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Sukhā Saddhamadesanā

Sitagu Ayudana Hospital (1989) **(Main Hospital)**

Sitagu Ayudana Hospital is located in the Sagaing Hills the abode of the Holy Ascetics. It is located in the Dry Zone of central Myanmar and the major population consists of monks and nuns.

The Hospital was founded by the Venerable Ashin Nyanissara. The Sitagu Missionary Association was established by the Sayadaw in 1980 the full moon day of Kason. Our Sitagu Sayadaw being a true son of Lord Buddha (whose slogan is 'Whoever, monks, would attend me, he should tend the sick'.) has endeavored tirelessly to help the suffering humanity, and eradicate the ills of life. With this noble object in mind, the Hospital (the Hospital area covers 10 acres.) was constructed in 1985 and inaugurated in 1989. The chief aim and purpose of this establishment was to alleviate the suffering of those in dire need and serve people regardless of caste, race, etc.

Out of tremendous compassion and boundless loving kindness, the Sitagu Sayadaw founded the hundred-bedded hospital. Due to poverty and lack of medical services, the residents far and near were unable to confront the pressing and necessary needs. The monks, novices and nuns are free of charge plus food supply. The lay people are charged very moderately and those who are unable to stand the expenses are charged freely. Since this hospital is running on donation, the lay persons who can afford the expense donate money.

The hospital complex which includes an out-patient department and in-patient wards are housed in seven buildings. In spite of all this, the hospital boasts a modern laboratory, imaging unit and a general operation theatre. There are special wards for eye unit patients and separate ophthalmic theatre modern diagnostic instruments are equipped.

Consultants of various specialties such as Internal Medicine, Surgery, Urology, Dentistry, Ophthalmology and Anesthesiology from Mandalay make regular weekly visits and contribute their services to the hospital. This hospital solely depends on the charity and donation for its sustained activities.

The New Eye Care Building was constructed by local donors and the operating theatre facilities out fitted with operating microscopes, instrument, Phaco (Phacochoerus), Emulsifier, Accurus, Endolaser, A-scan, B-scan and Cryo machine and Yag laser, Diode has been installed to update Unit.

The Sitagu Special Eye Care Programme was commenced in 1993 and within the period of eighteen years more than 18000 people have regained their vision. Our Sayadaw has contributed largely to bring the gift of sight to people. In January, February, October, November and December in every year, ophthalmologists from various countries devoted much of their time and expertise towards

the care and treatment of patients and because of their performance there is an increase of cataract surgical services and laser therapy. The programme was upgraded on a yearly basis and the credit of the progress goes to our Saydaw. Under his guidance and financial donations, the programme has progressed and flourished and holds a bright future. The first programme was initiated by Dr. U San Aye (U.S.A.) and Dr. U Thein Myint (U.K.) and we have special programmes every year from October to March with the help of Surgeons from Myanmar and abroad. At present apart from U.K. and U.S.A. we have volunteering services of ophthalmologist from Belgium, Singapore, Malaysia and Australia.

In order to alleviate the suffering of those in dire need and serve people regardless of caste, race, etc., to restore the eye sight of patients, and to give the patients a vision of the power of Dhamma by restoring their physical vision, we have now expended our Sitagu Hospital Programme into 16 different locations:

Six Regions (eight locations)

1. Sitagu Ayudana Hospital (main hospital) in Sagaing Hills, **Sagaing Region** (1989);
2. Sitagu Mya Metta Eye Hospital (Cakkhudana) in Pantanaw, **Ayeyarwady Region** (2008);
3. Sitagu Eye Hospital (Cakkhudana) in Kalay, **Sagaing Region** (2009);
4. Sitagu Brahmayu General Hospital (Arogyadana) in Sadaung, **Sagaing Region** (2010);
5. Sitagu Dipankara Eye Hospital (Cakkhudana) in Nat-Mauk, **Magwe Region** (2010);
6. Sitagu General Hospital (Arogyadana) in Kyitaukpauk village, Sintku Township, **Mandalay Region** (2011);
7. Sitagu Shwepyihein Eye Hospital (Cakkhudana) in Yangon, **Yangon Region** (27/02/2011);
8. Sitagu General Hospital (Arogyadana) in Dawai, **Tanintharyi Region** (12/02/2011);

Seven States (eight locations)

9. Sitagu Eye Hospital (Cakkhudana) in Hsipaw, **Shan State** (2008);
10. Sitagu General Hospital (Arogyadana) in Yin-nyein, **Mon State** (2010);
11. Sitagu Tetlan Eye Hospital (Cakkhudana) in Mintat, **Chin State** (27/12/2010);
12. Sitagu Metta General Hospital (Arogyadana) in Inn-lay Lake, Ywama, **Shan State** (19/01/2011);

13. Sitagu Eye Hospital (Cakkhudana) in Lwaikaw, **Kayah State** (TBA);
 14. Sitagu General Hospital (Arogyadana) in Myeinguingu, **Karin State** (TBA);
 15. Sitagu Eye Hospital (Cakkhudana) in Myitkyina, **Kachin State** (TBA).
 16. Sitagu Eye Hospital (Cakkhudana) in Thandwe, **Rakhine State** (TBA).

No.	Sitagu Hospitals	Year	Locations ¹⁶	
			Regions ⁶	States ⁷
1	Ayudana (main)	1989	Sagaing	
2	Cakkhudana	2008	Ayeyarwady	
3	Cakkhudana	2009	Sagaing	
4	Arogyadana	2010	Sagaing	
5	Cakkhudana	2010	Magwe	
6	Arogyadana	2011	Mandalay	
7	Cakkhudana	2011	Yangon	
8	Arogyadana	2011	Tanintharyi	
9	Cakkhudana	2008		Shan
10	Arogyadana	2010		Mon
11	Cakkhudana	2010		Chin
12	Arogyadana	2011		Shan
13	Cakkhudana	TBA		Kayah
14	Arogyadana	TBA		Karin
15	Cakkhudana	TBA		Kachin
16	Cakkhudana	TBA		Rakhine

The Hospital staff and the monks of the working committee have largely cooperated, thus enhancing to promote fruitful results and for better care for the patients. The patients think of this Hospital as their home due to its peaceful atmosphere and vibration of our Sayadaw's love and compassion.

May the Sublime Dhamma prevail in its pristine purity in every corner of the world.