Dear my friends in Yezin Agricultural University.

I am very happy to meet you here.

Though I was not familiar with the project in Yezin Agricultural University, Prof. Atsushi Yoshimura invited me to come here.

Professor Yoshimura and I have been very old friends, since we were studying at IRRI in the Philippines in early 1980's as young research fellows.

Prof. Ho Ando from Yamagata University, who taught here soil science and plant nutrition in previous years knew me also very well, because we were the same members of United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences in Iwate University.

I am very happy that I could come to Myanmar, and I can share a close friendship with you.

I learned that Japanese military brought troubles to you during the period of World War II. I am very sorry for the past unhappy relationships between your country and Japan.

However, Myanmar and Japan had kept a very long period of friendship even before the war and after the war.

I am happy that I can add a little more friendship by myself.

Let me introduce myself.

I am Kiyoshi Tsutsuki, 67 years old.
I retired from Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine two years ago.

However, I am still teaching at the university as a part time lecturer. My students are mostly sons and daughters of farmers family, and they belong to junior course of the university,

Obihiro is located in Hokkaido, and it is a very cold place. Of course, it is still winter there.

I was a professor of Soil Science at Obihiro University of Agriculture from 1991 to 2017.

Before Obihiro, I taught at Nagoya University for 6 years and a half as an assistant professor.

Before Nagoya, I spent the post-doctoral fellowship at Hamburg University in Germany and at the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines. The period of post doctoral fellowship was more than 6 years.

During the period of my post-doctoral fellowship, I could meet very excellent teachers and very valuable friends.

I studied at Nagoya University for both undergraduate and graduate courses in total 9 years. I got my doctor degree at the Faculty of Agriculture of Nagoya University.

My subject of study and research has been soil organic matter since the undergraduate student age. I had various research subjects thereafter, but they were more or less related to soil organic matter.

I started my study from the chemistry of humic acid, studied low molecular weight volatile product in submerged soils at

IRRI, radio-carbon dating of chernozem soils in Hamburg University, peat soil and various organic constituents such as phenolic substances, polysaccharides, and fatty acids at Nagoya University during assistant professor age.
After moving to Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, I engaged in the study of volcanic ash soils, peatland soils. I studied also compost and green manure. I carried out also the study of tropical soils and dissolved organic matter in wetland in the tropics and Hokkaido. I was also interested in the edible soils in Hokkaido. It was a traditional cooking style by the native Ainu people in Hokkaido.

As I have been a teacher, I have presented lectures in various subjects.
In the generation of my teachers and professors, they needed not to have various lectures. They were responsible for only one or two subjects during their career.

However, in my generation, university changed remarkably. The organization and curriculum in the university changed almost every 5 years, So we have been requested to have lectures in different subjects very often. We were also requested to have social and international contribution, and I engaged in various JICA training.

For Yezin Agricultural University, I have composed my lectures selecting my teaching materials used in Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine and also in my JICA trainings.

Final goal of my lecture here is to relate soil science to the counter measure for climate change.

As I am not a specialist of meteorology, I am not so familiar with the phenomena of climate change.

Global climate have changed and fluctuated remarkably in the past long history of earth following the natural mechanism.

However, the change in climate in the recent 20 to 30 years is too fast. We should consider that it is due to human activity.

It has serious effects on human life itself. Natural environment and wild lives also are endangered by the climate change.

If it is caused by human, we, human, should consider how to stop or slow down such tendency of climate change.

Soil science may also contribute to set up a counter measure for the climate change.
It is considered that the stabilization of carbon into soil may contribute in decreasing CO_2 in the atmosphere and it has also merit to sustainable agricultural production.

The purpose of my lecture is not to give the answer.
My stance is "Let's consider together" and I will provide you various fundamental knowledges which may be useful for your consideration.

So, I will not hurry. I will be happy if you will endure and enjoy my lectures and practices for two weeks.

I have uploaded my lecture contents on my private homepage. I would be happy if you will use them before and after my lecture.