stolen last night.

- 7. The train has not reached Prome yet. The train left Yangon this morning.

- 8. This is the hen. The hen lays an egg everyday.

- 9. The flowers are still fresh. Ma Ma picked the flowers this morning.

- 10. This is the film. I like the film best.

- 11. This is the tree. The leaves of the tree are always green.

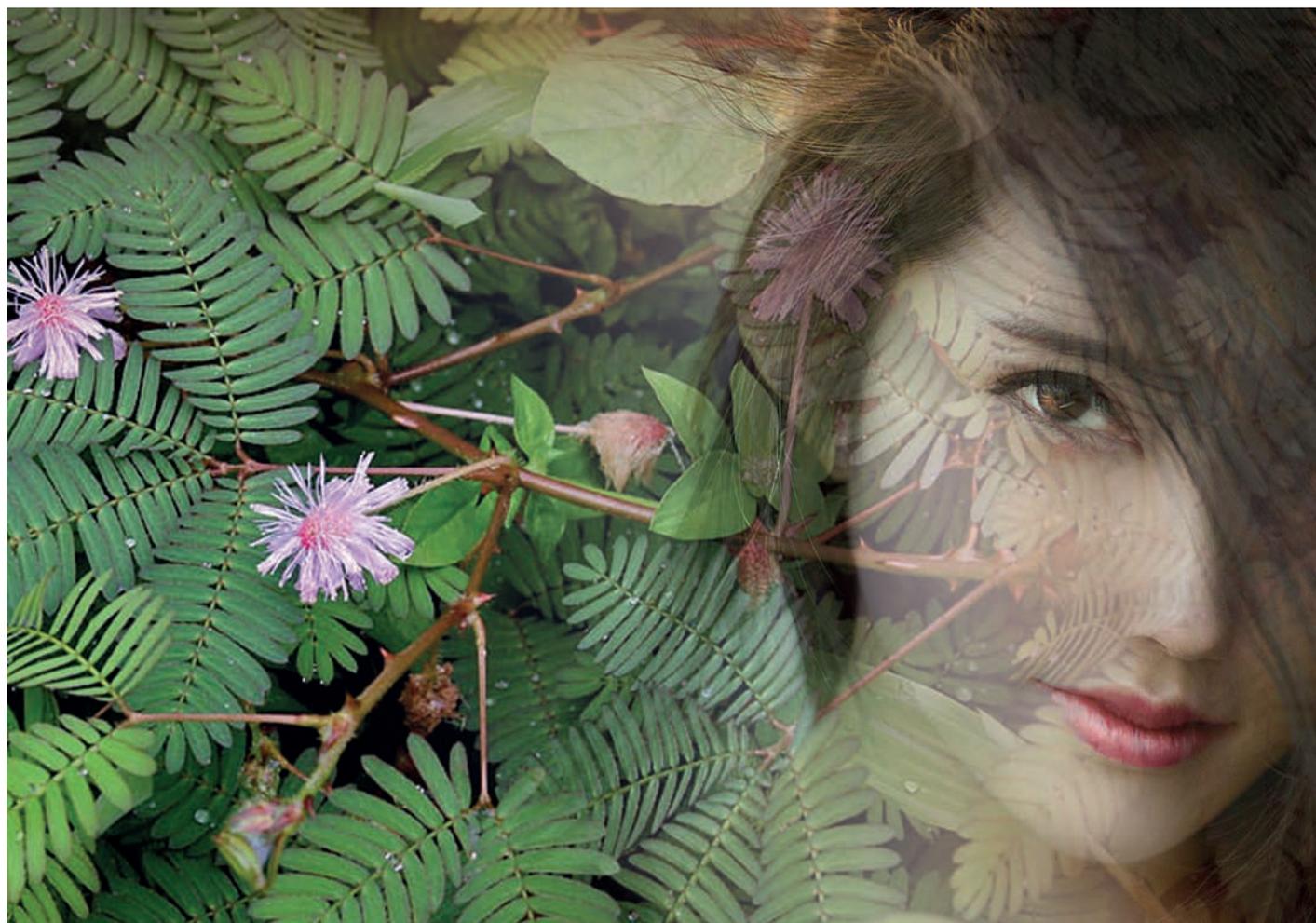
- 12. The big house was sold yesterday. The kitchen of the house is at the back.

- 13. This is the place. He left his umbrella at the place.

- 14. The garden is near the Shwedagon. They meet in the garden every Sunday.

