

The Elements of State Instability



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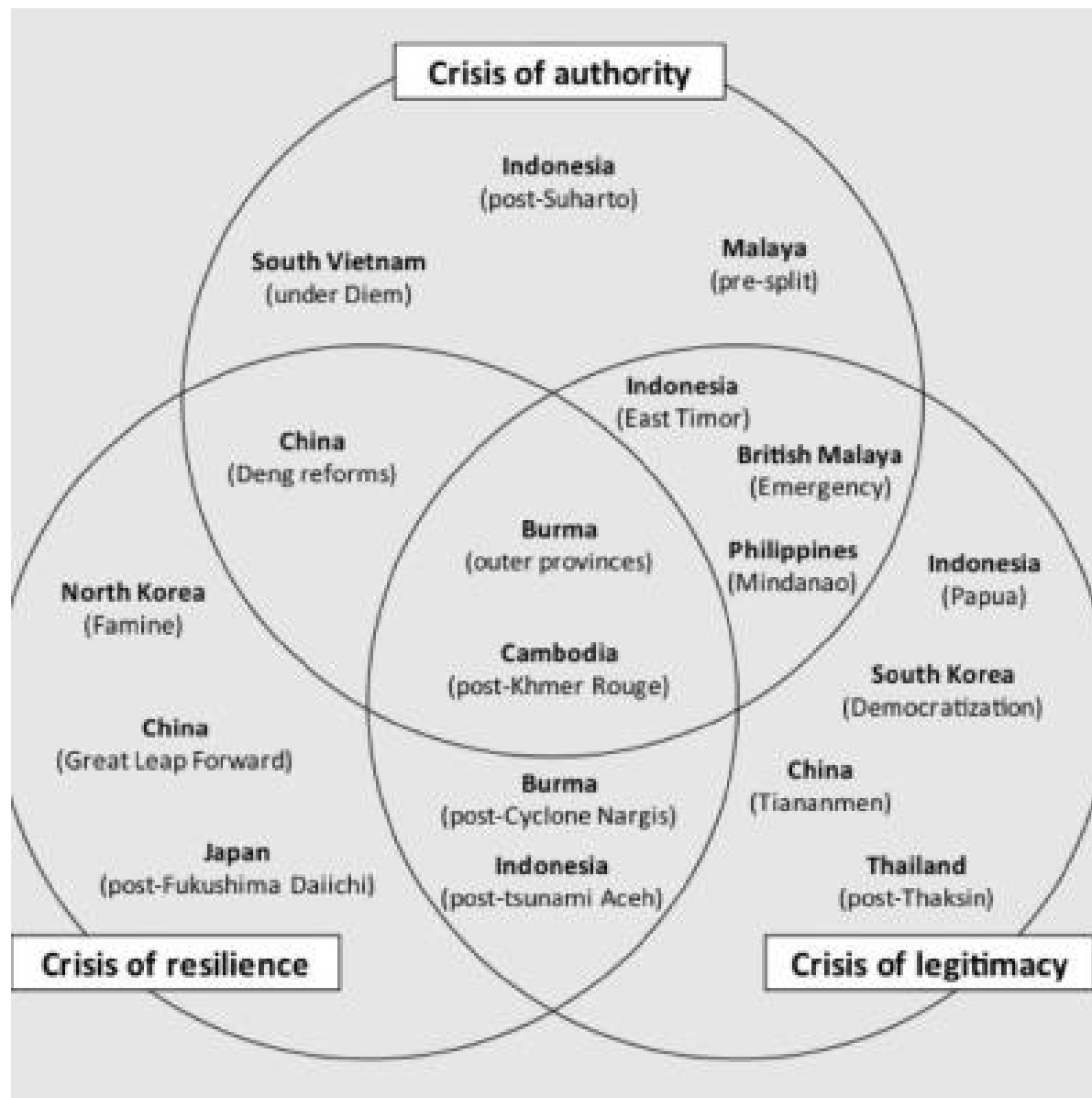
Apirak Kanchanakongkha

Apirak_k@hotmail.com

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Why do we study the elements of state instability?

1. The elements of state instability help us understand people, societies, politics & economics thorough their being unstable and their not steady.
2. The elements of state instability help us understand change and how ASEAN countries come to AEC.
3. The studying the elements of state instability are essential for good citizenship.
4. The elements of state instability are useful in the World (Far East and South East Asia Countries) of AEC work.
5. The elements of state instability (Far East and South East Asia Countries) provide identity.



