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The Newspapers of Mandalay and Their Impact

Yan Naing Lin*

Abstract

The newspaper, foremost one of the periodicals, initiated in Mandalay under the reign of king Mindon with the intention to respond on the propagation and annihilation of the British imperialists to him, had to survive and developed successively under the far-reaching repercussion of the time and period. The newspapers developed in Mandalay were though legged behind to other periodicals of Yangon in publish, they were able to chase up to them and led to the enlightenment of the people. The periodicals in Mandalay of that time not only had to agitate the people in the political movements, but they also led to the issues of art and literature.

Keywords: newspaper, Mandalay, impact, periodicals

Introduction

Media is a public communication which refers to the Periodicals such as the newspaper, journal and magazine etc., movies and broadcasting. The news, education and entertainment were contributed through these media. Through journals, magazines, movies and televisions, the public communication ways were regarded.¹ Among the public communication routes, the newspaper was the foremost. In the world, journals and magazines appeared not more than 300 years. In Europe, the newspaper had appeared in the early 17th century, but in Myanmar, the newspaper started to appear only in the later 19th century. Newspaper is a news sheet which described news. Today, newspaper is a daily issue. There are newspapers which published once in a day and once in three days. If the weekly issue is published more than once, it can be called newspaper.

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¹ Guardian U Sein Win, The Fourth Pivot and the Guardian Daily, Yangon, The Guardian Press House, 1993 PP. 1-3

The Meaning of newspaper and its dignities

The news is one of the vital pivots for the inter-relationship among the human beings. As the English words 'News' is described the all of facts from North, East, West and South, and the word appeared from the combination of these four words. Some people called as the newspaper because they were written in combination on the facts of chatting at the monasteries and pagodas at weekends. Newspaper is very important for a country so the respective government understand that it should have to control. In western countries there are four main pivots and the newspaper is regarded as the fourth pivot.¹ The main work of the good newspaper is to describe the events of a day like a mirror. Besides, there are four basic principles that the newspaper has to oblige not to insult the right of people chances. They are: (1) correcting, (2) describing only the facts (3) polite, and (4) fair. The primary purpose of the newspaper is that to get the current affairs more quickly and more rightfully and immediately to write down them to be known by the whole country. The newspaper is exploring the news.²

Although the public affairs are described in the periodicals, they are today news in today but they are going to be changed into history on tomorrow. Moreover, periodicals recorded not only the history but also created future history. Among those periodicals, newspaper gives the priority on the political and social affairs but journals and magazines emphasize on the literature and culture.³

The introduction of newspapers in Myanmar

After the First English-Myanmar War, the first Myanmar newspaper appeared under the High-Commissioner, Mr. Bloundell and it was the regime of King Thayawady in Upper Myanmar. Mr. Bloundell had the

¹ Monk, ruler, people and Journalism

Daw Khin Myo Chit, *The World of Periodicals*, Yangon, Zambu Meitswe pitakat Press House, 1952. pp-1, Legislative pivot, Executive pivot, Administrative pivot, and PeriodicalsGuardian U Sein Win, *The Fourth Pivot and the Guardian Daily*, Yangon, The Guardian Press House, 1993 PP. 14

²Zeya, *The duty of newspaper is to explore*, *The Newspaper*, The Myanmar Writer Association, 1963, PP-5

³Zawana, *The Periodicals and the Politics*, *The Papers on the History of Periodicals* Yangon, Sarpay Beikhman, 1978pp-523

intention for the Myanmar people to read English newspaper with interest so he guided to publish the **Moulmein Chronicle** in English on 3,May,1836. The editor of Moulmein chronicle was Mr.Blendal and George Hugh also did as an editor. In 1842 the Christian Baptism missionary association published a newspaper in Karen language which named "Sil Tygi" (the Morning Star) once a month at Moulmein. The first Myanmar Language newspaper which named "Dhammathi" (The Religious Herald) was published at Mawlamyaing. After the Second Anglo -Myanmar War, the newspapers were abundantly developed in Lower Myanmar. They were:

- (1) The Maulmain Chronicle (1856, March, 3)
- (2) The Maulmain Almanac (1844)
- (3) The Maulmain Advertiser (1846, July, 1)
- (4) The Friend of Burma (1846)
- (5) The Maulmain Observer (1865)
- (6) Rangoon Chronicle (1853, January, 5)
- (7) Pegu Gazette (1853, July)
- (8) Rangoon Time (1858, June, 2)
- (9) Rangoon Gazette (1861)¹
- (10) Burma Herald (1871)
- (11) Burma News (1872) and so on.