- 15. He went to the city. He saw many cars there.

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)



Pride and composure



By Laura Htet
UDE English

IT is the young mimosa that is widely spread on the surface of the ground high or low and smooth or rough especially grown everywhere in Myanmar. It is naturally fresh and lovely. With lush leaves and purple silvery bright petals, it was enticing enough to pluck for the one who happens to see it accidentally. The close and tiny leaves of this plant seem to struggle against the touch. They do not bear even a tease of harsh or gentle. With appearance of hate, it avoids the hand offering to touch it whether they mean to love it or not. When touching the new leaves, the moist leaves shut themselves without any hesitation.

In the same way, the damsel is congenitally graceful. Youthfulness and freshness are shimmering over her demure face like the dust of silver. Her elegant manner is alluring and tempting. She is often approached to win her heart before she fell for none. She is not interested in anybody in spite of efforts to get her love. Even touch not fingertip, she seems to hate. The girl does not offer her hand by shaking it and neither nod by shaking her head. She will not be excited even a little bit and so do not touch her a little – her demure has readily protected herself. The wise says the countenance of a girl always guard her like a strongest shield which is safer than the protection of her parents, brothers and sisters. Her eyelids are like the closing of the sen-

sitive mimosa due to touch.

There might be no one who have not seen the sensitive mimosa bushes in his or her life. And we might have seen some kids taking delight in touching the mimosa leaves which become close when touched. Whenever they touched them, they never allowed themselves to be touched and struggled free at once. However, they defend themselves with their thorns, those who wanted to touch are not afraid of thorns. Previous to judging that whether they touch for pleasure or for adoration, they have to act out of duty given by nature.

Oh, Girl! You might have already known pride which is a feeling of pleasure and satisfaction that one gets because people connected with him or her has done or got something good. It can also be easily regarded as a well-preserved dignity of oneself. Then, you might have also realized composure which is the state of being calm and in control of one's feeling and behavior. We are highly pleased when we see you can maintain your pride and composure like appreciating the dignities of sensitive mimosa plants. Moreover, as it means that you are well preserving the honor of your heredity and that of your fatherland, we can satisfactorily happen to say 'well done' three times. ■

The View

I, me, my, mine, myself.
That attach too much to us,
which don't let us to the "UP"
where everything is
permanent.

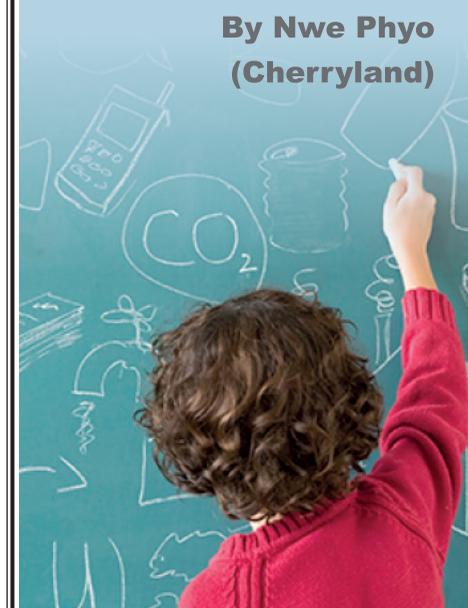
I, me, my, mine, myself.
We also love them too much.
Who did that? I did that.
I, me, my, mine, myself.
I did it myself.

I, me, my, mine, myself.
Cover us to what
Is right, which means five
true parts:

Corporeality, Feeling,
Perception, mental and
Consciousness.

To attain the Enlightenment
And to see what is to be trust
So, get rid of the attachment.
See what is truly what,
Everything is impermanent.

By Nwe Phyo
(Cherryland)





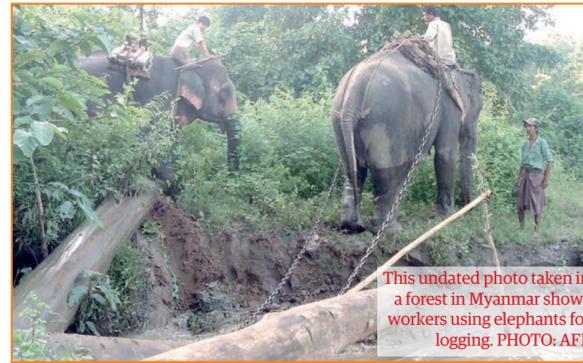
Elephants in the Yangon Zoological Garden are one of the attractive place for children. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR



