

# CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
Acknowledgements	iv
Abstract in Thai	viii
Abstract in English	xi
List of Tables	xvii
List of Figures	xviii
List of Abbreviations	xx
Glossary of Terms	xxii
Statement of Originality in Thai	xxvi
Statement of Originality in English	xxvii
 <b>CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION</b>	 <b>1</b>
1.1 The Shans and Shan <i>Sangha</i>	3
1.2 Problem statement and rationale	5
1.3 Research questions and objectives	10
1.4 Theoretical concepts	11
1.4.1 Networks	11
1.4.2 Transnationalism / Transnational space	12
1.4.3 Identity	15
1.4.4 Modern Buddhist movements	17
1.4.5 Shan Buddhism, monasticism and education	30
1.5 Conceptual framework	32
1.6 Research methodology	35
1.7 Organization of dissertation	38

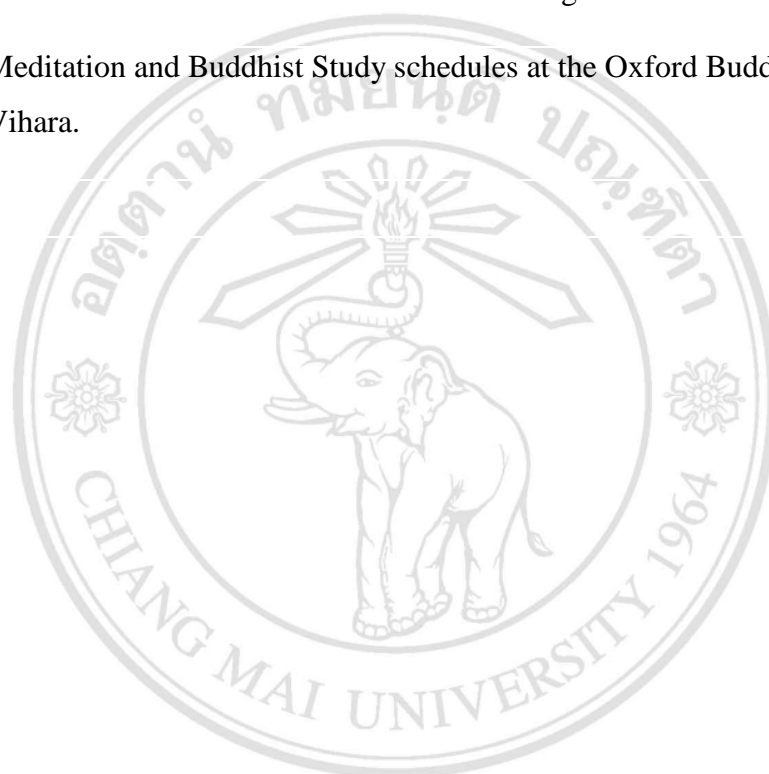
	<b>Page</b>
<b>CHAPTER 2 SANGHA STRUCTURE AND MONASTIC EDUCATION IN MYANMAR</b>	<b>41</b>
2.1 Buddhism and polity in Burma	41
2.2 <i>Sangha</i> organizations in present-day Myanmar	45
2.3 Buddhist monastic education in Myanmar	53
2.4 <i>Lik Long</i> movement	59
2.5 Summary	64
<b>CHAPTER 3 PHRA KHAMMAI: A LIFE-STORY</b>	<b>66</b>
3.1 Phra Khammai's early life	67
3.2 <i>Samanera</i> : First monastic life	72
3.3 <i>Upasampada</i> ordination and cross border journey	77
3.4 Missions in foreign countries	85
3.4.1 Ceylon Journey	87
3.4.2 Journey to the West: An exploration	90
3.4.3 Study in Oxford	92
3.4.4 <i>Dhammadūta</i> mission	94
3.5 Visions and challenges	97
3.6 Recent activities in Myanmar	105
3.7 Summary	107
<b>CHAPTER 4 PHRA KHAMMAI'S TEACHINGS AND PRACTICES</b>	<b>109</b>
4.1 Teaching <i>Brahmavihāra</i> : The four noble ways of living	110
4.2 Meditation principles and techniques	115

