

Myanmar Oil Industry under the British Colonial Rule

Khin Htwe Kyaw ¹

Abstract

Myanmar oil industry had its origin in Bagan period. King Anawratha appointed chief of Twin-Yoe and Twin-Ser who submitted the oil as the oil governor and awarded “Nay-Myo-Tha-Men-Ta-Yar-Za”. During the reign of King Mindon in Konbaung dynasty, oil could be exported to England and lower Myanmar under the British. When Myanmar was annexed to the British Empire, oil industry was monopolized by European companies. During the colonial period, Myanmar oil industry developed a lot. The conflict between European companies and oilfield workers had a great effect on political, administration, economic and social situations.

Key words: oil industry, European oil companies

Introduction

The oil industry of Myanmar had been established since Bagan period. The area of Seik-thar-kun-htuk found oil seeping out onto the ground. In the early time, oil was used only for lighting, for houses and boats and for operating ships. Later, Twin-Yoe and Twin-Ser received royal recognitions of the Kings in the oil field.

In Myanmar, oil industry was started since Bagan Period. The oil industry had been established since the early reign of Salay Nga Khywe (စလောငွေ) in Bagan period.² Salay Nga Khywe succeeded to the throne after he had assassinated Tan-net king (တန်နက်မင်း). Thus, Tan-net king's queen and relatives moved from Bagan to Kan-ma area. The group led by the queen's brother moved to the area of Seik-tha-kun-htuk region (ဆိပ်သာကွမ်းထောက်အရပ်).³ The group that removed to the area of Seik-thar-kun-htuk found oil seeping out onto the ground when they went into the jungle. Thus they went to local administrator and asked the permission to reside in that area. The administrator divided it into four places and allowed them to reside in that place. They sold oil for their living. Later, their generations became Twin-Yoe (တွင်းရိုး) and Twin-Ser (တွင်းစား) in the oil field. Twin-Yoe was the ones who had been recognized by the king for the oil exploration. They had opportunities to do oil extraction and they were administrators. Twin-Ser were those who were administrated.⁴

In the reign of King Anawratha in Bagan period, Twin-Yoe and Twin-Ser families were ordered to submit oil for smearing the three baskets of Dhamma (Pitakat-taw). King Anawratha appointed chief of Twin-Yoe and Twin-Ser who submitted the oil as the oil governor and awarded the title “Nay-Myo-Tha-Men-Ta-Yar-Za” (နေမျိုးသမန္တရာဇာဘွဲ့). Moreover, their generations were allowed to present oil for the three basket of Dhamma (Pitakat-taw).

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² Pagan Khin Mg Gyi, U, *Memories of Oil Industry in Burma (905 AD-1980 AD)*, Yangon, Thukhawaddy Press, 1989. P 1. (Henceforth; Pagan Khin Mg Gyi, Oil Industry in Burma)

³ MBK, *An out line of Burma's Oil History*, Yangon, Myawaddy Press, 1982. P 12 (Henceforth; MBK, An out line of Burma's Oil)

⁴ Kyaw Soe, (တွင်းရိုး တွင်းစားသမိုင်း), *History of Twin-Yoes and Twin-Sers*, (M.A Thesis), History Department, Yangon University, 1987. P 13. (Henceforth; Kyaw Soe, Twin-Yoes and Twin-Sers)

Also in Konbaung Period, only the families of Twin-Yoe and Twin-Ser were allowed to extract oil. ¹

Although oil was used to protect the three baskets of Dhamma (Pitakat-taw) from the danger of insects in Bagan Period, it was used either in running the engine of steamers and driving trains or in lighting lamps, or in smear houses built by wood or bamboo, and some vehicles such as carts and boats to protect them from the danger of the insects in Konbaung and Inn-wa Period.² Chinese commentaries have expressed that the oil is a cure against ache disease as it contains a chemical called sulphur. Therefore, oil is used as medicine.³

The British had been interested in Myanmar oil, gas and minerals before they occupied the whole Myanmar. They especially studied Myanmar oil industry because they were more interested in it. Captain Hiram Cox visited Yenangyaung (It produces most of the oil and natural gas in Myanmar) and wrote and expressed about Myanmar oil in 1821, and then John Crawford also did the same in 1827. Captain Henry Yule and geologist Dr. Thomas Oldham who came to the royal palace of Inn-wa together with an embassy expressed clearly about petroleum wells in Yenangyaung.⁴ Captain Henry Yule recorded that there were eighty petroleum wells which could produce better oil on the north of the town and, fifty wells producing poor oil on the south side of the town. He expressed that those wells do not have the same amount of oil production, and some could produce from 700 Visses (28,000 gallons) to 1000 Visses (40,000 gallons) of oil every day and some could produce up to 1500 Visses (60,000 gallons) of oil. At that time, Dr. Thomas Oldham also advised to extract oil in Yenanchup area.⁵

Before the reign of King Mindon, Twin-Yoes and Twin-Ser from the town Yenangyaung had been praised since the reign of King Shwe-Bo or Thar-yar-waddy. At that time, oil was sent to the king by the price of 1.5 kyat (coil of Royal Peacock Seal) for 100 Visses of oil. The king's Hluttaw could undertake in that time.⁶ Myanmar oil industry improved in the age of Khone-baung. It did not improve although it started to bloom since the Bagan period. Only when it came to the reign of King Mindon, it improved systematically.⁷ King Mindon (1853-1878) married with Su Thiri Mar who was the daughter of the mayor of the town Yenangyaung. The princess was known as Kye-Myin (ကြေးမြိုင်) queen. Besides King Mindon had received 120 petroleum wells owned by Kye-Myin queen's tradition, he got 27 petroleum wells owned by nobody.⁸

Yenanchaung Myowun, Son of Wunshindaw Myin wun Bohmu Yenanchaung Myosa Mingyi, Shwepyi Thenatbo, Le-ok-min of yaw-lay-myo, Yenanchaung Myothugyi Mg Mg Pu,

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1. မြန်မာ့ရေနံလုပ်ငန်း၊မြန်မာ့ဆိုရှယ်လစ်လမ်းစဉ်ပါတီ(Myanmar Oil Industry, Myanmar Socialist Programme Party), Party Press, 1978. P 12. (Henceforth; မြန်မာ့ရေနံလုပ်ငန်း)
 2. Khin Mg Gyi, မြန်မာ့ရေနံသမိုင်း, *History of Myanmar Oil* , Yangon, Sarpay Beikman Press, 1964. P 23. (Henceforth; Khin Mg Gyi, History of Myanmar Oil)
 3. မြန်မာ့ရေနံလုပ်ငန်း, P 13.
 4. Kyaw Soe, Twin-Yoes and Twin-Sers, P 10.
 5. Pagan Khin Mg Gyi, Oil Industry in Burma, P 5.
 6. Khin Mg Gyi, History of Myanmar Oil , P 15.
 7. Ibid , P 20.
 8. MBK, An out line of Burma's Oil, P 68.

Twin-min-gyi U Yoe were allowed to supervise in extraction from 120 petroleum wells owned by King Mindon and Kye Myin queen. The oil or petroleum produced by these wells was sold to British agents. At that time, oil from American company was used in the places of upper and lower Myanmar. British built a refinery in Da-Ni-Taw of Yangon in 1861. At that time, a price of a petroleum well was fifteen kyats of Royal Peacock Seal. Some Chinese and Indians from Lower Myanmar worked in Yenangaung.¹

King Mindon ordered Twin-Yoes and Twin-Sars to sell all petroleum produced only to the government in the year 1856-57, and then, led oil industry. On 10th November 1862, commercial contracts were signed by representatives of British-Myanmar led by Minister Tha-toe Min Gyi Mahar Min Hla Thiha Thu from Myanmar and Sir. Arthur Phayar from British. According to those contracts, oil produced by wells owned by royal palace and Twin-Yoes and Twin-Sars was sold to British representatives under the supervision of king's employees. The oil was exported to England through Yangon (Lower Myanmar) occupied by British. The oil price was sterling pound (UK £) 40 to 45 for a ton (245.4 gallons) at Landon market. It is found that the price of oil sent from upper Myanmar to Lower Myanmar under the British government was higher year by year.²

Burma Oil Distillery Ltd started to run in 1866 and the product also had good quality. Asphaltic oil produced from that distillery can be used to wash and clean deck, boat and bottom of ship. Besides, the distillery produced lubricant used in gun and planned to produce also soap and candle. Burma Oil Distillery Ltd exported oil to India. It sent 1100 drums (nearly 44000 gallons) up to 1876. Burma Oil Distillery Ltd was canceled because Twin-Yoes and Twin-Sars from upper Myanmar could not sell enough oil and King Mindon's oil agents influenced the oil prices which had many changes.³

In Late Kongbaung Period, King Mindon and his head queen controlled oil industry. Crude oil from places producing oil was sent to Yangon and Hinthada delta region. 609662 lb (74683 gallons) of oil were sent to Hinthada region only. King Mindon knew that distilling oil would be more beneficial than oil extraction. Thus, he established Yadanarpon Oil Distillery. 5730 kyats was spent to build that distillery. Some devices for distillery and chemical subjects to produce grease and lubricant were purchased with 18673 kyats. Sayar Nga-Myu (ဆရာငြိူ) administered the distillery and employed 122 workers (59 were distilling workers and 63 were to produce wax and grease). The distillery had much improvement and it produced white oil, yellow oil, red oil, wax and tar. King Mindon supervised himself in not only oil extraction, production, refinement, but also oil distribution.⁴

In the time of King Thibaw, oil distillery was continued to run and the trade was expended to lower Myanmar. The king canceled tax collection to raise trading. Moreover, he canceled property tax, oil tax and other 23 kinds of tax collected since 1884. Since the time

1. Pagan Khin Mg Gyi, Myanmar Oil Industry, P 21-22.

2. မြန်မာ့ရေနံလုပ်ငန်း, P 14-15.

