Newsletter - Fall 2016 cetana.org



## Cetana Educational Foundation 200 West 10th. Street, New York, NY 10014

# CETANA MOVING TO DOWNTOWN YANGON

**Construction is underway on Cetana's new school in downtown Yangon.** When the move takes place in late October, we will have space for more students, a location within the transit hub, and a fresh, open and attractive environment for learning. Cetana students and staff are excited and eager to make the move.

Building out on the third floor of the teeming Theingyi Market involves turning a derelict, loft-like space into a modern,



efficient school. We will have four 25-student classrooms, a reception area, director's office, administrative space, teachers' room, computer lab, library and a small kitchen. Surprisingly, the rent for our new location will be substantially reduced and is assured long-term.

#### What's Needed

Furnishings are what will make our new school truly welcoming. Our two informal spaces - student lounge and teachers' room should be areas that encourage sociability, with comfortable sofas and chairs. Projection equipment is an important teaching tool; internet connections will let teachers and students get online. These important refinements will support casual interactions and learning outside the formal classroom setting. We expect the cost for making this congenial environment to be around \$10,000.



Contributions may be made online: <u>cetana.org/donate</u> or by check to the address above.

Please visit our website **<u>cetana.org</u>** to learn more about our programs.

### **Cetana's Newest Board Member**



Aung Tun, a former Cetana Scholar, is a liaison between the Asia Development Bank and government agencies that are involved with banking and finance. He also advises the new government on ways to revise banking procedures to make Myanmar investment more attractive to international organizations. His experience as a journalist and community organizer gives him direct insights into the lives of the citizens of Myanmar. We are so pleased to welcome Aung Tun to our board. His advice and counsel will be a valuable asset for Cetana as our network of English language schools continues to grow.

# **Dictionaries for the Sanda Rama Monastic Education School**

Cetana is pleased to announce an association with **Metta Partners** to provide teacher training and illustrated dictionaries to the **Sanda Rama Monastic Education School**, in the outskirts of Yangon. Parents in this poor community lack the financial resources to send their children to government schools. Sanda Rama, with a student body of around 600, is managed by dedicated monks who, together with lay teachers, offer an



academic curriculum that embraces critical thinking. The school's active sports regime is an unusual part of the program. Sanda Rama is so popular that more than 100 students must be turned away each year for lack of space. Graduates attend a government high school near the monastery where they achieve notable success from having a strong course of study at the Monastic school.

A new edition of the Cetana Children's Dictionary is being prepared in English-Myanmar for the Monastic schools in Myanmar- speaking regions of the country.



