

## Recent Books from Thailand – April 2022

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### Art

Bangkok Street Art and Graffiti: Hope Full, Hope Less, Hope Well / Rupert Mann  
(Eds) Sarah Rooney & Narisa Chakrabongse  
Bangkok: River Books Press Co., Ltd., 2022  
267p. 140 Images.  
9786164510616  
\$ 35.00 / PB  
822gm.

Discover the hidden heart of contemporary Thailand through 140 images of abandoned ghost towers, hidden canals and the doomed Hopewell site + interviews with Bangkok's graffiti writers and street artists as they tell of dictatorship's cost, development's fallout and the impact of corruption on a nation balancing between global forces and local traditions.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=802555>

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### Economics

Rural to Urban Transition in a Former Periphery: State-led Development, Land Use Change and Livelihood Transformation in Kyaw, Gangaw Township, Myanmar / Nyunt Nyunt Win (Ed) Natalia Scurrah  
Chiang Mai: Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development (RCSD), Chiang Mai University, 2020  
xiv, 64p.  
9786163984760  
Understanding Myanmar's Development Research Report No. 16  
\$ 20.00 / PB  
118gm.

The Township of Gangaw in the northernmost periphery of Magway Region is administratively, politically and ethnically part of central Myanmar; yet, its upland-like agro-ecology sets it apart. In this mountainous and forested region, lowland paddy land is scarce and the ethnic Bamar population has traditionally relied on shifting cultivation, livestock and forest products for their livelihoods.

The military government initiated an accelerated program of infrastructure development to transform this previously peripheral area into a hub of connectivity for cross-border commerce with India, while also increasing state military presence, particularly in the border area with Chin State. The once remote rural landscape of villages, fields, and forests has rapidly transformed into a hub of trade and economic activity, attracting thousands of Bamar migrants to work on roads and railway construction, urban and industrial development, and timber and oil projects.

This research examines land use change and rural livelihood dynamics brought by state-led development and transnational market integration since 1988. It employs an ethnographic approach to examine how farming households have responded to the squeeze on land and natural resources by diversifying their livelihoods in the face of new economic opportunities brought by development, demographic change and increased mobility. Focusing on Kyaw's recent transition from village tract to urbanized town, the research highlights how the peri-urban frontier has emerged as a new context for examining transformations in the countryside. In Kyaw, livelihoods are diversifying as people increasingly turn to non-farm activities, young people's aspirations are shifting towards non-agricultural pursuits, and households increasingly transcend "rural" and "urban" sectors and spaces.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=802556>

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India's Geo-Strategic Kaladan Mission in Western Burma: Regional Integration, Confrontation, Social Movement / June Nilian Sang (Ed) Nele Dewilde  
Chiang Mai: Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development (RCSD), Faculty of Social Sciences, Chiang Mai University, 2021  
xiv, 136p.

Includes Index

CPRI 20 – Myanmar in Transition

Understanding Myanmar's Development (UMD) Research Report No. 18  
9786163985583

1. India – Economic policy.
2. India – Foreign relations.
3. Cold War.
4. Burma – Foreign relations.

5. Burma – Social conditions.  
\$ 20.00 / PB  
244gm.

In this monograph, June Nilian Sang has thoroughly researched the emergence, development and implications of the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transport Linkage connecting India's mainland to its North Eastern Region through Burma. His analysis from various angles—starting from the state-level down to the developers and affected local communities—provides a profound understanding of what is at play at different levels.

His insights about India's attempt to counterbalance China's influence through tightening their relationship with Burma are not only relevant to this ongoing project, but also serve as a framework to interpret future developments taking place in Southeast Asia. The exploration of the non-resistant movement, representing and amplifying the voice of the affected people, has indicated that a precedent has been created in Burma which could potentially model future activism in the region. At the same time, it attests to the valuable contribution of this study to the literature on contemporary social movements.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=802557>

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Microcredit and Women's Empowerment in the Dry Zone, Myanmar / Zon Phyu Linn (Ed) Jonathan Rhodes  
Chiang Mai: Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development (RCSD), Faculty of Social Sciences, Chiang Mai University, 2021  
xii, 78p.

Includes Index

9786163985934

CPRI 21- Myanmar in Transition

Understanding Myanmar's Development (UMD) Research Report No. 19

1. Women – Research.
2. Women in finance – Research.

\$ 20.00 / PB

156gm.

