

Contents

A Note on the Text	9
Introductory Remarks	11
1 Material Matters – Locating The Textile Cultures of Myanmar	15
Textile Culture and the International Material Culture Discourse.....	15
The Study of the Textile Culture of Myanmar	19
Research Design, Methods & Analysis.....	23
2 Myanmar Transitions: Of Kingdoms, Colonial Rulers, Dictatorships and Democracy.....	30
The Foundations of Myanmar – A Retrospective Account	30
British Colonial Endeavors & Burma	33
Independence & A New Regime	34
History of the Peripheries – Kengtung as an Example for Ethnic Minority Regions.....	37
Current Political, Economic and Social Processes in Myanmar	40
3 The Lives and Crafts of Lun't-aya Acheik Weavers in Amarapura and Sagaing	60
The History of Lun't-aya Acheik Weaving	61
Lun't-aya Acheik Weaving Mills of Sagaing and Amarapura.....	69
Weaving as a Business – Economic and Social Implications of Life as a Weaver.....	79
Mastering the Threads – A Technical Description	88
Summary of the Contemporary Lun't-aya Acheik Weaving Culture	89
4 The Lives and Crafts of Handloom Weavers and Textile Artisans in and around Kengtung, Eastern Shan State	94
An Overview of Kengtung and the Ethnic Groups of the Area	102
The Ann Weaving Practices as Negotiations of Traditions and Innovations..	103
The Female Entrepreneurs of the Palaung Community.....	114

The Akha Textile Manufactures between Traditionalism and Commercial Trade.....	118
Textile Material Cultures of the Akhö, Loi, Lahu Na, and Lahu Shi.....	128
The Contemporary Textile Cultures of the Ethnic Groups of the Kengtung Area in Summary.....	135
5 Conclusion: The Lives and Crafts of Weavers and Textile Manufacturers in Contemporary Myanmar	139
Publication Bibliography	145
List of Figures	155
Appendices	
Appendix A: Timetable of Recent Historic Events	157
Appendix B: Diagram of Silk-related Professions in 1891.....	158
Appendix C: Overview of Referenced Languages	159
Appendix D: Alternate Spellings of Locations in Myanmar.....	161