PROGRESS REPORT FOR AINGRA06081

PROJECT TITLE
Improving the periodisation of Upper Myanmar's proto-urban and early urban centres

INVESTIGATOR(S)
Chief Investigator: Dr Bob Hudson
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Other Investigators

ANSTO Investigators: Dr Geraldine Jacobsen

SCIENTIFIC OBJECTIVES
This investigation aims to expand the absolute chronological data currently available for Myanmar (Burma), which so far consists of only 30 or so radiocarbon dates and a smaller number of thermoluminescence dates. The proposed program focuses on Upper Myanmar's c.500 BC-200 AD pre-urban period and the subsequent First Millennium AD urban phase. Reflecting criteria A, B & F, the program will use AMS dating of carbon, predominantly from cremation burials, and rice husks preserved as temper in bricks, to improve the periodisation of the pre-urban culture, and test the hypothesis that the subsequent urban sites were contemporary rather than sequential.

PROGRESS REPORT and RESEARCH OUTCOMES
This investigation aims to expand the absolute chronological data currently available for Myanmar (Burma), which so far consists of only 30 or so radiocarbon dates and a smaller number of thermoluminescence dates. The proposed program focuses on Upper Myanmar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>My number</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>ANSTO No</th>
<th>Result or progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ZIO3</td>
<td>Charcoal, Zio furnace excavation</td>
<td>OZI693</td>
<td>Final results received 17 Aug 06. Indicates Konbaung period date range for iron production.</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEGON</td>
<td>Thegon, Pyu site, skull fragments</td>
<td>OZI694 (Replacement sample - OZJ253)</td>
<td>First run not successful resubmitted new sample – also unsuccessful</td>
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The only sample successfully dated so far is OZI693. It is from a single furnace, and indicates iron production in the mid to late 2nd millennium AD Konbaung period. No publication yet. A second sample failed to yield a result (see table). The other samples were submitted late, due to the time taken in the extraction process. Rice husk particles have been removed physically under a microscope, which means there is no need for chemical pre-treatment to remove them from the brick. There are unavoidable brick fragments among the husk samples, which may set separate challenges for the lab.

DATA (Please summarise the data collected within this Award. You may use tables, graphs or diagrams)

[please fill in your research outcomes here]

Signature of Investigator preparing the report for
After signing this report please fax this page with your signature for our files

Proj: AINGRA06081
Date:
PUBLICATIONS / REPORTS arising as a result of your work.

Please provide references in the following format: Relevant AINSE Grant no(s); paper, Journal, Conference Proceedings or Book Title; Volume, ISSN/ISBN no., or Book/Publisher; Page numbers. Put an (s) to indicate that AINSE support was acknowledged and a (c) to indicate that AINSE has been provided with a copy.

[please fill in your publications here]

PhD STUDENTS For each student involved with the project, please indicate the date or anticipated date of conferment of a PhD or other award, and give the title of the thesis.

[please enter PhD student’s details here]