The introduction of newspaper in Mandalay

The *Burma Herald Newspaper* was very important for developing a newspaper at Mandalay. This newspaper was appeared when the Myanmar envoys led by Kin Wun Mingyi, visited to the European countries and trying to make good international relations. They had found the importance of newspaper in those countries and reported the newspaper matter to the King Mindon The King wanted so much to publish a newspaper. At that intention, King Mindon consulted with his ten² administrative leading

¹ Cuttriss, C.A, Early Newspapers in Burma, J.B.R.S, XXVII, III, 1937. PP-280

² Kin Wun Mingyi, Khan Bat Minister, Kani Minister of Interior, Saw Minister of Interior Yaw Minister of Interior, Shwe Daik Minister of Interior, Poppa Assistant

ministers on 15, May, 1873 to publish a newspaper quickly at Mandalay and then he ordered and passed the Newspaper Act of 1873 to establish the newspaper post.¹

During his reign in 1874, The Mandalay Gazette (Ratanabon Naypyitaw newspaper) came to appear at Mandalay. When it was prepared to publish, King Mindon ordered, "If I am not fair, it should write about me, If my queens are not fair, it should write about them, if my daughters and sons are not fair, it should write about them, if high court judges are not fair, it should write about them; your newspaper should not get fault and any person from newspaper post should enter and go out without blockage"² Mindon Min made unity between King and people and then British made propaganda for Myanmar King to look down so he wanted to counterattack the British and he published newspaper. In the fourth clause of the 17 laws of King Mindon to establish the newspaper post:

"If the Continent of Europe, India, Rangoon, etc
Insulted on Myanmar and broadcasted the rumors
The Royal Palace Newspaper Post should reply,
International may know about it
and may believe on its benefit"³

There are no evidences for the 26 points of press freedom passed by the king Mindon except the 17 laws in order to build the newspaper post. Nevertheless, the purpose of the king Mindon who published the newspaper to response on the propagations of the British had not been completed because the any responses of the Mandalay Gazette on the propagations of the British are not found. Above on this fact, it was said that the Myanmar journalists had no modern knowledge and ideas to response on the propagations of the British.⁴ But on the other side, it was a cleverness of

Minister, Bhamo Assistant Minister, Pagan Assistant Minister, Kin Zin Assistant Minister.

¹Dr.Than Tun, The Royal of Burma, Vol IX, Kyoto , The Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University, 1989. PP-209-211

²Ludu U Hla, The Newspapers are telling the history,,Mandalay, Kyeebwaye, 2nd Issue, 2011, September,. pp-391

³Laws for the Newspaper Post, Pu-1695, National Library.

⁴Zawana. The Periodicals and the Politics.Papers on the History of the Periodicals, Yangon, Sarpay Beikhman, 1978. pp-527

Myanmar journalists who knew and understood well the real position of strength between their kingdom and the English imperialist and they remained in quiet without response. And they were not learned well the journalism.

King Mindon let Ah Hee, a half Chinese-blood, to administer the Mandalay Gazette. . Ah Hee was conferred with the title of Nay Myo Thi Wa Thippa and appointed as a herald. English telegram and foreign news were translated by Ah Hee but Maung Htin had to write in Myanmar with disciplines. The style of writing used rhyme and rhyming scheme like a poem; as a result of his effort, the numbers of newspapers were increased.¹

When king Thibaw came to the throne, he divided the departments into 14 departments and the respective ministers had to administer. The information department was included in the 13th allotment department and governed by *Mahar Min Hla Min Khaung*. When the Mandalay royal palace was captured by the English in 1885 and the Mandalay Gazette post was made auction and so the Mandalay Gazette had disappeared like early newspapers.

The development of newspapers in Mandalay

The newspapers were reappeared in Mandalay ten years after the king Thibaw had been deported. Those newspapers were "*The Mandalay Herald*", which was published in English and "*The Upper Burma Gazette*". From the beginning of the 20th century, the newspapers which were published in Myanmar language had appeared. They were "*The Mandalay Time Daily*", "*The Star of Burma*", and "*The Sun Daily*"; In addition, *The Mandalay Buddhist Missionary Association Newspaper* and *The Myanma Hitakari Fortnightly Journal* were also appeared.²

The Myanmar nationalist movements were initiated when Young Men Buddhist Association (Y.M.B.A) started to appear in 1906. *Thakhin kotawhmine's* writings on the nationalist inspiration were the forerunner to appear political writings in Myanmar.³ So also as a result of Thakhin

¹ Ludu U Hla, The Newspapers are telling the history., Mandalay, Kyeebwaye Book House, 2nd Issue, 2011, September, PP-389,

² Maung Thit Lwin (Ludu), Early Myanmar Newspapers, Yangon, Bagan Book House, 1970. pp 165-6

³ U Tin Htwe, The Role of Literature in the building of a Nation., B.R.S, LV, i&ii, 1972,

Kotawhmine's writings, U Ba Kalay's editorial cartoons and the background of the Y.M.B.A, the Sun Daily was famous. *The Sun Daily* and its contemporary newspapers: *The Light of Myanmar* and *The Knowledge* had participated in the front of the Myanmar's political field and they led the Myanmar newspaper in the early 20th century.¹

Thus in the early 20th century; when many newspapers had appeared, the British government made censorship on the movies, drama, novel and the periodicals which were appeared of that time in Myanmar, to mould on the mind of the Myanmar people as they wish by controlling on the reading and the knowledge of the Myanmar's people.

