

## THE OLD CITIES OF KABAW VALLEY\*

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### Abstract

Kabaw valley was one of the territories under the Pyu kings (Myanmar) since Pyu period (from 5<sup>th</sup> century BC to 9<sup>th</sup> century AD). Besides, it was also one of the territories under the Myanmar kings since Bagan period (from 9<sup>th</sup> century AD to 13<sup>th</sup> century AD). Therefore, Kabaw valley is as part of Ancient Myanmar History. So, Kabaw valley is an important area for Myanmar History. Moreover, Kabaw valley (Kabaw Chaung in Myanmar sources) is an interesting area for researchers in history and archaeology because it has old city sites namely Kalay, Yazagyo, Khampat and Thaungdut. According to some data made by field survey research, these old cities came into existence during the Pyu period and were destroyed and then they were re-built during the Bagan period. Since then, these old cities continued to exist until Konbaung period (AD 1752-1885). Some of these old cities were very important ones for military purpose to northern part of Myanmar.

**Keywords;** City Plan, City Wall, Bricks, Buddha Images, Archaeological Objects

### Introduction

The main motivated factor to write this paper “The Old Cities of Kabaw Valley” is that the old cities of Kabaw Valley contributed significant facts in Myanmar History. When I collected materials to write this paper, I found some evidences concerning with the old cities of Kabaw Valley. Thus, my objective to examine these data to make systematic compilation and interpretation of history of mentioned old cities became second motivation in writing this paper. In preparing this paper reliance has been made on library research and even on field survey research of necessary. Besides, aim and purpose of this paper is to reveal the history of the old cities of Kabaw Valley as part of Myanmar History.

### Methodology

Historical method including field survey research and library research is used in this paper.

### Location of Kabaw Valley and its Brief Background History

Kabaw valley (Kabaw Chaung in Myanmar sources) is an interesting area for researchers in history and archaeology because it has old city sites namely Kalay, Yazagyo, Khampat and Thaungdut. Moreover, it is also an important area of the northwestern part of Republic of Union of Myanmar due to bordering with the Republic of India. The name "Kabaw" is derived from Manipuri or Cassay word, meaning the Bamar living eastern part of Manipuri or Cassay province (Manipura). Later, it refers to the ethnic people of Shan and Bamar<sup>3</sup>. Kabaw valley is situated between latitudes 22° 45'N and 24° 45'N and longitudes 94°50'E and 94°37'E. It is bordered on the east by Phaung Pyin, Maw Laik, Minkin and Kalaywa Townships, on the west by the Chin State and Manipur province of the Republic of India, on the north by Manipur of India, and on the South by Pakokkhu Township (see map 1 and 2). The total area of Kabaw valley is about

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<sup>3</sup> Lyanner, U, *History of Mizo in Myanmar (In Myanmar)*, A thesis for MA, History Department, University of Mandalay, 1975 (Edited in 1981), P-82 (Henceforth as Lyanner, 1981)

1470 square miles with about 150 miles in length, north to south, and the widest breadth is about 12 miles from west to east<sup>1</sup>. Concerning the brief background history of Kabaw valley, there are many concrete evidences in literature and epigraphs.

On the basis of new finding concerning Pyu civilization, the late Dr. Than Tun<sup>2</sup>, famous historian of Myanmar, contributed the new concept that the Pyu people settled down in Yaw, Htilin and certain areas around the Uru stream of northern part of Myanmar<sup>3</sup>. Besides, according to Chinese records during the 9<sup>th</sup> century AD, the limits of the Pyu kingdom were given as 3000 li<sup>4</sup> from east to west and 3500 or 5000 li from south to north. On the east, it adjoined Comboja (Chen-la), on the south the sea, on the southwest (probably a slip for southeast) Dvaravati (To-ho-lo) or old Siam (Thailand), on the west Eastern India, on the north Nanchao<sup>5</sup>. Moreover, according to late U Yi Sein<sup>6</sup>, Scholar and specialist in Pyu period in Myanmar History, there were three trade routes between China and India; by one water way and two by land routes during the Pyu period. Among the two land routes, with concreted evidences, it is suggested that one from Chiao-chou of An-nan (An-nam) province (Vietnam) to Chia-Mo-Po (Kamarupa) (Present day Gauhati of Asam in India) ran through Upper Myanmar and reached Kalaywa and then crossed the Mountain ranges<sup>7</sup> situated at the frontier between India and Myanmar<sup>8</sup> (See Map-3). According to the mentioned facts, it is assumed that Kabaw valley was one of the territories under the Pyu kings (Myanmar) since Pyu period (from 5<sup>th</sup> century BC to 9<sup>th</sup> century AD). Moreover, *Mahayazawindawgyi Vol I* mentions during the reign of the king Kyansitthar[(Htihaing Min (AD 1084-1112)], the territory of Bagan (Arimaddanapura) consists of .....Patikhaya<sup>9</sup>- Lame Kula Pyi on the west.<sup>10</sup> Besides, Dhammarajika Stone Inscription dated Myanmar Era (ME) 558 (AD 1196) also bears the territory of Bagan include.....Mitsagiri<sup>11</sup> Patikhaya.....on the west<sup>12</sup>. According to the mentioned facts, it is proved that Kabaw valley was one of the territories under the Myanmar kings since Bagan period (from 9<sup>th</sup> century AD to 13<sup>th</sup> century AD). Therefore, it is no doubt that Kabaw valley is a part of Ancient Myanmar History. Besides, successive Myanmar kings assumed Kabaw valley was an important one for military purpose and operations to northwestern part of Myanmar against the foreign invaders from Bagan period (9<sup>th</sup> century AD to 13<sup>th</sup> century AD) to Konnbaung period

<sup>1</sup> Ibid, P-82-83

<sup>2</sup> Than Tun, Dr. (1923-2005), Historian, Retired Professor and member of Myanmar Historical Commission.

<sup>3</sup> Than Tun, Dr, *Miscellaneous things in Myanmar History (In Myanmar)*, Yangon, Phowa Offset, 2005, P-8

<sup>4</sup> 1 Li (in Chinese Term) is generally equal to 1/3 mil Ye Sein, U, *Selected Writings of U Ye Sein (in Myanmar)* Yangon, Department of Historical Research (Ministry of Culture, 2007, P-220 (Henceforth as Ye Sein, 2007)

<sup>5</sup> Luce, G.H, "The Ancient Pyu", *JBRs Vol XXVII, Pt iii*, P-250

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Chen Yi Sein (1924-2005), Retired Research Officer

<sup>7</sup> This mountain is called by the Myanmar as Yoma and by the Cassay as Malai Tin Maung Htwe, Dr, Field Survey Notes on Kabaw valley (from 1.4.2013 to 31.4.2013)

<sup>8</sup> Yin Sein, 2007, pp-17-43, 77

<sup>9</sup> It is Tipperah province where kingdom or city state came into existence in old days and also situated east of present day Comila town, located southwest of Manipur and north of Chittagaung. Than Tun, Dr, *ROB Vol X*, Kyoto, Center for Southeast Asia, Kyoto University, 1983 p-116

<sup>10</sup> Kala, U, *Mahayazawindawgyi (in Myanmar) Vol I*, (Edited by Saya Pwa), Yangon, Yarpai Offset, 2006, p-186