	<b>Page</b>
4.2.1 <i>Mettā</i> meditation	116
4.2.2 <i>Kaṛuṇā</i> and <i>muditā</i>	121
4.2.3 The role of <i>Sati</i> (mindfulness)	124
4.2.4 <i>Mettā</i> meditation techniques	126
4.2.5 Timetable for regular Buddhist practitioners	130
4.3 Academic works and writings	134
4.4 Summary	137
<b>CHAPTER 5 PHRA KHAMMAI'S TRANSNATIONAL BUDDHIST MOVEMENTS</b>	<b>139</b>
5.1 Connecting with international communities	140
5.2 Assuming high position in international Buddhist forum	145
5.3 Connecting transnational Shan monks	150
5.3.1 Shan <i>Sangha</i> in Europe	152
5.3.2 Ceylon Journey's Shan <i>Sangha</i> students	153
5.3.3 Khuva Boonchum Buddhagaya Tai Temple (Bodhgaya)	156
5.3.4 Shan <i>Sangha</i> students in Thailand	157
5.4 Supporting the Shan cultural movement in the UK	159
5.6 Summary	162
<b>CHAPTER 6 DIVERSE BUDDHIST MOVEMENTS IN SHAN STATE</b>	<b>164</b>
6.1 Buddhist monastic education and academic activities	164
6.1.1 Establishing Shan State Buddhist University (SSBU)	166

	<b>Page</b>
6.1.2 Organizing conferences	175
6.2 Modern Shan literature and culture movements	178
6.2.1 Shan Literati Day ( <i>Wan Khumaw Tai</i> )	178
6.2.2 Shan Tripitaka translation project	179
6.2.3 <i>Lik Long</i> and <i>Lik Long</i> conferences	180
6.3 Diverse Religious movements	184
6.3.1 Khruba Bunchum: Charismatic monk of Buddha's kingdom	185
6.3.2 Khun Sam Law movement	189
6.3.3 Reforming monastic education	193
6.4 Summary	197
<b>CHAPTER 7 CONCLUSION</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>209</b>
<b>APPENDIX</b>	<b>224</b>
Appendix A: Phra Khammai's works and experiences – updated 2013	224
Appendix B: Shan State Buddhist University Project	239
Appendix C: International Association of Buddhist Universities	242
Appendix D: International Association of Theravāda Buddhist Universities	246
Appendix E: Common Buddhist Text (CBT)	248
<b>CURRICULUM VITAE</b>	<b>250</b>

## LIST OF TABLES

	<b>Page</b>
Table 3.1 Myanmar/Pali alphabetical consonants assigned to the seven day-denomination of the week in Burmese naming culture.	71
Table 4.1 Meditation and Buddhist Study schedules at the Oxford Buddha Vihara.	130



ลิขสิทธิ์มหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่  
 Copyright© by Chiang Mai University  
 All rights reserved

## LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure 2.1 This picture shows the 47-member hierarchy of the State Sangha Mahanayaka Council (SSMC), the governing body of monks in Myanmar. [Photo: Ven. Herngseng Pannyabhoga]	51
Figure 3.1 Map of Shan State and its neighbors showing key important places. [Map graphic provided by Garrett Kostin; geo-data locations by the author]	73
Figure 4.1 Conceptualizing the Buddhist concept of <i>Brahmavihāra</i> .	114
Figure 5.1 Tipitakadhara Sayadaw Dr. Gandhammalalankara.	143
Figure 5.2 The 12th United Nations Day of Vesak Celebration poster with the theme of 'Buddhism and World Crisis.'	146
Figure 5.3 Phra Khammai chairing the closed-door Common Buddhist Text (CBT) meeting session in Bangkok.	149
Figure 5.4 Phra Khammai (Ven. Dr. Khammai Dhammasami) receiving a Buddha statue from the Crown Prince of Thailand.	150
Figure 5.5 At the Overseas Dhammadūta Bhikkhus Class XXI (March 2015), Vice-Rector for Foreign Affairs of MCU and Ven. Prof. Dr. Khammai Dhammasami shared his experiences as a missionary both in theory and practice with Dhammathut students at the Mahachulalongkorn.	153
Figure 5.6 Shan <i>Sangha</i> students posing for a group photo after a graduation ceremony in front of BIMCH convocation hall, Colombo, 2013. [Photo: Ceylon Tai Sangha]	154

