



## Forum of Federation trains ethnic parties on federal system

A Canada-based Forum of Federation is running a training course on international practice of federalism for 20 ethnic parties in Myanmar, U Saw Than Myint, vice-chairman of Federal Union Party (FUP) told *Myanmar Freedom Daily* on Feb 13.

The training course on international use of federalism will be held at the Inya Lake Hotel in Yangon from Feb 13 to 15 and a total of 62 representatives from 20 ethnic parties under Nationalities Brotherhood Federation (NBF) are attending the

training.

"Forum of Federation organize the training course. We will learn as much as we can. And we will practice the points that appropriate for our country and our nationalities. It is not party politics. It is national politics," said he.

Forum of Federation is an international organization that is running training course on federalism in Myanmar since 2013. In the past, the federation run training for political parties, NGOs and CSOs. It will be the third training of the federation and first

course for ethnic parties.

"Discussions are numerous but the main point is about the federalism. In Myanmar's situation, it is a long way to use federalism. Since Myanmar has now started with the transition, youths should study the federalism for the country," said Dr Jerry, secretary of Lisu Nationalities Progressive Party (LNPP) who is attending the training.

In centralization, the central government is difficult to know the demands of native nationalities, the secretary added,

and since the minorities are staying in Myanmar, power sharing is needed. If so, he said, regional authorities can fulfill the demands of the ethnics.

Dr Jerry added that currently, Myanmar must try to use federalism and the government, political parties and the youths need to understand the federalism in the transition.

The Nationalities Brotherhood Federation (NBF) was formed in 2012 by the ethnic parties and there are 20 ethnic parties in the NBF.

*Htun Htun Min*