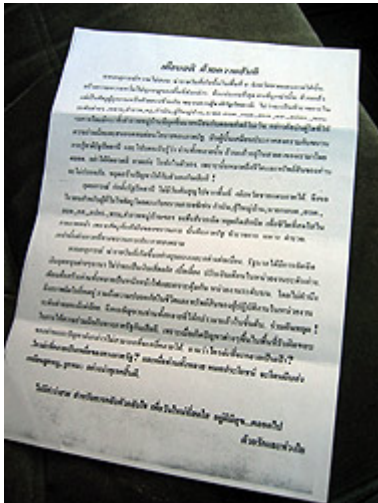


# Seven Years Ago: Translation of a leaflet left by ‘bandits’ in the deep South

May 1, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Seven Years Ago: [Translation of a leaflet left by ‘bandits’ in the deep South](#)

# What Yingluck and Prem talked about

May 1, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 1, 2012

Prime Minister Yingluck says to Privy Council President Prem: Pa... that's night cream. I tested already. My face looks tight and young for a week... you must try it...

The caption reads: Don't think too much... Poo and Prem didn't talk about politics.

# Make Way for Yingluck

May 1, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 1, 2012

On the train: Reconciliation, charter amendment

Suthep and a hooded figure are on a hand cart. On the cart: Kick to retard the amending of the charter.

On the hooded figure's robe: Obstruct reconciliation and order to suppress people

The small man says: Perverse people

The mouse holds a sign that reads: Old-fashion party

The cartoon title reads: This era is high speed ear, ka.

# Thai-language Editorial Cartoons Featuring Rape

May 1, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, April 13, 2012

On the woman's shirt: Charter 50

A man is shouting: Hey! Stop!!!... A tsunami is coming!!!

The caption reads: A tsunami can stop these people.



From Manager, April 20, 2012

On the woman's shirt: Charter 50

The president of parliament says: For efficient raping, we have a porn movie service to tempt you guys.

The caption reads: Mr. Somsak may set this up for us.





## [Stop raping Thailand!](#)

Stop raping Thailand! – Daily World Today, June 12-18, 2010

Earlier editorial cartoons: [Raping the constitution](#)

Earlier editorial cartoons: [Fighting after raping](#)

Earlier editorial cartoons: And at the bottom of this page – [Coffee Made Chalerm Drunk](#)

# **Thaksin-sane! Former City owner mobbed on return at Manchester derby**

May 1, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thaksin-sane! Former City owner mobbed on return at Manchester derby](#) – Daily Mail, April 30, 2012

# **BTS Silom line's extension faces delay**

May 1, 2012

Categories: Skytrain

[Silom line's extension faces delay](#) – The Nation, May 1, 2012

Service on an extension of the Skytrain's Silom line, covering four stations from Wong Wian Yai to Bang Wa, is likely to be postponed from the original schedule in December till next year...

# Misconception and myth mask Thai military

May 1, 2012

Categories: Thai Military

[Misconception and myth mask Thai military](#) – The Australian, May 1, 2012

*...Before the September 2006 coup, the military perceived that Thailand's parliament had been sidelined (particularly after the dysfunctional May 2006 elections); the judiciary had been co-opted; and Thaksin's former service, the police force, had been given carte blanche to undertake a wave of extra-judicial killings in a savage campaign against drug runners. In addition, the military, which prided itself on having stabilised the situation in Thailand's Malay Muslim-dominated deep south, had been ignominiously stripped of its long-held responsibility for maintaining the peace there. Then in September word started to circulate that, come October 1, 2006, when the annual military reshuffle was scheduled to take place, Thaksin planned to remove all the remaining senior commanders whom he felt were not completely loyal and subservient to him. In the minds of the Thai senior generals, as well as many of the urban Bangkok elite and middle class, someone had to check the apparently inexorable growth of Thaksin's power.*

*...There are now several possible scenarios for the future. It appears the military has arrived at a point of recognition – that it has to maintain stability, particularly until the royal succession is completed. That means it may have to compromise a little – and the military has publicly shown respect for the elected government. This respect has been reciprocated through placatory actions and statements by the Yingluck administration. In engaging with Thailand during this difficult period of imminent transition, Australia should be supportive and recognise that the situation is not black-and-white...*

