

## Exhibition Overview

The first National Museum in Myanmar was established at Jubilee Hall, Shwedagon Pagoda Road, Yangon in 1952. After being shifted from the Jubilee Hall to Greenleih Bank on Pansodan Road, Yangon in 1970, and the National Museum Yangon was inaugurated in the present location, no-66/74, Pyay Road, Dagon Township, Yangon Region in Myanmar on 18<sup>th</sup> September 1996, and which has been playing an active role in the conservation of textiles from Nyaung Shwe Cultural Museum in Taunggyi, paintings from Dawei Shin Mote Htee pagoda, Taninthayee Region and Botahtaung pagoda, Yangon Region, other museums and private collections, starting from 2018. It encourages the gathering and exchange of information and knowledge about textiles, paintings and other artifacts, with special attention being given to National Museum Yangon's preservation, conservation and documentation.

This exhibition explores the impact of Myanmar aesthetics on Shan Sawbwas' fashion and how the public value Shan Sawbwas' rare traditional costumes and the use of rare costumes in coronation ceremony and other ceremonies by the Shan Sawbwas, Mahadavi, the Crown Prince and Senior Officials.

The word "textile" encompasses a wide range from domestic items to objects of a religious, ceremonial or artistic character. Textile objects survive today can tell us about their history, and are remarkable and exist in many forms. They can be made from a wide range of fibers including, cotton, flax, sisal, wool, silk, satin, velvet, polyester and acrylic. The process used in making textiles from these fibers, are varied, such as spinning, weaving, braiding, knotting, embroidery, dyeing and printing. Textiles have played an important role throughout the centuries, and provide a significant role in our daily lives. Many interiors of a building are furnished with textiles for comfort, decoration and insulation. People usually wear clothing to protect themselves against the elements, enhance their appearance and reflect a particular status or lifestyle. A coronation robe is a status symbol, whereas traditional dress and uniform are a form of group expression and a certain grouping or profession.

The textiles are an indispensable source of information for studying the past of a State as they complement and illustrate our national history. There are many reasons why textiles form such an important part of our cultural heritage, but we should not forget that foremost, textiles can be very beautiful and quite simple a delight to behold.