

**HISTORY OF HANDICRAFTS IN AYEYARWADY  
REGION (1948-1988)**

**PhD DISSERTATION**

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## ABSTRACT

There are many handicraft industries in Ayeyarwady Region. The region was developed in the agricultural sectors due to the regular rainfall and good soil. Agriculture and livestock-related products are well known in the Ayeyarwady Region. Traditional handicrafts such as the Pathein Hti industry, pottery making, rattan products, and the murta mat weaving industry are prominent in the Ayeyarwady Region. Traditional handicrafts play an important role in the economy of Myanmar, including the Ayeyarwady Region. Traditional handicrafts in Ayeyarwady Region also attract many travelers and tourists. Pathein Hti industry can be seen as the economy of the artisans in Myanmar. Pathein Hti entrepreneurs are using traditional techniques to develop their businesses. Since the persimmon that is used for the Pathein Hti industry is now scarce, the use of glues formulated with chemicals affected the quality of Pathein hti, and the Pathein Hti market has decreased in the long term. In addition, the scarcity of wood and bamboo, which are raw materials for the Pathein Hti industry, is also affecting the Pathein hti market. The earthenware industry was engaged in most of the cities associated with traditional techniques. Due to the scarcity of raw materials, and modern plastic household wares entering into market, the market for earthenware industries has decreased. The plastic mats entered into the market also affected the traditional murta mat-making industry in Ayeyarwady Region.

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