<sup>11</sup> (Mitsa=Five, Giri= Mountain) It may be hilly tract around present day Thayet district west bank of Irrawaddy and it may be settled down by That tribe in those days. Thein Hlaing, U, *Dictionary in Ancient Myanmar History* (in Myanmar), Yangon, Universities Historical Research Centre, 2000, p-127

<sup>12</sup> PL 117/ a<sup>6-10</sup>(117/ a<sup>6-10</sup> means Plate No-117/ a in *Five Port folios of Inscription of Burma*, line – 6-10

(AD 1752-1885) (See Map-4)<sup>1</sup>. So, Kabaw valley is an important area for Myanmar History. During the colonial period (AD 1886-1948), since 1905, Kabaw valley was divided into two; Kalay valley with Kalay town as main centre (Southern part) and Kabaw valley with Tamu town as main centre (Northern part)<sup>2</sup>. However, the study area in this paper for Kabaw valley includes Kalay valley (Kalay plain) and Kabaw valley (Tamu plain). In this paper, I try to identify the founding dates of old cities of Kabaw valley as well as to reveal the history of these cities as much as possible by making field survey research.

### **The Old Cities of Kabaw Valley**

**Kalay Old City** - Kalay old city is situated at Aungmyingalar Quarter, the present day Kalay. It is also located at the point of 23°10'58.80"N and 94°03'51.92"E. It is situated on the plain (valley) between Chindwin River and Pontaung mountain range in the east and Chin mountain range in the west<sup>3</sup>. (See Map-2)

According to field survey research, almost all city-walls are reduced to ground level because of urbanization and cultivation by human beings. Some remains may be traced along the eastern city-wall like ridges still exists at Basic Education High School No (1) on which a brick wall of the school has been built. (See Photo-1). It still exists as the earthen wall only and is 15' in height and 40' in breadth<sup>4</sup>. Like the city walls, almost all city corners disappeared except southeastern city corner near Ayemyawaishe Monastery, Bè Inn, Aungmyingalar Quarter. The city corner seems to be actual angle in shape. (See Aerial Photo-1 and Drawing Map-1) According to field survey, Kalay old city has one wall with two moats; water moat and swamp moat on the eastern and southern side. (See Aerial Photo-1) These mentioned walls with two moats can be traced clearly at the southeastern city corner. While the water moat is about 10' in depth and about 70' in breadth, the swamp moat is about 10' in depth and about 50' in breadth<sup>5</sup>. (See Photo-2) At the present, although almost all city walls are seen as the earthen walls only, they seemed to be originally the kind of bricks wall with earthen reinforcement. Because it is discovered that the remain of wall with the brick layer exists within the compound of U Than Shein's house, Be Inn, Aungmyingalar Quarter as original type of wall<sup>6</sup> (See Photo-3). It is suggested that it should be preserved as archaeological or historical value of Kalay old city because almost all evidences concerning with Kalay old city have been damaged by human beings for urbanization and cultivation. The size of the bricks found at the brick layer of the wall is 10"x7"x2" or 10"x8"x2½" in measurement<sup>7</sup>. Therefore, it is assumed that this kind of brick seems to be belonged to Bagan period (from 9<sup>th</sup> century AD to 13<sup>th</sup> century AD) or Post Bagan period (from 13<sup>th</sup> century AD to 15<sup>th</sup> century AD)<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Tin Maung Htwe, Dr, Field Survey Notes on Kalay old city site (form 1.12.2013 to 31.12.2013) (Henceforth as Field Survey Notes on Kalay old city site)

<sup>2</sup> Lyanner, 1981, P-81

<sup>3</sup> Field Survey Notes on Kalay old city site

<sup>4</sup> Field Survey Notes on Kalay old city site

<sup>5</sup> Tin Maung Htwe, Dr, Field Survey Notes on Kalay old city site (form 1.12.2013 to 31.12.2013) (Henceforth as Field Survey Notes on Kalay old city site)

<sup>6</sup> Ibid

<sup>7</sup> Field Survey Notes on Kalay old city site

<sup>8</sup> Tin Maung Htwe (Researcher), Dr, "Khampat old city (in Myanmar)", *The Yangon Time Vol 7, No. 19 and No 20*, Yangon Media Group, 2011 (Henceforth as Tin Maung Htwe, 2011)

By the field survey, it is assumed that Kalay old city has cultural overlap of two old cities. Because the size of some bricks discovered at the base or foundation of some part of the wall are larger than that of the bricks found at the brick layer of the wall on the ground. The measurement of the bricks discovered at the base is 17" x 8½" x 3"<sup>1</sup>. (See Photo-4) This measurement is similar to that of the bricks belonged to Pyu period (from 5<sup>th</sup> century BC to 9<sup>th</sup> century AD)<sup>2</sup> but no finger marked designs on them. However, the bricks discovered at the base of the foundation differ in size, colour, and type from the bricks found at the brick layer of the wall on the ground. Therefore, it is deduced that the city-wall of second Kalay old city seemed to be built on the remains of the base or foundation of the wall belonged to the first Kalay old city which was destroyed. In other word, it is assumed that the first Kalay old city might have been come into existence during the Pyu period (from 5<sup>th</sup> century BC to 9<sup>th</sup> century AD) and was destroyed and then the second Kalay old city came into existence during the Bagan period (from 9<sup>th</sup> century AD to 13<sup>th</sup> century AD) or post Bagan period (from 13<sup>th</sup> century AD to 15<sup>th</sup> century AD). The Kalay old city has a length of about 0.7 mile and a width about 0.6 miles. The circumference of city-wall is about 2.5 mile<sup>3</sup>. Unlike other ancient cities, Kalay old city has a peculiar parallelogram shape, skewing about 21° toward the west. (See Aerial photo-1 and Drawing map-1)

**Yazagyo Old City** - Yazagyo old city is situated near well-known Yazagyo Dam and about 23 miles north of the present day Kalay town. It is also located at the point of 23°29'31.78"N and 94°05'18.07"E and is situated on the plain (valley) between Hmanlon creek and Myway Taung, Phar Taung of the Chin mountain range of the west and Nayitsara creek and Minthem mountain range of the east.<sup>4</sup> (See Map-2)

According to the field survey research, the eastern part of Yazagyo old city site together with city-wall is disappeared on the ground because of erosion as well as the reclamation for cultivated lands by human beings. If completing, the town plan of Yazagyo old city is oval in shape. (See Aerial Photo-2 and Drawing Map-2) The present circumference is about 2 miles. If completing, its circumference is about 4 miles. Almost all city walls, northwestern and Southwestern corners of the city wall are still visible on the ground. The city corners (northwestern and southwestern corners) are seemed to be roundish in shape. (See Aerial Photo-2) Yazagyo old city has one city wall with one water moat.<sup>5</sup> It is assumed the city wall seemed to be originally the kind of brick wall with earthen reinforcement although, at present, almost all city walls can be found as the earthen wall only. Because a few brick layers may be traced at some part of city wall at the base.<sup>6</sup> The city-wall is about 30' in height and 45' in breadth except some part is about 20' in height and 25' in breadth. Besides, the moat is 40' in breadth and 10' in depth except some part is 40' in breadth and 25' in depth (See Photo -5). During the term of my field survey research, four city gates have been traced, the one in the northern part and the rest in the northwestern, western, and southwestern parts. If they are excavated systematically in future, it will be studied and observed what kind of city gate and its purpose. Besides, the evidences concerning Yazagyo old city will be gotten for scholars and researchers. The width of each city

