

**TOURIST SITES AND SOCIA-CULTURAL CHANGES:
A CASE STUDY IN MANDALAY CITY**

PhD DISSERTATION

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**DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
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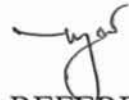
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ABSTRACT

Tourism is one of the activities of humans for pleasure. It is the act of travel and visiting places, independent on the various purposes. It includes private travel for holiday's recreation, business and travel. There are various types of tourism: special interest tourism, traditional and cultural based tourism, and activity based tourism. The anthropology of tourism seeks to identify and makes sense of culture and human dynamics. This research illustrates anthropological perspectives on tourism and socio-cultural changes. This research focuses on the relationships between tourism and local development. The main purposes of this thesis are to explore the socio-cultural changes due to tourism and how tourism related to local development. The specific objectives are to elicit importance of the local attraction for tourism, to highlight the interaction between hosts and guests and to describe changes and developments in local area due to tourism. The study was conducted with qualitative research methods. The study site is U Pain Bridge and Mahagandaryone Monastery, Amarapura, Township, Mandalay City. Data collection methods are key informant interviews, focus group discussion and formal interviews. Tourism, both international and local, at the U Pain Bridge and Mahagandaryone Monastery in Amarapura had not yet developed until 1996. 1996 was marked as "Visit Myanmar Year 1996", and since then many tourists have visited to the study areas. Since more and more foreign tourists and domestic travelers have been visiting to Amarapura's tourist sites, tourism impacts influenced on local area. Tourism also create mostly positive role in the socio, cultural, economic, environmental development for the local area. Therefore, local people maintain their local heritages. Besides, the financial returns from tourism activity are having an effect on the society.

Keywords: tourism, tourist attractions, travelers, tourists, impacts of tourism, local people

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