

THE CIVILIZATION OF TAGAUNG OLD CITY

Ph D (DISSERTATION)

KYAW HTAY OO

**DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF YANGON
MYANMAR**

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ABSTRACT

Tagaung Old City is located at the bank of Ayeyawady River near its junction with the Shweli, in Thabeikkyin Township, Pyin-Oo-Lwin District, and 129 miles and 5 furlong north of Mandalay Region. It is situated between Latitude 23° 21' 42" N and 23° 37' 35" N, between Longitude 96° 12' 00" E and 96° 08' 12" E. Pyu sites such as Halin, Pinle, Beikthano and Sri ksetra were be walled with bricks, some of which are finger-marked bricks, and characterized by Brahmanic-Buddhist remains. Tagaung was defined to be the one of the Pyus centers. Three City-walls surrounded the old city, the outermost curved wall enclosing a northern and southern portion. Archaeological excavations were carried out at Tagaung from 1960's to 2013's. Tagaung developed earliest times, according to the evidences of excavated finds but archaeological and historical background of the Tagaung could not be said because of many of the legends and references had different sources. This complex development involved sources of Tagaung, such as analysis of the excavations of sites, classification of antiquities provided stone artifacts, gold materials, Bronze objects, Iron objects, Sliver objects, Terracotta's objects. Of course, earliest excavated finds and new archaeological evidences confer to compare with data of excavated finds in Tagaung and other Pyu old cities. Such inputs knotted with the Pyus' indigenous beliefs, society and ways of life, formulating what would eventually be known as the Pyus' defining religious beliefs, arts and crafts, as well as trade routes and techniques needed for the structure and building of cities. Especially, artifacts of early excavated Tagaung and new finding of Tagaung remained an important site in the early historic development of the Pyus or pre-Bagan, from the early first millennium A.D. well into later periods. So, the results of Tagaung can be altered on the base of archaeological evidences and other concepts.