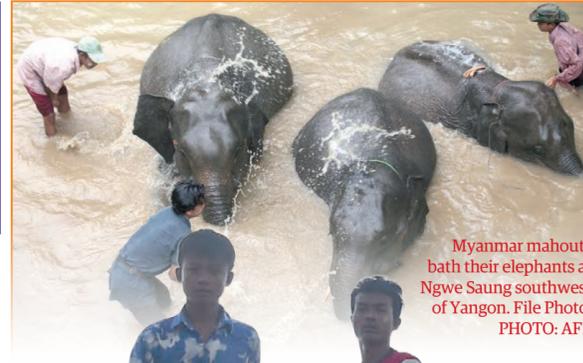
White elephants eat leaves at a shelter in Nay Pyi Taw. File Photo. PHOTO: AFP



Myanmar handlers sit on elephants waiting to go through a medical check-up at the Pho Kyar in central Myanmar. File Photo. PHOTO: AFP



This undated photo taken in a forest in Myanmar shows workers using elephants for logging. PHOTO: AFP



Myanmar mahouts bath their elephants at Ngwe Saung southwest of Yangon. File Photo. PHOTO: AFP



Myanmar mahouts take their trained elephants, used in shows, to an exercise ground at a village in Bago Region. File Photo. PHOTO: AFP

its close proximity to international border with China; and the poaching pressure on wild herds of Asiatic elephants across Myanmar even in remote and inaccessible elephant habitats are raising by leaps and bounds annually. Unless something serious is attempted in Myanmar and that too very soon; the wild herds may bid adieu forever from the region.

The situation is alarming for neighboring South Asia particularly for countries such as Nepal, Bhutan, India and Bangladesh close to China. Once the poaching gangs start operating at an industrial scale in South Asian countries; the toll will be several folds on wild herds of Asiatic elephants in South Asia. All these countries need to act now before the problem hit their shore by working together as a joint force in dealing with such monumental challenges through mechanisms like Joint Conservation Initiative (JCI). The governments across South Asia with significant wildlife population and rich biodiversity must act now before the poaching plague hit their shores. However, this is not just the case of Asiatic elephants alone. The monumental negative impacts on different species of wildlife populations as well as major and minor forest resources around the globe through intra and inter-continental poaching and illegal trafficking of forest products, live wildlife and various wildlife body parts into China is getting worse by the day.

The situation is so worrisome that several countries impacted by wildlife poaching due to the powerful and politically influential illegal wildlife markets operating in China

have been compelled to approach Beijing to take suitable steps to curb this massive billion dollars plus illegal industry operating openly in the country. Although the Chinese government has promised to take serious action, the reality is that nothing truly is visible on the grounds. The economic and political power helping such illegal wildlife markets to operate in China fuelled by the frenzy for bush meat, wildlife trophies and wildlife body parts for use in traditional Chinese medicinal practices among the local customers is playing havoc across the globe with respect to biodiversity conservation. Three continents rich in biodiversity, namely Asia, Africa and Latin America as well as economically under developed Eastern Europe have been worst impacted by this illegal wildlife trade and trafficking.

Several species of endangered aquatic (both marine and fresh water) and terrestrial invertebrates; as well as amphibians, reptiles, fishes, birds and mammals have been drastically impacted to the point of no return around the globe due to this factor. The worst impacted being mostly the economically backward; but biodiversity rich developing and under developed nations in both hemispheres. Without concerted political support such illegal wildlife trade and trafficking

SEE PAGE- S-8

Asiatic elephants in peril

By Saikat Kumar Basu Lethbridge AB Canada

SAVED from the grips of the merciless ivory trade, Asiatic elephants across South East Asia are once again facing a serious threat of endangering their wild populations beyond recovery. This new threat is so widespread, devastating and deadly that experts are already showing serious concern regarding the bleak future that threatens Asiatic elephants over the next two decades. The ban of ivory trade has opened an alternate market of elephant body parts in mainland China that is seriously endangering the future of this majestic land mammal. The skin of Asiatic elephants is being harvested after their indiscriminate poaching for the alarming rise in demands for natural jewellery manufactured from such elephant skin. The helpless animals are poached first by highly organized poaching units with sophisticated firearms, latest GPS tracking and high powered communication system like satellite phones and other advanced tracking and/or communication devices. Following that the skin of the animals are removed with precision and exported to China via illegal trade routes for manufacturing special elephant skin beads that are dyed with specific coloring agents and then made into specialty jewellery items like beaded necklace and bracelets and other expensive fancy items. Such fashionable jewellery items are fetching high economic returns from their customers in the illegal wildlife black markets operating in China and in some pockets of South East Asia.

