

# PREFACE

Sitagu Sayadaw, the Chancellor of Sitagu, is a world-wide well-known person with his tireless travails of four major programs – Sitagu Water Supply, Sitagu Ayudana Hospital, Sitagu International Buddhist Academy, and Sitagu International Vipassana Academy. He lives not for his own sake but for the welfare of beings all over the world. He has been travelled more than 52 countries and attended many seminars and conferences and addressed many of public talks for peace and harmony. He has been timelessly and tirelessly engaging immense noble humanitarian works for people every corner of the world.

Sitagu Sayadaw takes great care for the welfare of people, and he is active in the affairs of mankind. He is conscientious in the performance of his duties and possesses great patience. He devotes all his energies to the welfare and humanitarian works in accordance with the line of peace and harmony.

There are many students who wish to study the greatest speaker, Sitagu Sayadaw, of all time – from his youth to today, not only a list of the speeches but a link to the text and paragraph outlining the context in which the speech was given. Therefore, we decided to create one booklet of Sitagu Sayadaw's speeches.

Once Sitagu Sayadaw said "To become a great speaker, you must become a good listener first. A good listener here means a very pious devotee of the great speakers who have come before you. Secondly, you must be a good genius in memorization. Thirdly, you must be an incredible composer of wonderful speeches. Lastly, you must plunge yourself into their texts, listening for the turns of phrases and textual symmetries, the pauses and crescendos, the metaphors, tunes, that have enabled the greatest speeches to stand the test of time."

Sitagu Sayadaw's speeches no doubt can lift hearts in dark line, give hope in despair, refine the character of men, encourage brave feats, give courage to the weary, honor the dead, and change the course of history.

It is our desire that this library will become a lasting resource not only

to those who wish to become great speakers, but to all men who wisely seek out the knowledge and the great knowledgeable teachers of history as guides on the path to virtuous manhood.

We hope you would attempt a program of study in which you read the entirety of one of these great speeches each and every day. We found the process of compiling and reading these speeches to be enormously inspiring and edifying.

Department of Research and Compilation

Sitagu International Buddhist Academy

Yangon, Myanmar

SELECTED SPEECHES

Delivered by

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