# Bangkok's Insurgency Blunder

May 1, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Bangkok's Insurgency Blunder](#) – wsj.com, April 24, 2012

*...Ms. Yingluck's single biggest mistake may be her apparent decision to assign her brother, former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, to negotiate with the insurgents. Although Mr. Thaksin has repeatedly denied that he is involved in the peace process—describing himself as “just an unemployed man”—local media have credibly reported otherwise. Thailand's The Nation reported that exiled Malay Muslim leaders from Thailand recently met with Mr. Thaksin in Malaysia. In the past year, Mr. Thaksin also has made numerous visits to Malaysia, meeting with both Prime Minister Najib Razak and former premier Mahathir Muhammad. If those reports are accurate, Mr. Thaksin's involvement could go a long way toward explaining why Ms. Yingluck's strategy is failing. Mr. Thaksin's tenure in office from 2001 to 2006 witnessed an aggravation of the southern conflict as a result of his hard-nosed policy toward Malay Muslims. He is also an odd choice as a liaison with Kuala Lumpur, having once accused Malaysia of providing shelter to Muslim terrorists. His hostile policy created a deep friction in Thai-Malaysian relations. Mr. Thaksin reportedly is trying to mend these fences now. At his meeting with Malay Muslims, he is said to have apologized for his earlier harsh measures. Before leaving, he gave each exiled leader a hug...*

# **Back from Thai jail hell**

May 1, 2012

Categories: Thailand in the International Media

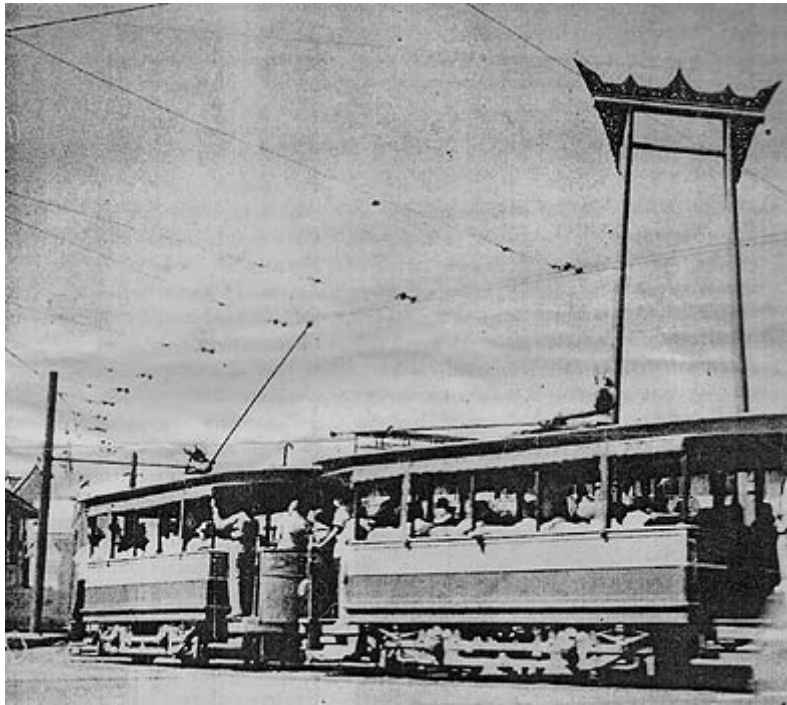
[Back from Thai jail hell](#) – iol.co.za, May 1, 2012

...His advice to prospective drug mules: “I wouldn’t advise it. Before they get involved in anything, see what the consequences are. The Thai judicial system is very tough on drug trafficking...”

# 10 Years Ago: Old photos of the Giant Swing

May 2, 2012

Categories: Today in History



10 Years Ago: [Old photos of the Giant Swing](#)

# **New research to save Irrawaddy dolphins from extinction in Mekong**

May 2, 2012

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[New research to save Irrawaddy dolphins from extinction in Mekong](#) – The Irrawaddy, April 30, 2012

...The latest population estimate by WWF suggests fewer than 100 adult individuals remain in the river, and that the survival rate of dolphin calves is very low. There is evidence to suggest this population is in danger of extinction...