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<sup>1</sup> Field Survey Notes on Kalay old city site

<sup>2</sup> Tin Maung Htwe, 2011, P-31

<sup>3</sup> Field Survey Notes on Kalay old city site

<sup>4</sup> Tin Maung Htwe, Dr, Field Survey Notes on Yazagyo old city site (from 1-12-2013 to 31-1-2013) (Henceforth as Field Survey Notes on Yazagyo old city site)

<sup>5</sup> Field Survey Notes on Yazagyo old city site

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

gate is about 50' (See Photo6). The length of eastern city wall is about 0.5mile, western wall about 0.85 mile, and southern wall about 0.5 mile. To the southwestern part within the city wall, there is a lake (dam) namely Kyar Inn which was contemporary with Yazagyo old city<sup>1</sup> (See Photo-7).

There are surface finds and chance finds concerning with archaeological and historical evidences at Yazagyo old city site. They are able to use as historical evidences to reveal the history of Yazagyo old city though they are less valuable than those from systematically excavation in history and archaeology. During the term of my field survey research, finger marked bricks<sup>2</sup> can be traced at the city wall as surface finds. The measurement is 17"x8"x2 ½" similar to that of the bricks belonged to Pyu period (from 5<sup>th</sup> century BC to 9<sup>th</sup> century AD) (See Photo-8). Besides, near the northwestern city gate, there are two ruin brick walls in east-west direction which seem to be the length of ancient structure base concerning with Yazagyo old city. The size of each brick found at ancient structure base is similar to the measurement of the bricks found at city wall<sup>3</sup> (See Photo-8). These bricks are chance finds that are more valuable evidences to reveal the history of Yazagyo old city. Besides, if this ruin structure mound is excavated systematically, it will be studied and observed what kind of structure and its purpose. Moreover, the evidences concerning with the Yazagyo old city will be gotten for scholar and researchers.

Moreover, there are many ruin stupas near the Min Kyaung monastery. Almost all stupas are so damage that I cannot study and observe their architectural type and style except a few because of little damage in condition (See Photo-9). The porch of each is the same. This mentioned porch is decorated by the Corbelled Arch which is done by making each layer of brick extend a little longer than the one immediately below it and thus making the two arms of the wall meet above at a certain height (See Photo-10). The architectural style is very simple and different from those of Pyu period (from 5<sup>th</sup> century BC to 9<sup>th</sup> century AD) and those of Bagan period (from 9<sup>th</sup> century AD to 13<sup>th</sup> century AD). According to architectural style<sup>4</sup>, it is assumed these stupas are belonged to Nyaung Yan period (AD 1600-1752). The size of the bricks found at stupas is 15 ½"x 8" x 2 ½" in measurement (See Photo-11). During the term of my field survey, I have a chance to study and observe the chance find that is a alabaster Buddha image. It was found in the shrine of ruin stupa namely Amat Choak before re-building and is now kept in Min Kyaung monastery. In the art style, it is carved Buddha seated in Bhūmisparsa mudrā with his right leg overlapped on left in Paryankāsan on the double lotus throne. The face of Buddha is composed of broad forehead, big eyes and eyebrows, and plumb cheeks. Ushnisha has domed finial. The big and elongated earlobes almost touch on the shoulders. The image has massive body. The thick robe covers both shoulders and is more decorated than those of Pyu period (from 5<sup>th</sup> century BC to 9<sup>th</sup> century AD) and Bagan period (9<sup>th</sup> century AD to 13<sup>th</sup> century AD).

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<sup>1</sup> Field Survey Notes on Yazagyo old city site

<sup>2</sup> Generally, the culture of finger marked bricks flourished during the Pyu Period (from 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C to 9<sup>th</sup> century A.D). The size of these bricks are from 20"x10 ½"x 3 ½" to 17 ½"x 8 ½"x 1 ¼".

Tin Maung Htwe, Dr. Field Survey Notes on Visnu old city form 1-3-1999 to 1-4-1999 and

Tin Maung Htwe, Dr. Field Survey Notes on Srikshestra old city from 1-8-2011 to 1-9-2011 (Henceforth as Tin Maung Htwe, 1999 and 2011)

<sup>3</sup> Field Survey Notes on Yazagyo old city site

<sup>4</sup> Tin Maung Htwe, Dr. Study on Architecture of Stupa and Art of Buddha Images of Nyaung Yan Period (A.D 1600-1752) of Kyar-Pin Village, Min-Kin Township, Sagaing Region, (The best paper Award winning Paper in the Arts at Kalay University, 2012) PP,4-5 (Henceforth as Architecture of Stupa and Art of Buddha Images of Nyaung Yan Period) (Henceforth as Tin Maung Htwe, 2012)

Moreover, the robe is decorated by royal dressing. The head is decorated with big ornamental ear-flaps. Therefore, it is deduced this Buddha image seemed to be paid homage as a Buddha Sakyamuni. According to art style, this Buddha icon is belonged to Nyaung-Yan period (AD 1600-1752) (See Photo-12)<sup>1</sup>

**Khampat Old City** - Khampat old city is situated about 1½ miles east of the present Khampat town about 53 miles north of Kalay. It is also situated at the point of 23° 48' 13.3" North latitude and 94° 10' 58.5" East longitude. It is located on the plain (valley) between Chin Mountain of the west and Minthami Mountain of the east<sup>2</sup> (See Map-2).

According to field survey research, it is assumed Khampat old city has cultural overlap of three old cities. The town plan of first old city is oval in shape. It is surrounded by a wall and a moat. (See Photo No- 13 and 14) The northern and northeastern parts of the first old city at Khampat old city site are eroded by Nanpalaw Chaung (stream) and so, the northern and northeastern city walls are disappeared on the ground. (See Aerial photo-3 and Drawing Map-3) Almost all city walls, southwestern and southeastern corners of city wall are still visible on the farms near Khampat Ywahaung (No-5 Quarter of the present Khampat Town) except its southern wall is reduced to ground level in some places because of cultivation by human beings. The city corners are seemed to be roundish in shape (See Drawing Map-3). The prominent remain of city-wall like ridge still exists on the farms near Khampat Ywahaung and it is 30' in height and 50' in breadth. The moat is 30' in depth and 50' in breadth. The circumference of the city-wall is about 2 miles and it is earthen wall only at present.<sup>3</sup>

