

**A STUDY ON THE ANCIENT COINS OF PYU PERIOD**

**PhD DISSERTATION**

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## ABSTRACT

Numismatic evidences are one of the most important sources of information from which archaeologist and historian can try to interpret the past. Research works on ancient numismatic evidences have been initiated in Myanmar since 1882. The excavations have been carried out at three major Pyu Cities such as Beikthano, Halin and Sri Ksetra. Several evidences of Pyu silver coins were more extensively recognized than previous studies. Nevertheless, it is noticed that most of research works usually laid emphasis on other cultural elements of Pyu period because the studies on Pyu numismatic evidences are generally smaller in number. This dissertation makes an attempt to assess technological and typological issues of Pyu silver coins by comparing local evidences with regional ones. It addresses series of theoretical and empirical questions regarding with ancient silver coins from Pyu, Mon and Rakhine. It also analyses these coins by using EDXRF method in order to know ancient metallurgy for the production of Pyu silver coin. It tries to investigate the acquisition of silver ore. Moreover, it explores what kind of technique was employed for mint. By using statistical analysis, it examines which typology and denomination of Pyu silver coins were dominant in a particular area. The general objective of this dissertation is to study some ancient coins found in Myanmar in a more scientific way.