3. T.A.B Corley, *History of the Burmah Oil Company*(1886-1924), Vol- 1, London, Heinemann Ltd. 1983, P 18-20. (Henceforth; Burmah Oil Company)

4. Khin Mg Myint (Pantanaw), ရေနံနိုင်ငံရေး၊ ရေနံစီးပွားရေးနှင့် မြန်မာ့ရေနံသမိုင်း၊ *Political, Economic and Oil History of Myanmar* ,Yangon, Mother House Press, 2015. P 18. (Henceforth; Khin Mg Myint, *Oil History*)

that after cancelling the tax on crude oil, 20,000 kyats was received as income tax in 1885. In King Thibaw's time, 400,000 Visses (16,000,000 gallons) of oil, valued at 500,000 kyats, produced from Twin-gon and Beme (တွင်းကုန်းနှင့် ဘေးမဲ့) oil wells were sold to lower Myanmar. In this way, Myanmar oil industry became more improved. Then, Finlay, Fleming Company submitted the British Burma (Lower Myanmar) government to propose King Thibaw for the extraction of oil in the areas of Bagan and Yenangyaung.¹

In 1885, after the Third Anglo-Myanmar War, colonist the British occupied the whole Myanmar to influence Myanmar valuable natural resources things such as oil, teak and gem. In 1886, David Sime Cargill appointed Finlay, Fleming Company as the representative and found Burmah Oil Company (BOC) and started oil business. Finlay, Fleming Company worked as the representative up to the end of 1928. BOC started its business with sterling pound (UK £) 1.5 million of investment and later, it invested up to sterling pound (UK £) 18 million.²

The British government occupied 120 petroleum wells owned by King Mindon and Kye-Myin queen, and 27 petroleum wells owned by nobody, and then, leased them to BOC for twenty years. In this way, in Myanmar oil history, BOC dominated oil extraction and production without competition up to the year 1900. Thus BOC's business improved quickly. Due to successful of BOC, in the years of 1900, foreign companies emerged to dominate Myanmar oil business.³

In 1901, Colonial Oil Company, sub-company of Standard Oil Company of America, entered Myanmar oil world. That company sold kerosene and gasoline from the United State of America to Myanmar, thus English government prohibited the company. In 1906, Rangoon Oil Company emerged and, in 1907, the company started to produce oil by leasing oil wells from Twin-Yoe Twin-Sar of the town Yenangyaung. In 1908, Nathsingh Oil Company owned by Indian nationality emerged. It got the licenses for oil extraction in the areas of Yenangyaung, Chuck and Singu and did oil extraction and distillation. In 1909, Indo Burma Petroleum Company (IBPC) was established. In 1910, British Burmah Oil Company emerged. Oil was extracted in the areas of Yenanchup, Chuck and Minbu. From 1906 to 1920, thirty-one oil companies were working in Myanmar oil industry.⁴ The three companies mainly dominated Myanmar oil industry were BOC, Indo Burma Petroleum Company and British Burmah Oil Company.⁵

The value of oil wells became higher, when foreign oil companies competitively worked by leasing or purchasing oil wells of Twin-Yoes and Twin-Sars. In 1895, the price of an oil well was just from 20 kyats to 100 kyats. It rose to 5,000 kyats in 1907 and 60,000 kyats in 1908. Due to the importance of oil well places, the price of oil wells in bordering areas of oil producing places was from 25,000 kyats to 30,000 kyats in 1908. Shallow hole dug was

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1. Ko Ko Aung, History of Myanmar Economic during the time of Konbaung Period, Pyinnye Padetha Journal, Vol, I, part 2, University Printing Press, 1966, P 34-35.
 2. မြန်မာ့စေ့စပ်လုပ်ငန်း, P 18.
 3. Ibid , P 19-20.
 4. Ibid , P 20-21.
 5. Walinsky, Economic Development in Burma 1951-1960, New York, 1962, P 45.

limited in the areas of Twin-gon and Beme. Thus, oil companies competitively extracted oil and then, oil wells crowded. The distance between an oil well and another oil well were only sixty feet. Thus, the wells which had good producing oil became less yielded. Oil companies purchased or leased oil wells, without extraction oil from them, which were closed to their wells that had good producing oil to protect their wells from extraction oil from other wells.¹

In 1908, Oilfields Commission was formed and the government appointed an oil minister. His position and authority were the same with Deputy Commissioner. His duties were to control the number of oil wells which were able to dig in the areas of oil field, to prevent oil wasting, to prevent fire and other accidents, to collect oil tax. The leases and the mortgage were done at the office of the oil minister. The advisor group involving representatives from oil companies was formed to help the duties of the oil minister. At first, although the oil minister was responsible at only at the oil field of Yenangyaung, later he had to be responsible also in other oil field areas. Those who were appointed at the position of oil minister were employees under Indian covenant.²

BOC, the most powerful one in oil companies, experienced many dangers, delay, high cost when it sent crude oil from the oil fields in Yenengyaung, Yenanchup and Chauck to the oil distillery in Thanlyin by ship. Thus the company planned to send oil by modern way of oil pipeline.³ By the plan, to send crude oil from Chauck to Thanlyin, 325-mile-long oil pipeline was constructed. That pipeline was a big success in that time because it was constructed by utilizing manpower. According to the contract signed by the British government and BOC, other oil companies had got chance to send oil by pipeline. Those companies could send 20% of oil and the owner BOC could send 80%.⁴

Construction of pipeline by BOC and searching for new oil fields in Chauck started a new age in oil industry, and large or small oil companies mainly searched for oil throughout Myanmar. Some new oil fields were found in 1920. The new oil fields of Minbu, Lann-ywar and Inn-taw were obvious. The areas which could mainly produce oil were possessed by BOC and IBPC. IBPC discovered new Inn-taw oil field at Inn-taw area in upper Chintwin District. Moreover, the discovery of another new oil field in Lann-ywar was a success of IBPC. The company discovered new natural gas field named Pyar Yae near the town Thayet.⁵

Water pumps and excavating machineries were run by boiler engines in digging oil wells. BOC constructed modern big power plant producing 115,000 kilowatt of electricity at Thit ta-bhwe area of new town Yenengyaung since 1919. That plant distributed electricity to oil fields in Yenengyaung and Chauck. The natural gas was utilized as fuel in the power plant. BOC sold electricity to other companies with cheaper price. That power plant was large in accordance with the time before war.⁶

1. မြန်မာ့ရေးနံ့လုပ်ငန်း, P 24.

2. Ibid , P 25.

3. Ibid , P 28.

4. Than Nyunt,U, *The Oil Industry in Burma*, Articles Published in Working People's Daily (7.8.1973-2.10.1973), P 6.(Henceforth; Than Nyunt, The Oil Industry)

5. Than Nyunt, The Oil Industry, P 7.

6. မြန်မာ့ရေးနံ့လုပ်ငန်း, P 30-31.

In 1925, IBPC built a two-mile-long wall in the Ayeyarwaddy River near Lann-ywar and formed oil field the places between the wall and port by filling sand. From the year 1933 to 1935, BOC extracted oil by building wall from Singu creek of Chauck to the riverside of Ayeyarwaddy River. Those large projects were large success in oil exploration and oil production also improved more than before.¹

European oil companies made oil distillation after establishing oil distilleries. BOC distilled oil in the areas of Danitaw and Thanlyin near Yangon. A small oil distillery was established in Yenanchup to support northern Myanmar. In 1925, the oil distillery built in Thanlyin could distill 800,000 imperial gallons (960,000 gallons) a day. Similarly, IBPC built an oil distillery in Seik-gyi on the shore of Thanlyin. It distilled 120,000 imperial gallons (144,800 gallons) a day.² An oil distillery was also situated in Pann-thar near Inn-taw oil field. BBPC's oil distillery was in Thilawar on the other side of Yangon. It distilled 90,000 imperial gallons (108,090 gallons) a day. From 1930 to 1940, 75% of the whole oil production of Myanmar was produced by BOC, 12.5% by IBPC, 9.5% by BBPC and 3% by NOC and other companies.³

Myanmar crude oil was significant because it contains less Sulpha and more wax. Moreover, Myanmar was 14th in countries that could produce oil the most.⁴ In 1939, 275,673,364 gallons (275.5 million gallons) of crude oil were extracted from throughout Myanmar. In 1939-40, foreign companies earned 117,527,628 kyats (117.5 million kyats) from the export of oil and oil products including petroleum and kerosene. That was 21% of all income received from the export of Myanmar products. Myanmar government earned 3,300,096 kyats as customs duty on the export of oil and oil products in 1939-40.⁵

After capitalist companies had entered to Myanmar oil industry, when it reached industrial age applying mechanical devices from handicraft age, the workers of oil business changed to industrial workers. As their wages were paid once a month, those workers are called employees. Oil fields had about 12000 workers and Thanlyin oil distillery had over 6,000 workers. If we consider that a worker had five dependences, we can find that there were over 100,000 dependences on oil industry.⁶

Table- The number of workers working in oil fields

Year	Myanmar	India	Other Nationalities	Total
1931	8649	7424	321	16394
1932	7726	6401	203	14330
1933	6709	5862	66	12647

1. Khin Mg Gyi, Myanmar Oil, P 56-57.

2. မြန်မာ့ရေနံလုပ်ငန်း, P 32.

3. Khin Mg Gyi, မြန်မာ့ရေနံ, *Myanmar Oil*, Yangon, Sarpay Beikman Press, 1973. P 23. (Henceforth; Khin Mg Gyi, Myanmar Oil).

4. MBK, An outline of Burma's Oil), P 90.

5. Khin Mg Gyi, Myanmar Oil, P 122-123.

6. Ibid , P 98.

1934	7043	5943	67	13153
1935	7003	5525	82	12700
1936	7803	6121	91	14015
1937	7955	5631	72	13658
1938	7277	5231	70	12579
1939	8270	5250	86	13606
1940	9013	5770	70	14855

According to the above table, the number of workers working in Myanmar oil field decreased gradually after 1931 because economy was in recession and the number of workers was reduced due to the impact of great depression. However, the number of workers increased again in 1939-1940 because it was the period of the Second World War and British produced more fuel required for the war.¹

BOC got profit from 90 million kyats to 101 million kyats from the oil business per year. The total amount of money paid to workers was only seven million kyats. While a Myanmar worker was not able to get the chance to leave only ten days per year, the company allowed an European employee to take leave six months once with full salary in each three years. It gave travel allowance to go back to his native country. Moreover, his salary was from 5000 kyats to 8000 kyats, and gave home, car and a driver to him. The salary of a Myanmar worker was just 30 kyats per month and the worker had to live in the (8 ft x 10 ft) wide barrack. As such kind of barracks were very narrow, those who were living in the barracks affected health.²

The wages of oil workers and the profit from oil business are very different. Thus, in 1918, oil clerks claimed the issue. Oil workers led by oil extraction workers boycotted two times in 1923-24 and 1926 before 1930. Later, BOC replaced British youths instead of American oil extraction workers.³

Due to the help of oil clerks, the workers gradually got 30 kyats per month from 16 kyats par month. Since the former time, the cost of food staff of oil fields and Yangon had been higher than that of other places, thus, it was the custom to pay living allowance to the workers. Due to high commodity price, the workers asked to rise their salary at least between 35 kyats to 45 kyats. The highest salary was asked to be between from 60 kyats to 70 kyats a month.⁴

¹. MBK, *An outline of Burma's Oil*, P 29.

². *Ibid*, P 30.

³. Khin Mg Gyi, *Myanmar Oil*, P 100.

⁴. *Ibid*, P 107.