The town plan of second old city is square in shape and it is surrounded by a wall and a moat (See Photo No-15 and 16). Like first old city, as the northern and northeastern parts of second old city are eroded by Nanpalaw Chaung, the northern and northeastern walls of second old city are disappeared on the ground. According to field survey research, the second old city continued to use the southern wall of the first old city as its southern wall. Therefore, it is assumed after the first old city had been destroyed, the second old city was built at Khampat old city site. Like first old city, almost all city walls, southwestern, and southeastern corners of the city wall can be traced clearly on the farms near Khampat Ywahaung but some parts of southern city wall are reduced to ground level in some places because of cultivation by human beings. The city corners are square. (See Drawing Map-3). The prominent remain of city-wall like ridge still exists at Pho Sila Altar. (See Photo No- 16) It is 30' in height and 50' in breadth. The moat is 20' in depth and 20' in breadth. The circumference of the city wall is about 1½ miles and it is earthen wall only at present.<sup>4</sup>

The town plan of third old city is oval in shape and it is surrounded by only a wall. The northern part of city is eroded by Nanpalaw Chaung and so, the northern wall is disappeared on the ground. The remain of city-wall still exists around the three pagodas in north-south direction called Trilokamitsu and a prominent big banyan. It is 15' in height and 20' in breadth and circumference of city-wall is about 1 mile. As though the town plan is oval in shape, the area of

<sup>1</sup> Tin Maung Htwe, 2012, PP, 4-5

<sup>2</sup> Tin Maung Htwe, Dr, Field Survey Notes on Khampat old city site (from 1.12.2013 to 31.1.2013) (Henceforth Field Survey Notes on Khampat old city site)

<sup>3</sup> Field Survey Notes on Khampat old city site

<sup>4</sup> Field Survey Notes on Khampat old city site

city is small; it seems to be a fort (See Drawing Map-3) The city-wall is kind of the earthen wall only.

There are surface finds and chance finds concerning with archaeological and historical evidences at Khampat old city site. They are able to be used as historical evidences to reveal the history of Khampat old city though they are less valuable than those from systematic excavation in history and archaeology. Concerning with Khamphat old city site, surface finds collected by U Khin Maung Yin, a villager of Khampat Ywahaung are a Neolithic stone axe, and a bronze unit in weight and terracotta pipe of Post Bagan period (from 13<sup>th</sup> century AD to 15<sup>th</sup> century AD) (See Photo No-17). Besides, some local people said that they had found some bronze weapons. Unfortunately, I can't observe and study these bronze weapons because these bronze weapons are out of their hands (See Drawing). Moreover, it is found a certain plain (valley) consisting of Khampat old city site and its environment is good soil for cultivation according to field survey. Alluvial soils are found within the Kabaw valley. Therefore, the study area is provided for good agriculture.<sup>1</sup> It is suggested that mentioned fact is an important geographical factor to appear old cities at Khampat Old city site. Besides, during the term of field survey research, a finger marked brick<sup>2</sup> measuring? x 8½" x 2½" on the wall of first old city of Khampat old city site is found (See Photo No-18). According to mentioned facts, since Bronze Age (BP 3500-2500), people came to settle down at Khampat old city site. Then, the first old city came into existence during the Pyu period (from 5<sup>th</sup> century BC to 9<sup>th</sup> century AD) because the town plan is oval in shape and finding finger marked brick on the wall.<sup>3</sup> Then, this city was destroyed before Bagan period (from 9<sup>th</sup> century AD to 13<sup>th</sup> century) or Post Bagan period (from 13<sup>th</sup> century AD to 15<sup>th</sup> century AD) because of the fact that the second old city continued to use southern wall of the first old city as its southern city wall.

Likewise some bricks measuring 14" x 8" x 2½" belonged to Bagan period (from 9<sup>th</sup> century AD to 13<sup>th</sup> century) or Post Bagan period (from 13<sup>th</sup> century AD to 15<sup>th</sup> century AD) are found on the wall of second old city during the term of field survey research<sup>4</sup> (see Photo No- 19). According to mentioned facts, it is assumed that after the first old city had been destroyed, the second old city was built during the Bagan period or Post Bagan period because of the facts that the town plan of second old city is square and finding some bricks belonged to Bagan period or Post Bagan period and the second old city continued to use the southern wall of the first old city as its southern wall. Unfortunately, there are no historical and archaeological evidences concerning with the third old city of Khampat old city site.

**Thaungdut Old City-** Thaungdut old city is situated at Myothit about 28 miles northeast of the present day Tamu town, Sagaing Region. It is also located at the northwestern part of Union of Republic of Myanmar as well as at the plain (valley) between Yu creek, Yoma mountain called by the Myanmar or Malain mountain called by the Cassay and Manipur province of Republic of

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<sup>1</sup> Lay May, Ma, *Transportation and Communication of Kalay district* (in Myanmar), (MA Thesis), Mandalay University, May 1997, PP, 41- 42

<sup>2</sup> Tin Maung Htwe, 1999 and 2011

<sup>3</sup> Field Survey Notes on Khamphat old city site

<sup>4</sup> Ibid

India in the west and Minthemine and Payataung mountain ranges in the east. It is situated at the point of 24° 30' 40.98" N and 94° 31' 14.48" E.<sup>1</sup> (See Map-2)

According to field survey, Taungdut old city has one wall with two moats; water moat and Swamp moat. Although the city wall of Thaungdut seemed to be originally the kind of brick wall with earthen reinforcement, only the earthen wall can be found or traced at present. The city wall is still visible on the ground except that some parts are reduced to ground level because of damage by human beings. At present, according to field survey, the city wall is about 5' in height and about 20' in breadth and also for two moats, each is about 15' in width and 6' in depth.<sup>2</sup> (See photo-20) Within the Thaungdut old city site, there are also two famous pagoda namely Gormonna (Photo 21) and Payagyi (Photo 22). Although local people said that these pagodas are the historic pagodas of Thaungdut old city, the architectural type and style of them belonged to modern age. As far as my exploration concerning the Thaungdut old city site, there are no remains of ancient monuments which were contemporary with Thaungdut old city. While the length of southern wall is about 0.48 mile, the northern wall is about 0.62 mile. Besides, while the length of eastern wall is about 1.10 mile, the length of western wall is about 1.2 miles. The circumference of the Thaungdut old city is about 3.5 miles. Its town plan is almost a square in shape with the corner on the southeast and northeast a bit rounded.<sup>3</sup> (See aerial photo-4 and Drawing map-4)

Within the Thaungdut old city site, there are ruin pagoda mounds and one ruin structure mound measuring 50'x60' on the southwestern part. A large number of broken bricks with finger marks can be traced at the ruin structure mound during the term of field survey. Unfortunately, only even a complete size of these bricks cannot be found. Among them, one broken brick has to be taken a photo as an example. Its measurement is about 8"x2½" (Photo 23). By some sources, the finger marked bricks seem to be belonged to the Pyu period (from 5<sup>th</sup> century BC to 9<sup>th</sup> century AD)<sup>4</sup> If this ruin structure mound is systematically excavated, people can study and observe its purpose and what kind of structure it is. Besides, the evidences concerning with Thaungdut old city will be got for scholars and researchers.

