

## **A Synthesis of Myanmar Petroleum Geology and Potential**

**Lynn Myint<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Chief Geologist, North Petro-Chem Corporation Myanmar Limited ([mr.lynnmyint@gmail.com](mailto:mr.lynnmyint@gmail.com))

### **Abstract**

With occurrences of numerous surface oil seeps, Myanmar became one of the oldest known oil producing countries in the world. The oil industry in Myanmar dated back to 10th Century AD, when the king granted the right to extract oil from shallow hand dug wells in the Yenangyaung area, Magway Region. Local trade of crude oil was started in 1824 and later in 1853; the crude oil was exported to Britain for the extraction of wax for candles, for use as a lubricant and in oil lamps. In a regional plate tectonic framework, Myanmar is situated on the active convergent plate boundary zone between Indian Plate and Eurasian Plate. Plate mosaic in Myanmar region constitutes Indian Plate, Eurasia Plate, Burma Plate and Sunda Plate, separated by three different types of plate boundaries; (1) the convergent plate boundary (subduction) between Indian Oceanic Plate and continental Burma Plate which encompasses in the west and south, (2) the continent to continent convergent plate boundary between Burma Plate and continental Eurasia plate in the north, and (3) the transform boundary in the east among Eurasia, Sunda and Burma plates.