So the British Government passed the Drama Entertainment Act in 1876, the Publication Act in 1898, The Periodicals Act in 1910 and Movies Act in 1918. Besides; the British government wanted to encourage on the self-conscious censorship of the Myanmar by demanding definite insurances or if the book was crossed by red pen with censorship lines or if the essay was fined severely.² India printing press Act was started to use in Myanmar in 1914. The 1910 Periodicals Act became widely in the later month. Later 1919, three newspapers from Myanmar were taken action according to 1910 printing press act. Those newspapers were "The Sun Daily (1917)"³, "The knowledge (1919)"⁴ and The Rangoon Mail (1919).

At that time, the newspapers which were published in Mandalay were - (1) Buddhist Missionary Association newspaper (1900, July) and (2) The Sun (1917). Buddhist Missionary Association newspaper was published by Buddhist Missionary Association of Mandalay. It was the first Myanmar religious newspaper and it was published in Myanmar language. It was published once a month. The size of newspaper was 15"×10" in December, 1904. In April, 1907, the size of newspaper was 18"×11". In March, 1912, the size of newspaper was 13"×8". In June, 1916, newspaper was changed into book and its size was 9"×6".

December. pp-1

¹ U Phoe Kyaw Myint, The Myanmar Newspaper, , Myanmarsar Myanmarhmu, Yangon, Seikkuchocho Book House,2010. PP-174

² Emma Larkin, The Self-Conscious Censor, Censorship in Myanmar under the British Rule (1900-1939)pp-65.

³ It was taken action for a cartoon of U Ba Kalay in the issue of 1917.

⁴ It was taken action for its essay "Shoe Question" in the issue of 1919, September.

The purpose of that newspaper described the benefits of Buddhism and nationals and to increase the learning of *pitakat* literature together with *pariyatti Sasana* and to establish the monastic schools. At that newspaper, it was found the news concerning with the activities of Y.M.B.A.¹

The Myanmar Hitakani Fortnightly Journal was issued in 1903 and it was issued by the Yatanabon book house and the *MyanmarTha-mardaw*(physician) clinic in Mandalay. It was published twice a month and pages numbers were orderly pressed.²

In April, 1907, W.T Lidbetter published "*The Burma Critic*" in Mandalay. It was published once a week. In 1908, Wilkinson had bought that newspaper and did as an editor. Although Wilkinson had published "*The Mandalay Herald*" until 1896; it did not develop so he changed the name into "*The Upper Burma Gazette*" and published. *The Upper Burma Gazette* was the first English language newspaper at Mandalay. That newspaper was started to publish on 1, May, 1900. At first, it was published thrice a week but more and more people liked it so it was published daily. In 1907 Mr. Providence conducted as an editor. The price of newspaper was three *kyats* for a month but later the price was reduced for eight pence for a month.

The Mandalay Time was published in Mandalay. After the King Thibaw had been deported, it was the first Myanmar newspaper in Mandalay. It was started to publish in 1886. The Mandalay Time newspaper was published thrice a week-Tuesday, Thursday and every Saturday. The newspaper published in April 29, 1913 in which subtitles were divided and shown; they were telegram, Mandalay Time news, local news, general news and essays and telegram, etc.

The contemporary of *The Mandalay Time Newspaper* was the *The Star of Burma*. After King Thibawaw had been deported, U Phoe Lwin bought *The Ratanabon Naypyidaw Newspaper* printing press from the hand of U Ah Hee and changed into the name of "*The Mandalay Friend*" and published it. But it was lasted about merely 3 or 4 years. U Nyunt published "*The Star of Burma*" by that Ratanābon Royal printing press machine in 1900. It was published until the Second World War was broke out. In 1909,

¹ Maung Thit Lwin(Ludu), Early Myanmar Newspapers. Yangon, Bagan Book House, 1970. pp-215-6.

² Takkatho Htingyi, Index to the Myanmar Newspapers, Vol I, Yangon, Sarpay Beikhman, 1992, pp-114

The Star of Burma described emphatically on editorial, religious affairs and social affairs. The price was 8 *kyats* for a year at Mandalay but 11 *kyats* for far towns. In 1940 issue, the size of newspaper changed into 9"×12". It had 20 pages.¹

The Star of Burma was at the top of the list among the newspapers of that time but it did not participate in the political activities like "*The Sun Daily*" and "*The Light of Myanmar*" and it did not motivate on the political affairs but it described only the news. It wrote emphatically for the development of national, religion and Buddhism together with slogan; and religious and social affairs.²