### **Conclusion**

According to mentioned facts, Kabaw valley was one of the territories under the Pyu kings (Myanmar) since Pyu period (from 5<sup>th</sup> century BC to 9<sup>th</sup> century AD). and under the Myanmar kings since Bagan period (from 9<sup>th</sup> century AD to 13<sup>th</sup> century AD). It is no doubt that Kabaw valley is a part of Ancient Myanmar History. Besides, Myanmar Kings assumed that Kabaw valley was an important one for military purpose and operation to northwestern part of Myanmar against the foreign invaders from Bagan period (9<sup>th</sup> century AD to 13<sup>th</sup> century AD) to Konnbaung period (AD 1752-1885). So, Kabaw valley is an important area for Myanmar History. The old cities of Kabaw such as Kalay, Yazagyo, Khampat, Thaungdut come into existence during the Pyu period (from 5<sup>th</sup> century BC to 9<sup>th</sup> century AD) and were destroyed and then some were re-built during the Bagan period (from 9<sup>th</sup> century AD to 13<sup>th</sup> century AD). Since then, these old cities continued to exist until Konnbaung period (AD 1752-1885) according to Myanmar chronicles and local sources.

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<sup>1</sup> Tin Maung Htwe, Dr, Field Survey Notes on Thaungdut old city site (from 1-12-2013 to 31-1-2013) (Henceforth as Field Survey Notes on Thaungdut old city site)

<sup>2</sup> Field Survey Notes on Thaungtud old city site.

<sup>3</sup> Field Survey Notes on Thaungtud old city site

<sup>4</sup> Tin Maung Htwe, 1999 and 2011.



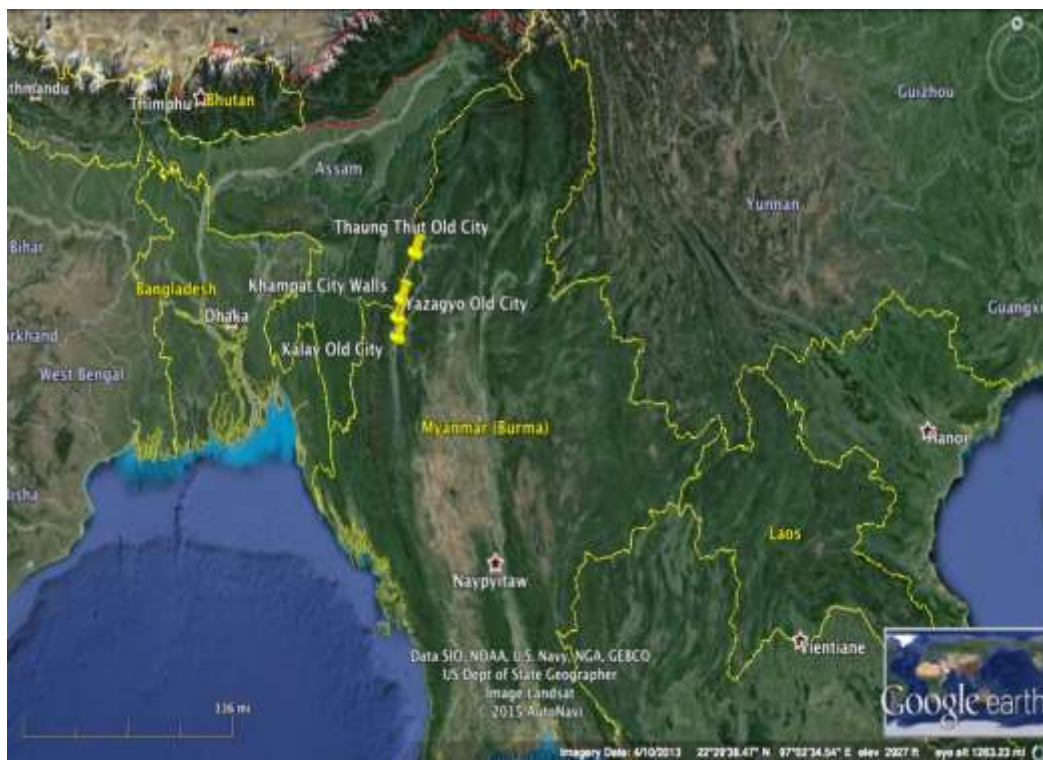
## Acknowledgement

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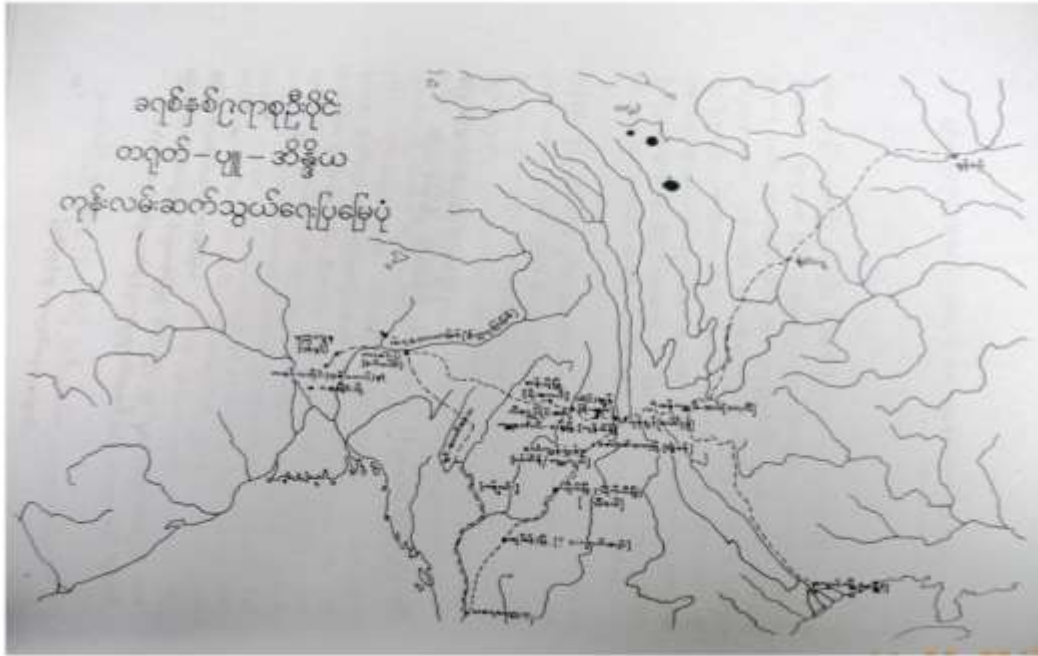
## Appendix I