# **Cambodia: Promise of Riches Lures Many to ‘Forest of Gold’**

May 2, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

Cambodia: [Promise of Riches Lures Many to ‘Forest of Gold’](#) – VOA, April 30, 2012

...Phon Pheak and a few of his family members came to dig for gold here in Phnom Pang mountain in the village Prey Meas, or Forest of Gold, some 90 kilometers from Ratanakkir province’s Banlung city, with the international price of gold continuing its ascent...

# Thaksin Would Replace Yingluck With...

May 2, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 2, 2012

Left: Thaksin: Yongyuth... If Poo can't handle it, the next prime minister won't have to be from the Shinawatara family. People will condemn me because my family monopolizes .

Yongyuth (on the phone): Who would you like it to be?

Right: The Damaphong family.

# Thailand remains on the U.S. Priority Watch List

May 2, 2012

Categories: Business

[Stop Being Poor: U.S. Piracy Watch List Hits A New Low With 2012 Report](#) – michaelgeist.ca, May 1, 2012

*...Thailand remains on the Priority Watch List in 2012. The United States is encouraged that Thailand's new government has affirmed its commitment to improving IPR protection and enforcement. Some U.S. rights holders report good cooperation with Thai enforcement authorities, including the Royal Thai Police and Royal Thai Customs. Thailand has also taken some steps to address its longstanding problem of piracy of cable and satellite signals, although significant concerns remain about the prevalence of this problem in Thailand. The United States remains seriously concerned about Thailand's failure to complete many of the initiatives begun in past years. Several key pieces of legislation remain pending, including legislation to address landlord liability, to address unauthorized camcording of motion pictures in theaters, to provide Thai Customs with ex officio authority, to implement provisions of the WIPO Internet Treaties, and to establish improved legal mechanisms to address the rapidly growing problem of copyright piracy and trademark counterfeiting on the Internet. The United States urges Thailand to improve its enforcement efforts and to provide for, and impose, deterrent-level sentences.*

*Thailand should also make greater efforts to address widespread copyright piracy and trademark counterfeiting. The United States encourages Thailand to provide an effective system for protecting against the unfair commercial use, as well as unauthorized disclosure, of test or other data generated to obtain marketing approval for pharmaceutical and agricultural chemical products. The United States continues to encourage Thailand to engage in a meaningful and transparent manner with all relevant stakeholders, including IPR owners, as it considers ways to address Thailand's public health challenges, while maintaining a patent system that promotes investment, research, and innovation. In this context, the United States reiterates its support for the 2001 Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, as described in Section I of this Report. The United States will continue to work with Thailand to address these and other matters...*

# **U.S. Tops Thailand in Premature Births**

May 3, 2012

Categories: Health

[U.S. Tops Thailand in Premature Births](#) – businessweek.com, May 2, 2012

...It's a ranking in which the U.S. does not fare well, falling between Thailand and Timor-Leste with a preterm birth rate of 12 per 100 live births. That puts the U.S. in 54th place, with 130 countries faring better...

# Thailand powers ahead with port plans

May 3, 2012

Categories: Business

[Thailand powers ahead with port plans](#) – portstrategy.com, April 24, 2012

...One reason for the decision to push on with Pak Bara is the continuing uncertainty over the Dawei mega-port in Myanmar. The government believes if Dawei does go ahead, Pak Bara can supplement it and if doesn't happen it will be a useful port in its own right even though Mr Sittipunt acknowledged "the hinterland is limited"...

# Heil Hitler! in the Thai Parliament

May 3, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



# Weekly News Magazines, April 27, 2012

May 4, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekly, April 27, 2012

The cover reads: 26th April – Happy all over the nation



From Matichon Weekend, April 27, 2012

The cover reads: Coordinator for Perm and Yingluck – ‘Mediator’



From Siamrath, April, 27, 2012

The cover reads: Prem + Poo, can handle ...?



# Thai Rak Thai Returns to Help Yingluck

May 4, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, May 2, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Freedom of the victims of politics

Yingluck holds a paper that reads: Go on, Thailand!

Somchai Wongsawat, the head of 111 group is coming out of a “Coup ’49” earthen jar.

On the hooded figure: Obstruct everything – Order to suppress people

Sign the mouse is holding: Unlock helper



From Manager, May 4, 2012

The gecko says: What does that mean, they'll be acquitted in another month?! Actually, they've been pulling a jailbreak ever since their first day in jail!!!