In an era of global financial insecurities led in part by regional instability, worldwide health crises, and environmental degradation, Zon Phyu Linn highlights the importance of well-designed microcredit schemes for women's empowerment. Zon Phyu Linn re- searches the implications that building financial literacy, developing business management skills, and creating spaces for women-led savings groups

have on women's roles within their communities. This research offers an important perspective on women's empowerment in Sagaing Region, Myanmar and contributes to the growing body of academic evidence in support of women-led microfinance mechanisms.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=802558>

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Women's Economic Empowerment: A Case Study of Internally Displaced Women's Small and Microenterprises in Myitkyina, Kachin State, Myanmar / Tein Chiang Mai: Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development (RCSD), Faculty of Social Sciences, Chiang Mai University, 2021

xiv, 130p.

Includes Index

9786163986054

CPRI 22 – Myanmar in Transition

Understanding Myanmar's Development (UMD) Research Report No. 20

1. Small business.
2. Women – Economic aspects.

\$ 20.00 / PB

230gm.

This study explores how small and micro-enterprise contributes to the economic empowerment of internally displaced women in Kachin State, Myanmar. It focuses on how women's income generation can lead to increased control over their own resources and profit, as well as the power to define and make their own choices over household decisions and within the community. However, while women's enterprise activities and income increased, they were still responsible for reproductive work in the household, in addition to productive and camp-based roles—the so-called triple burden. This study provides one piece of evidence that women's microenterprises, the generation of women's own income, and increased decision-making power in the household do not necessarily translate into stronger leadership roles for women within the community or a change in the gendered division of labor.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=802559>

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## History

The Kingdom of Phaniat and the Chong People: An Early Port City in Modern Eastern Thailand / Joachim Schliesinger

Bangkok: White Lotus Co. Ltd., 2022

156p.

9789748496498

\$ 40.00 / PB

216gm.

The Kingdom of Phaniat and the Chang People - An Early Port City State in Modern Eastern Thailand : is a study about the almost unknown ancient Kingdom of Phaniat, which was founded by a colony of Khmer people in the early 7th century AD, during the Chenla period, in the region of modern Eastern Thailand, close to present-day city of Chanthaburi. Archaeological finds and dating of building materials have shown that the ancient Phaniat sie harbors the oldest pure Khmer settlement ruins in the territory of modern Thailand. Inscriptions and artifacts found in the greater area of Chanthaburi city, and the lack of any Mon Dvaravati artifacts in the entire southern region of Eastern Thailand, indicate a flourishing coastal city-state, ruled by Khmer people but with a population base of Pearic-speaking Chong people who are still settling in the area today. Providing the political, ethnical, religious and social concept of Phaniat, the larger historical context is described and explained, in which the tiny kingdom was embedded in the region of Southeast Asia at that time in history.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=802560>

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## Official Publications

Thailand Public Health 2020-2021: Highlight and Analysis of Thailand's Health Statistics

20<sup>th</sup> Edition

Nonthaburi: Alpha Research Co. Ltd., 2022

1v.

9786167526645

1. Public health – Thailand.

\$ 90.00 / PB

1174gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=802561>

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## **Politics/Current Affairs**

Moving Around Myanmar: Migration in, from, and back to Burma / Tony Waters (et al.)

Chiang Mai: Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development (RCSD), Chiang Mai University, 2021

xiv, 270p.

Includes Index

9786163986351

1. Migration – Burma.
2. Migrant labor – Burma.

\$ 30.00 / PB

326gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791625>

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## **Sociology**

Erosion and Community Resilience: A Case Study of Shwetasoke Village, Kawa Township, Bago Region / Zin Mar Latt (Ed) Colin Roth

Understanding Myanmar's Development Research Report No. 14

Chiang Mai: Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development (RCSD), Chiang Mai University, 2019

xii, 64p.

9786163984401

1. Villages.
2. Sociology, Rural.

\$ 20.00 / PB

116gm.

Dr. Zin Mar Latt has taken a deep dive into the life of rural Myanmar and the heavy challenges people there face from not just environmental and natural disasters, but also the human-made responses and adaptations to them.