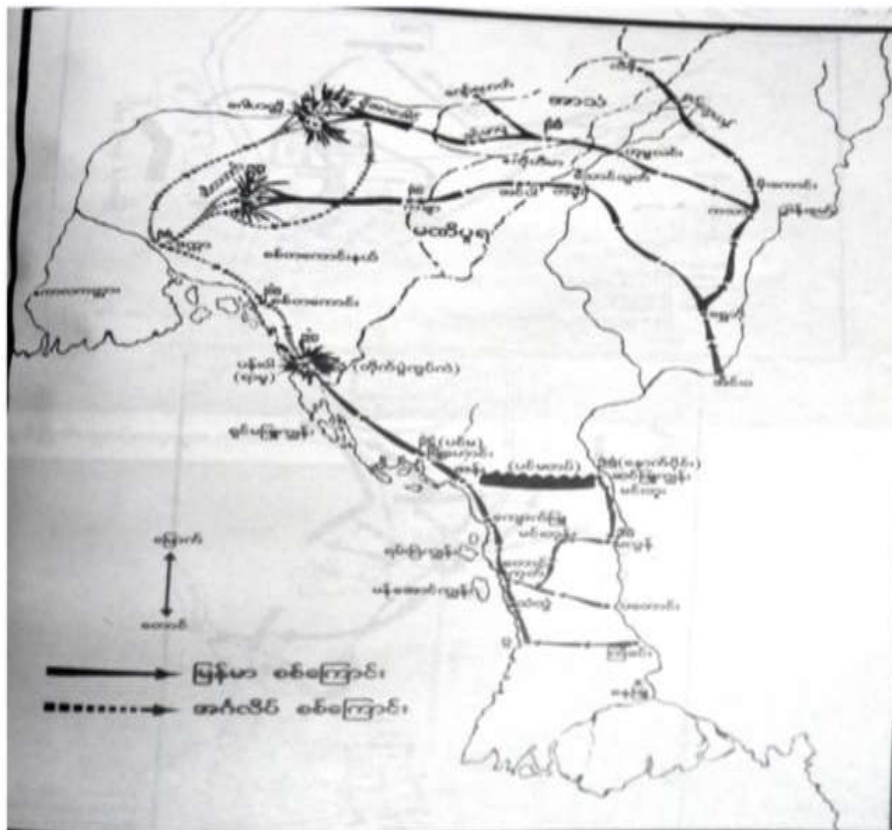
**Map (1)** Location of Kabaw Chaung (Kabaw Valley) with its old city sites



**Map (2)** Location of Kabaw Chaung (Kabaw Valley) with its old city sites



**Map-3** Trade routes among China, Pyu, and India during the early 9<sup>th</sup> century A, Source from Yi Sein, 2007, p-182



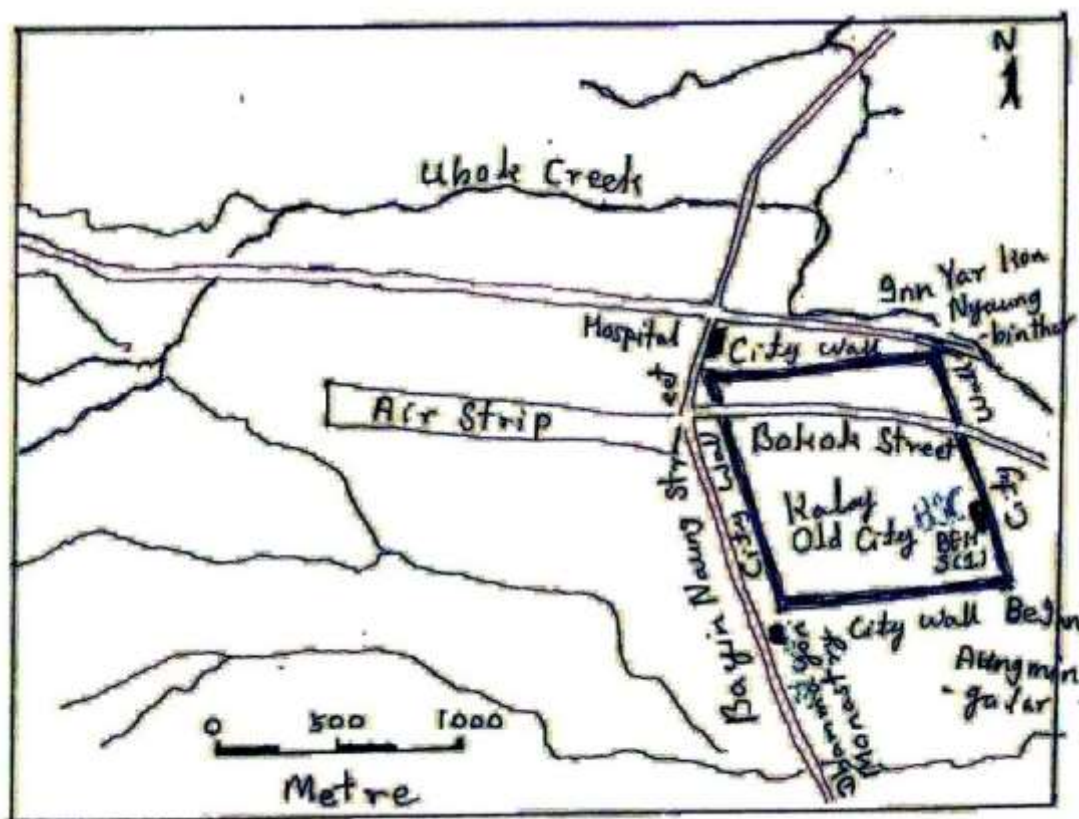
**Map-4** Early Battlefields in the Course of First Anglo-Myanmar War Source from Myanmar Encyclopedia Vol XV, p-204