Sign: Prison No. 111

Graffiti on the wall: There's no doing good and receiving good in turn; there's only doing bad and receiving good

We're fighting for our boss, Nai Liam

Red everywhere except on Kam Phaka's nipples

# Bargaining With the Dead Red Shirts

May 4, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 4, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Dead friends and good brother.

On Thaksin's sign: Want to go home smartly.

On Yingluck's sign: Reconciliation, amnesty.

The street signs: Ratchaprasong, Kok Wua

Skeleton arm holds up a sign: Get the man who ordered to kill and punish .

Left mouse's sign: Release UDD prisoners

Right mouse: Red Shirts people must not have died for free.

# **Ayutthaya top site in Asia threatened by economic expansion**

May 4, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Ayutthaya top site in Asia threatened by economic expansion](#) – Newsweek, May 4, 2012

...The top 10 endangered sites in Asia, according to the Global Heritage Fund, are:

1. Ayutthaya in Thailand, a former Siamese capital known as the “Venice of the East...”

# Bangkok heatwave sparks urban planning criticism

May 4, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Bangkok heatwave sparks urban planning criticism](#) – Reuters, May 4, 2012

...Critics say the heat has been exacerbated by poor urban planning in the fast-growing city of 12 million people – from a thinning of trees by city workers, often to accommodate electrical power lines, to heat-trapping building designs and a relatively small number of parks...

# Dancing Hostesses, Siamese nightclub

May 5, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



BANGKOK. Dancing hostesses, Siamese nightclub. C.A.T. Inc.

Old postcard, Dancing Hostesses, Siamese nightclub, circa 1950s

# Five Years Ago Today: Phone booth bombing across from Chitlada Palace

May 5, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Five Years Ago Today: [Phone booth bombing across from Chitlada Palace](#)

# Pointing Out the Wrongdoers

May 5, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath. May 5, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Opening the door and welcoming justice

On the sleeve: International Criminal Court

On the door: Acknowledging the authority of the International Criminal Court

Left man: Sunai

Right man: Weng

On the hooded figure: Protected by double standards – Ordering the people killed

Suthep holds a paper that reads: Pressing terrorist charges

Left mouse: Punish those who ordered the killings

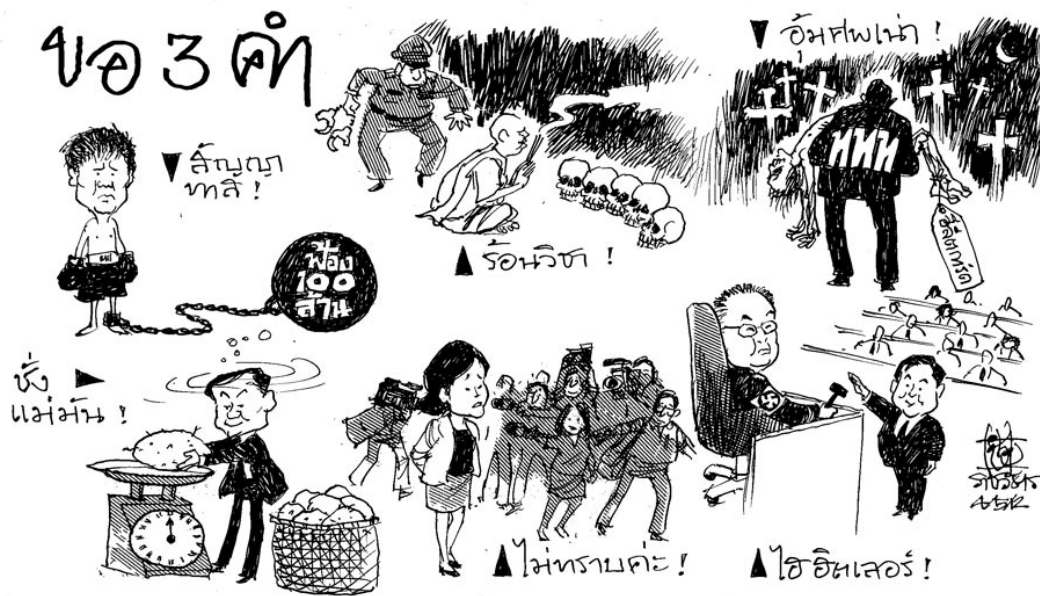
Right mouse: Justice for the UDD



# Just Three Syllables

May 6, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, May 6, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Just Three Syllables

Upper left: Slave contract! Ball: Bt100 million lawsuit

Upper middle: Magic use!