This new trends has caught wind too fast and has been impacting wild Asiatic elephant populations and sub-populations across South East Asia. Previously, only selected males with large tusks were targeted by poachers for the ivory trade. Female Asiatic elephants do not produce tusks unlike their African cousins. Decades of poaching generated hunting pressure so drastic on populations of wild elephants that bull elephants with large tusks are not so common in their wild

Asiatic herd populations any more. But the skin trade is gender neutral; and hence male, female juvenile, sub adult, baby as well as old and sick elephants are all being targeted by the poachers in their relentless hunt for elephant skin for the novelty jewellery industrial markets in China. As a consequence a very serious, detrimental and irreversible hunting pressure is being exerted across wild Asiatic elephant populations in South East Asia exerting irreparable damage to the sustenance of many herds and pushing them towards extinction; if this is going to continue unrestricted. Removing young calves and breeding females from the wild herd populations is going to exert serious pupation pressure on these herds with bleak future awaiting them in the future; as there will be less chances of individuals removed being replaced by new and vigorous stock for the future.

Elephant carcasses with clinically removed skin are showing up even in the very remote parts of South East Asia indicating that the problem is deep rooted and is slowly getting out of control. The poor management of forests and poor conditions of the forest and wildlife security across the region is further deteriorating the process at an unprecedented and alarming rate. The situation has been worrying most elephant conservation agencies around the globe. Some reports are suggesting that the poaching of wild Asiatic elephant herds have surpassed that of the African elephant herds over the past few years in an exponential manner within a very short period of time. All the elephant inhabiting nations across South East Asia are facing the heat. But the situation is worst in Myanmar due to



Visitors feed elephants at Yangon Zoological Garden. File Photo. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

The governments across South Asia with significant wildlife population and rich biodiversity must act now before the poaching plague hit their shores.

SUNDAY COMICS

Mi Chuu
HTOO

HEY, MI CHUU, COME HERE! I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SHOW YOU!

MY MOM BOUGHT ME THIS TABLET FOR MY BIRTHDAY. COOL, HUH?

WOW...

NOT ONLY CAN YOU MAKE PHONE CALLS, YOU CAN PLAY GAMES AND WATCH MOVIES ON THIS.

YOU'RE LUCKY, EXCEPT...

IF YOU SPEND TOO MUCH TIME ON THAT THING, IT WILL AFFECT YOUR STUDIES.

OH YEAH, MISS SMARTY PANTS!

ONE MONTH LATER.

WHERE'S YOUR TABLET FATTY?

ABOUT THAT...

I SPENT ALL MY TIME PLAYING GAMES AND WATCHING MOVIES ON THAT THING THAT MY EYESIGHT GOT WORSE. PLUS, MY GRADES HAVE FALLEN TOO.

MY MOM TOOK AWAY MY TABLET FROM ME.

THIS MUST BE WHY THEY DON'T LET KIDS HAVE PHONES OR TABLETS.

PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE
Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win

HEY, YOU'VE BEEN MISSING SINCE YOU GOT MARRIED.

YES! I'VE BEEN BUSY WITH HOUSE DUTIES!

EVERYDAY IT'S BACK AND FORTH FROM WORK TO MARKET.

I HAVE TO COOK, CLEAN, WASH, AND MORE.

YOU'RE DOING A HOUSEWIFE'S CHORES!

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE AFRAID OF YOUR WIFE.

NO I'M NOT. I WANT TO SHOW MY WIFE I'M A CAPABLE MAN!

IF YOU SAY SO.

SUNDAY JOKE
Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung 2018

IT'S SAD TO SEE PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT LIVING STANDARDS.

WHO'RE YOU FEELING SAD FOR?

FOR MYSELF, OF COURSE. I CAN'T EAT GOOD FOOD LIKE OTHER PEOPLE.

I CAN'T DRESS WELL.

I CAN'T EVEN FIND JOY LIKE OTHERS DO.

HEY! IF YOU WANT TO EAT, DRESS AND HAVE FUN LIKE OTHER PEOPLE DO...

THEN GET A JOB AND WORK LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.

AH, GRANNY!