As more frequent and extensive erosion and flooding becomes the norm, Shwetasoke locals rely on traditional family and community networks, changing agricultural practices and religious space, as well as ritual ceremonies, and also put to work new tools of an independent press, social media and advocacy campaigns, and engaging the researcher Zin Mar Latt herself as advocate-scholar to promote their agenda to political actors at the regional and national levels.

Dr. Zin Mar Latt's research stands as a critical case study of how communities exercise resilience to cope with drastic change and to maintain traditional ways of life, and also where they may be required to make serious adjustments, if not wholesale changes.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=802562>

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Negotiation For Life: Karen Customary Lands in Tanintharyi, Myanmar / May Saung Oo (Ed) Colin Roth  
Chiang Mai: Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development (RCSD), Faculty of Social Sciences, Chiang Mai University, 2021  
xvi, 108p.

Includes Index

CPRI 19 – Myanmar in Transition –

Understanding Myanmar's Development (UMD) Research Report No. 17  
9786163980892

1. Ethnology – Burma.
2. Karen (Southeast Asian people).

\$ 20.00 / PB

210gm.

May Saung Oo has done valuable work with this research into the Karen community in Tanintharyi Region, who are negotiating to preserve their customary communal ownership of the lands where they have lived and farmed and fished for centuries, where their livelihoods depend on their conservation of the region's biodiversity. The study examines two ongoing conflicts: with the Myanmar government who claim that in the absence of formal titles Karen lands are "unoccupied", and hence available for commercial development; and with the government and international environmental agencies, who believe against the evidence that preservation of Tanintharyi's biodiversity has to be taken out of experienced Karen hands and turned into a project run by international consultants lacking familiarity with the area and its community. Similar conflicts are bound to occur elsewhere in Myanmar and this study will provide an invaluable source of information and analysis in such cases.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=802563>

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The Role of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Women's Empowerment: A Case Study of the Kachin IDP Women in Mai Ja Yang, Kachin State Myanmar / Lahpai Nang Sam Awng (Series Ed) Chayan Vaddhanaphuti

Chiang Mai: Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development (RCSD),  
Chiang Mai University, 2019

xiv, 116p.

Includes Index; Bibliography

9786163984029

CDSSEA-Consortium of Development Studies in Southeast Asia Series, Volume 26

1. Women – Social conditions.

2. Civil society.

\$ 25.00 / PB

236gm.

Women in conflict situations face specific vulnerabilities such as rape, sexual, physical and mental abuse, exploitation and inequality in decision-making. This research tries to identify the role of civil society organizations (CSOs) working to empower women in Pa Kahtawng IDP camp in Mai Ja Yang, an area of Kachin state, Myanmar, not under government control. This research delved into how CSOs have been working to build capacity for women's development through training on gender, health, income generation, and women's rights, but have reached different levels of success. Kachin women face numerous obstacles to their empowerment, as they still encounter entrenched cultural influences in their family and larger community dominated by men.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=802564>

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Community of Practice in the Brass Gong Foundries of Tampawady, Mandalay / Lei  
Shwe Sin Myint

Chiang Mai: Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development (RCSD),  
Chiang Mai University, 2019

xii, 68p.

9786163984418

Understanding Myanmar's Development Research Report No. 15

1. Communities of practice.

\$ 20.00 / PB

130gm.

The transformations happening throughout Myanmar society are visible in the community of brass gong artisans of Tampawady district in urban Mandalay. Brass gongs have long played a role in the ritual and ceremonial life of Myanmar's millions of Buddhists, and brass gong artisans have enjoyed royal patronage for centuries. From the 19th century a brass-gong artisan community has existed in Tampawady,

and Lei Shwe Sin Myint has engaged the craftsmen of this community in her research exploring not just the ritual use of brass gongs, but also the unique society that has developed among brass-gong workers. Their close quarters, working conditions, unique skillset and unusual isolation from daytime society has led them to develop as a community with elements of cottage industry, blue collar labor and religious and artistic practice.

The expansion of rapidly urbanizing Mandalay and new technological innovations threatens to drastically change the methods of brass gong production and the community that has grown in the Tampawady quarter. Lei Shwe Sin Myint has engaged the craft smen and foundry owners to see how their livelihoods and art will be impacted, and how the character of urban Mandalay will change as well.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=802565>

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