

A Study of How Myanmar Authors Take a Pen-name

Khin Thida Latt*

Abstract

It is found what foreign authors write under a pseudonym is rare and they become famous for their real names. And, some also use a pen-name so that they may want to be secret themselves and with another name, they may want to create literature different from one they get used to writing. Nevertheless almost all Myanmar authors take a pen-name. It is very interesting for researchers even how began the practice Myanmar authors write under the pseudonym. The objective of this paper is to make researchers and librarians know how the Myanmar authors in the history of Myanmar literature used their interesting pen-name. This research covers (45) selected Myanmar authors take a pen-name. The method used in this paper is literature survey method.

Key words: pseudonym; rare; real name; pen-name.

Introduction

Tetkatho Htin Gyi is the foremost author who wrote about pen-names in Myanmar literature. Saya Tetkatho Htin Gyi was the last chairman for Burma Research Society (1980), Director of Sarpay Beikman, National Literature Laureate for 1992, life time Achievement in Myanmar Literature by the Pakkoku U Ohn Pe literary prize laureate (Arts) (2003). He wrote pseudonym of Tetkatho Htin Gyi in the journal of Burma Writers Association, Vol.3. According to his friend's question how to get his pen-name, he explained about it and he was interested in pen-names.

It is presented in this paper how the (45) writers took their pen-names differently. In the paper, the pen-names of (45) writers can be also divided as follows; ones including only some words of real names such as Khin Hnin Yu, Khin Myo Chit, Hla Thamain, ones concerned with the newspapers, journals and magazines in which they wrote such as journalgyaw Ma Ma Lay, Dagon Myat Lay Nwe, Moe Hein, Min Shin, Yuwati Gyin Phaw

* Lecturer, Department of Library and Information Studies, Yadanabon University

Mai, Ludu U Hla and Thuriya Kanti, ones of the natural things or creatures such as Ngwe U Daung, Zawgyi and Daung Nwe Swe, ones without real names at all such as Zeya, Nyar Na, Tet Toe and Maha Swe, ones dealing with the college and university in which they attended such as Tetkatho Htin Gyi, Tetkatho Nandamaid and Maung Pauk Si, ones related to their native places such as Mya Kay Tu, Rangon Ba Swe and Thaikpan Maung Wa, ones that come from what they liked seeing or hearing something such as Nyo Mya, Tint Te, Nang Nyunt Swe, Min Kyaw, Minthuwun, ones with foreign names such as P.Moe Nin, and ones of their parents' names such as Mya Than Tint and Thein Pe Myint.

As the authors experienced various lives full of ups and downs, their pen-names may be also formed different ways. Although the authors used their pen-names various intentions while writing, librarians and researchers want to know their real names. Having known how the authors took their pen-names step by step, we can appreciate their works, intelligence, dignity and background history.

The Meaning of Pen-Name

Dealing with Kalaung Amyi, pen-name, there are many definitions in Myanmar-English Dictionary as follows:

a. Myanmar Board¹, defines pen-name as the name is “used for writing”.

b. In U Tun Nyein. *The Student's English-Burmese Dictionary*,²

Pseudonym, n. လက်မှတ်ဝှက်။ ကျမ်းပြုသူ၏လက်မှတ်။

Pseudonym, n. အမည်ဝှက်။ လက်မှတ်ဝှက်။

Pseudonymous, n. အမည်မှားနှင့်ရေးသားသော။

¹ မြန်မာစာအဖွဲ့၊ မြန်မာအဘိဓာန်ချုပ်၊ အတွဲ ၁၊ ကမုကြွယ် (ရန်ကုန်၊ မြန်မာစာကော်မရှင်၊ ၁၉၇၃)၊ ၈။

² U Tun Nyein, *The Student's English-Burmese Dictionary*, 7th ed. (Rangon: B.M.S.U Central Concos, 1957), 680.

- c. In Dr.Ba Han. *The University English-Burmese Dictionary*,¹
- Pen-name ကလောင်အမည်၊ စာရေးသူအမည်လွဲ-ဝှက်။
- Pseudonym အမည်-လွဲ-ဝှက်၊ နာမည်လွဲ-ဝှက်၊ ကလောင်အမည်။
- d. In *Oxford Concise Dictionary*,²
- Pen-name, n. Literary pseudonym
- Pseudonym, n. Fictitious name, especially one assumed by author.
- Pseudonymous, n. Writing, written under a false name.
- e. In *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rule*,³
- Pseudonym An assumed name used by an author in his works.
- f. In Harrod's *The Librarians' Glossary*,⁴
- Pen-name Synonymous with PSEUDONYM
- Pseudonym A name used by an author, which is not his real name. Also called a "Pen-name" or "Nom de plume."
- Pseudonymous Those written by persons who have used a name other than their real name on the title-page in order to conceal their identity.
- Pseudonym A man writing under a feminine pseudonym.