END

Nationalism **vs.** Patriotism

By Khin Maung Myint

RECENTLY I became acquainted with a retired professor of Philosophy during my daily morning walks to Kandawgyi. We used to discuss the current affairs - ranging from the social, cultural, racial, political to general issues. In one such discussion both of us agreed that the present unrests, conflicts and wars around the world, between the different nations or races stemmed from distrusts. These distrusts are based on excessive nationalisms embraced by each and every nation or race. When these excessive nationalisms turned into racisms, they become belligerent. There may be other causes, but excessive nationalism is at the root of every hostility.

During that discussion, the professor suggested that the root cause of the distrusts and the conflicts stemmed from racism, which is the result of the excessive nationalism. He added that it was this excessive nationalism or chauvinism, which is the root cause of almost all the conflicts, unrests and wars. His use of the term "chauvinism" intrigued me, because I must admit, I have never heard or read that term being used in conjunction with nationalism or racism though I knew this term has a negative sense.

On arriving home that day, I immediately referred to the dictionaries and the Internet. I found that "chauvinism" is mentioned as one of the synonyms of nationalism together with xenophobia, a negative state of mind or mentality, of which I had written an article lately. As the term "chauvinism", which has a negative sense is given as the synonym of nationalism, it supports my concept that nationalism, if not guided properly can have adverse consequences, eg; become racism and in extreme cases lead to terrorism. This discovery prompted me to further analyze the terms nationalism, racism and patriotism thoroughly.

As I am a free-thinker of sort, I used to think outside the box. Thus, sometimes my opinions and ideas may sound abstract or contrary to the traditionally accepted ones. However, as a free-thinker I give much attentions to the rationality or logicity of my opinions and ideas before publicly stating them. This must be the reason the Philosophy professor and I see eye to eye on most issues we discussed. He is philosophical and I am logical in my outlooks, so we must be on the same wavelength.

These two words, nationalism and patriotism seem to be synonymous to

one another. Even the dictionaries define them as such, but I chose to disagree. It may sound strange to most readers, thus I will try to explain my concept of those two words.

Nationalism

Nationalism is a spirit or in other words a feeling of love for one's own people, race or country. Sometimes, if this spirit or feeling is misguided it could become self-centered or more plainly, selfish. Excessiveness or over-indulgence in anything is not advisable, because it may have adverse consequences, which is more true in the case



PHOTO: ZAW GYI

of nationalism.

I do not condemn nationalism or reject it altogether, but accept that it is necessary for every nation or national group to embrace. However, it should not be excessive. During the struggles for freedom or independence, every nation in the world prioritized nationalism. It was the best mechanism to mobilize the citizens to stand up against the aggressors - the colonialists and imperialists, in our case. If we observe the other colonized countries, we will see that every leader who led their country to freedom promote nationalism to the highest levels. When fighting for freedom—whether by taking up arms or by political means—the more nationalism spirit we can promote, the better the chances of achieving our goals. There never was excessive nationalism in such circumstances, but the more the better. However, when the goals are achieved, that spirit or feeling must be relaxed and toned down.

Here, I would like to credit the late former Prime Minister, Senior Minister and Minister Mentor, Mr. Lee Kuan Yue of Singapore for his foresightedness

and wisdom. As soon as he became the Prime Minister of the newly independent Singapore, in his maiden speech to the nation, he urged them to relax their nationalistic feelings towards the former colonialist rulers and not to nurture hatred or have animosity against those people as they are in reality not the real enemies. These may not be the exact right words he said then, but I am sure that was the essence of his speech.

As far as I know, Singapore is still adapting the bureaucratic procedures introduced by the British in running the country, whereas we had replaced or discarded most. At one time, imme-

terrorist attacks, such as bombings, that killed many innocent people. All these despicable tragic developments are undeniably the consequences of excessive nationalism, racism, religionism or chauvinism at their worst. Thus it can be deduced that Nationalism, when it becomes racism is undesirable and when that racism turned into religionism it becomes dangerous.

Patriotism

I had stated above that though the dictionaries say that nationalism is synonymous to patriotism, I chose to disagree. I have concrete reasons for that.

Patriotism is nothing comparable to nationalism, for one, it is a very noble attitude or feeling. Patriots, unlike the nationalists are never selfish. They are not self-centered as the former and are even prepared to sacrifice, including their lives for the people and the country. One good example of patriotism was the selflessness of our beloved Bogyoke Aung San and the martyrs who gave their lives for the country, though they may have known that they could be assassinated.