	<b>Page</b>
Figure 5.7 Phra Khammai and Ven. Pannyananda receiving Honorary Doctorates at Mahachulalongkorn-rajabidyalyaya University, Bangkok.	158
Figure 5.8 All participants appreciating and sharing joyful moments during the Shan New Year event in 2010 at Kennedy Lecture Theatre, University College London.	160
Figure 6.1 Dr. Sai Muak Kham, the Vice President, attending Shan State Buddhist University foundation laying ceremony, 23 November 2014.	167
Figure 6.2 My informant posing for a photo at the construction site of the SSBU library, November 2015. [Photo: Herngseng]	173
Figure 6.3 Dining hall with gothic architectural features, SSBU under construction, November 2015. [Photo: Herngseng]	175
Figure 6.4 The First International Pali Conference in Taunggyi, Shan State – 18–19 December 2014.	177
Figure 6.5 The Second Lik Long Conference, 28–30 December 2014. [Photo: Internet public domain]	183
Figure 6.6 Sao Sukham (left), Khruba Bunchum (center), and Phra Khammai (right) are dubbed the 'Triple Lotus' of Shan Buddhist leaders. [Photo: Internet public domain]	186

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ASTT:	Association for Shan Tripitaka Translation
BCE:	Before Common Era
BPU:	Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka
Bur:	Burmese
CBT:	Common Buddhist Text
CE:	Common Era
CJ:	Ceylon Journey
DSLA:	Dana Sri Lanka Association
EBU:	European Buddhist Union
EXCO:	Executive Committee
IAAS:	Institute of Advanced Advertising Studies
IABS:	International Association of Buddhist Studies
IABU:	International Association of Buddhist Universities
IATBU:	International Association of Theravada Buddhist Universities
IBCUNDV:	International Buddhist Conference on the United Nations Day of Vesak
ICDV:	International Council for the Day of Vesak
ITBMU:	International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University
KBBT:	Khruba Bonchum Buddhagaya Tai Temple
Lit./lit.:	Literally
MBU:	Mahamakut Buddhist University
MCU:	Mahachulalongkorn-rajavidyalaya University
OBV:	Oxford Buddha Vihara
OBVM:	Oxford Buddha Vihara – Malaysia
OBVS:	Oxford Buddha Vihara – Singapore
OCBS:	Oxford Centre for Buddhist Studies
P:	Pali



PGIPBS:	Postgraduate Institute of Pali and Buddhist Studies, University of Kelaniya.
r.:	ruled/reigned
RASU:	Rangoon Arts and Science University
SCA-UK:	Shan Cultural Association UK
Sh:	Shan
SIBA:	Sitagu International Buddhist Academy (also, “Sitagu” alternative of SIBA)
SIBC:	Saddhatissa International Buddhist Centre
Skt.:	Sanskrit
SLCS:	Shan Literature and Culture Society
SOAS:	School of Oriental and African Studies
SSBU:	Shan State Buddhist University
SSPSE:	Shan State Pariyatti Saddhammapala Examination
SSSC:	Shan State Sangha Council
UKABS:	UK Association for Buddhist Studies
UNDV:	United Nations Day of Vesak
YMBA:	Young Men’s Buddhist Association

ลิขสิทธิ์มหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่  
 Copyright© by Chiang Mai University  
 All rights reserved

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

<i>Abhidhaja-mahāraṭṭha-guru</i>	The highest ecclesiastical title conferred to Theravadin monks around the world by the Myanmar government since its independence.
<i>Aggamahā-panḍita</i>	The second highest ecclesiastical title conferred to Theravadin monks around the world by the Myanmar government since its independence.
<i>Bhikkhu</i>	(P): Buddhist monk, mendicant.
<i>cariya</i>	(P): practice.
<i>Dasa-sīla-matā</i>	(Sinhala): Nun; Thai: <i>maechee</i> ; Burmese: <i>thilashin</i> ; Shan: <i>Saokhao</i> .
<i>Daw</i>	1. (Bur): aunt; female prefix for elder Burmese women.
<i>daw</i>	2. (Bur): royal term, denoting something great or sacred; profane or sacred; secular or celestial; eg. Sayadaw ‘royal teacher’ or ‘royal tutor’. Today, sayadaw may mean an abbot in charge of a monastery; a monk who has a certain position in the Sangha Order or a certain honorary award by the government for his great learning, teachings, or services to communities.
<i>dāyākā</i>	(P): Male devotee.
<i>dāyikā</i>	(P): Female devotee.
<i>Dhammadūta</i>	Dhamma ‘teaching,’ ‘doctrine’ + dūta ‘messenger,’ ‘ambassador’; Ambassador of Dhamma; Dissemination of Buddhism; Buddhist missionary.
<i>dharma</i>	(Skt.): doctrine, teachings. (P. dhamma)
<i>haeng</i>	(Sh): power.