The Second World War was spread to Myanmar in 1942. In the war backward time of British government, the government and large companies effectively destroyed the business by scorched-earth policy. When Japan entered Myanmar, not to be able to use oil for military affair, oil distilleries, oil files and devices for extracting oil, excavator, oil pipeline and power plants were destroyed. In such way, they destroyed the good producing oil wells by either putting iron and digging flags or exploding the mine into the wells. Due to such destruction, 530 million kyats was lost. The purpose of British scorched-earth plan was not to be able extract oil within six months at least.¹

The Japanese tried to extract oil back from the destroyed oil wells. Former oil workers were appointed at the restoration of oil wells. Only when it came to the middle of 1942, oil could be extracted from the oil wells from Chauck and Yenangyaung. In Japanese age, oil was extracted just to provide to necessities of local places. From 1942 to 1945, three million drums (120,000,000 gallons) of crude oil were extracted.²

After Second World War, foreign oil companies entered Myanmar again. Burman Oilfields Rehabilitation Unit was formed to rehabilitate Myanmar oil industry and continued to run oil extraction.³ Before the war, in 1941, 326,004 gallons of oil were extracted. However, after the Second World War, oil industry had been rehabilitated. Then, 29,400 gallons of oil were extracted in 1946, which was nearly 300,000 gallons less than the oil extraction before the war. In 1947, 8400 gallons were extracted and which was over 20,000 gallons less than that of 1946.⁴

Conclusion

In Myanmar, oil had been found since Bagan Period and it was produced and sold to be used in local places. Oil was exported in late Konbaung Period. At that time, British discovered Myanmar natural resources. After the British had occupied the whole Myanmar, British companies competitively produced oil and which became developed. Similarly, the export of oil also developed and it reached 14th of the world. Thus, it is found that Myanmar political, administrative, economic and social situations took on different forms due to the colonial oil industry. Moreover, The Japanese army and the British and their allies' armies entered Myanmar during the Second World War, thereby reducing it to the battle-field twice. Therefore, it is found that oil production decreased after the Second World War.

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¹. MBK, An outline of Burma's Oil), P 31.

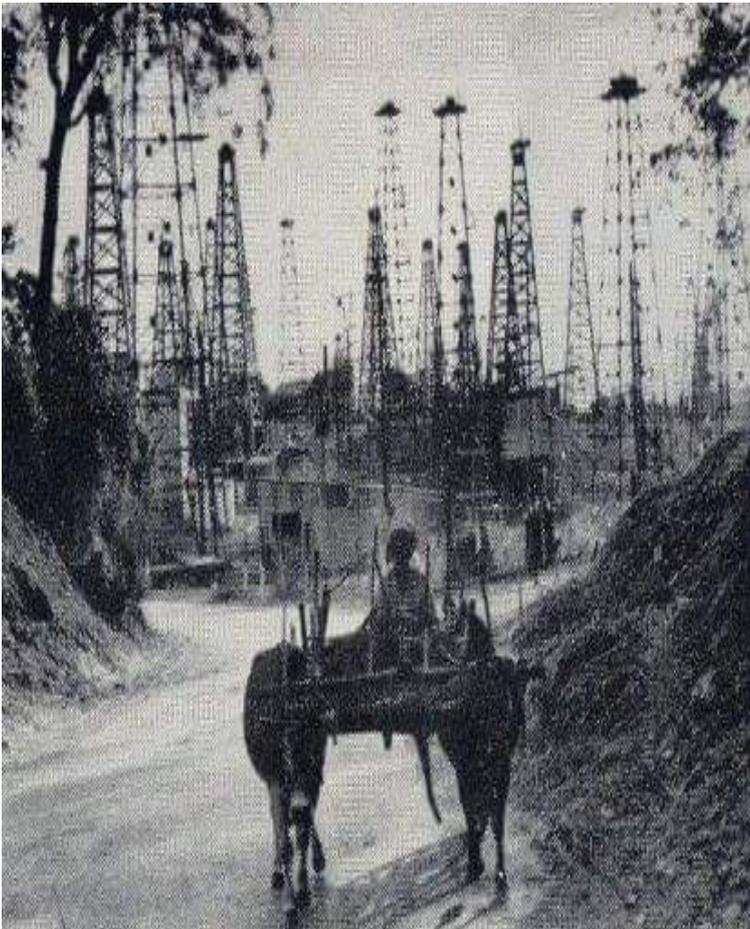
². Ibid , P 32.

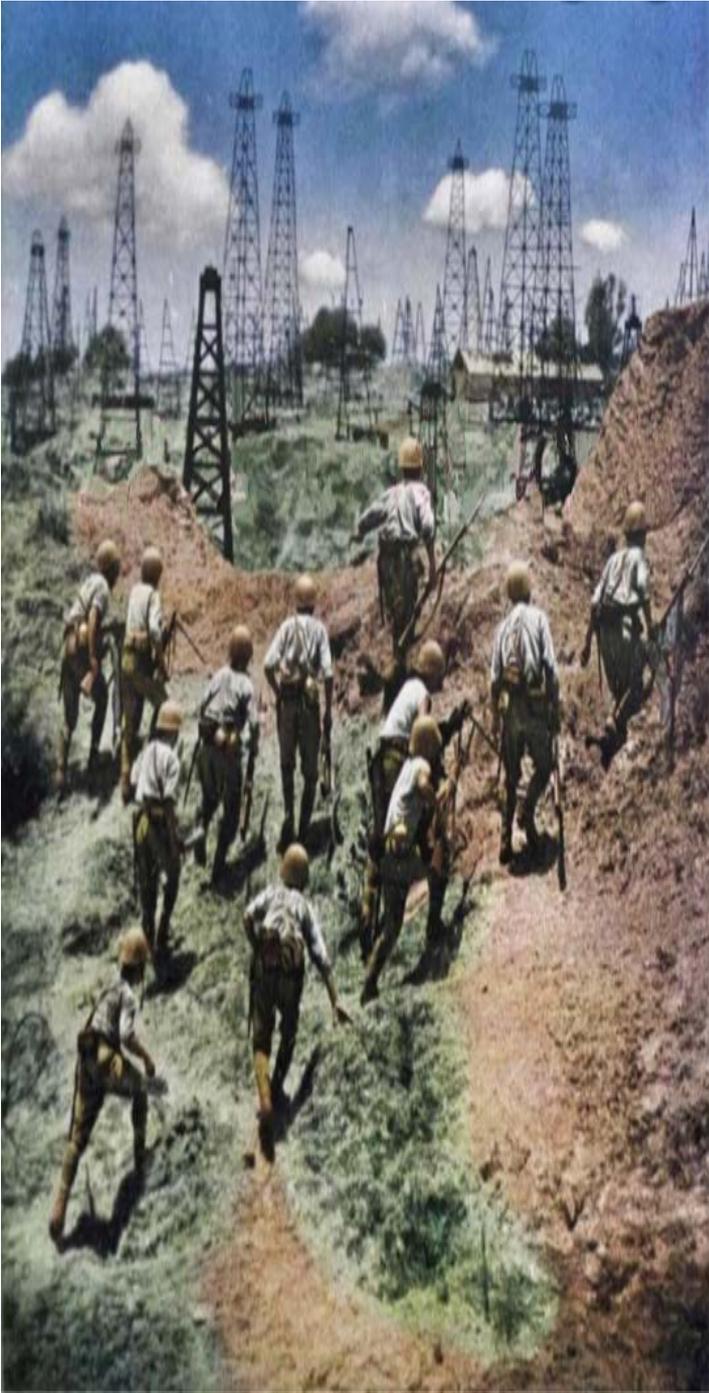
³. Khin Mg Gyi, History of Myanmar Oil, P 76.

⁴. Ibid , P 81.

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STATE SCHOLARS OF YADANABON AGE

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Abstract

When Mindon Min came to the throne in 1852 the capital was Amarapura. After five years at Amarapura he wanted to build a new capital. In accordance with the prophecy Mindon Min built his new capital at the foot of the Mandalay Hill. He called his new city Ratanapura (Yadanapon) “the City of Gems.” But it was known as Mandalay. The last two Kings of Konbaung Dynasty, Mindon Min and Thibaw Min resided at the Yadanabon City from 1858 to 1885. During this period was called as Yadanapon Age. With the efforts and encouragements of Mindon Min, Prince Kanaung and Thibaw Min Myanmar youth got a chance to go abroad for further study.

Key words: Roman Catholic Missionaries, state scholars

Introduction

Alaungmintaya founded the Konbaung Dynasty in 1752. It lasted from 1752 to 1885. It was divided into two: the early konbaung period (1752-1819) and the later konbaung period (1819-1885). During the Konbaung period, the Konbaung monarchs constructed many Royal Cities. Firstly, Alaungmintaya constructed his royal city at Shwebo. At the Shwebo Royal City, Alaungmintaya and his eldest son Tabayin Min known as Naungdawgyi resided there to the last. The Second Royal City located at Innwa was founded by Myaydu Min known as Sinbyu Shin. At the Innwa Royal City, Sinbyu Shin, Singu Min and Paunggasamaungmaung resided there to the last. The Third Royal City was located at Amarapura. It was founded by Badon Min known as Bodawpaya. At the Amarapura Royal City, Bodawpaya, Sagaing Min known as Bagyidaw, Thayawady Min, and Bagan Min resided to the last and Mindon Min also resided there. However Mindon Min resided up to 1858 and then he moved his royal capital to Mandalay. Therefore, the Fourth Royal City was located at Mandalay known as YandanbonNaypyitaw. At the Yandanbon Royal City, Mindon Min and Thibaw Min resided there from 1858 to 1885. During the reigns of Mindon Min and Thibaw Min were known as Yandanabon Age.

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Problem of Statement

In later years of Konbaung dynasty Myanmar had been invaded by the British who annexed some parts of her territory. After annexation of Bago Province by the British by Second Anglo-Myanmar War, both sides ceased to carry on fighting without any peace agreement or treaty which should have brought to end the war. In the effort to preserve her sovereignty and territorial integrity Myanmar entered into friendly relations with France, a rival power of Britain. Myanmar tried to strengthen herself by equipping the army which arms and tried to industrialize the country.

Research Questions

This research will be analyzed on the following research questions.

1. How many state scholars got a chance for further study?
2. How many state scholars attempted to make up the nation-building during the Yandanabon Age?

Research Aims

The overall aim is to examine accounts on the further study during the Yandanabon Age.

The three specific aims are:

1. To illustrate how Mindon Min, Crown Prince Kanaung and Thibaw Min attempted to build up the industrialization country.
2. To discuss how many scholars went further study during Yandanabon Age.
3. To contribute the new knowledge to history students and even other researchers who study on History of Myanmar especially Yandanabon Age.

