



# HGT



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Die Hamburger Gesellschaft für Thaiistik e.V.  
in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Arbeitsbereich Thaiistik  
der Abteilung Sprachen und Kulturen Südostasiens des AAI  
lädt Sie zu folgendem Online-Vortrag ein:

## Wrapping the Sacred: Woven Material in Myanmar Manuscript Culture



In Buddhist belief, the practice of *dāna* (giving or donating) is a fundamental way of which human beings to accrue merit. For this reason, followers of the Buddhist faith in Myanmar – regardless of their means or social strata – always strive to make donations. This is testified by the countless Buddhist monasteries and monuments that have been built, as well as the many artefacts donated to the clergy throughout the country's history. Among different forms of material *dāna*, donating manuscripts is considered a particularly meritorious way to gain merit, as

these manuscripts both preserve and disseminate Buddhist teachings.

When being donated, manuscripts are always properly wrapped, bound, and labeled using specially prepared woven materials. This treatment not only protects the manuscripts during storage but also makes them easy for the clergy to identify. However, the study of these wrapping materials has so far received little attention. From a material culture perspective, these wrappings offer valuable insights into the broader context of manuscript donation, including belief systems, socio-economic conditions, and the weaving crafts of Myanmar in days bygone.



## Online Lecture *via Zoom & in English*



**Mr. Thweep (AKE) Rittinaphakorn** is an independent scholar whose work focuses on the textiles and art history of mainland Southeast Asia. He has delivered lectures for the Siam Society, the Thai Textiles Society, and the Bangkok National Museum Volunteer Group. His research on Shan costumes and historical photographs was presented at the Association of Asian Studies conferences in 2014 and 2016. In 2019 and 2022, he spoke at the 7th and 8th ASEAN Traditional Textiles Symposiums, as well as at the Irrawaddy Literary Festival in Mandalay. His research articles have been featured in the *Textiles Asia Journal* as well as the *Arts of Asia* magazine. In 2023, he published a book *Unseen Burma*, which showcases a compendium of old photographs from Burma, drawn from his personal collection.

**Friday, 15 August 2025**  
**14:00—16:00 (CEST)**  
**19:00—21:00 (Thai time)**

**Click or Copy:**

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[pwd=OEdSbENC0UV2Ynl5ZUdnNG5mM1pwQT09](https://uni-hamburg.zoom.us/j/64563521222?pwd=OEdSbENC0UV2Ynl5ZUdnNG5mM1pwQT09)

**Meeting-ID:** 645 6352 1222 || **Passcode:** hgtlecture



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