<i>Haeng-jai</i>	(Sh): Confidence.
<i>Haeng-karnmong</i>	(Sh): Political power.
<i>Haeng-ngurn</i>	(Sh): Financial resources, or power of money.
<i>Haeng-pannya</i>	(Sh): Academic competent or skillful means of power.
<i>haw lik</i>	(Sh): Recitation/reading of Shan Lik Long
<i>kammaṭṭhāna</i>	(P): kamma ‘work’ + ṭṭhāna ‘place’; lit. ‘base of work’ or ‘place of work’. In monasticism, base of work means the ‘principle focus of work’, which is where monks sitting, walking, or lying to concentrate or contemplate to cultivate their mental stability and spiritual advancement ( <i>bhāvanā</i> ). This spiritual practice is commonly translated into English as ‘meditation.’
<i>karma</i>	(Skt.), (Pali: <i>kamma</i> ): Buddhist theory of karma; forces of one’s own or collective action(s); its process.
<i>karnhen</i>	(Sh): education.
<i>karuṇā</i>	(P): compassion.
<i>kyaung</i>	(Bur): monastery, or temple.
<i>kyuang-taik</i>	(Bur): monastic institute.
<i>lik</i>	(Sh): letter, literature, document.
<i>Lik Long</i>	(Sh): Lit. Great Text.
<i>Long</i>	1. (Sh): Usually with L capital ‘Long’ uncle; male prefix for elder Shan man, cf. <i>Pa</i> ;
<i>long</i>	2. (Sh): great, large, or big.
<i>Mahāyāna or Mahayana</i>	Lit. Great Vehicle. One of the major divisions of Buddhist school, known as northern school of Buddhism such as China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan; (sometimes including Mongolia and

Tibet). This school relies on classical Chinese Buddhist texts translated by Xuanxang, and other Chinese monks.

<i>mettā</i>	(P): Loving-kindness.
<i>mong</i>	(Sh): State, country, city.
<i>muditā</i>	(P): Sympathetic joy.
<i>Myanmar-sar</i>	(Bur): Burmese/Myanmar, sar ‘literature’
<i>Nang</i>	(Sh): Shan female prefix.
<i>Pa</i>	(Sh): aunt; female prefix for elder Shan women, cf. <i>Long</i> 1.
<i>Paññā/pannya</i>	(P): wisdom.
<i>Pathama-pyan</i>	Name of Burmese monastic education system. It has three levels with prefix ‘ <i>pathama</i> ’ meaning ‘first’ or ‘fore-front’; <i>pyan</i> , a shorten form of ‘ <i>sar taw pyan</i> ’ meaning first winner of reciter in a monastic examination. The three levels are ranked - <i>nge</i> ‘junior’, <i>lat</i> ‘middle’ and <i>gyi</i> ‘senior’.
<i>pīti</i>	(P): sympathy.
<i>poi</i>	(Sh): festival, or celebration.
<i>Sai/Jai</i>	(Sh): Shan male prefix.
<i>sāmaṇera</i>	(P): novice; (Bur): Koyin, or Thamane
<i>samāthi</i>	(P): concentration.
<i>Saojang</i> or <i>Monjang</i>	(Sh): Monk, bhikkhu.
<i>Saokhu</i>	(Sh): sao = lord, venerable, master; khu = teacher.