Literature Proposals

1. King Mindon and Roman Catholic Missionaries

King Mindon gave support to the Catholic missionaries in Upper Myanmar. He had a keen interest in the education provided by mission schools and invited the missionaries to open up mission schools, granting them freedom in religious activities.¹ Father Abbona advised

¹Bishop P. A. Bignadet, *An Outline of the History of the Catholic Burmese Mission from the year 1720-1887*, Rangoon, Hanthawaddy Press, 1887, p. 73 (Hereafter cited as Bishop Bignadet, *Catholic Burmese Mission*).

Mindon to try and have direct contact with the Queen of England and also to send ambassadors to Europe to win support of the different European Governments for the industrialization of Myanmar and the unification of the lost provinces.¹

2. The Efforts of Crown Prince Kanaung

Kanaung Prince, a Crown Prince wanted to build up the industrialization country during the reign of King Mindon. He tried to send Myanmar youths abroad to get training to acquire the technical know-how. Thereby Myanmar youths got a chance to go to France for further study.

3. First Batch State Scholars

When the French Envoy met the Crown Prince, Prince of Kanaung expressed his desire to send three of his right-hand men to France for further study and arranged to meet with three men intended to send to France. They were MaungShweOhn, MaungTunAung, and MaungNyunt.²MaungShweOhn attended Lycee Technical School at Paris to learn mathematics, chemistry, physics and technical drawing as basic subjects for study science. During the course of his study MaungShwe Oh had to procure the machinery equipment in accordance to the instructions from Mandalay. At the same time he had the duty to report back to Mandalay about the consideration of foreign countries on Myanmar. He took responsibility to translate Franco-Thai Treaty and sent it back to Mandalay.³In August 1866, MaungShweOhn graduated from L'Ecole des arts et Manufactures. He was offered a degree for art of civil engineering. He was also awarded a medal by the Queen of Napoleon III for the achievement of his academic career.⁴

Maung Shwe Ohn, Maung Nyunt, and Maung Tun Aung lived together at Sercey residence and learned French language at Paris. Along with Maung Tun Aung, Maung Nyunt studied art of constructing factory and production of arms and ammunitions. He also made field study around the factories in France. He took special interest in iron refinery plants and weaving machines. After completion of studies in France, Maung Nyunt and

¹Vivian Ba, "Some Papal Correspondence with the Burmese Kings," *JBRIS Vol. L, part. I, June 1963*, p. 11 (Hereafter cited as Ba, "Papal with Burmese Kings").

²Dr. Myo Thant Tin, ("Medicine Treatise of U Shwe Oh"), *Scientific Magazine, No. 47, 1984*, p. 9. (Hereafter cited as Myo Thant Tin, "Medicine Treatise of U ShweOhn").

³Dr. Myo Thant Tin, (*Myanmar Scientists inKonbaung Period*), Yangon, SarpayLoka Press, 1984, pp. 141-142 (Hereafter cited asMyo Thant Tin, *Myanmar Scientists in Konbaung Period*).

⁴Dr. KhinMyaKyu, (*History of Franco-Myanmar Relations during the Konbaung Period*), Yangon, Everest Press, 1976, p. 82 (Hereafter cited as KhinMyaKyu, *Franco-Myanmar Relations*).

Maung Tun Aung brought the machinery and equipment and returned to Myanmar before 1863.¹

Maung Nyunt had taken part for the construction of industries at Yadanabon. He was promoted to officer in charge of iron refinery plant and offered the title of PyinnyaTheikdiKyaw Thu. He supervised the construction of a new umbrella for the shwedagonStupa. In June 1872, Maung Nyunt and officer in charge of craft of blacksmithing had made test drive and accessed the capability of Mya Nan Yin Thar Steamer, presented by Dana Sari NawraHtar. George Dogson, a British merchant to the King.²

Maung Tun Aung had been awarded the title of MahaMingaungPyinnyaTheikdi and appointed as officer in charge of craft of blacksmithing by King Mindon. He was a prominent figure in the industrialization of the country.³ During the reign of King Theebaw, MaungNyunt became prominent officer of the court.⁴

Not long after assassination of Prince Kanaung, MaungShweOhn, in early 1867 returned to Mandalay. Soon after he was offered the title of Min HtinPyinnyaTheikdiKyawKaung and appointed as an officer to take charge of smelting factory.⁵ Along with Yaw Mingyi U Pho Hlaing, he had written a book on medical science. In this book he had written about electromagnetic field and batteries which were basic requirement for telegraphic communication. Smelting, ShweOhn also took part for the management of other industries.⁶

4. Second Batch State Scholars

Under a plan for industrialization of the country, so as to enable to prevent aggression of imperialist countries, Maung Aung Thu, a disciple of Prince Kanaung was sent to France along with Maung Myu as state scholars in December 1862. It was a second batch of

¹Ibid, pp. 241-243.

²Ludu U Hla, (*Newspapers Told about the History of Myanmar Politics*), Mandalay, Kyeepwarye Press, 1963, p. 282 (Hereafter cited as Hla, *Newspapers and Myanmar Politics*).

³MaungMaung Tin, (*The Great Chronicle of Konbaung Dynasty, Vol. III*), Ysngon, LediPantita Press, 2004, 740 (Hereafter cited as MaungMaung Tin, *The Great Chronicle of Konbaung Dynasty, Vol. III*).

⁴MaKyan, ("List of State Scholars"), *Journal of Burma Research Society, LXII, I&II, December 1979*, p. 96 (Hereafter cited as Kyan, "List of State Scholars").

⁵Myo Thant Tin, "Practice for Compass by U Shwe Bin," p. 74.

⁶Myo Thant Tin, *Myanmar Scientists in Konbaung Period*, p. 251.

students sent to France. By that time the first group of state scholars, Maung Shwe Ohn, Maung Nyunt, and MaungTunAung were already in France.¹

MaungAung Thu studied mathematics, chemistry, physics, biology, geology, and art of drawing at L'EcoleCentrale in Paris. Next, in October 1865 he was eligible to be enrolled at Saint Cyr University, the biggest University in France.² Before the completion of one academic year at the University he came back to Mandalay as he heard about the assassination of Prince Kanaung in January 1867.³

Not long after his arrival at the capital along with U Shwe Bin, the Chancellor of Exchequer, he went to Europe to study the principles and practices of diplomats. The mission departed Myanmar in June 1870. They came to England via France in 1871. On their return journey, MaungAung Thu was left at Paris and continued his studies at Saint Cyr University. He returned to Myanmar in May 1872 with MaungTayokePhyu, who had studied at England.⁴

When he came to Myanmar MaungAung Thu served as commander of mounted soldier. He was offered a title of Nay Myo Min HtinKyawThuraine and promoted to be Commandant of Cavalry. He also took part to negotiate French delegations to enter Franco-Myanmar commercial treaties. He had been a member when KinwunMingyi led a delegation to France in 1874. The delegation studied sugar mill, oil mill, soap factory, textile mill, cigarette factory, tinder box factory, leather tannin factory, paper mill, locomotive factory and underwater mine production factories during stay in France.⁵

MaungAung Thu and one of his colleagues went to France in late1874 with the aim to find experts on arms and ammunitions. On their way back they brought one Italian Navigator and expert on arms and ammunitions production. On 14March 1875 they came back to Myanmar.⁶He then served as a commandant of Myanmar cavalry. In 1876, he was appointed as officer in charge of Manipur Cavalry. He was distinguished as Commandant of Cavalry and expired in 1880.⁷

¹KhinMyaKyu, *Franco-Myanmar Relations*, p. 81.

²Ibid, p. 82.

³Myo Thant Tin, *Myanmar Scientists in Konbaung Period*, p. 411.

⁴KinwunMingyi U Kaung, (*London Daily Dairy, Vol. II*), Yangon, Government Press, 1953, 111 (Hereafter cited as Kaung, *London Daily Dairy, Vol. II*).

⁵Myo Thant Tin, *Myanmar Scientists in Konbaung Period*, p. 415.

⁶KhinMyaKyu, *Franco-Myanmar Relations*, p. 112.

⁷Myo Thant Tin, *Myanmar Scientists in Konbaung Period*, p. 416.

MaungMyu was sent to France in 1862 with MaungAung Thu as second batch of Myanmar state scholars. MaungMyu studied mathematics, chemistry, physics, biology, geology, and art of drawing at L'EcoleCentrale. Next, with the help of Ministry of Public works he had been admitted to L'EcoleImperiale de Mines in September 1866. He got a degree in science from L' EcoleCentrale.¹

5. Assassination of Crown Prince Kanaung

Myin Gun Min, one of the sons of Mindon Min, wanted to be the Crown Prince and he and his brother Myin Gon Taing rebelled with the intention of killing both their father and uncle. Fortunately, Mindon Min escaped but Prince Kanaung and his comrades were assassinated on 2 August 1866. The rebellion was quickly subdued and the two rebel princes escaped into Lower Myanmar. The English sent them to Calcutta. From there they escaped to French Indo-china. When the Crown Prince died, Mindon Min thought it expedient not to appoint another Crown Prince until he died on 1 October 1878.²

The assassination of Prince Kanaung and MyaTaungWungyi who were in favor of industrialization country because of Myingun and Myin GonTaing Princes' attempt to usurp the throne on 2 August 1866 made difficulties for the Myanmar scholars abroad as there was nobody who would stand for them at Mandalay. Those students at France suffered worst when Bishop Bignadet declared that there was nobody who would like to take care of the scholars in France. Therefore, with the help of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of French Government the scholars came back from France and reached Yangon in December.³

However, MaungMyu got a chance to continue his studies on chemistry. In late 1868 he came back to Myanmar and established Indigo factory. Having graduated as a metallurgy engineer in France, in 1870 MaungMyu was sent to England where he studied technology of arms and ammunitions.⁴ At London he met the KinwunMingyi who led the delegation and departed London on 27 June 1872.⁵

¹KhinMyaKyu, *Franco-Myanmar Relations*, P. 82.

²Dr.Than Tun, *A Modern History of Myanmar, 1752-1948*, First Edition, Yangon, MonywaSarpay Press, August 2010, pp. 29-30 (Hereafter cited as Than Tun, *A Modern History of Myanmar*).

³KhinMyaKyu, *Franco-Myanmar Relations*, p. 84.

⁴DawKyan, ("Factories at Yandanabon"), Yangon, Literature and Social Science Journal Vol. I, No. 1, 1968, p. 175 (Hereafter cited as Kyan, "Factories at Yandanabon").

⁵Kaung, *London Daily Dairy*.P. 150.

