

**A STUDY ON THE BRONZE AGE CULTURAL CONTEXT
IN NYAUNGGAN**

PhD (DISSERTATION)

KALAYAR MYAT MYAT HTWE

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY

UNIVERSITY OF YANGON

MYANMAR

MAY 2016

ABSTRACT

The subject of this dissertation is the study on the Bronze Age cultural context in Nyaunggan, the first recovered Bronze Age site. The excavations were carried out four times in 1990s and recently three times between 2014 and 2016. Utilizing comparison and technological approach, this dissertation concerns the identification and explanation of technological transmissions, sharing of knowledge, movements of objects and ways of life in prehistoric time especially in Bronze Age between regional and inter-regional. To describe the Bronze Age culture, the study summarizes and examines geographical background of area, burial practice and their grave goods among them copper-base artefacts, especially, were focus in archaeometry analysis by using optical microscopy and Scanning Electron Microscopy with Energy Dispersive X-ray Spectrometry SEM (EDS) and lead isotopic analysis and ceramic petrographic analysis by optical microscopy. Resulting analytical data were used to carry out technological reconstruction of metal working and exchange networks. As the result of these examinations show that Myanmar was connected to the regional and inter-regional exchange systems throughout the 1st millennium BC.