<i>Saopha</i>	(Sh): Lit. Lord of the Sky; ruling princes of regional state or <i>mong</i> in Shan State, before Burma independence or until Burma nation-state building.
<i>Saosang</i>	(Sh): novice, Pali: <i>sāmaṇera</i> .
<i>sati</i>	(P): Mindfulness.
<i>Sayadaw</i>	(Bur): Saya = teacher, daw = royal; the king's tutor.
<i>sīla</i>	(P): morality.
<i>Theravāda</i>	The teachings of the elders.
<i>Thilashin</i>	(Bur): dasa-sīla-mātā;
<i>Tripiṭaka /</i> <i>tripiṭaka</i>	(Skt.): (Pali: <i>tipiṭaka</i> ) = three baskets; three division of Theravada Buddhist texts, namely, Vinaya-piṭaka (Monastic Disciplinary Codes), Suttanta-piṭaka (Discourses or Teachings), and Abhidhamma-piṭaka (Higher Teachings; theoretical / conceptual teachings).
<i>upekkhā</i>	(P): balanced mind.
<i>Vajrayāna</i>	(Skt.): Diamond vehicle; Tibetan Buddhist school; also known as Tāntrayāna (Skt.) = esoteric form of Buddhist practices.
<i>vipassanā</i>	(P): Insight meditation; Skt. Vipayśanā, Insight Meditation developed through progressively cultivating understanding; and ultimately directly perceiving the views of
<i>Yogin/Yogi</i>	(Skt-Eng), a meditation practitioner in Theravada Buddhism. The term also refers to yoga, for healthy living physical exercise.

## ข้อความแห่งการริเริ่ม

ผู้วิจัยขอรับรองว่า เนื้อหาของวิทยานิพนธ์ฉบับนี้เป็นผลงานของผู้วิจัย วิทยานิพนธ์ฉบับนี้มิได้เสนอเพื่อสำเร็จการศึกษาในระดับอื่นๆ งานวิจัยนี้ศึกษาค้นคว้าเรื่องการเคลื่อนไหวทางพุทธศาสนาข้ามชาติของคนฉาน ซึ่งนำโดยพระคำหมาย ซึ่งเป็นพระปัญญาชนจากรัฐฉานของประเทศเมียนมาร์ ผู้ก่อตั้งศูนย์พุทธศาสนาที่เมืองออกซ์ฟอร์ด สหราชอาณาจักร และอีกหลายศูนย์ในหลายประเทศ

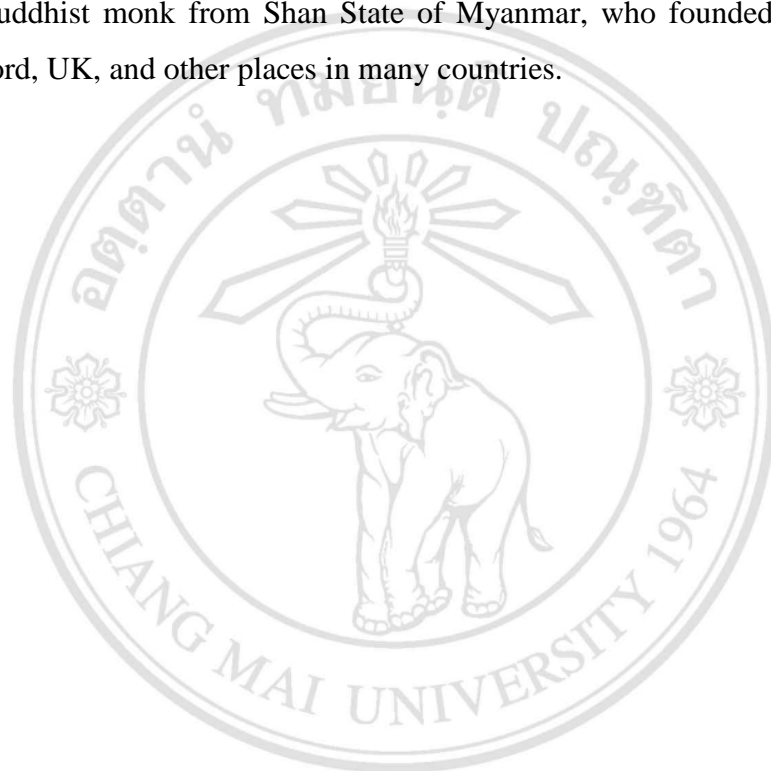


ลิขสิทธิ์มหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่

Copyright© by Chiang Mai University  
All rights reserved

## STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

This is to certify that to the best of my knowledge, the content of this dissertation is my own work. This dissertation has not been submitted to any institution for any degree. The thesis explores the transnational Shan Buddhist movement led by Phra Khammai, an intellectual Buddhist monk from Shan State of Myanmar, who founded the Buddhist center in Oxford, UK, and other places in many countries.



ลิขสิทธิ์มหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่  
Copyright© by Chiang Mai University  
All rights reserved