

## **TRADITIONAL INSTALLATION OF SHAN SAWBWAS (SHAN CHIEFS) IN MYANMAR MONARCHICAL TIME**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Shan Sawbwas (Shan Chiefs) were the creators of Myanmar's politics together with the Burmese in the Monarchical time. It is not possible to left out their role, standard and abilities to build a strong Myanmar Empire. We have to keep in view not only the prevailing political conditions but also the power of Shan Chiefs. In the administration of Shan States, the traditional chieftainship was accepted by the King. He always exercised the right of nominating heirs from among the Chiefs' families. The Chiefs were entrusted to rule over their subjects by their own free will. When a new King ascended to the throne, the envoys were sent to the Away Alan, far away and distant places under the Chiefs like Sawbwa, Myosa (Town Headman) and Tat Paung Za (Chief of Troops) to administer the oath of allegiance to these Chiefs. In some cases the local Chiefs were brought to the capital to administer the oath. The genealogy of Sawbwas (Hpwa Yoe) and lineage of leaders (Kyi Yoe) were checked through the Officials of central court. Besides there were the Chiefs termed to be Hnit Hpet Kyun, vassals of both sovereigns, Myanmar and China. They all together shaped to build a stable administration in the Kingdom.