

DECORATIVE BUDDHIST ARTS OF BAGAN PERIOD

Ph.D (DISSERTATION)

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SEPTEMBER 2008

ABSTRACT

This dissertation is the study of Decorative Buddhist Arts of Bagan Period. It seems that, such creations have developed through the imaginations of some people of that period, or the Artists and painters of that period. They also have provided with their skill and imagination to produce all sorts of Art crafts and things of beauty. Since the prehistoric time of Early Stone Age, man starts using imagination to invent and make implements from stone. During the early time between 2nd century BC and 1st century AD, Pyus of Beikthano also had made some artistic things to represent their new religious Faith. Pyu city Sriksetra came into prominence from 4th century AD to the 9th century. The original works of art discovered at the ancient site show that Pyus of the period were quite skillful in the arts and crafts of stone carving, cement work, architecture, and brass work. During Bagan period, almost all, pagodas, temples and caves have carving, paintings and embellishments, both on the outside and inside. The art works of pantaut, pantamault, sculpture, masonry and cement may be seen on the outside, while the inside shows the work of sculpture, pantaut, pantamault and painting. Out of all the historic periods, namely Pyu, Bagan, Inwa, Konbaung, the embellishments of Bagan Period may be said as the most beautiful and refined. The artists had made use of their most wonderful ideas and imaginations to embellish the sacred works, thus producing a sort of ancient surreal art. All these works of art at Bagan may differ in type, trend, ethos, character, etc. But the main aim and principle of the art work is the same to support and spread Buddha's Sasana or teaching, that will bring peace to all mankind.