How Myanmar authors take their pen-names

It is not true that most of Myanmar writers use their pen-names in writing as they want to keep secret of their works. Nevertheless, only a few writers might use their pen-names to do so. And, the meaning of Myanmar word, 'Kalaung Amyi', is a name used in

¹ Dr.Ba Han, *The University English-Burmese Dictionary* (Rangon: Hanthawaddy, 1557), 1770.

² *Oxford Concise Dictionary*, 4th ed. (Oxford: O.U.P, 1950), 880.

³ *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rule*, 2d ed. (London: The Library Association, 1967), 268.

⁴ Leonard Montague Harrod. *The Librarians' Glossary* (London: Ebenezer Baylist & Son, 1971), 523.

writing. Then, a pen-name may also be either a real name or another name. As a result, it can be seen how Myanmar writers take their pen-names as follows;

(1) Aung Lin

pseudonym of U Tin Pe

born: Mar. 30, 1928

died: Jan.25, 1984

When he began to write articles, he used Tekatho Apu Lay as his pen-name because he was short. When he dramatically entered literature field, he chose his pen-name ‘Aung Lin’, which was used as a secret name during in the Japanese revolution. At that time, he was a township officer in-charge in Pakaukku District.

(2) Dagon Myat Lay Nwe

pseudonym of U Aye Ngwe

born: Oct.5, 1911

died: Jan.10, 1991

While studying at the matriculation class, he entered the literary world. According to the words, Ngonarchatthay Kweyaye Mule Lettanshe (ငုံအာချပ်သေး ကွေးရရေး မုလေး လက်တံရှည်), which includes in Kawiletkhana Thatponkyan (ကဝိလက္ခဏာ သတ်ပုံကျမ်း), which was prescribed in the matrix standard, Myat Lay, Spanish Jasmine, is the most fragrant among the flowers. Based on the essence of the flower, he took his pen-name, Myat Lay Nwe. Around 1930, he began to use that pen-name in Kawimyethman magazine. Later, he added the world, ‘Dagon’ to ‘Myat Lay Nwe’ because he always wrote in Dagon magazine. By doing so, he got Dagon Myat Lay Nwe, his pen-name.

(3) Dagon Shwe Hmyar

pseudonym of U Tin

born: Jun.2, 1895

died: May.28, 1982

He had a friend who wrote in the weekly journal, *Kyi Taw Mu*, which was published in Pyi. His friend was not a professional writer. Nevertheless, he was not only an educated man but also a bookworm. And, his friend used 'Shwe Hmyar' as a pen-name in the journal. As he like the pen-name, he requested it from his friend. Thus, he got his pen-name, Shwe Hmyar. When he wrote in *Dagon* magazine, the editor added the word, 'Dagon' to his pen-name. Since from then, he used 'Dagon Shwe Hmyar' as his pen-name.

(4) Daung Nwe Swe

pseudonym of Aung Swe

born: Jan.16, 1931

died: Mar.22, 1985

He liked alliterations because he was influenced by Puyot (ပုယုတ်) poems by Shin Mahar Yahtathaya. So, he began to use 'Daung Din' as his pen-name. He use the pen-name, Daung Din, in the journal on the wall of the Central High School. Of course, 'Daung Din' is like the sound that comes from the boat wall when a fisherman knocks it. And, it has no meaning. He, therefore, did not like the pen-name, Daung Din, later. He became fond of peacocks when his grandfather bred them. And, he did like the two pen-names – Shwe U Daung and Maha Swe. As a result, combining those two names, he took Daung Nwe Swe as his pen-name. Besides, he also had the other reason why he liked 'Daung'. One is that Daung refers to the sun according to Myanmar tradition. And, the other is that there was the figure of Daung on the old Myanmar flag. In this way, he look Daung Nwe Swe as his pen-name.