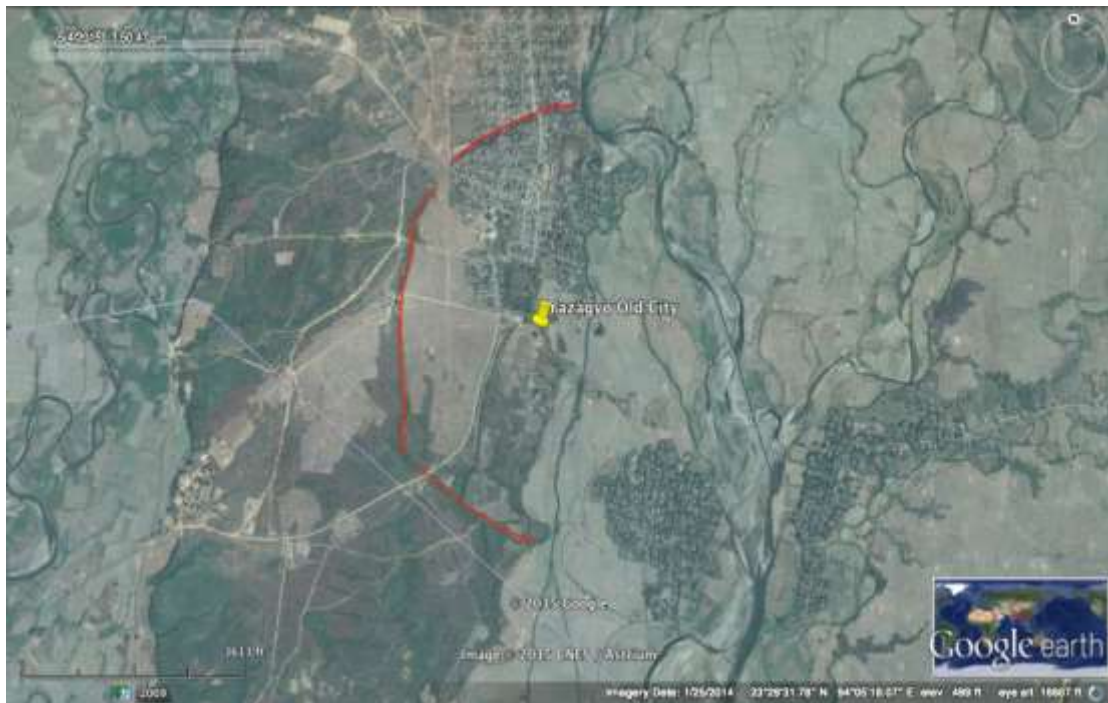


A

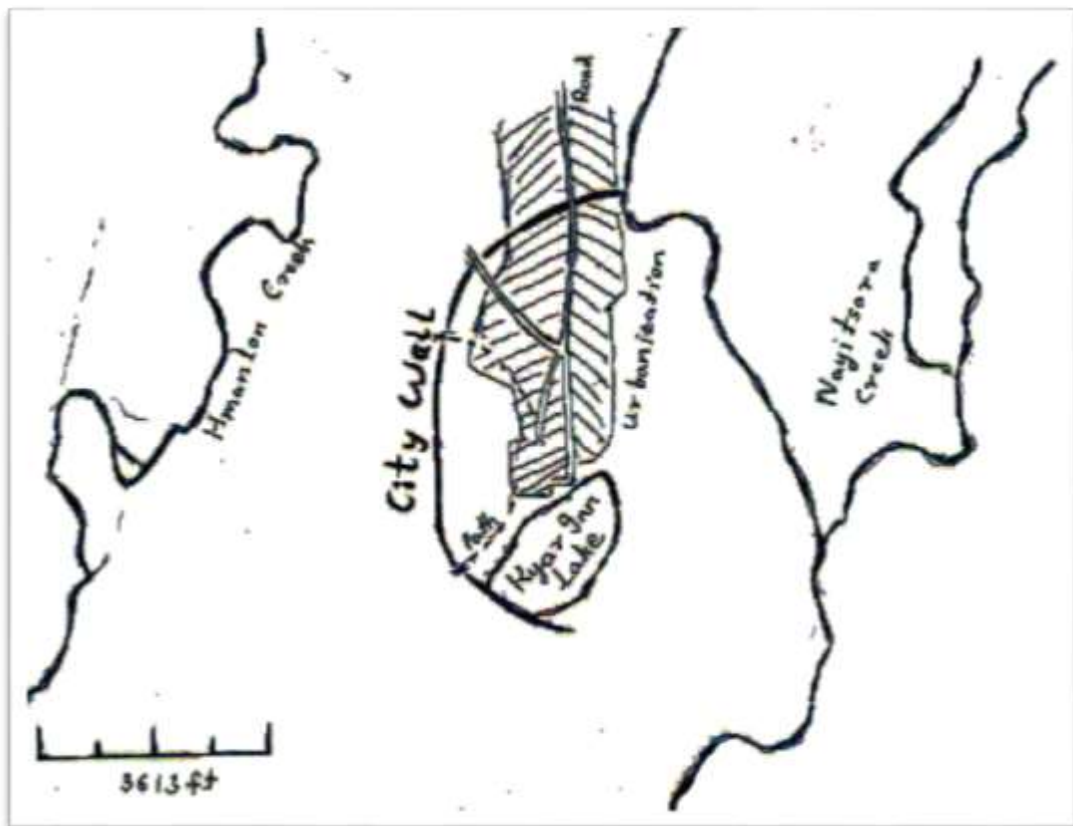
Aerial Photo (1) Aerial Photo of Kalay old city



Drawing Map (1) Drawing Map of Kalay old city



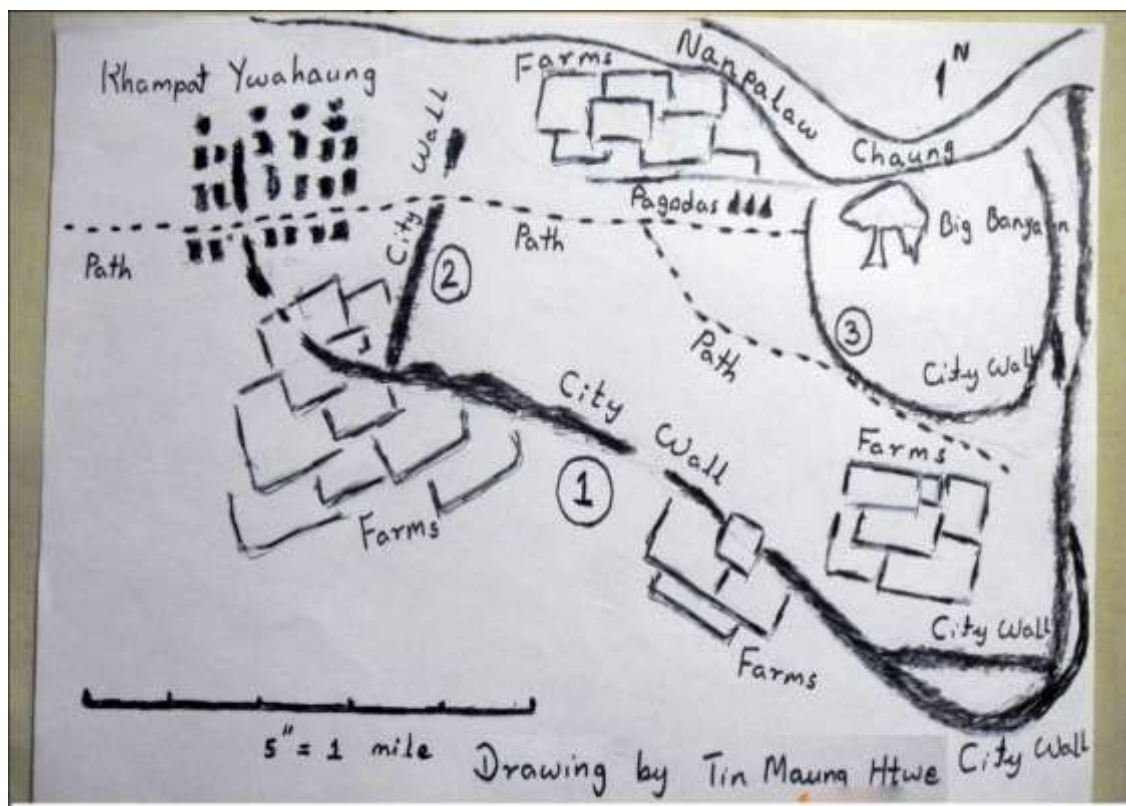
Aerial Photo (2) Aerial Photo of Yazagyo old city



