SOCIAL VALUE ON FAMOUS ANCIENT MONASTERIES IN BAGAN AS A NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

PhD DISSERTATION

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Abstract

The aim of this research is to find the extent of social values on famous ancient monasteries in Bagan area as a national cultural heritage by means of the style of architecture as symbolic practice. This research will be employed to make the new generation understand and value on the culture and various activities by preserving the ancient monasteries in Bagan and to promote the national unity and solidarity with the knowledge on the policy of national cultural heritage under the guidance of the government. Research area is in Bagan-Nyaung Oo Central Area, Mandalay Division, Upper Myanmar. In this research, nine main chapters were described. These were: Introduction, Literature review, Methodology, Historical background of Ancient Monasteries in Bagan, Myanmar traditional culture and national cultural heritage, The style of architecture as symbolic practice in famous ancient monasteries in Bagan, The value on activities related to ancient monasteries, The maintenance and preservation of ancient monasteries in Bagan as a national cultural heritage, Discussion, Conclusion and Recommendation. A case study design involving qualitative research methods were used. The sampling of study site was Bagan-Nyaung Oo Central Area, Mandalay Division, Upper Myanmar. In this thesis, Historicalism theory and Symbolism theory were used. Methodology of the data collections were done as Desk Review, Key Informant Interview (KII), Participant Observation, taking photographs and recording with video were performed for special activities associated with the monasteries under study. And then, these data were studied by symbolic approach and interpret and analyze the data from an anthropological archaeology point of view. The ethical clearance from the informants’ consents was got. Duration of this research was from 2008-2009 to 2011-2012.

Key words: the extent of social values, national cultural heritage, symbolic practice, style of architecture.