(5) Hla Thamei

pseudonym of U Hla Tin

born: Feb.7, 1923

died: Jan.12, 2000

In 1943, he worked as an editor of the school magazine published at Buddhist High School of Min Hla. At that time, he liked historical names, he chose 'Tha Mein' from Mon names such as Thamei Bayan (သမိန်ဗရမ်း), Thamei Sekkawa (သမိန်စက္ကဝါ), Thamei Sithu (သမိန်စည်သူ), etc. that mean 'a king'. And, he took his pen-name, Yè Thamei, by adding the world Yè to the name, Thamei. But, it had been before. So, he changed the name into Hla Thamei, taking the word 'Hla' from his real name, Hla Tin. In other words, the meaning of Hla Thamei is the reverse of the word of Min Hla, his native town.

(6) Journalgyaw Ma Ma Lay

pseudonym of Daw Tin Hlaing

born: Apri.13, 1917

died: Apri.16, 1982

The Myanmar name, Ma Ma Lay, refers to a lady in Myanmar literature. And, the writer wanted the reader to know that she was a female and her sisters also called her Ma Ma Lay at home. As a result, she used Ma Ma Lay as a pen-name. Then, she added the word, 'Jarnalgyaw' before the name, Ma Ma Lay she wanted to express her career.

(7) Khin Hnin Yu

pseudonym of Daw Khin Su

born: Sept.7, 1925

died: Jan.21, 2003

She had experienced various difficulties in life since her childhood days. So, as she wished for peace of mind that she couldn't get, in taking a pen-name, she chose 'Hnin', which refers to peaceful thing. And, she selected the word 'Khin' to know that she was a female writer and the word 'Yu' to express that she was naturally kind. Thus, she got Khin Hnin Yu, a pen-name.

(8) Khin Myo Chit

pseudonym of Daw Khin Mya

born: May.1, 1915

died: Jan.2, 1999

In 'Wumthanta', a university magazine (1932-33), she adopted the poem, 'The Lay of the Lost Minstrel' by Sir Walter Scott, as Myanmar Tedats. Their titles are Do-Pye-Do-Mye (ဒို့ပြည်၊ ဒို့မြေ) and zartinam (ဇာတိမာန်). Not knowing how to take a pen-name, she wrote the words, 'A Patriotic Lady' in English at the bottom of the poems. And then, translating the words into Myanmar, the editor named her 'Khin Myo Chit', a beautiful pen-name.

(9) Lin Yon Ni

pseudonym of U Nyi Nyi

born: Apri.13, 1926

died: Jun.13, 1994

He used 'Lin Yon Ni' as his pen-name because he liked Shwe Lin Yon's writing and the name of the translation book which was named Lin Yon Ni.

(10) Ludu U Hla

pseudonym of U Hla

born: Jan.19, 1910

died: Aug.7, 1982

He was called Kyeepwaryay Maung Hla and Kyeepwaryay editor Maung Hla because he published Kyeepwaryay Magazine. After Ludu Newspaper was published in 1946, he was called Ludu U Hla.

(11) Ma Lay Lon

pseudonym of Daw Khin Thein Swe

born: Jul.19, 1935

died: Feb.28, 1991

Her childhood name was Lon Ma Lay, but her younger sisters called her Ma Ma Lon. When she chose a pen-name in writing, she took Ma Lay Lon as her pen-name by reversing her childhood name.

(12) Maha Swe

pseudonym of U Ba Shein

born: Aug.2, 1900

died: Aug.5, 1953

In his childhood days, he was called Maung Ba Shein, for his name was rhymed with his elder brother's name, Maung Ba Sein. In writing, he first used Maung Ba Swe as his pen-name. He wrote the novles as if Maung Ba Swe had retold the stories of the novles. Using the word, 'Swe', he wanted the reader to think that Maung Ba Swe was the man from the real life. And, by adding the word, 'Swe', he took Maha Swe, his pen-name.

(13) Mar Ga

pseudonym of U Thar Tin

born: Oct.3, 1911

died: Nov.25, 1988

He abridged Aeinda Wantha (လှနုဝံသ), a drama for the court, at the first book. Of course, Thuyira U Thein Maung advised him to do so. And, U Thein Maung also named him Mar Ga as his pen-name. Mar Ga means the lord of nat devas. Then, he paid deep respect on the Indian writer, Mar Ga. In honour of the Indian writer, he chose 'Mar Ga' as a pen-name.

(14) Maung Pauk Si (Man Tetkatho)

pseudonym of Andrew U Mya Han

born: Nov.27, 1931

died: May.31, 2006

Pauk Si was his nickname called by his family. He used Maung Pauk Si also known as U Pon Nya, who was a famous writer in Konbaung era. After 1953, he studied at Mandalay University and used 'Maung Pauk Si' as his pen-name in Annual Magazines of Mandalay University.