In the early 20th century, Myanmar political alert and nationalism started to arise so Myanmar newspaper which emphasized on nationalism, appeared. In 1914, when the First World War broke out; its wave affected directly on Myanmar political spirits a little. But that war affected indirectly on Myanmar people was great. Myanmar newspapers which were published in the patriotic (*Wunthanu*) period were: (1) Religious affairs newspapers, (2) Economic emphasized newspapers and (3) Political emphasized newspapers.³

The Myanmar newspapers which tended to the patriotism, supported on the activities of the *Wuntharnu Party*. *The Kommarrri* was issued in Mandalay with the intention to commemorate the 9th Conference of the Wuntharnu Parties which was held in October 12, 1921. The publishers were women, and it was the first Myanmar women newspaper. The editors were Daw Htar, Daw Khin Aung and Daw Thit. At that time, the newspapers favoured on the patriotism were strong. . Among them, *The Home Rule* published in Mandalay was included. In the Wuntharnu period, the party newspapers denounced and wrote to each other and published as the rivals.

At that time; the newspapers published in Mandalay were (1) *The Bahosi* (1921), (2) *The Burma Patriot* (1921), (3) *The Kommāri* (1921), (4) *The Home Rule* (1921), (5) *The Mandalay Daily* (1921), (6) *Thihayarzar* (1921), (7) *The Servant of Burma*, (8) *The New Leader*

¹ Maung Thit Lwin (Ludu), *The Early Myanmar Newspapers*, Yangon, Bagan Book House, 1970, PP-223-7

² Aye Aye Mon, *The Star of Burma, The Working People Daily*, 10-11-1972

³ Ngwe U Daung, *Sar Wingabar, Vol I*, Yangon, Panyar Alinpya Book House, 1963, PP-132

(1922), (9) *Muli-editor* (1922), (10) *The Mandalay Mirror* (1923), (11) *Myanmar Goal* (1923), (12) *The Leader* (1923), (13) *The Myanmar Democrat* (1925), (14) *Thathana Mandaing* (1926), (15) *Myanmar Eye* (1927), (16) *Buddha Discourses Newspaper* (1927), (17) *The Mandalay Sun* (1928), (18) *the Mandalay Sun Special News* (1929), (19) *The Naypyitaw* (1929), (20) *The Myanmar Muslim Herald* (1930).

At that time, there were many newspapers which emphasized on the political affairs, were: (1) the Newspaper of political parties (2) the pro-government newspapers, and the (3) the neutral newspapers. *The Light of Myanmar* and *The Mandalay Sun* supported on the 21 Members Party so those were 21 members party propagation newspapers.

The Bahosi Daily which was published at Mandalay criticized strongly on government so it was closed. In May 21, 1946, U Ba Oo and his nephew U Aye Maung and a group of youths who supported on his ideas republished the *The Bahosi Daily*. . But as a result of financial crisis and the government's indirect pressure, it was closed again in June, 1947.

The Sun Daily was a pro -21 Members Party newspaper. In addition to these newspapers, there were also the neutral newspapers which did not accept any political ideas but they emphasized on the independence and the national unity. The issues of Mandalay among them were *The Burma Patriot*, *The Naypyitaw* and *The Myanmar Democrat*. *The Myanmar Democrat* and *The Naypyitaw* made slogan not to bias towards the any party and published. In these newspapers, the news of Mandalay municipal was described mostly.

The Burma Patrotic was published at *Gon Tan* quarter, 33rd street at Mandalay in 1921. Later, it had changed to *Let Sel Kan* quarter, on the 84th Street and was published on everyday except the Sabbath day. When Mandalay city had been captured by the Japanese and its first issue was allowed. The first volume was published in May 12, 1942. The size of newspaper was 10"×13". The owner was U Thein Pe, a journalist. He was most tortured by the Japanese Army Police¹ The publishing editor was U Ba Tin and the editor was U Maung Maung Khin.

The Myanmar in the 1920-30, there was violent political activities in the *Wuntharnu* age; many Myanmar newspapers were published, the party

¹ U Tay Zawbartha (Minhla Gonyaung), *The Periodicals published during the 25 years, About the Poem, About the Literacy, Mandalay, Kyeewaye Press Hpuse, 1969, PP-335,*

newspapers were appeared to keep abreast that age current affairs and many party news were appeared. When their parties failed, those newspapers were disappeared and only their names were left. Among the issues of that age, the Mandalay issues newspapers: *The Burma Patriotic*, *The Bahosi* and *The Mandalay Sun* were published till to the post independent period.

In July 1926, Mandalay issue *Sāsana Mandaing* newspaper was at the top of religious affairs newspapers of that time. *The Sāsana Mandaing* newspaper was monthly issue. It was more distinct than any other newspaper at that time because it described foreign religious affairs news.

Myanmar anti-imperialist, nationalist and independence movements were powerful in later 1930. At that time issue political literatures motivated with great acceleration on the public through newspapers, journals, sheets and Magazines. The number of writers was more and more increased.¹ The British Government had come to face the new enemies: the threat of Communism and the shock of the religious and racial riots in Myanmar. They had to issue a great number of warning and demands for security from newspapers under the Indian Press and Unauthorized News Sheets and Newspapers Ordinance, 1930².