6. The Last Batch State Scholars

After his arrival at Myanmar he took part in oil refinery plant. When King Theebaw ascended the throne he was offered the title of Mingyi Min HlaMaharSithu and appointed as officer in charge of the iron refinery plant. In 1882 he went to Simla as a member of a diplomatic mission. Again in 1883 he went to Europe as a member of a diplomatic mission led by Mingyi Min HlaMahaZayaThingyan, Governor of MyoThit.¹The mission departed Mandalay by TuHlut Yin Kyaw steamer and arrived at France and came back to Mandalay in May 1885. The objective of the mission was to industrialize the country so as to keep abreast with other western industrialized nations. During the course of two years in France they had studied science, technology, and industrial development of the country and entered Franco-Myanmar friendship treaty.²

Myanmar scholars were also sent abroad during the reign of King Thibaw too. Altogether fifteen students had been sent abroad as state scholars to study telecommunications and other subjects. Out of the scholars Maung In and MaungTun Lin were sent to Paris after completion of their studies in Calcutta for further study. There were three Myanmar state scholars in Paris who studied telecommunication technology. They were Maung Po Thone, Maung Aye and MaungKhant.³In addition to them there were other ten Myanmar state scholars studying other subjects. They were MaungKhine, MaungKha, Maung Po Ba, Maung Po Toe, MaungSoe, MaungKagyi, MaungAungKhe, MaungPe, MaungKhe and MaungGyi.⁴ While Myanmar scholars were studying at Paris, Third Anglo-Myanmar War broke out. They had completed their studies only in late 19th century. After the occupation of Myanmar by the British, they returned home along with U Myu, the Myanmar Ambassador in Paris.⁵

¹Myo Thant Tin, *Myanmar Scientists in Konbaung Period*, p. 394.

²KhinMyaKyu, *Franco-Myanmar Relations*, p. 136.

³Myo Thant Tin, *Myanmar Scientists in Konbaung Period*, p. 396.

⁴Kyan, "List of State Scholars" p. 97.

⁵Myo Thant Tin, *Myanmar Scientists in Konbaung Period*, p. 402.

Conclusion

From 1853, when Mindon Min ascended the throne, to 1885, when Thibaw was deposed and taken away to exile, a great number of westerners arrived in Myanmar especially in Yadanapon Age. After the Second Anglo-Myanmar War, King Mindon and Prince Kanaung realized the technological gap between Myanmar and the western nations. Therefore, with the intention to seal the gap with the help of French Catholic Missionary Myanmar got a chance to send state scholars to France.

With the support of the Myanmar Kings, the French Catholic Missionary could achieve the missionary activities in Myanmar without interference. Through them Myanmar earned abundant knowledge of western cultural traditions and customs and language which were important to establish relations with the European countries.

With the help of Konbaung Kings, French Catholic missionary activities proved to be the most successful missionary in Myanmar. They could not establish Roman Catholic Churches in Upper Myanmar but were able to open schools in Upper Myanmar. It provided an opportunity for Myanmar children to learn foreign language. Myanmar enjoyed a lot of benefits unexpectedly.

Prince Kanaung who had a strong desire to modernize the country and strengthen Myanmar army took the opportunity to acquire modern technology, sent Myanmar state scholars to France who had studied science and technologies and engineering subjects. Some of the scholars sent during the reign of King Mindon had studied techniques of production of arms, ammunitions and military equipment. Not only did some of them purchase machinery equipment as authorized by the Royal government. Myanmar missionary sent by King Mindon also purchased the required machinery equipment.

These scholars came to be in touch with European and served Konbaung government with their respective knowledge they had acquired from abroad. MaungAung Thu for example served as chief of iron refinery plant which could produce arms, ammunitions and military equipment to modernize Myanmar army and taught modern warfare to the army.

Expected Outcomes

This research paper expects to have following outcomes.

(a) Focus

This paper is made to know more about the state scholars who got a chance to go to abroad for further study during Yandanapon Age.

(b) Vision

This paper aims to know the efforts of the later Konbaung Kings and the state scholars during Yandanapon Age.

(c) Mission

Mission of this paper is to know more about the History of Yadanabon Age especially to display the state scholars for coming generations in future.

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Forest Reference Emission Level of Myanmar

San San Myint¹

Abstract

The Government of Myanmar is fully aware of the causes and potential impacts of climate change. Myanmar actively participated in global climate change mitigation efforts as a non-Annex 1 party. Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) was submitted in 2016. Under the NDC, forestry is a key sector and quantitative targets are likely to be included. Myanmar's Initial National Communication (INC) was submitted to UNFCCC in 2012 and the Second National Communication (SNC) is now under preparation. Currently, Myanmar views REDD+ initiatives as a contribution to the green development of Myanmar as well as supporting the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change. The development of the FREL was initiated by a group of experts. Myanmar FREL is national level as all the existing land and forest monitoring and measurement capacities are at the national level. Specific activities which are ongoing for improvement especially strengthening of the national forest monitoring and information system.

Keywords: Climate Change mitigation, quantitative targets and emission level.

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1.Introduction

The definition of ‘forest’ in Myanmar follows that used for the FAO Forest Resource Assessment (FRA): **“Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 meters and a canopy cover of more than 10 percent or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ”**. In addition to land cover, land use is also considered in identifying areas that fall under this forest definition. The Government of Myanmar is fully aware of the causes and potential impacts of climate change. Myanmar actively participated in global climate change mitigation efforts by ratification of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1994 and the Kyoto Protocol in 2003 as a non-Annex 1 party. Currently, Myanmar views REDD+ initiatives as a contribution to the green development of Myanmar as well as supporting the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change. Myanmar became a partner country of the UN-REDD Programme in December 2011 and has quickly taken steps to start implementing REDD+ Readiness activities.¹

Myanmar submitted its intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) in 2015 as a contribution to global climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. It was confirmed as the country’s first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) after ratification of the Paris agreement in 2016. Myanmar’s Initial National Communication (INC) was submitted to UNFCCC in 2012 and the Second National Communication (SNC) is now under preparation.²

In particular, the Government of Myanmar aims to include data on enhancement of forest carbon stocks, in recognition of the potential importance of plantation and forest restoration measures to climate change mitigation efforts.³

1.1 Objectives of FREL

The main objective of the FREL submission is to support the climate change mitigation efforts under the national context of Myanmar.⁴

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar is a largely rural country, with 70% of its total population of 51.5 million people living in rural areas. In Myanmar, there are around 135 different ethnic groups with 100 different languages. The rural population still relies

¹ MOECAAF, Myanmar’s Initial National Communication under the UNFCCC, Nay Pyi Taw, 2012, P-313

² Ibid, P.314

³ Ibid, P.315

⁴ MOECAAF, Myanmar’s first national communication under the United Nations Framework convention on Climate, Nay Pyi Taw, 2012, P.268

primarily on biomass for energy purposes, as only 30% of the total population has access to electricity (Population Census, 2014).¹

Myanmar is in a process of economic and political reform with the overall goal of becoming a modern, developed and democratic nation by 2030. The political reform process is accompanied by a structural reform process of the economic sector with strong and increasing foreign direct investment. However, significant challenges still exist with wide socio-economic gaps and sub-national inequalities remote areas (e.g. Chin and Rakhine states) are suffering from low levels of infrastructure and lack of basic social services (especially health and education) and job opportunities.²

The 2016 Nationally Determined Contributions-(NDC) document of Myanmar formulates several actions concerning forest and land use are as follows:

- Fulfilment of the national Permanent Forest Estate (PEE) target by 2030 with an increase of Reserve Forests (RF) and Protected Public Forests (PPF) to 30% of the national land area and the Protected Area System (PAS) to 10% of the national land area.
- Energy efficient cooks stoves in order to reduce fuel wood for energy purposes, especially for the Dry Zone of Myanmar.

Based on the 2012 National Adaptation Programme of Actions (NAPA), adaptation actions are described in the NDC for different levels of priority and sectors. Forest preservation measures, together with resilience in the agricultural sector and early warning systems, are among the first priorities. In addition, several strategies and policies are in process of development, or already being implemented, in order to support the achievement of targets such as those in the National Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (MCCSAP).³

“The Land Use and Forestry Sector contributes to an overall low-carbon development pathway of the Nation through reducing deforestation and forest degradation”.

For the policy area of Forest Management, the implementation of the National Forestry Master Plan (2001-2030) is mentioned as well as the national Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of 2015-2020.⁴

Myanmar forests are diverse and varied in composition and structure, and constitute a valuable ecosystem due to their wide extent (between latitudes 958' – 28 29' N and

¹ <http://www.csostatat.gov.mm/2013-global-forest>

² Ibid, P.6

³ MOECAAF, Development of a National Forest Monitoring system for Myanmar, Forest Department, Nay Pyi Taw, 2015, P.84

⁴ Ibid, P.85

longitudes 92 10' – 101 10' E), varied topography and different climatic conditions. The forests are distributed over three main climatically distinct regions (Tropical, Subtropical and Temperate.)¹

There is no recent study that provides an update of national-level distribution and extent of these different forest types in Myanmar. According to available information, the most abundant forest types are the tropical Mixed Evergreen and Deciduous forest, both containing upland and lowland subtypes. These forest types are well known for the occurrence of teak and other valuable timber species that are subject to commercial timber logging.²

The tropical dry forest types in Myanmar, concentrated in the Central Dry zone of the country, are also affected by human activity (e.g. conversion to agriculture, firewood collection) as well as forest fires. Although the latter can cause serious soil degradation, they are part of the natural dynamics in some open dry or savannah-like forests on wetlands, especially mangroves along the coastlines and freshwater swamp forests in river deltas are threatened by agriculture and aquaculture, unsustainable collection of firewood or coastal development activities.³

Myanmar prioritized two of the five REDD+ activities as the focus of the country's first FREL/ FRL submission; deforestation and enhancement of forest carbon stock through reforestation, for FREL calculation due to the following reasons;

- Deforestation is estimated to be the main contribution to the total emissions from the land use, land use change and forestry sector in Myanmar;
- To measure the impact and effectiveness of the existing National Reforestation and Rehabilitation Programme in Myanmar.⁴

In common with many other developing countries, Myanmar experiences both deforestation and forest degradation due to various anthropogenic effects. The measurement of deforestation, however, is possible using data and methodologies currently available at the national level, whereas considerable further work is required before the change of carbon stocks in forest remaining as forest can be measured with confidence.⁵

The data used and the methodology employed to develop this initial submission was sufficient to measure deforestation, due to the substantial areas affected during the reference

¹ Ibid, P.86

² MOECAAF, Forest Reference (Emissions) Level action plan for Myanmar, Forest Department, Nay Pyi Taw, 2015, P.39

³ Ibid, P.40

⁴ <https://earthenginepartners.appspot.com/sciecn-2013-global-forest>

⁵ Ibid, P.41

period of 2005-2015. However, they were insufficient to measure enhancement from afforestation/ reforestation during this period, due to the much smaller areas affected. At the time of this submission, therefore, the scope of the FREL is limited to deforestation only, but work is ongoing to improve data so that enhancement from afforestation/reforestation can be added.¹

Through a series of consultation meetings, the proposed reference period was identified as the period from 2005 to 2015, due to the availability of the most reliable national existing activity data and Emission Factors for this period. Although the reference period does not overlap, which used data from the year 2000. The emission factors are therefore considered as national specific data.²

It is necessary to identify a spatially-explicit forest change map for a given period by using a combination of the multiple maps within the same period. The forest change areas often occupy a small proportion of the landscape and assumptions of the STRS design largely depend on accurate delineation of the change strata. A tree cover map of 2000 and gross forest cover loss data from 2001 to 2015 were used to product forest change (loss) strata map from 2005 to 2015.³

1.2 Activity Data

According to the revised IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Activity Data (AD) are defined as data on the magnitude of human activity resulting in emissions or removals taking place during a given period of time. The emissions include human activities resulting from deforestation and from forest degradation while the removals include forest gain or enhancement of canopy cover. According to IPCC Good Practice Guidance (2003), AD should be neither over-nor under-estimates (without bias or quantification of bias) and uncertainty should be reduced as much as practically possible. The existing wall-to-wall maps, generally, make no provision for accommodating the effects of map classification errors (Foddy, 2010). Moreover, the map accuracy assessment indices (error matrix) can inform issues of systematic errors and precisions but they do not directly produce the information necessary to construct confidence intervals. Therefore, the pixel-counting based

¹ FAO, Global Forest Resource Assessment-country reports Myanmar 2005, 2010.

