

**UNIVERSITY OF YANGON**

**THE SOCIAL ORGANIZATION OF BWE KAYIN TRIBE  
IN THANDAUNGGYI (OLD THANDAUNG),  
THANDAUNG TOWNSHIP, KAYIN STATE,  
UNION OF MYANMAR**

**THESIS FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE**

**SUBMITTED BY**

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SOCIAL ORGANIZATION OF BWE KAYIN TRIBE  
IN THANDAUNGGYI (OLD THANDAUNG),  
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-ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

-INTRODUCTION

NO	CONTENTS	PAGE
Chapter 1	History and geography of Thandaunggyi (Old Thandaung)	1
	(a) History of Thandaunggyi(Old Thandaung)	1
	(b)Ethnic History of Bwe Kayin Tribe	4
	(c)Geography	
	(1) Location and Area	9
	(2) Physical Features of Land and Natural Vegetation	10
	(3)Climate, Soil and Animals	10
	(4) Transportation	11
	(5)Houses and Population	12
Chapter 2	Language, Physical Features and Clothing	14
	(a) Language	14
	(b)Physical Features, and Moral Characterists	17
	(c) Clothing	18
	(d) Food	21
Chapter 3	Social Organization	26
	(a)Family Grouping	26
	(b)Kinship Terminology	27

(c) Succession and Inheritance	31
(d) Housing	31
(c) Social Affairs	35
(1) Bachelor and Maiden Life	35
(2) Betrothal	37
(3) Wedding Ceremony	39
(4) Pregnancy, Confinement and Naming	42
(5) Childhood	47
(6) Illness and Treatment	49
(7) Death and Funeral Ceremonies	53
Chapter 4 Economy	58
(a) Hill Cultivation	58
(b) Orchard Plantation	62
(c) Animal Husbandary, Hunting and Fishing	64
(d) Cottage Industry	71
(e) Trading	72
(f) Scales and Measurement	72
(g) Collection the Food Products	74
Chapter 5 Religion	77
(a) Traditional Religious Belief	77
(b) Conversion to Other Religions	78
(c) Omen and Superstition	79
(d) Traditional Festivals	81
(e) Literature, Music and Dance	85
(f) Education	89
(g) Traditional Games	90
(h) Proverbs and Riddles	91
(i) Myth	96

Chapter 6	Administration and Judgement	99
	(a)Ancient Administration and Judgement	99
	(b)Administration and Judgement Of The	
	Present	101
	-Consideration and Suggestion	103
	-List of References	104
	-List of Informants	

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## INTRODUCTION

The Union of Myanmar is a human society consisted of different nationalities. The natives of Myanmar have lived since ten thousands years ago. They have their own culture because they live in different parts of the country. But they are related or connected in many ways such as historically, their origin, languages, dresses etc. These relations are important facts in national solidarity.

Culture is an attribute or a quality of a "race". Each and every nationality has its own culture. It pays great attention to its culture. Only when a race adores its own culture, the love for one's own nationality will thrive and flourish. Otherwise it is doomed to die (disappear).

There are 135 nationalities living in the Union of Myanmar. There must be unity among them it is must. The union of Myanmar was founded by the past generations of Grand Fathers and their descendants. The unity of the nationals can be attained only when there is harmony in their dealings. If there is no unity, there will be no peace and prosperity.

As a student studying Anthropology, I presume that I have a responsibility to submit a Thesis with the heading The Social Organization of Bwe Kayin Tribe in Thandaunggyi (Old Thandaung), Thandaung Township, Kayin State. The Bwe Kayins who are living in Thandaunggyi also speak "Bwe Kayin" language but they still use their own Sagaw Kayin language. There are words of similarity between the two languages, so the "Bwe Kayins" who use Sagaw Kayin alphabets and can speak "Sagaw Kayin" language. The

population in Thandaunggyi is 3274 and other races are about 80. Therefore the Bwe Kayins can live separately. Thandaunggyi is 4000 feet above sea level and there are trees and mountains which make the place look green and serene and beautiful.

For my thesis I use both direct and indirect methods. I had a chance to participate their New Year Festival, flag-mast festival and also the wedding ceremony, in which I was accepted as a kin-group. From these experiences, I have learnt that Bwe Kayins still practice and maintain their traditional customs. By analyzing the research I found out that most of their customs are still very traditionally practiced.





































































































































































































































































































