

A STUDY ON THE BUDDHIST MONASTIC COMPLEXES
IN BAGAN AREA

PhD (DISSERTATION)

THIN YU NAING

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF YANGON
MYANMAR

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Abstract

This dissertation is mainly an attempt to illustrate the art and architecture of Buddhist monasteries and monastic complexes, especially found in Bagan Area. The word "monastery" derived from the Greek word "monazein" (to live alone). Old Myanmar "klon" is a Tibeto Chinese word for a large residence and "Phonetawgyi kyaung" in Myanmar and "vihara" in Pali. In dictionary, monastery is a building in which monks live together. Bagan is the earliest imperial state of Myanmar. They left many religious buildings and monuments through the centuries. The result of this work provides to retrieve the art and architecture of Buddhist monasteries and the ancient priests played an important role, not only religious affairs but also political affairs. Besides, the monastery has been an educational distribution place for the live of normal people and the monks. Moreover, the monasteries in Bagan area are studied which are still remain is the best originally. Nowadays, ancient monasteries are being neglected some are being deteriorated by various effects. Therefore this work also tends to light not only the art and architecture monasteries and their social religion and political condition of Bagan period but also should do the preservation and conservation on the Bagan monasteries and try to involve in the list of world heritage.