² GFOI, Methods and Guidance Documentation, 2016, P.124

³ MONREC-ECD, Myanmar Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan Draft 2016, Nay Pyi Taw, P.180

wall-to-wall approach provides no assurance that estimates are unbiased or that uncertainties are reduced (GFOI, 2016).¹

Much uncertainty exists in identification of forest gain (enhancement) classes while using remote sensing technologies because of difficulties in distinguishing between afforestation and growing cycles of the forest plantations, and difficulties in identifying the ecological pattern of forest regrowth. Indeed, seasonally (leaf phenology) and soil moisture variations may have played a role in the other misclassifications such as dry forest types of teak plantation. Therefore, forest gain has not been considered for sample-based estimates and has been identified as one of the areas of future improvement for the FRL. There is a need to develop a standard operating procedure to detect land cover change under the six IPCC land cover classes through remote sensing-based and ground-based information to provide a more robust estimate of carbon emissions and removals.²

2. Results

The reference datasets were used to generate sample-based estimates along with the associated confidence intervals for these sample-based area estimates. The user's accuracy, or commission error, represents an over-estimation of forest cover compared with forest loss and non-forest cover classes.³

Conclusion

The bias-corrected forest loss is about 387,527 ha per year over the period 2005-2015. In comparison, the forest loss between 2005 and 2015 reported to FRA 2015 (based on locally-produced wall-to-wall maps) was 428,000 ha per year, or 37,224 ha per year higher than the sample-based estimates. The FD conducted initial national forest inventory measurements in 1981-82 with the financial and technical support of UNDP and FAO under the National Forest Management and Inventory Project. According to the available records and documents, inventory surveys were based on a variety of sampling methods. Estimates from such surveys were used in calculating annual allowable cuts and reliable estimates for efficient management planning mainly at the district level. There are 68 Forest Districts in Myanmar, defined by administrative boundaries. District forest inventory surveys covered 40 Districts during a 10 year rotation, using a variety of sampling intensities and sample plot

¹ FAO, Rome. www.fao.org/forest-resources-assessment/en/

² FAO, Rome. www.fao.org/forest-resources-assessment/en/

³ Ibid, P.181

designs. This submission drew upon the data generated from 11,284 inventory plots of district level forest inventory that were collected during 2005 to 2017.¹

Acknowledgement

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¹ Ibid, P.182

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British Envoys and Residents in Myanmar (1819 – 1840)

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Abstract

Europeans especially Westerners had already arrived in Myanmar before the Konbaung period. Envoys, political agents and residents, merchants and missionaries came to Myanmar in the Late Konbaung period. The majority of Western envoys who arrived in Myanmar in the Konbaung period were the British. The British who conducted the diplomatic relations were not from British government but officials from the Governor-General of India and the majority of the British envoys were military personnel from the English East India Company. It was found that the British Residents intervened in the internal affairs of Myanmar.

Key words: John Crawfurd, Henry Burney, Richard Benson, Willian McLeod

Introduction

It was four years after the British had defeated the French in the Revolutionary and the Napoleonic Wars which had lasted for 25 years. The British victory over their traditional rivals the French gave them a position of dominance not only in Europe but also in the East. While the French had the island Ile de France (Mauritius) of the Indian Ocean and the town of Pondicherry on the Indian mainland, the British had extensive territories in India and the opportunity to extend them at will without the interference of the French.

The extension of British possessions in India as well as the Myanmar conquests in the west during the reign of Bagyidaw's grandfather and predecessor, Bodawpaya, brought about frontier problems in the adjoining territories which eventually led to the outbreak of the First Anglo-Myanmar War on 5 March 1824.

In 1819, Bagyidaw ascended the throne of Myanmar. On 24 February 1826, the First Anglo-Myanmar War was brought to an end by the Treaty of Yandabo. Among other things the treaty ceded to the British the provinces of Rakhine, Ye, Dawei and Myeik and provided for the cultivation of relations of amity and peace between the two governments by means of accredited ministers from each residing at the Durbar of the

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other, and by the commercial treaty, upon principles of reciprocal advantage, to be contracted between the two powers.¹

John Crawfurd's Mission

In conformity with article 7 of the treaty of Yandabo which provided for the residence of accredited Ministers from each to reside at the Court of the other in order to cultivate and improve relations of amity and peace, John Crawfurd was deputed by the Governor-General of India as Envoy and Resident Minister at the Court of Inwa.² He was born in 1783, joined the Bengal Medical Service in 1803 and Crawfurd, had a distinguished career in Java under Stamford Raffles, the British Lieutenant Governor of Java. He served as Resident at the Court of the Sultan of Jogjakarta, and was sent as envoy to Bangkok in 1822 to negotiate on British relations with Siam as they related to Penang which was under British rule. In 1823, he succeeded Col. Farquhar as Resident of Singapore. Being a scholar, he wrote a History of the Indian Archipelago published in 1820.³

Crawfurd reached Inwa on 30 September 1826. The official presentation of the Mission led by Crawfurd to the King took place on 20 October 1826 at the performance of the *Kadaw* ceremony at the end of Lent.⁴ Crawfurd did not make the customary obeisance (*shiko*) to the palace or take off his shoes when he entered the Council Chamber. An official read an address expressing the Governor-General's submission to the Golden Feet and his desire for forgiveness for past offences.⁵ King Bagyidaw directed presents to be made to the mission. These consisted of a ruby, a piece of silk and some lacquered boxes for each person.⁶

Crawfurd's principal task was to negotiate a Commercial treaty and to report upon the feasibility of establishing a permanent Residency.² Between October 12 and

¹ W.S.Desai, *History of the British Residency in Burma 1826-1840*, Yangon, University Press, 1939, p.1 (Hereafter cited as Desai, *Residency*)

² Ibid, p. 2

³ D.G.E. Hall, *A History of South-East Asia*, 3rd edition, New York, St. Martin's Press, 1955. pp. 483, 485, 513-514 (Hereafter cited as Hall. *History of SEA*)

⁴ Desai, *Residency*, p.3

⁵ D.G.E. Hall, *Europe and Burma*, London, Oxford Press, 1945, p. 123 (Hereafter cited as Hall, *Europe and Burma*)

⁶ John Crawfurd, *Journal of an Embassy from the Governor-General of India to the Court of Ava in the year 1827*, London, Henry Goulburn, 1829, pp. 1-2

¹ D.G.E. Hall, *Burma*, London, Hutchinson & Co. Ltd, 1950, p. 107

² Desai, *Residency*. pp. 3-4

³ Ibid.p.4

November 24, no less than thirteen conferences were held between the British Agent and two Atwinwuns deputed by the Myanmar Court to negotiate the Commercial treaty. Crawford at first drew up a treaty of twenty-two articles and it was reduced to seven before it was proposed to the Myanmar Ministers. The Myanmar Ministers objected to two articles as not being strictly of a commercial nature, so that Crawford's final draft of the treaty consisted of only five articles:

- (1) Freedom of trade for British merchants in Myanmar and for Myanmar merchants in India,
- (2) free exportation of gold and silver from both countries,
- (3) fixed port duties on vessels according to their size,
- (4) freedom of movement for merchants in the two countries and permission to take away their families with them on leaving the country, and
- (5) assistance and protection for shipwrecked vessels.¹

After a good deal of discussion the Myanmar Ministers finally refused to agree to the exportation of precious metals from Myanmar or to allow the families of merchants to leave the country. Crawford labored hard to secure these two concessions, but the Myanmar Government refused to concede them. Crawford ultimately agreed to the terms presented by the Myanmar Ministers, and on 24 November 1826, the Commercial treaty of four articles was signed and sealed.² In fact, Myanmar was not willing to sign a Commercial agreement with the British. It had to be accepted the agreement under the defeat in the war. Actually, it was just an agreement in which the victor bullied the loser at will. Crawford left Inwa on 22 February 1827. The final outcome of the Crawford mission was merely the Commercial treaty of four articles: all the other questions that were raised and discussed were left for future adjustment.