(15) Maung Thar Ya

pseudonym of U Thein Lwin

born: Oct.23, 1931

The phrase Pyi-taw Thara Myi (ပြည်တော်သာရမည်) was stamped and then erected a sign. The word 'Thara' was taken out from that phrase and used it as pen-name.

(16) Min Kyaw

pseudonym of U Kyaw Swe

born: Mar.6, 1933

died: Jul.7, 1991

He could not think about pen-name when he began writing. When he saw the name 'Min Kyaw' written at a lorry, he liked it very much. So he used it as his pen-name.

(17) Min Shin

pseudonym of U Win Maung

born: Apri.6, 1927

died: Aug.7, 1986

During the anti-Facist Japanese revolution, he served in Min Shin Naung Unit, Min Hla Si Thu Battalian, Burmese Patriot Army (Devision I). At first he thought to use his unit name 'Min Shin Naung' as his pen-name. But that name had already been used by a writer. So he omitted 'Naung' and just used 'Min Shin' as his pen-name.

(18) Minthuwun

pseudonym of U Wun

born: Feb.10, 1909

died: Aug.15, 2004

He used 'Maygawun' as his pen-name in the early era of Dagon Magazine. When he visited Mandalay, monks there told him that they thought Maygawun was a monk. Therefore he changed his pen-name. At that time, there were many famous pen-names, namely, Mista P.N.K Thit Kabya Ye-nè (မစ္စတာပီအင်ကေသစ်ကဗျာရေးနေ), Pyinmana Ka Ninbya (ပျဉ်းမနားက နင်းပြား) and Wingaba Taaungzaung Ka Mingla Aung Maung

(ဝင်္ကံဘာတောင်စောင်းက မင်္ဂလာအောင်မောင်း). So he decided to name his pen-name like them. Naming after the southern part of Kunchankon Taungsu Ason Ka Maung Thuwana (ကွန်းခြံကုန်းတောင်စုအစွန်က မောင်သူဝဏ္ဏ) as his pen-name. While he was looking for a better pen-name, he found the phrase Laungmyetkèsumon Shwelowintè Minthuwunlo (လောင်းမြတ်ကယ်စုမွန် ရွှေလိုဝင်းတဲ့ မင်းသူဝဏ်လို) from Sonnanttharmyine Sharpontaw (စုံနံ့သာမြိုင် ရှာပုံတော်). And then he started to use Minthuwun as his pen-name.

(19) Moe Hein

pseudonym of U Tun Shein

born: Jun.15, 1918

died: Jul.7, 1994

Although he started his writing in ‘Shwin Pyaw Pyaw’ era, he was a goast-writer and he didn’t get the opportunity to use his pen-name. He had to be pleased to see the printed words written by himself. Later, he admired his father journalgyaw U Chit Maung and wanted to be acknowledged as his son. So he used Moe Hein as his pen-name. Moe Hein means thunder in Myanmar. He also wanted to refer to Weekly Thunder, which was the name of a Myanmar Journal at that time.

(20) Mya Kay Tu

pseudonym of U Chan Mya

born: Nov.23, 1908

died: Jan.24, 1997

He started using his pen-name ‘Mya Kay Tu’ when he wrote articles and poems in Yangon University Magazine. He was more prominent as he wrote Pantu-Mandan (ပန်တု-မန်တန်)

၁၉၅၅) articles in 'Toetetye Magazine' in 1934, collaborating with Sayagyi U Hmine. In the name 'Mya Kay Tu', Mya is the last of the name U Chan Mya and Kay Tu stands for the first of the name 'Kay Tu Ma Ti Taungoo'. It meant 'U Chan Mya from Kay Tu Ma Ti'. Mya Kay Tu as used a pen-name called 'Thida Mya' in his previous poems. His Sayadaw told him that he wouldn't be famous if he used 'Thida Mya' as his pen-name, and so Sayadaw suggested that he should change his pen-name as Mya Kay Tu. So he started to use that pen-name.

(21) Mya Than Tint

pseudonym of U Mya Than

born: May.23, 1929

died: Feb.18, 1998

His name was the same as his comrade Thakhin Mya Than and so people usually went wrong. They both believed in Communism. Moreover, both of them not only went in for political life but also were detained in the same prison. As people went wrong again and again, Thakhin Mya Than asked him to change his name. So he changed his name as Mya Than Tint while writing the novel Nondèkakya (နွံထဲကကြာ), together with Ko Thein Pe in Botahtaung Daily Newspaper. Mya Than was his given name and Tint was taken out from his father's name.