- **Authority** *n.* (1) right to command, (2) holder of power, (3) power given to somebody, (4) source of reliable information, (5) administrative body, (6) justification, (7) quality that is respected, (8) obvious knowledge and experience, (9) source of precedent or principle, & (10) legitimate power.
- **Resilience** *n.* (1) speedy recovery from problems, & (2) elasticity
- **Legitimate** *adj.* (1) legal, (2) conforming to acknowledged standards, (3) well-founded, (4) born in wedlock, & (5) Relating to serious professional drama.

Union of Myanmar

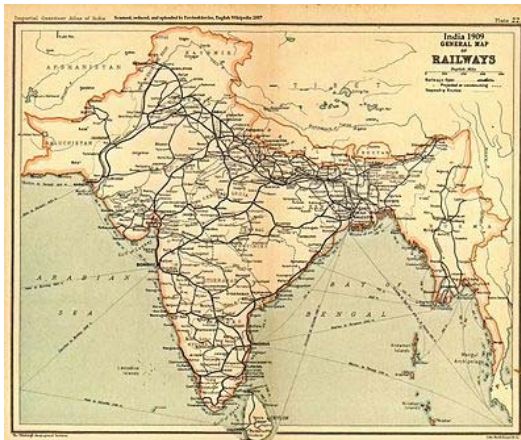
Outer provinces



Myanmar # 1/6



- Various ethnic Burmese (Many books, web sites and topics still called “**Burma.**”) and ethnic minority city-states or kingdoms occupied the present borders through the 19th century.
- Over a period of 62 years (1894-1886), Britain conquered Burma and incorporated the country into its Indian Empire. (**PAX BRITANNICA**)



Myanmar # 2/6

- Burma was administered as a province of India until 1937 when it became a separate, self-governing colony; in 1948, Burma attained independence from the Commonwealth.



General Ne Win, A Burmese politician and military commander.

Prime Minister of Burma from 1958-1960, 1962-1974.

- Gen. NE WIN dominated the government from 1962 to 1988, first as military ruler, then as self-appointed president, and later as political kingpin.
- In September 1988, the military deposed NE WIN and established a new ruling junta.

Myanmar # 3/6



- Multiparty legislative elections in 1990 resulted in the main opposition party – the National League for Democracy (NLD) – winning a landslide victory.
- Instead of handing over power, the junta placed NLD leader (and Nobel Peace Prize recipient) AUNG SAN SUU KYI (ASSK) under house arrest from 1989 to 1995, 2000 to 2002, and from May 2003 to November 2010.

Myanmar # 4/6



Aung San Suu Kyi



- In late September 2007, the ruling junta brutally suppressed protests over increased fuel prices led by prodemocracy activities and Buddhist monks, killing at least 13 people and arresting thousands for participating in the demonstrations.
- In early May 2008, Burma was struck by Cyclone Nargis, which left over 138,000 dead and tens of thousands injured and homeless. Despite this tragedy, the junta proceeded with its May constitutional referendum, the first vote in Burma since 1990.

Myanmar # 5/6



Thein Sein

- Parliamentary elections held in November 2010, considered flawed by many in the international community, saw the ruling Union Solidarity and Development Party garnering over 75% of the seats.
- Parliament convened in January 2011 and selected former Prime Minister THEIN SEIN as president.
- Although the vast majority of national-level appointees named by THEIN SEIN are former or current military officers, the government has initiated a series of political and economic reforms leading to a substantial opening of the long-isolated country.

Myanmar # 6/6



- These reforms have included a senior-level dialogue with ASSK, re-registering the NLD as a political party, enabling party members, including ASSK,
- to contest parliamentary by-elections on April 1, 2012, the release of many (but not all) political prisoners, preliminary peace agreements with some armed ethnic groups, a reduction in media censorship, and an increasingly open debate in the Parliament.



Ronghingya #1/3

- Rohingya are a Muslim people who live in the Arakan region.
- As of 2012, 800,000 Rohingya live in Myanmar.
- The 2012 Rakhine state riots are a series of ongoing conflicts between Rohingya Muslims and ethnic Rakhine in northern Rakhine State, Myanmar. The riots came after weeks of sectarian disputes and have been condemned after the rape and murder of a Rakhine woman as the main cause.
- Over three hundred houses and a number of public building have been razed.