Under the Ordinance X of 1930, the presses and the newspapers would submit a higher bond (not less than 500 tickals and not more than 5000 tiakls) and any those who violated on the any clauses of this ordinance would be punished for six months imprisonment, and his bond would be forfeited and would be asked for another higher bond. Under this Ordinance of 1930, a number of Presses and newspapers were disappeared.³

At that time, Mandalay issue newspapers were:- (1) *The Myanmar Patriot*(1933), (2) *The New Mandalay Sun*, *The Myanmar Voice* (1938), (3) *The Myanmar Pioneer* (1938), (4) *The Myanmar Economy* (1938), (5) *The Thanghawāda*(Thangho Wada)(1938) and (6) *The Mandalay Taing* (The New Time Of Mandalay)(1940).

¹ Dr.Than Tun, The History that is in the rubbish, Sarpay Inn-ah, Upper Burma Writers Association, Mandalay, Kyeewaye Press, 1970, pp-101-3.

² Emma Larkin, The Self-Conscious Censor, Censorship in Myanmar under the British Rule (1900-1939)pp-89,

³ The Article (3)(3), The Article(18)(1)Indian Press and Unauthorized News Sheets and Newspapers Ordinance, 1930

It is found that the newspapers issued in the Second World War, were very little. Although *The New Mandalay Sun* supported on the 21 Members Party in the early times, it changed and intended into the nationalist affairs when its branch was bought and republished by U Tun Yin in 1933. Beginning from the Anniversary of the National Day in November 30, 1934, The New Mandalay Sun's special issue has 10 pages and the price was 2 Pyars. In 1936 it has 24 pages. The editor was U Khin Maung.

In the Japanese period, *kawabawasan*, the chief of Japanese propagation department officer had given permit to work printing press works at Mandalay. The right of publishing newspaper had completely controlled by major Nagasaki from Japanese War Commission. In Mandalay Thakhin Thein Pe's "*The Burma Patriot* was allowed to publish at first, when the Burma Patriot was stopped, "The New Mandalay Sun" was allowed to publish.¹In the writing of local political affairs, The Mandalay Sun described fairly for the intention of national unity without bias towards the any party.

In the 1300th, *The Myanmar VoiceDaily* was published daily except Sunday. The chief editor was U Khin Maung, the old chief editor of The Mandalay Sun. The assistant editor was U Thein Aung who was a scholar of Pāli, Hindi and Sanskrit. In the headline of newspaper, it had been described, "To overthrow the any enemies of Myanmar in order to gain independence and to grow the economic and the power". That newspaper was published at Deebo Street in Mandalay and its price was two Pyars.²

The Thangha warda(Thangho Wada) *Newspaper* was distinct among the many newspapers of that time issued Myanmar newspaper. The manager of that newspaper was *U Arsinna* and the editor was *U Thumana*. Although the newspaper was administered by Sanghas, it is not the religious affairs newspaper, it is described as the Sangahs' bold auspicious. That newspaper had been intended to publish for the propagation of sasana and literature development.

Similarly, the facts needed to reform for the Myanmar nationals are also mentioned in the transformation section. The writing of newspaper is

¹ Thuriya U Than Maung, The Centenary of U Tun Yin, the Father of the Mandalay Sun, Vol II, Yangon, Moe Kyi Sarpay, 1991. pp-38

² Maung Thit Lwin(Ludu), The Periodicals, The Working People Daily, 6-6-1968

not one-sided but it is fair. It can be said that it has the modernized ideas for its motivated writings.. There has no religious affairs but it writes about the secular from the optimistic point of view in it. It can be said that it is an issue highlighted on the patriotism for its writings with the motivation to encourage the Myanmar made materials, to keep patriotism, to alert national spirits and to set unity in the business.¹

The Myanmar Uzun was started to publish at Kyauk Thwe Tan quarter, 84th Street, Mandalay in July 31st, 1935. It was every day issue except Monday, the size of newspaper was 11"×13". The publisher was B.I.A U Maung Gyi and the chief editor was U Rar Soe. The manager was U Aye Maung. It supported on the coalition government led by Dr. Ba Maw. It was published until 1940 and stopped in the war. After the war, it had been transferred into Zegyo Wartan quater but in July 1945, it was republished. The size of newspaper was 7"×10", the price was 4 *Pe*. At that time, the publishing manager was U Aye Maung and the chief editor was B.I.A U Maung Gyi.²

Between 1930 and 1940, one of the development Myanmar newspaper was the appearing of the issue of evening news like the western countries. In that newspaper, people wanted to know in quick upon the economic and politics change according to the current affairs; but, it was known that these evening news had been appeared in Mandalay only after the 1940. Those newspapers were "*The Evening News (1949)*" and "*The Shwe Man Evening (1955)*".