(22) Nang Nyunt Swe

pseudonym of U Aung Thein

born: Jun.26, 1925

died: Jul.14, 2010

He did like the words, Aoyuponpanpabu Nannenyuntnwe (အိုယုပုပန်ပါဘု နန်းနေညွန့်နွယ်), from the old Myanmar classical song, for it was so good for him that those words were recited. So, he took Nang Nyunt Swe as his pen-name.

(23) Ngwe U Daung

pseudonym of U Kyee Maung

born: Jun.23, 1915

died: Jan.14, 1997

During the pre World War II, he used different pen-names. After the war, he sent an article without a pen-name to ‘Shumawa’ magazine. And, U Kyaw, the editor of Shumawa magazine, came to him and told him that his article was a lack of pen-name. At that time, he saw the article, Htanthikywekhaik Kyininkhaik (ထန်းသီးကြွေခိုက်၊ ကျီးနင်းခိုက်), by Shwe U Daung on the other page of his article. Then, he replied U Kyaw that, if there was Shwe U Daung on the other page, there would be Ngwe U Daung on the another. Thus, from the article, Maukthamauk (မောက်သာမောက်), which he wrote at Shumawa magazine in August 1947, he began to use his pen-name, Ngwe U Daung.

(24) Nyar Na

pseudonym of U Ohn Maung

born: Dec.28, 1902

died: Jun.1, 1969

He valued wisdom above all else in life. When the word, ‘wisdom’ is translated into Pali, it is Nyar Na. And so, he took Nyar Na as his pen-name. In spelling his name in

Myanmar, he always used Nya-gyi (ညှိ), for the thought that Nya-gyi (ညှိ) is stronger than Nya-lay(လှ).

(25) Nyo Mya

pseudonym of U Thein Tin

born: Apri.10, 1914

died: Sept.29, 1985

After he got back to his native village, from Yangon University, he wrote an article. And he differently thought of a pen-name for the article, but he could not imagine anything. So, he went to the water-closet and unexpectedly he saw the word ‘Nyo Mya’ written at the door of water -closet. As he liked the word ‘Nyo Mya’, he used it as his pen-name.

(26) P.Moe Nin

pseudonym of U Kyaw Nyunt

born: Nov.5, 1883

died: Jan.6, 1940

When he was born at 9 o’ clock in the morning, it was snowing heavily in his native land. With reference to it, he was called ‘Moe Hnin’, which means ‘snow’. When he attended the mission school, he got Christian name, Phillip. Later, he changed Moe Hnin into Moe Nin. And then, he took the alphabet ‘P’ from Phillip and added it to Moe Nin. By doing so, he got P.Moe Nin, his pen-name.

(27) Saw Mon Hnyin

pseudonym of Daw Yim

born: Oct.8, 1921

died: Dec.12, 2011

When she was young, she was fond of Saw Mon Hnyin, the princess of Shan folk-tales. Her uncles, therefore, called her ‘Saw Mon Hnyin’ as a nickname. And then, named for the princess, she used her pen-name, Saw Mon Hnyin, in writing.

(28) Shwe U Daung

pseudonym of U Pe Thein

born: Oct.24, 1889

died: Aug.10, 1973

He worked as an editor in Thuriya Magazine. Naming after the golden peacock as a symbol of the Thuriyanemin (သုရိယနေမင်္ဂါ), he used ‘Shwe U Daung’ as his pen-name.

(29) Taik Soe

pseudonym of U Than Htut

born: Sept.20, 1920

died: May.4, 2003

He worked as a librarian. In ancient Myanmar era, the librarian was called Pidaket Taik Soe (ပိဋကတ်တိုက်စိုး). So, with reference to his carrer, he took Taik Soe as his pen-name.

(30) Tetkatho Htin Gyi

pseudonym of U Tin Maung

born: Jul.17, 1916

died: Jan.11, 2004

He wrote, Kutha Hnint Kyanaw (ကုသန့်ငုံကျွန်တော်), a humorous article, in the Intermediate College Mandalay Union magazine (1936). The article is concerned with the man who thought highly of himself. When he also took a pen-name for this article, he used 'Maung Htin Gyi' as his pen-name. But, in Journal of Burma (1937), he used his pen-name, Tetkatho Htin Gyi, by adding the word, 'Tetkatho' to it.

