

**THE CULTURE OF SAMON VALLEY**

**Ph D (DISSERTATION)**

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## ABSTRACT

Samon River originates from the Yemethin Township. It flows through Pyawbwe, Meikhtila, Wundwin, Kume, Myittha, Kyaukse and TadaOo Township to the north. It situated on natural alluvial plain of Mandalay Region. Over 1970, U Mg Mg Tin, the former member of the Myanmar Historical Commission, and his students received the reports of the local people that many ancient burial sites were discovered when they ploughed in their field from which prehistoric artifacts were yielded as chance finds. After that the Department of Archaeology under the Ministry of Culture had done the excavation numerous Bronze and Iron sites along Samon Rivers from 1999 to 2003, jointing with the French Archaeological mission. Many artifacts were yielded associated with Human-skeletal remains along the Samon valley and its tributaries. In the majority of excavated artifacts, some are very distinctively, such as bronze wire packets and mother goddess, and pinion shaped stone ring, not found in other prehistoric regions in Myanmar and other neighbouring countries, exception in Halin. Similarly, their burial practice and ritual thought were not same with Pyu who were first founder of civilizations period in Myanmar. This thesis expected to discover the culture of Samon.