The Myanmar newspapers issued in the Second World War had highlighted on the war news. They were divided into (1) the newspapers issued before the entry of the Japanese (2) the newspapers issued after the Japanese had entered and (3) the newspapers issued during the Anti-Fascist Revolution and the post-war period.

At that time, Mandalay issue newspapers were;- (1) *The Mandalay Sun* (1942), (2) *The Mandalay Myanmar Alin* (1942), (3) *The Doh Daung Lan* (1942), (4) *The Kanbawza* (1943), (5) *The New Burma*, (6) *The Shwe Man Aung Si* (1945), (7) *The Leader* (1946), (8) *The Bahosi* (1946), (9) *The People*(1946), (10) *The People Mirror* (1947), (11)*The*

¹ Maung Thit Lwin (Ludu), The Samghowarda, The Commemorate for the 150 years of Mandalay City, M.C.D.C, 2011,

² Mandalay and the Literacy trip, Vol II, Commemorate to the Second Conference of the Myanmar Literature and Journalists Association, Mandalay, Aung Offset, 1998, pp-28

People Mirror Solider (1947), (12) ***The Emergency Daily*** (1947), (13) ***The Daily Novel*** (1948), (14) ***The Mandalay Taing***(The New Time Of Mandalay) (15) ***The Myanmar Lanzin*** (1949), (16) ***The Evening News*** (1949), (17) ***The Yan Aung*** (1949).

During the war, the newspapers published in Mandalay, were faced with the shortage of newsprint to publish. At that time in Mandalay, ***The Burma Patriot*** and ***The New Mandalay Sun*** were continued to publish but ***The Burma Patriot*** was early appeared after Mandalay had been occupied by the Japanese. In May 12, 1942, The Burma Patriot was republished and its size was 20"×30" and it could be publish only one sheet. The editor of ***The Burma Patriot*** was U Ba Tin.

In early 1944, ***the Mandalay Sun*** could be published only one sheet as for the rare of newsprint and the size was changed many sizes into 8×13, 10×13, 11×15. The variety of colour paper was used to publish. During the war time, the Yangon issues did not face the shortage of newsprints like Mandalay issues but it could be continued to publish with white paper. During the Japanese period, the newspapers have no press freedom except the some government issues. The issue of at that time: ***The Burma Patriot***, ***The New Mandalay Sun***, ***The Light of Myanmar*** and ***The Sun Daily*** did not dare to criticize on the Japanese government and its administration.¹

Doh Daung Lan(Our Peacock Flag)'s directors were women and it was published in bi-lingual (English-Myanmar). It was published in Mandalay, Let Sel Kan quarter, at the Taing Chit press houses. It was published in March, 1942 under the slogan of "the women should participate not only in the businesses but also in the development of the country as like as the men". The owner was Daw Ahmar, the editor was Daw Hla. As the newsprints are rare, the size of newspaper was different. When someone were wondering in politics so they advice and motivated to form the sixth force and it was called "***The Sixth force Newspaper***".

The People Journal "was issued twice a month but in April 19, 1946, it was enlarged into newspaper.. The People Journal intended to support for the A.F.P.F.L's independence struggles, so 1945 issue journal had been changed to publish.² The Chief of editor was Shwe U Daung, in

¹ Ludu U Hla, The Myanmar in the War Time: Told by the Newspapers, Vol I, Mandalay, Kyeewaye Press, 1969, PP-175-6,

² Anna Allott, Half-A Century of Publishing in Mandalay, The Journal of Burma Studies, Volume I, PP-85

charge of editor was Ludu U Hla. It was published by the Kyeewaye printing press which situated on the 84th Street, Let Sel Kan quarter in Mandalay. It was published every day except Sunday. Most of the organizations were supporting on the A.F.P.F.L. It could be said that it was a force for A.F.P.F.L's independence struggles. On November 2, 1946, when Burma Communist Party was expelled from A.F.P.F.L, the People Daily supported on the A.F.P.F.L's independence activity; and on the other side it wrote and demanded for the national unity and peace till it was closed down finally. The contemporaries of the People Daily at that time were "*The Shweman Aungsi, The Bahosi, The Leader Daily, The People Mirror, The Mandalay Taing* (The new Time of Mandalay Daily) and the *Myanmar Uzun*. When Karen insurgents occupied Mandalay, there was no publication of newspapers.¹ The issues in Mandalay at that times were. *The Wuttu Nayzin, The Bahosi, The New Burma, The Shweman Aungsi, The Yang Aung Daily, The Myanmar Lanzin, the Sunday Evening, The Mandalay Hittaing, The Mandalay Sheh Saung* (The Mandalay Pilot) and *The Mandalay Sun*.² During ten years after the assuming of independence, civil war, Komintang invasion and political uprisings were appeared under the A.F.P.F.L Government and so there was no press freedom as the government made pressure on the newspapers.