The patriotic spirits of the Vietnamese people should be given credit too. During their struggle for freedom they endure all the hardships and fought with vengeance against the aggressors, and at times they

seemed to be ruthless in their treatments of the enemy prisoners. However, after they gain their freedom, their behaviours changed totally. They became amicable and never condemn their former enemies—the colonialists or the aggressors. Instead they forgave them and carried on dealing with them as nothing had ever happened. That was the admirable attitude of true patriots.

diately after our Independence, even teaching of English language was restricted. That led most of us to be weak in English, as we had to start learning that subject late at schools.

Another good example was that of the Vietnamese people. They fought against their colonialists and aggressors valiantly and conquered them, but they bore no grudge, hatred or animosity against them. They may not have forgotten but surely had forgiven and moved on, as though nothing had happened in the past and even sought their supports in rebuilding their nation. Viet Nam today is progressing in leaps and bounds.

I would like to point out that excessive nationalism or racism or chauvinism, whatever you call it, create belligerencies thus wars were fought because of those in the past. The most evident were the two world wars. In modern times, that is in the post Second World War, chauvinist groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, Neo Nazis and some other extremist groups that are in that same category are warlike -- taking matters into their own hands and committed extra-judicial killings and carried out

Conclusion

I hope this much explanations would suffice to justify my concept in connection with nationalism and patriotism. Thus, if we want to see our country develop and advance on the road to democracy, let us minimize the excessive nationalism that is hindering our progress and unity and endeavour to divert it away from racism and direct it towards patriotism. If every race or nationality can discard their angers, hatreds, grudges, animosities and grievances based on the past histories, peace and unity would definitely prevail. If peace and unity prevail, there is no doubt that we are bound to progress rapidly.



By Khin Moh Moh Aung
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As we are human beings, we are not the goods or the things to be traded. Human beings can do whatever they can, whatever they must and whatever they want. As the world is made up of different people with different mind, it has not only the humane people but it also has the inhumane people. Humane people are being alive in the world by giving aid to the helpless people and sharing the feelings of others. Inhumane people, however,

are being alive with evil doings. Some of them are using human beings as the things to buy or sell although they are also humans. They do not consider whether it is appropriate or not. They just know that they can get money by trading human beings as the goods.

There are many poor people who are falling prey to the bad situation, "Human Trafficking". Most of the youths in the countryside areas are the targets of the human trafficker. The girls and boys who live in countryside

areas do not have good opportunities for work. Moreover, their parents cannot afford to make them educated. So, they have to work for money without attending school. This is as if the good opportunity for the persuaders. They persuade those youths by telling that they could give good jobs with high salary and persuade their parents by using fake words. By doing so, parents come to believe the persuaders. And, those youths become the victims of "Human Trafficking". Thus, the beautiful lives of the youths, future leaders of the world, are ruined.

The next way of the human traffickers' approach is using boys to find the victims. The boys approach the girls through online or in person. Firstly, they approach to become friends with those girls. Secondly, they propose to those girls. When the girls accept them, their fake masks appear by acting inhumane doings. It can be called a fake love trap. The girls fall into that trap "Human Trafficking". And then, those girls just become the marionettes on the stage. Besides, human traffickers approach some parents who cannot afford to bring up their children well. They approach those parents by telling that they would like to adopt their children. Moreover, they make those parents believe them by giving enough money. And, they usually tell that they would bring up the children well. By doing so, the innocent children become the victims of that serious situation, "Human Trafficking".

No matter what the victims are girls or boys or children, the inhumane people are waiting for their victims to commit horrible things. We cannot know the people's inner mind by merely looking at their appearances. No matter how they wear high-priced clothes, their mind may be very dirty. "Human Trafficking" is hunting the victims by using various means. To eliminate that serious case, we should participate by uniting each other. Thusly, what I would like to say is "Let's participate in eliminating Human Trafficking" by articulating "Human beings are not for sale".

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their work to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, or by email to dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Own name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).— Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar

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such illegal wildlife trade and trafficking markets could neither operate nor survive in China. The Chinese government must act strongly, without delay on these illegal wildlife markets and eradicate them completely. Unless China takes responsibility and act diligently to cut down wildlife trade and trafficking operating within her borders; or is pushed and/or forced by the international as well as regional community and conservation agencies; the global future for several wildlife species (like Asiatic and African elephants, rhinoceros, leopards, snow leopards, clouded leopards, endangered pangolin, primates, bears, bats, deer, antelopes, rodents, wild sheep and goats are all at stake to name only a handful) is in complete jeopardy in the not so distant future.