

**PEGU (BAGO) UNDER THE BRITISH
COLONIAL RULE (1852-1885)**

Ph.D. (DISSERTATION)

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ABSTRACT

The study on Bago under the British Colonial Rule (1852 - 1885) contains three chapters. The first chapter deals with the beginning of British Rule in Lower Myanmar. The British authorities formed a new administrative region as British Lower Myanmar, combining Rakhine and Taninthayi with Bago and deltaic region after 1852. A Chief Commissioner was appointed over the three Divisional Commissioners. Headquarters was then at Yangon. This chapter concluded with the introduction of British Administration in Lower Myanmar. The second chapter deals with Myanmar traditional economic pattern, its changes and land holding system which was transformed into British system of rice production under the British colonial rule. In 1869, after the opening of the Suez Canal, cultivable lands were reclaimed on a large scale together with growth of population. In time Bago became the most densely populated area. The economy was mostly in the hands of the foreigners because most Myanmar were no match in experience to compete Chinese, British and Indians. The foreign trade was in the hands of foreigners. The third chapter presents social changes in Bago after the second Anglo-Myanmar war. Migration of people from Upper Myanmar led to a growth of population. It also gives a picture of the educational function of the monks which declined rapidly while well to-do people began sending their children to mission schools thus the introduction of western education came into being. This dissertation tries to assess the social and economic changes that led to the awakening of nationalism.

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