Following Crawford, the British did not immediately send a Resident to the Court of Inwa. However, in a minute dated 30 December 1829, the Governor-General Lord William Bentinck expressed the view that it was necessary to continue

diplomatic relations with Myanmar. Therefore, Major Henry Burney, Deputy Commissioner of Dawei, was sent to Inwa as Resident in 1830.¹

Major Henry Burney

Henry Burney was born in Calcutta on 27 February 1792. He was a son of Richard Burney, Second Master of the Calcutta Military Orphan School, who died in Yangon in 1808. He joined the Company's service as cadet at the age of 16. He was soon marked out as a man of superior talents, and possessed of an attractive personality. He served as Military Secretary to the Governor-General of India from 1818 to 1824 and was sent by the Governor to Ligor in 1825 whose Raja was threatening to attack Selangor and Perak. Burney managed to conclude a treaty with the Raja which settled the matter. He was sent to Bangkok at the end of 1825 and staying there until 1826, managed to conclude a treaty with Siam regarding the Malay states. As deputy Commissioner of Dawei, he crushed a dangerous rebellion which broke out in Dawei in the middle of 1829.² Burney arrived at Inwa on 24 April 1830 and was accompanied by 39 crew members. When the time came for his formal reception by the King, the shoe question caused conflict. He was required to remove his shoes when he came near the Royal Council building. He objected and submitted a memorial to the King. After a tug-of-war between the Resident and the Myanmar Ministers, it was decided that Burney should appear before the King without shoes on an ordinary day.³ Lieutenant George Burney attended with a pair of stocking over his shoes.⁴

During the later months of the year 1830, Burney's relations with the Court continued to improve. He was received cordially by the Hluttaw, and became such a *persona grata* at Court, that in February 1831, the King personally conferred on him the gold *salwe*, the highest Myanmar order, and the title of Wundauk.⁴

Henry Burney acted as British Resident in Myanmar for eight years, from April 1830 to March 1838. During his stay in Myanmar, he was promoted to

¹ Desai, *Residency*. pp. 6-7

² Hall, *History of SEA*, pp. 514-516

³ A.C. Banerjee, *The Eastern Frontier of British India*, Calcutta, A Mukerjee & Co. Private Ltd, 1964. p.372 (Hereafter cited as Banerjee, *Eastern Frontier*)¹

⁴ Ma Kyan, *တင်္ဂလားဘုရားစာတမ်း (Mission to Bengal)*, ed, Myanmar Historical Commission, Yangon, The University Press, 1963. p.21(Hereafter cited as Kyan, *Mission*)

⁴ Hall, *Europe and Burma*. p.129

Lieutenant Colonel in 1834 and Colonel in 1835.¹ During this fairly long period he had to deal with numerous diplomatic questions, some of which were settled satisfactory from the British point of view. He tried his utmost to get permission to purchase and export precious stones and minerals, but he was not allowed to do so.²

The question of the payment of the indemnity came for discussion soon after Burney's arrival at Inwa. At that time a balance of about 12 lakhs of rupees was still outstanding. Burney began to press the Myanmar Ministers for immediate payment, but they evaded the issue on various excuses. In August 1830, Burney demanded a definite agreement, and declared that he would leave Inwa if the agreement was not forthcoming by a certain date. The Ministers did not take this warning seriously. Thus, Burney left the city on the appointed date. Within two hours of his departure some Myanmar officers overtook him and a satisfactory arrangement was made. The resident returned to Inwa. Burney's strenuous efforts succeeded in securing the last installment in February 1833.³

Myanmar Mission to Calcutta

Soon after Burney's arrival at Inwa, Bagyidaw sent a mission to Calcutta. Burney advised the King to require the mission to travel overland to Rakhine so that he could have details of the route of future use by the East India Company. Burney deputed his

younger brother Captain George Burney, to accompany the mission, not only to gain information about the route but also on the activities of the mission. George Burney not only made his own observation but also had access to the report and letters which the Myanmar sent back to the Court and their families.⁴ On 30 September 1830 the

¹ Ma Kyan, မြန်မာသမိုင်းနှင့်ဆက်နွယ်နေသောအနောက်နိုင်ငံသားများ (*Westerners who were connected with the History of Myanmar*), Yangon, Naingan Gonree Book House, 2005. pp.38-40

² A.C.Banerjee, *Annexation of Burma*, Calcutta, A Mukerjee and Bros, 1944. p.20 (Hereafter cited as Banerjee, *Annexation*)

³ Ibid.

⁴ Maung Htin Aung, *A History of Burma*, New York and London, Columbia University Press, 1967. p. 220

² Kyan, *Mission*. p. 4

³ Ibid, p. 21

⁴ Banerjee, *Annexation*. p.24

⁵ Desai, *Residency*. pp. 200-204

⁶ Hall, *Europe and Burma*. p.132

King granted the title Thiri Zeya Nawrahta on George Burney as well as the privilege of using a gilt umbrella.²

Myanmar mission arrived in Calcutta on 6 December 1830 and stayed for two years, 11 months and 22 days in India. Burney had sent a letter to the Government of India not to countenance of the Myanmar envoys and to use delaying tactics for their audience with the Viceroy.³ The mission had its wish satisfied with regard to the Kabaw Valley, but in all respects they were disappointed. They left Calcutta in June 1833.⁴

Burney and Issue of Kabaw Valley

In the First Anglo-Myanmar War, the British occupied Myanmar owned Kabaw Valley. After the War, Myanmar claimed the region with profound evidences. In the process, the British Resident, Burney said that Kabaw Valley belonged to the Myanmar according to the evidences submitted by Myanmar and made a suggestion that the British government gave it back to the Myanmar King.⁵ Creating a situation in which Myanmar regained Kabaw Valley due to his negotiation to win the trust of Myanmar, Burney interfered in the Myanmar's royal affairs.

Burney's health while at Inwa was never very good. On two occasions in 1832 and again 1834, it broke down and had to take a furlough.⁶

Burney and Myanmar Royal Affairs

After his return to Inwa in July 1835, Burney became involved in Court politics. Prince Salin, brother of Queen Me Nu, gained great influence at the Court and the situation became unbearable for Prince Thayawaddy, younger brother of Bagyidaw. Finally Prince Thayawaddy left Inwa on 24 February 1837 and made his way to Shwebo to start an uprising there. Burney became involved in the conflict at an early stage, being asked by Prince Thayawaddy on 22 February what part he would play if there was a quarrel between himself and Prince Salin. Burney tried to stay neutral and to bring the conflict to an amicable settlement through his fear that the

disturbed conditions would affect trade. On 4 March, he took the positive step of proposing negotiations between the Court and Prince Thayawaddy, and an arrangement which would include the installation of King Bagyidaw's son as Crown Prince and a marriage between a son of Prince Thayawaddy and a daughter of Prince Salin.

With Prince Thayawaddy gaining military success, the Court finally agreed to accept Burney as a mediator and he left Inwa on 23 March to go to Shwebo. In his discussion with Prince Thayawaddy, the Prince insisted that both Prince Salin and Queen Me Nu should be removed before he negotiated with the Court. Furthermore, because the situation had become serious, Burney tried to obtain a pledge from the Prince that he would spare the lives of those in the city if the Court surrendered and opened the gates. Burney returned to Inwa on 27 March. Burney's mission opened the way for further negotiations and the arrangement of terms and on 9 April 1837 Thayawaddy ascended the throne.¹

King Thayawaddy dissatisfied with the Treaty of Yandabo and the presence of the British Residency in the capital. Therefore, relations between the British Resident and the Court became strained. Burney strongly felt the King's violation of his pledge not to hurt anyone in Inwa, and though his presence at the capital would no longer be of any use. Besides, the country was still in a most unsettled state, and trade was languishing. Under these circumstances it would be necessary to withdraw the Residency for a time, until the new Government settled down to order and quit. He decided for this purpose to avail himself of the two well founded plea of indisposition. Accordingly on 12 May, Burney wrote to the King desiring permission to retire to Yangon for a time for change of climate. The King immediately pounced upon the opportunity, sent a civil answer agreeing to the proposal.

Later conversation with King further convinced Burney that it would be wise to retire to Yangon. Burney proposed to leave Bayfield behind him and a portion of the Residency, so that connection with the new Myanmar Government might not be lost. The King had decided to make Kyaukmyaung his capital, and Bayfield was to

¹ Desai, *Residency* p. 291

accompany him to that place. King Thayawaddy, however, was not willing to agree to this arrangement.¹

Withdrawal of British Residency from Inwa

When the Indian government received full information of the development of Inwa, the Governor General-in-Council highly approved of Burney's conduct. The instructions from Calcutta were written on 1 July 1837, but did not reach Burney until the end of the month. Meanwhile, in keeping with his resolve, Burney and the whole Resident had already quitted Inwa on 17 June.²

The British Residency was thus withdrawn from Myanmar by Burney without orders from the Indian Government. He left Bayfield at Yangon to look after British interests in Myanmar.³ However, the Government of India cancelled this arrangement. Bayfield was to remain at Yangon as Acting Resident, holding communications directly with the Supreme Government. The Governor-General officially declared that Burney had mismanaged the affairs of the Residency, and the Court of Directors condemned him for removing the Residency from the capital to Yangon. It was decided that in views of Burney's warlike attitude, he should not be re-employed as Resident in Myanmar. He resigned from the Residency on 8 March 1838.⁴

In January 1838, Bayfield informed the Myanmar Government of his appointment of Acting Resident, but no direct reply was received to this communication. Bayfield's duties at Yangon consisted of setting petty cases such as assaults, debts, etc., in which British subjects were involved. The India Government finally decided to appoint a successor to Burney without raising a discussion with the Myanmar Government over the step.⁵

Major Richard Benson

¹ Desai, *Residency*. p.298

² Ibid. p.302

³ Ibid. p.310

⁴ Banerjee, *Eastern Frontier*, p.372

⁵ Desai, *Residency*, pp.336-337, 346

In May 1838, Major Richard Benson, formerly Military Secretary to Lord William Bentinck, was appointed Resident. He was made a Colonel, and Captain McLeod, was appointed as his Special Assistant to accompany him to Myanmar. Bayfield was confirmed in his appointment at Yangon as a separate charge, but under the orders of the Resident at the Royal capital.¹

Benson arrived at Amarapura on 5 October 1838, and remained in Amarapura for nearly six months, from 5 October 1838 to 14 March 1839. However, no real notice was taken of him by the Myanmar Government. He was not invited to meet the Ministers at the Hluttaw, and the King never granted him audience. The Ministers were not prepared to concede to him any higher rank than that of the Wundauk, and were not willing to transact any business with him. They plainly said that in keeping with Article 7 of the Yandobo Treaty they would recognize him as a resident officer with 50 men.²

Because the Resident and the Residency was neglected by the Myanmar Government, Benson handed over charge to his assistant McLeod on 14 March 1839, and quitted Amarapura. The Government of India approved Benson's acting of quitting Amarapura, placing McLeod in charge of the Residency, and withdrawing Bayfield from Yangon. On the expiry of the period of leave, Benson was granted an extension of six months on medical certificate and on 1 May 1840, he sailed for Europe on the advice of the Medical Department.³

Captain William McLeod

Captain William McLeod officiated as Resident in Myanmar from 14 March 1839 to 7 January 1840. During his stay at the capital he did not meet with any better treatment from the Government of Myanmar than that experienced by his chief, although he had an audience of the King, and was able to transact some business with the Ministers.⁴

¹ Ibid,p.346

² Ibid, pp. 364-366

³ Desai, *Residency*, pp. 396-397

⁴ Ibid, p.399

³ Ibid, p.416

⁴ Hall, *Europe and Burma*, p.137

While McLeod was in Amarapura there was a strong demand from Myanmar. On 8 May 1839, a Wundauk and a Tsaredaugyi visited McLeod, and informed him, that news had been received that a party of Siamese Shans from Zimme and Laboung had made an irruption into Myanmar Shan territory, and seized and carried away the inhabitants of three towns. The argument of the Myanmar authorities now was, that since by Article 10 of the Yandabo Treaty, the Siamese were associated with the British Government, it was the responsibility of the British to insist upon the Siamese, their allies to give satisfaction to his Myanmar Majesty. In any case, McLeod was told that the British were responsible for the conduct of the Siamese. McLeod explained that the Siamese were only concluded in the Treaty of Yandabo because they had taken part in the war and that the British were not responsible for what had happened on the Myanmar-Siamese Frontier.² When Thayawaddy heard of McLeod's view on the question, he became very angry, and all his Court supported him in his interpretation of the treaty.³