(31) Tetkatho Nandamaid

pseudonym of U Tin Aung

born: Mar.7, 1923

died: Nov.15, 1986

He had thought that his pen-name should be splendid when he wrote a poem. And, looked up to 'Nandamaid', whom he found in Myanmar literary history, so he chose the name 'Nandamaid'. And then, he was also a university student at that time. Therefore, by adding the word, 'Tetkatho' to it, he took 'Tetkatho Nandamaid' as his pen-name.

(32) Tet Toe

pseudonym of U Ohm Pe

born: Feb.2, 1913

died: Dec.7, 2003

When he adapted 'Beau Tibbs' by Charles Lamb, he renamed Beau Tibbs as "Mg Toe". KoThaung suggested that the name 'Mg Toe' was not suitable, but 'Tet Toe'. So, the

name ‘Mg Toe’ became ‘Tet Toe’ for Beau Tibbs. The elders liked his adaption for Beau Tibbs. Since from then, they called him ‘Tet Toe’. Besides, he also adapted Saylaik Pyattèthu (ဆေးလိပ်ဖြတ်တုံ့သူ) in Sar So Daw magazine, which was published by U Khant. He used ‘Ohm Ga Lay’, as his pen-name for his next work. But, KoThaung, the brother of U Khant, used only ‘Tet Toe’ for his pen-name. Afterwards, he took only ‘Tet Toe’ as his pen-name.

(33) Thardu

pseudonym of U Pe Than

born: Sept, 1918

died: Apr 7, 1991

He used Thadu as his pen-name. This was because he liked the character ‘Thadu’ in the novels of P. Moe Hnin and Min Swe and he was also fond of the word ‘Thadu’ meaning Welldone (Kaungleswa / ကောင်းလေ့) in Myanmar. Moreover, it was very easy to recite the word ‘Thadu’ for Myanmar people.

(34) Thawdaswe

pseudonym of U Kyin Swe

born: May. 26, 1919

died: Mar.4, 1995

He was very fond of the novels written by Shwe U Daung and keen on writing. He didn’t succeed in trading and was deep in debt. So he took away from home. He learned literature from Shwe U Daung in Mandalay. He was a pupil of Shwe U Daung. As for him, Thawda meant Sandalamin (စန္ဒြာလမင်း), the moon, which takes light from Thuriyanemin

(သူရိယနေမင်း) called Shwe U Daung. He took ‘Swe’ from his given name ‘Kyin Swe’. So he used Thawdaswe as his pen-name.

(35) Theikpan Mg Wa (Changga Mg Wa)

pseudonym of U Sein Tin

born: Jun.5, 1899

died: Jun.6, 1942

In choosing pen-name, he first took the Myanmar word Gyaungka Maung Wa (ချောင်းကမောင်းဝ), which means ‘from the out-of-the-way place’, as he wanted others to know that his room was out-of-the-way at Yangon University. And, the word ‘Gyaungka’ rhymes with ‘Maung Wa’. So, he took his pen-name, Gyaungka Maung Wa.

(36) Thein Pe Myint

pseudonym of U Thein Pe

born: Jul.10, 1914

died: Jan.15, 1978

In The World of Books (ဂန္ထလောက) era, he wrote novels under the pen-names Sane Nga Pe (စနေငမေ) and Thein Ne Nwe (သိန်းနေနွယ်). He also wrote Tetbongyi Wuthtu (တက်ဘုန်းကြီးဝတ္ထု), the Modern Monk, under the pen-name Thein Ne Nwe. But the publisher Thakinnu published that novel with his original name Thein Pe. So he was well-known as Tetbongyi Thein Pe. In 1949, when he wrote Lansapawpyi Wuthtu (လမ်းစပေါ်ပြီ ဝတ္ထု), he added ‘Myint’, his mother’s name, after Thein Pe. So his pen-name became Thein Pe Myint.

(37) Thukha

pseudonym of U Thein Maung

born: Jan.14, 1910

died: Dec.7, 2005

He began to use the pen-name 'Shwe Thein Tan'. When he wrote novels for Shwin Pyaw Pyaw Publishing House, he thought that there must be 'Thukha' to be happy. Shwin Pyaw Pyaw also means happiness or joy. So he used Thukha to be happy as his pen-name.

