All the national people are to come together hand in hand to ward off dissension, instigation and inducement, which are the deliberate attempts of the neo-colonialists who have every intention of disintegrating the Union by weakening it. The onus is therefore on the national people to ensure the perpetual existence of the country as that of the world and to enable the motherland to stand tall in the global society.

Senior General Than Shwe Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

(From message sent on the occasion of 58th Anniversary Union Day)