Meanwhile one humiliation after another was heaped upon McLeod at Amarapura until at last he could stand it no longer. When the rains came the Residency compound was completely under water. When he asked for more suitable quarters the Ministers made no reply. Hence there was nothing for it but to quit. In July he left for Yangon.⁴

Withdrawal of British Residency

Auckland and his Government fully approved of McLeod's doings in Amarapura and his withdrawal from that city. He received his praise for his judicious conduct in withdrawing the Residency to a place of safety.¹

There were rumors that the King would open hostilities and not permit McLeod to leave the country. Thus, McLeod wrote to his Government to send a warship. McLeod's request for the warship was immediately complied with, and H.M.S Conway arrived at Yangon on 29 December 1839.²

¹ Desai, *Residency*, p.432

² *Ibid*, p. 449

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Sittwe Dockyard

Dr. Ni Ni Yin¹

Abstract

To give a brief historical background, it was established by Arakan Flotilla Company on 1 January 1900. The company was based in Sittwe and carried out transportation of passengers and cargo in the township. At that time there were no private owned sailing vessels plying of Rakhine State. After the gaining of independence on 4 January 1948, the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company was nationalized on 1 June 1948. The Sittwe dockyard was transferred to the Inland Water Transport Board on 1 May 1959. In the Sittwe Dockyard, as there were three slipways on both left side and right side of the main dock line seven sailing vessels could be simultaneously docked for repairing.

Key words: Sittwe, Irrawaddy. Flotilla, Sittwe Dockyard

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Introduction

The Inland water transport business in Myanmar began with the Inland Water Transport Order dated 1 October 1945. The Inland Water Transport Board was constituted by that Order, and transportation tasks were implemented. The Revolutionary Council Government took over the responsibilities of the IWTB when it came to power on 2 March 1962. There was chairman of the IWTB and under him a General Manager.

With Notification No. 1, dated 16 March 197, the new system of administration for the Military of Transport and Communications was launched, and the IWTB was replaced by Inland Water Transport Corporation (IWTB). The Managing Director headed the General Manager and a Deputy General Manager. The Managing Director of the Corporation was the Chairman of the Board of Management and the tasks were carried out by the secretariat.

The Inland Water Transport Corporation, to be able to implement the corporations works successfully and commercially, the under-mentioned five departments were upgraded and formed with tasks separately assigned.

- (1) Administrative and Logistic Department
- (2) Marine Department
- (3) Transport Department
- (4) Account Department
- (5) Engineering Maintenance Department.

In addition to the above five Departments, Work Implementation department-branches were also reformed as follows;

1. Work Implementation Department-branches
 - (a) Marine Department
 - (b) Cargo Branch
 - (c) Delta Branch
 - (d) Ayeyarwaddy Branch
 - (e) Thanlwin Branch
 - (f) Rakhine Branch
 - (g) Dalla Dockyard Branch
 - (h) Ahlone Dockyard Branch
 - (i) Mandalay Dockyard Branch
 - (j) Mawlamyaing Dockyard Branch
 - (k) Sttwe Dockyard Branch

(1) Engineering Group (Maintenance Branch)²**Background**

In presenting the Sittwe Dockyard which includes one of the Dockyards owned by Inland Water Transport, its location was beside Sat-yoe-Kya chaung, Sittwe, Rakhine State with factory Road in the South, Sat-yoe-Kya chaung in the north. The area was about 3.87 acres. To give a brief historical background, it was established by Arakan Flotilla Company on 1 January 1900. The company was based in Sittwe and carried out transportation of passengers and cargo in the township. At that time there were no private owned sailing vessels plying of Rakhine State. In Sittwe, the works in the Rakhine State transportation were implemented by utilization of sailing vessels. In 1942, when World War II broke out, the British evacuated from Myanmar. Out of fifteen sailing vessels, they took only two vessels to India, the “Tayokeywa” and “Ponar” in their evacuation and with the exception of “Kalaka” steamer and “Kha-yaing” steamer; they destroyed vessels and sank them.³

In 1945, when the allies re-occupied Myanmar, they were repaired again by British Engineers. On 1 October 1945, the overseas transport organization, which was engaged in transportation works in coastal areas, took over it. About the end of December 1945, when the allies re-occupied Myanmar, the Inland Water Transport works were supervised by the military administration. When it was handed over to the civil administration, the Inland Water Transport was formed and commenced its activities and the water transport works were continued with the sailing vessels taken from the military administration. This Organization after performing it works for only a few months, on 28 January 1946, as in the case of Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, which was appointed as government agent, similarly the Arakan Flotilla Company was appointed as government agent. At that time, within the Rakhine State, by the name of Rakhine State Inland Water Organization five sailing vessels transported passengers and cargo by using the Sittwe - Buthidaung route and Sittwe – Thandwe route. After the gaining of independence on 4 January 1948, the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company was nationalized on 1 June 1948. The Sittwe dockyard was transferred to the Inland Water Transport Board on 1 May 1959. From 6 November 1961 to 28 December 1963, on agreement, Invest Import Company (Yugoslavia), it was

² Inland Water Transport Cooperation, Reforming of the Water Transport Cooperation, Vol.I, Yangon, 1st April 1976,pp.3-4 .

³ *Ministry of Transport*, Inland Water Transport Annual Magazine, February 2007, p.115

renovated and newly built. As a result of the storm of 10 May 1968, the machinery and buildings were flooded and destroyed. The machinery which was overrun with water by the floods were brought to repair and being used up to this day.⁴

In the Sittwe Dockyard, as there were three slipways on both left side and right side of the main dock line seven sailing vessels could be docked simultaneously for repairing. On the main slipways, sailing vessels of under (130) feet in length, with tonnage from (250) tons to (300) tons could be docked for repairs. It is understood that the slipways of the left and right sides have the capacity to dock sailing vessels under (100) feet length and a tonnage of (100) tons.⁵

In accordance with the re-establishment of 1976, under the Engineering and Maintenance Department a section with a Dockyard Manager performed the supervision of the works of the Sittwe Dockyard. The Sittwe Dockyard had to carry out duties of drawing up budget estimates, of drawing plans for repairs of sailing vessels and their implementation, of maintaining standard of durability of sailing vessels as directed in the durability maintenance directive, for making arrangements for effective use of machinery parts and docks for sailing vessels under repairs and their production, making replacements in machinery raw materials and accessories required for repairs of sailing vessels, to procure full working capacity of staff-co-ordination with working groups in supervising of works and fixing responsibilities according to individual skill and systematic system maintenance of income derived from works of the Sittwe Dockyard. The Sittwe Dockyard had to carry out duties of drawing up budget estimates, of drawing plans for repairs of sailing vessels and their implementation, of maintaining standard of durability maintenance directives, for making arrangements for effective use of machinery parts and docks for sailing vessels under repairs and their production, making replacements in machinery raw materials and accessories required for repairs of sailing vessels, to procure full working capacity of staff co-ordination with working groups in supervising works and fixing responsibilities according to individual skill and systematic system maintenance of income derived from work carried in dockyard and income expenditure, profit and loss accounts, monthly reports, quarterly reports, preparing and submission of reports are carried out.⁶

⁴ *Achievements of Ministry of Transport*, Vol. II, Ye Yin Thu, 1st Edition 1999, p.86

⁵ *Ibid*, p. 86

⁶ *Reforming of the Water Transport Corporation*, Vol. I, Yangon, 1 April 1976, p.116(Hereafter cited as *Reforming*)

The Sittwe Dockyard was a dockyard which was included; it was taken over by the Rakhine Division Branch from overseas Inland Water Transport Organization on 1 May 1959. The dockyard was very old but, as the Inland Water Transport works in the Rakhine Division, the number of sailing vessels for docking and repair become more and more increased every year. If a modern machinery equipped new dockyard could be built in place of the original dockyard at a cost over kyats forty-six lakhs could be built, not only all responsibility could be taken for the sailing vessels of the Board but also all other sailing vessels of Government departments.⁷

With the re-organizing set up in 1976, the under-mentioned six sections were formed for the implementation of the works;

- (a) Factory Section
- (b) Body Structuring Section
- (c) Accounts Section
- (d) Management Section (Staff)
- (e) Management Section (Works)
- (f) Store Section.

The above six sections conducted the works of the Sittwe Dockyard with an establishment strength of (133) comprising four officers and (120) staff members.⁸

Conclusion

The Inland Water Transport Corporation was one of the twelve departments of the Transport Ministry. It was an organization which affords public services with its sailing vessels and tow boats. With Head office at No. 50 Pansodan Street, Yangon it was an important department conducting transportation of passengers and cargo carrying of goods and transportation by ferry plying routes with 530 sailing vessels in the nine main rivers and tributaries covering 9219 miles. The head of the department was Managing Director, with General Manager under him through whom supervision is functioned with seven departmental heads who individually acts as the heads of the seven departments. The staff of the Inland Water Transport comprising of engineering staff, deck staff and dockyard staff were provided with uniforms to be worn on duty to maintain discipline, unite and take departmental pride. Wearing uniforms was effected from 1945. In the administration

⁷ Government of the Union of Myanmar, Literary and Social Science Journal, Issue, Vol. II, No.1, January 1969, p. 110

⁸ *Reforming*, p. 116

meeting held on 3 August 1978, the subject of uniform was reviewed, discussed and decided and crew of sailing vessels, dockyards and factory workers were issued with dark blue, long trousers grey-coloured or sky – blue short – sleeved shirts. Now uniforms for office staff were dark blue trousers and white short – sleeved shirts for males breasted jackets for ladies. To quote in brief, the Inland Water Transport bearing in aim the motto of the Ministry of Transport (1) Safety, (2) Service, and (3) Image were conducting helpful tasks for welfare of the public and the economic benefit of the state as a participant in the public role and responsibility for which it was duty bound in its capacity. The guiding motto of the Transport Ministry was “carry much, transport fast, people’s satisfaction plus”. The flag of the department was a three-coloured flag in green, yellow and blue. Three funneled drawing were pictured in it. The green colour represents the land and forests of Myanmar, the yellow colour represents crops inclusive of paddy and the blue colour represents the Sea Rivers, streams and lakes of Myanmar. The measurement of the flag was fixed (1:1.25) in length and breadth. The symbol of the department was the mythical Hinthia bird which all Myanmar know.

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