(38) Thuriya Kanti

pseudonym of Dr. Sein Ban

born: Jun.4, 1900

died: Nov.20, 1983

Between 1926 and 1928, he wrote four short stories under the pen-name $\begin{matrix} \text{ka} \\ \text{ka} \\ \text{ka} \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} \text{က} \\ \text{က} \\ \text{က} \end{pmatrix}$ and sent them to Thuriya Magazine Publishing House. He got fifteen kyats for two short stories and ten kyats for the rest. His short stories were described in Thuriya Magazine. Three Ka (က) meant the name of bird called Kato (ကတုတ်). Then, he continued to write short stories and sent them to other magazines. Thuriya Magazine was the first to urge to write. He thanked Thuriya Magazine very much. So he used Thuriya Kanti as his pen-name.

(39) Tin Moe

pseudonym of U Ba Gyan

born: Nov.19, 1933

died: Jan.22, 2007

He first used 'Koyin Gyan' as his pen-name in Ludu Journal (1955). Later, he took his pen-name, 'Tin Moe', which means 'paying deep respect on parents and teachers'. He

began to use that pen-name in the poem, Akhokhanyathaw Kayankalay (အဆိုခံရသော ကာရန်လေး), which was presented in Thwe Thauk magazine (Feb. 1958).

(40) Tint Tay

pseudonym of U Win Sein

born: Jul.21, 1916

died: Jan.4, 1980

Before World War II, he used pen-name, Aung Kyaw, in the period of "Shwin-Pyaw-Pyaw". After The war, he decided to re-write and imagined to choose a pen-name. At that time, he heard the song that advertised the film, Panbè Maung Tinttè Natmaunghnama Yè (ပန်းပဲမောင်တင့်တယ် နတ်မောင်နှမရယ်), in the street. And so, he choose the words Tint Te, one of the words in the song, as his pen-name because liked listening to the sound.

(41) Yangon Ba Swe

pseudonym U Ba Swe

born: Sept.21, 1916

died: Sept.17, 1986

He used a variety of pen-names at the beginning of writing. Once he was objected to using the pen-name 'Thado Swe'. In 1941, there were two Ba Swes in Nagani Journal. So Editor in Chief U Tun Shwe named 'Yangon Ba Swe' for the one and 'Dewai Ba Swe' for the other one. Therefore, he began to use Yangon Ba Swe as his pen-name.

(42) Yuwati Jean Phaw Mae

pseudonym of Daw Khin Phone Tint

born: 1932.

died: Jun7, 2003

She got the first prize in Contest for Article of Taing Yin Me Journal with the title Ko Nyo Ko Kyun-ma Akyi Nyo Son (ကိုညိုကို ကျွန်မအကြည်ညိုဆုံး). Taing Yin Me requested a photo from her and she gave the photo that she got the first prize at Jean Phaw Me Contest. So starter to use the name 'Jean Phaw Me'. In 1954, she also got the title for 'Yuwati' and then she use 'Yuwati Jean Phaw Me' as her pen-name.

(43) Zawana

pseudonym of U Thein

born: Dec.10, 1911

died: Mar.8, 1983

He took his pen-name, Zawana, based on astrology. It means the shape of arrow while it does 'swiftness' in Pali. According to the astrology, another meaning is also 'number one'.

(44) Zawgyi

pseudonym of U Thein Han

born: Apri.12, 1907

died: Sept. 26, 1990

He was fond of *Zatpwè* (ဇာတ်ပွဲ). Especially, he preferred the pupped shows to others. Thinking about a pen-name, he took 'Zawgyi', as his pen-name, for he most liked the dance of Zawgyi from the puppet show.

(45) Zeya

pseudonym U Yaw

born: Jul.1, 1900

died: Oct.4, 1982

While he thought how to take a pen-name, an idea came to him. It is that he opened immediately the dictionary and put the pencil on any word without having a look. The word was 'Victory'. He got his pen-name, Zeya, by translating the word into Pali.

Conclusion

In ancient times, Myanmar writers did not use pen-names. As the intelligentsia of those days were monks and people in the service of the king, they used their titles as their pen-names in writing. Like in these days, a pseudonym was used when they wrote the letters to the editor. It was not a pen-name.

In the early 20th century, Myanmar writers really used their pen-names. In Myanmar, the pen-names were in vogue while the novels became popular. As the writing style of novels blossomed about 1920, the usage of pen-names became plenty. And, the famous writers' pen-names became their real names, too.

Librarians, literary researchers and readers want to know the writers' real names and also how and why they take pen-names in writing. In short, it is very interesting how Myanmar authors take their pen-names.