As U Nu was leading to a coalition government of several parties with the various individuals and policies, he could not effort so much for the maintenance of the press freedom although he was himself a writer and believed on it. His government therefore confronted many times with the journalists and writers.³ Besides, U Nu was not also able to control on the activities of his some ministers of the government who abused on the weakness of the press laws and regulations of that time as there were absence of the definite laws and regulation of the press. Under his Parliament government, many journalists, writers and politicians were arrested and sentenced to the imprisonment for violating on the sub-article (124) of the Indian Penal Code of 1861.⁴

In the time of Revolutionary Council, parties back up newspapers and private newspapers were disappeared slowly under the Law to guard on

¹ Win Tin, The History of the People Daily Post and the list of its Publication

² *Shwekaingtha*, The Centenary of Mandalay, Mandalay, The Kyeewaye Press, 1959, PP-327

³ U Thaug, A Journalist, A King, an Army in Burma, PP

⁴ U Thaug, A Journalist, A King, an Army in Burma, PP-6-7,

the national unity which was declared in March 28, 1964, and the some were nationalized when political parties did not have chance to stand. Mandalay newspapers; *The Bahosi*, *The Myanmar Lanzin* and *The Man Khit* (The Mandalay Times)¹ were stopped at that year. So after 1965, The People Daily became the only one newspaper in Mandalay and it was also stopped on 7, July, 1967. The People Daily issued between 1960 and 1967 became more better than before in quality and it had verity of sections.

The Bahosi was issued once a week in the early 1950 with the name of “Bahosi Newssheet.” and it had been changed to publish daily. Its manager was U Aye Maung, the executive editor was Baho Than Nyunt, consultant editor was U Myo Htun, news editor was U Thein Hlaing and associated editors was U Ko Ko Lay. At that issue, columns for the news section and essays section are included²

In the issues of 1956, *The Bahosi* Daily wrote on the presence Myanmar's political situations. It is written that the internal insurgencies are appeared for the many disagreements and the coups among the A.F.P.F.L Government, the union is faced from the danger of disintegration as the national races asked the rights for the separation from the union. It is written on the essays and news about the political conditions of Myanmar around 1956, as like as his slogan, “The newspaper is the ears, eyes and voice of a nation”.³ The news and essays about the Burmese Communist Party and internal insurgencies are described on the issue of February 4, 1956.⁴

During the Anti-Fascist revolution period, the alliance forces had reentered into the Myanmar. Their propaganda newspapers were: *The New Age*, *The Doe Aung Myay*, *The Shweman Aungsi*, *The Tet Khit Myanmar* and *The Shwe Myaing Ahthan*. At that time in Mandalay, “*The Shwe Man Aung Si*” was started to publish from the war news of the British Broadcasting Centre as the Mandalay-Maymyo War newssheet. At its first issue, it was published twice a week but it was issued everyday except Monday. As it was published by British government information

¹ 1-10-1963, 15-1-1964,

² The Bahosi Daily, 7-11-1955

³ Thein Htun (Yangon), The Present Myanmar and the Newspapers, PP-12, The People Journal, No.18(Special Issue)

⁴ The Bahosi Daily, PP-3, 4-2-1956,

department, the administrative system of the British government is explained and it is written with the intention of propagation.

Current news and economic news which were concerned with current A.F.P.F.L government are described in *The Shweman Aungsi* which was published in April, May and June in 1951 like other newspapers. In *The Shweman Aungsi*, which was published in April 22, 1951, insisted with the title of “A.F.P.F.L Government and Election”,¹

In *The Shweman Aungsi* which was issued in April 27, 1951, mentions the news on the resignation of the executive members of the A.F.P.F.L from Mandalay district on the account of disagreement.² It is found that *The Shweman Aungsi* wrote most of the political critic and essays on the presence A.F.P.F.L government.³

Conclusion

The Newspapers started to appear under the reign of King Mindon in Mandalay with the intention to response to the propagation of the British, had survived and developed together with the Anti-Imperialist, Anti-Fascist and the nationalist movements like the other newspapers of Myanmar. Although the Mandalay newspapers were lagged behind the Yangon periodicals in its initiating, in number and in the political alert during the patriotic (*Wun-thar-nu*) period between 1920 and 1930), its acceleration of political alert is more stronger. The appearance of the first Myanmar women periodical like *The Konmari*, became a modernization and an impetus of the Mandalay periodicals. The replacement of the Mandalay New Sun at the place of *The Sun* continued to be strong the impetus of the Mandalay periodicals. Besides, the role of the Mandalay periodicals became higher in the nationalist movements as for the some newspapers which gave priority to the patriotism and published under the leading of the monks, like *The Thangha Wada*(Thangho Wada). Even in the Japanese period in which the publication of periodicals were very little as there was no press freedom, the Mandalay periodicals' momentum continued to exist as for the issue like *The Doh Daung Lan* which was published by the women. The factors

