

## FOREWORD

This book has been compiled for foreigners who would like to get acquainted with the Myanmar language and put it to practical use if need should arise. Keeping in mind that a word or two in the vernacular, even though they be not perfectly pronounced nor immaculately put, should still aid a traveller to get his ideas across, we have confined ourselves to the basics and then only in the colloquial to accomplish what we hope is the simplest and easiest way to learn the language without a tutor.

Myanmar being a tonal language, the use of some tone marks has been unavoidable. This has been done to maintain some level of comprehensibility and by-pass likely pitfalls. However, we have kept it to the barest minimum needed to do the job and then to those which most of us are quite familiar.

The words and phrases compiled in this book have been selected with a view to help the traveller in dealing with situations likely to be encountered at the airport, in hotels and restaurants, while shopping or when just getting around.

We hope your stay in Myanmar will be a most enjoyable one and learning to speak the language with this little book both interesting and practicable.