Drawing Map (2) Drawing Map of Yazagyo old city



**Aerial Photo (3) Aerial Photo of Khampat old city**

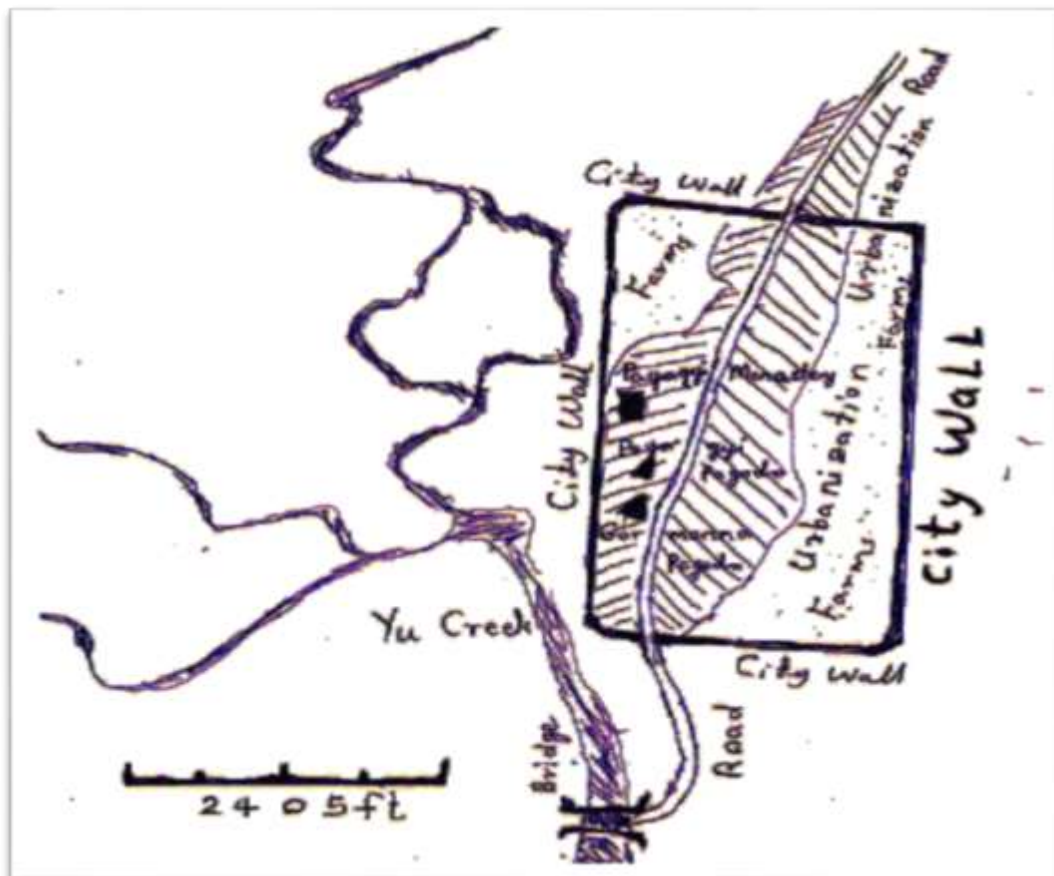


**Drawing Map (3) Drawing Map of Khampat old city**





Aerial Photo (4) Aerial Photo of Thaungdut old city



Drawing Map (4) Drawing Map of Thaungdut old city

**Appendix II**

**Photo 1- The remain of eastern city wall of Kalay old city at BSHC No (1)**



**Photo 2 - The Southeastern city corner with two moats; water moat and swamp moat**





**Photo 3- The remain of city wall at U Than Shein's house, Be Inn, Aungmingatar Quarter as the original type**



**Photo 4 - The brick without finger marked designs found at the base of city wall of the first Kalay old city which was destroyed.**



**Photo 5 - Northwestern city wall with moat at Yazagyo old city site**



**Photo 6 - Northwestern City Gate at Yazagyo old city site**





**Photo 7- Kyar Inn lake (Dam) which was contemporary with Yazagyo old city**



**Photo 8 - Finger marked brick found at City wall of Yazagyo**



**Photo 9 - Ruin Stupas near Min Kyaung Monastery of Yazagyo**



**Photo 10 - The Porch decorated by Corbelled Arch**





**Photo 11 - The size of the brick found at Stupu near Min Kyaung Monastery**



**Photo 12 - Buddha Sakyamuni Image kept in Min Kyaung Monastery**



**Photo 13 - Southern city wall of first old city at Khampat old city site**



**Photo 14 - Moat and city wall of first old city at Khampat old city site**





**Photo 15 - Moat and city wall of second old city at Khampat old city site**



**Photo 16 - City wall of second old city at Khampat old city site**



**Photo 17 - Surface finds collected by U Khin Maung Yin**

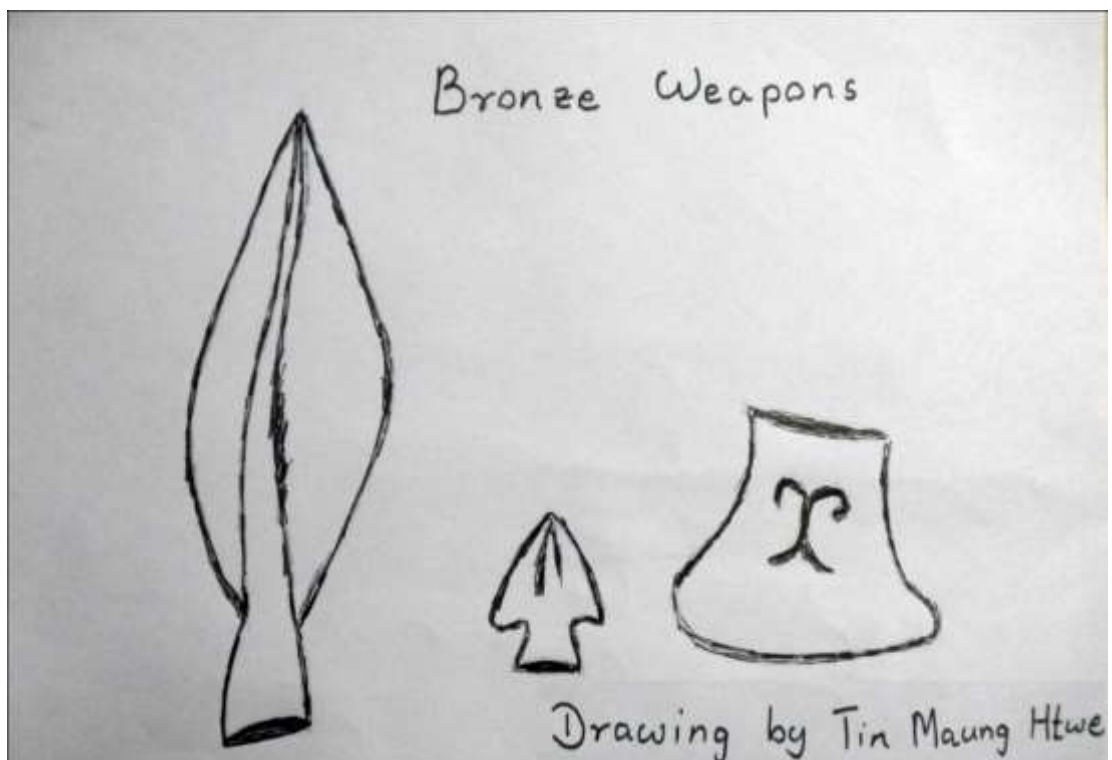


**Photo 18- Finger marked brick found on city wall of first old city**





**Photo 19 - Brick belonged to Bagan or post Bagan Period found  
on city wall of second old city**



**Drawing of Bronze Weapons as fold by villagers**



**Photo 20 - Northern city wall of Thaungdut with moat**



**Photo 21 - Garmonna Pagoda within the Thaungdut old city site**



**Photo 22 - Payagyi Pagoda within the Thaungdut old city site**



**Photo 23 - Broken finger marked brick at the ruin structure mound Thaungdut old city site**