¹ The Shweman Aungsi, 22-4-1951,

² The Shweman Aungsi, 27-4-1951,

³ The Shweman Aungsi, 5-5-1951,

which had contributed to the development of Mandalay periodicals were: (1) at that time, there was no censorship on the periodicals especially ten years after the independence (2) during the post-war period, the University atmosphere and the young intellectuals had entered into the Mandalay periodicals field (3) during the Cold War, they had got the contacts with the super powers like the U.S and the Soviet Union and also with their ideologies. As a result of these consequences, in the periodicals of Mandalay at that time :The New Mandalay Sun, *The People Daily(Ludu)*, The People Journal(Ludu), *The Bahosi Daily* , *The Mandalay Hittaing* , *The Yaung Ni Journal (The Dawn)*, had come to insert about the writings on the support for the leftist and rightist ideologies, commentaries, writing on the requests for the national unity, literature, culture and the artistic matters. These newspapers given priority to the politics, were as disappeared as the fowl and the bird after the Revolutionary Council came to the power. But the Mandalay newspapers continued to struggle in the seeking of press freedom till to the last time.

Appendix (A)



The Yatanabon Naypyitaw Newspaper issued on 24-9-1876



The Myanma Uzun issued on 10-12-1935



The Star of Burma issued on 6-7-194

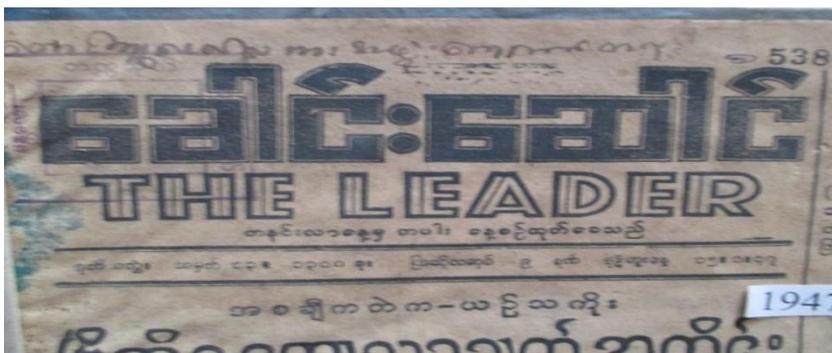
Appendix (B)



The Naypyidaw Newspaper Issued on 14-12-1925



The Burma Democrat Issued on 7-12-1925



The Leader Issued on 15-1-1947

Appendix (c)



The Thangawada Issued on 1-12-1938



The Burma's Voice Issued on 8-8-1938



The Mandalay Sun Issued on 16-5-1943

Appendix (D)



The Myanmar Lanzin Issued in 1950



The Bahosi Daily Issued on 20-4-1946



The Shweman Evening Issued on 6-7-1955

Appendix (E)



The People Daily Issued on 8-5-1948



The Mandalay Hittaing Issued on 1-1-1957



The Yan Aung Daily Issued on 19-7-1949

Appendix (F)



The Mandalay Ahyepaw Daily Issued on 15-12-1947



The New Time of Mandalay Daily Issued on 19-12-1947

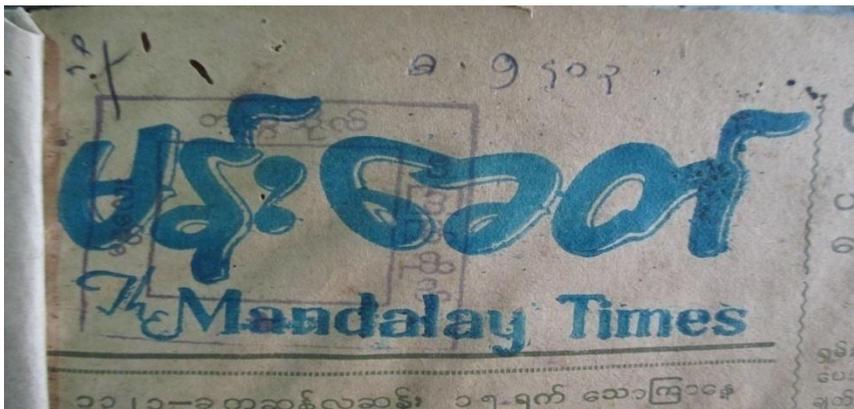


The Shwe Man Aung Si Daily Issued on 4-1-1950

Appendix (G)



The Taing Chit Daily Issued on 27-7-1942



The Mandalay Times Issued on 28-4-1961



Thadinhlwar Issued on 4-1-1950

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- The Star of Burma
- The Taing Chit Daily
- The Leader,
- The People Daily
- The Bahosi Daily
- The Shweman Aungsi,
- The New Mandalay Sun Daily
- The Shew Man Evening News sheet,
- The Mandalay Ahyedaw Daily,
- The New Time of Mandalay Daily
- The Mandalay Ahyepaw Daily
- The Yan Aung Daily

The Mandalay Hit Taing Daily

The Myanma Lanzin,

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