

YEE, CHO CHO

MD, Kyaw Summit Tour, MYANMAR

Panel 1.5: Glimpse of Asia

University at Bagan: 11th to 13th Century

The Early civilization based in today's Bagan region of central Myanmar, called the Bagan Era, spanned from the 11th to the 13th century. A series of stone inscriptions were erected and placed inside that large religious complex of the higher education center which still has two outer brick walls surrounded by palm trees as an outermost wall of that university compound. Due to the records in situ, founders or donors of the establishment were couple of the highest ranking military officers which was equivalent to today commander in chief of the military, and his wife managed the religion-lead education center in the newly extended part of Bagan royal city called Min Nan Thu province.

After each main piece of construction was finished, a piece of stone inscription was done as a record. In such a way, more and more pieces of inscriptions were compiled inside that region-lead education center. The last incomplete sand stone inscription reveals that series of events of political unrest and invaded war-affairs paused the urbanization process as well as making the sustained development of higher education in the ancient Bagan Royal Region. Today the place was excavated and labeled as Sin Byu Shin Kyaung, located in Min Nan Thu village of old Bagan in central Myanmar.