Ronghingya #2/3



- As of June 13, officially there have been 21 casualties (*principle of cause and effect*), although some reports put the actual number as high as 30.
- The government has responded by imposing curfews and by deploying troops in the regions.
- On June 10, state of emergency was declared in Rakhine, allowing military to participate in administration of the region.



Ronghingya #3/3



- According to several NGOs based in Britain, as of June 28, 650 Rohingyas have been killed, 1,200 are missing, and more than 80,000 have been displaced.
- The Burmese army and police have been accused of playing a leading role in targeting Rohingya through mass arrests and arbitrary violence.



Mon #1/4



- The Mon are an ethnic group from Burma, living mostly in Mon State, Bago Division, the Irrawaddy Delta, and along the Southern Thai-Burmese border.
- One of the earliest peoples to reside in Southeast Asia, the Mon were responsible for the spread of Theravada Buddhism in Burma and Thailand.
- The Mon culture is credited as a major source of influence on the dominant Burmese culture.

Mon #2/4

After Burmese independence



U nu

The first Prime Minister of Burma
Jan.04, 1948 – Jun.12, 1956



- The Mon soon became anti-colonialists and following the grant of independence to Burma in 1948 they sought self-determination, **U nu** refused them this and they rose in revolt to be crushed again.
- They have remained a repressed and defiant group in the country since then. They have risen in revolt against the central Burmese government on a number of occasions,

Apirak Kanchanakongkha

Mon #3/4



- initially under the Mon People's Front and from 1962 through the New Mon State Party.
- A partially autonomous Mon state, Monland, was created in 1974 covering Tenasserim, Oegu and Ayeyarwady River.
- Resistance continued until 1995 when NMSP and SLORC agreed a cease-fire and, in 1996, the Mon Unity League was founded.

Mon #4/4



- In 1947 (2490 B.E.), Mon National Day was created to celebrate the ancient founding of Hanthawady, the last Mon Kingdom, which had its seat in Pegu. (It follows the full moon on the 11th month of the Mon lunar calendar, except in Phrapadaeng, Thailand, where it is celebrated at Songkran.)

Shan State #1/9

- Shan State, with many ethnic groups, is home to several armed ethnic armies.
- While the military government has signed ceasefire agreements with most groups, vast areas of the state, especially those east of Thanlwin river (Salween), remain outside the central government's control, and in recent years have come under heavy ethnic-Chinese economic and political influence, whereas other areas are under the control of military groups such as the Shan State Army.



Shan State #2/9



- During World War II, most of Shan States came under the Japanese occupation. Chinese Kuomintang (KMT) forces came down to northeastern Shan states to face the Japanese.
- Thai forces, allied with the Japanese, occupied Kengtung (ကျွန်းတွင်း) and surrounding areas in 1942 (2485 B.E.).
- After the war, the British returned and many Chinese KMT forces stayed inside Burmese Shan states.
- Negotiations leading to independence at the Panglong Conference in February 1947 secured a unitary Shan State including former Wa states, but without the Karenni states.

Shan State #3/9



- More importantly, Shan State also gained the right of secession in 10 years from independence.
- Soon after gaining independence in January 1948, the central government led by U Nu faced several armed rebellions.
- The most serious was the Chinese National KMT invasion of Shan state in 1950. Driven out by the Chinese Communist forces, Nationalist KMT armies planned to use the region east of the Salween river as a base from which to region their homeland.
- In March 1953, the KMT forces with US assistance were on the on the verge of taking the entire Shan state, and within a day's march of the state capital Taunggyi.

Shan State #4/9



Saopha of Yawngghwa Sao
Shwe Thaik

- The Burmese army drove back the invaders east across the Salween but much of the KMT army and their progeny (*something resulting*) would remain in the eastern Shan State under various guises to the present day.
- The Burmese army's heavy handedness fueled resentment.
- In 1961, Shan saophas (เจ้าฟ้า) led by the first president of Burma and Saopha of Yawngghwa Sao Shwe Thaik (เจ้าໂຂ່ຍແຕ້ກ ณ ของห้วย) proposed a new federal system of government for greater autonomy even though the Shan had the constitutional right to secede.