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၁။ “ကလောင်အမည်မှတ်တမ်း”။*မြဝတီမဂ္ဂဇင်း*၊ ဒီဇင်ဘာ ၁၉၅၅၊ ၂၁။

၂။ “ --- ”။*မြဝတီမဂ္ဂဇင်း*၊ မေ ၁၉၅၆၊ ၅၉။

၃။ “ --- ”။*မြဝတီမဂ္ဂဇင်း*၊ ဖေဖော်ဝါရီ၊ ၁၉၅၇၊ ၄၃။

၄။ “ --- ”။*မြဝတီမဂ္ဂဇင်း*၊ မတ် ၁၉၅၇၊ ၆။

၅။ ကျော်သာ။ *တစ္ဆေတစောင်း စာရေးဆရာတို့အကြောင်း*၊(၁၉၆၃)။ ရန်ကုန်၊ စာပေဥယျာဉ်။

၆။ စိုးညွန့်၊ ဦး၊ *ရာပြည့်* - တည်းဖြတ်သူ။ *၂၀ရာစု မြန်မာစာရေးဆရာ ၁၀၀*(၂၀၁၀)။ ရန်ကုန်၊ ရာပြည့်စာပေ။

၇။ မလေးလုံ။ “*ဤစာရေးဆရာများကလောင်အမည်မှည့်ခြင်းအကြောင်း*”။ *ဖြူနီညိုပြာမဂ္ဂဇင်း*၊ နိုဝင်ဘာ ၁၉၆၉၊ ၄၉။

၈။ လှ၊ ဦး၊ *လူထု* - သူ့စာတွေကပြောတဲ့သိပ္ပံမောင်ဝ (၁၉၇၀)။ မန္တလေး၊ ကြီးပွားရေးပုံနှိပ်တိုက်။

၉။ သော်ကောင်း၊ဦး၊ဦးမြင်ကြိုင်(အမျိုးသားစာကြည့်တိုက်)၊ဒေါ်တင်အေးကြည်နှင့်ဦးသိန်းလွင်(စာကြည့်တိုက်ပညာ) (၁၉၉၉)။ *မြန်မာစာရေးဆရာတို့၏ကလောင်* ။ရန်ကုန်၊ ရွှေပုရပိုက်စာပေ။

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Appendix

Lists of Real Name and Pseudonym

No.	Kinds of Pen-name	Real name	Pseudonym
1.	Only some words of real name	Daw Khin Su Daw Khin Mya U Hla Tin	Khin Hnin Yu Khin Myo Chit Hla Thamei
2.	Ones concerned with the newspapers, journals and magazines in which they wrote	Daw Tin Hlaing U Aye Ngwe U Tin U Htun Shein U Win Mg Daw Khin Phone Tint U Hla Dr. Sein Ban	Journalgyaw Ma Ma Lay Dagon Myat Lay Nwe Dagon Shwe Hmyar Moe Hein Min Shin Yuwati Jean Phaw Mae Ludu U Hla Thuriya Kanti
3.	Ones of the natural things or creatures	U Kyee Maung U Thein Han U Aung Swe U Pe Thein U Nyi Nyi U Kyin Swe	Ngwe U Daung Zawgyi Daung Nwe Swe Shwe U Daung Lin Yone Ni Thawda Swe
4.	The pen-names were fairy tales and astrology	Daw Yim U Thein U Thar Tin U Thein Maung	Saw Mon Hnyin Zawana Ma Ga Thu Kha

5.	Foreign name and one of their parents' names	U Kyaw Nyunt U Mya Than U Thein Pe	P. Moe Nin Mya Than Tint Thein Pe Myint
6.	Ones related to their native places	U Chan Mya U Ba Swe U Sein Tin	Mya Kya Tu Rangoon Ba Swe Theikpan Maung Wa
7.	Ones without real names at all	U Yaw U Ohn Maung U Ohn Pe U Than Htut U Ba Gyan Daw Khin Thein Swe U Ba Shein U Tin Pe	Zeya Nyar Na Tet Toe Teik Soe Tin Moe Ma Lay Lone Maha Swe Aung Lin
8.	Ones dealing with the college and university in which they attended	U Tin Maung U Tin Aung U Mya Han	Tetkatho Htin Gyi Tetkatho Nandamaid Maung Pauk Si (Man-Tetkatho)
9.	Ones that come from what they liked seeing or hearing something	U Thein Tin U Win Sein U Aung Thein U Kyaw Swe U Wun U Thein Lwin U Pe Than	Nyo Mya Tint Te Nang Nyunt Swe Min Kyaw Minthuwun Maung Thar Ya Thardu