Shan State #5/9



- Though Shan leaders promised not to exercise the right, it was seen by the Burmese army led by Gen. Ne Win as secessionist.
- Gen. Ne Win's coup d'état in 1962 brought an end to the Burmese experiment with democracy and with it, the call for greater autonomy for ethnic minorities.
- The coup fueled the Shan rebellion started in 1958 by a small group called *Num Hsuk Han* (หนุ่มศึกหาญ-Young Warriors), now joined by the Shan State Army (SSA).

Shan State #6/9



Khun Sa

- By the early 1960s, eastern Shan state, festered with several insurgencies and warlords, emerged as a major opium growing area, part of the so-called Golden Triangle.
- Narcotics trafficking became a vital source of revenue for all insurgencies. Major forces consisted of the SSA, Communist Party of Burma (CPB) as well as those of drug lords Khun Sa, and Lo Hsing Han (ราชาเฮโรอีน ไคซิงฮาน).
- By the mid-1960s, CPB had begun receiving open support from China.
- Thailand also began a decades-long policy of support for non-Communist Burmese rebels.

Shan State #7/9

- Families of insurgent leaders were allowed to live in Thailand, and insurgent armies were free to buy arms, ammunition () , and other supplies. *bullets, missiles, explosive materials*
- In the late 1980s and 1990s, the military government signed ceasefire agreements with 17 groups, including all major players in Shan state.
- An uneasy truce has ensured but all forces remain heavily armed. Today, the 20,000 strong United Wa State Army (UWSA) is the largest armed group, and heavily involved narcotics trade.



Shan State #8/9



Wa army



- In the 2008 Constitution, endorsed by the Burmese junta, certain UWSA controlled areas were given the status of an autonomous region.
- In recent decades, Chinese state and ethnic Chinese involvement in Shan state has deepened.
- Hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants from China have come to work in Upper Burma since the 1990s.

Shan State #9/9



Jao Yord Suek (เจ้ายอดศึก)



Shan state army

- Chinese investment in the state has funded everything from hydropower and mining projects to rubber plantations, illegal logging, and illegal wildlife trafficking.
- Wa and Kokang (โกก้าง) regions, led by ethnic Chinese, openly use the yuan and the operate on Chinese Standard Time.

Kingdom of Cambodia

Post Khmer Rouge



Cambodia #1/



Angkor Wat

- Most Cambodians consider themselves to be Khmers, descendants of the Angkor Empire that extended over much of Southeast Asia and reached its zenith between the 10th and 13th centuries.
- Attacks by the Thai and Cham (from present-day Vietnam) weakened the empire, ushering in a long period of decline.
- The king placed the country under French protection in 1863 (2406 B.E.) and it became part of French Indochina in 1887 (2430 B.E.).

Cambodia #2/



Killing fields

- Following Japanese occupation in World War II, Cambodia gained full independence from France in 1953 (2496 B.E.).
- In April 1975 (2518 B.E.), after a five-year struggle, Communist Khmer Rouge forces captured Phnom Penh and evacuated all cities and towns.
- At least 1.5 million Cambodians died from execution, forced hardships, or starvation during the Khmer Rouge regime under POL POT.

Cambodia #3/

- A December 1978 Vietnamese invasion drove the Khmer Rouge into the countryside, began a 10-year Vietnamese occupation, and touched off almost 13 years of civil war.
- The 1991 Paris Peace Accords mandated democratic elections and a ceasefire, which was not fully respected by the Khmer Rouge.
- UN-sponsored elections in 1993 helped restore some semblance of normalcy under a coalition government.



Pol Pot

Cambodia #4/

- Factional fighting in 1997 ended the first coalition government, but a second round of national elections in 1998 led to the formation of another coalition government and renewed political stability.
- The remaining elements of the Khmer Rouge surrendered in early 1999.
- Some of the surviving Khmer Rouge leaders have been tried or are awaiting trial for crimes against humanity by a hybrid UN-Cambodian tribunal supported by international assistance.



Khmer rouge, leading
by Pol Pot

Cambodia #5/



King Norodom Sihamoni

- Elections in July 2003 were relatively peaceful, but it took one year of negotiations between contending political parties before a coalition government was formed.
- In October 2004, King Norodom SIHANOUK abdicated the throne and his son, Prince Norodom SIHAMONI, was selected to succeed him.
- Local elections were held in Cambodia in April 2007, with little of the pre-election violence that preceded prior elections.
- National elections in July 2008 were relatively peaceful.

Sources

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