Upper right: Hold rotted corpse! On the back of the coat: Thai Rak Thai. Tag on the corpse: Elite Card

Lower left: Measure

Lower middle: I don't know!

Lower right: Heil Hitler!

# Heil!

May 7, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 7, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Who has the most dictatorial heart?

Member of the House of Representative [Boonyord Sooktinthai](#) is saying "Heil Hitler" and holds a banner that reads: Protect Charter '50 of Coup '49 group"

On the hooded figure: Prime Minister from military camp – Order to suppress people

A mouse is holding a sign: Good boy of the CNS

# The Toad Dreams of Being a Lion

May 7, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 7, 2012

The caption reads: A toad is having a sweet dream of becoming a lion.

# The Skytrain Controversy

May 8, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, Skytrain



From Thairath, May 8, 2012

The cartoon title reads: This food is really expensive.

On the train: BMA gave a concession to manage for 30 years for more than a hundred billion baht budget.

The mouse man says: 20 baht for the whole route.

The mouse's sign: Have you asked me yet?

# **‘The Accidental Terrorist’: a California Accountant’s Coup**

May 8, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[‘The Accidental Terrorist’: a California Accountant’s Coup](#) – thedailybeast.com, May 2, 2012

What made an accountant from California try to overthrow the Cambodian government with grenades and anti-tank weapons?...

# **Vietnam ‘cancer-cure’ horn habit threat to world rhinos**

May 8, 2012

Categories: Vietnam, Wildlife and Nature

[Vietnam ‘cancer-cure’ horn habit threat to world rhinos](#) – AFP, May 8, 2012

# Myanmar: Censor Bans Reports of VP's Resignation

May 8, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

Myanmar: [Censor Bans Reports of VP's Resignation](#) – irrawaddy.org, May 8, 2012

# **Misconception and myth mask Thai military (full article)**

May 9, 2012

Categories: Thai Military

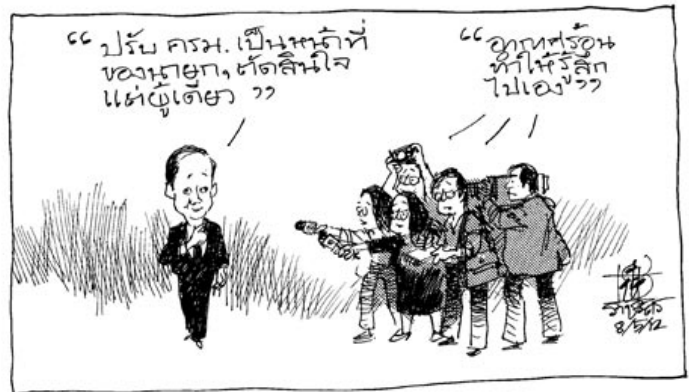
[Misconception and myth mask Thai military](#) – theaustralian.com.au, May 1, 2012



# Hot weather makes it feel like that

May 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, May 10, 2012

Left: Small sign: Goods are expensive.

Big sign: They're expensive everywhere.

Protesters: Prime Minister, please help us. Goods are expensive.

PM Yingluck says: Hot weather make it feel like that.

Right: Noppadol : The cabinet reshuffle is the PM's responsibility alone.

Reporters: Hot weather makes him feel like that.

# Yingluck on the Couch

May 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, May 10, 2012

Left: A patient says: What am I gonna do, doctor? I feel that I'm not performing, speak wrong, and can't manage anything.

Middle: Can't rule anybody, can't think by myself, I have to wait for orders from my brother.

Doctor: Oh don't worry about what those people are thinking.

# **HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol of Thailand to Visit Cornell Law School**

May 10, 2012

Categories: The Monarchy

[HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol of Thailand to Visit Cornell Law School](http://lawschool.cornell.edu) – lawschool.cornell.edu

# Populism trumps productivity in Thailand

May 10, 2012

Categories: Economy

[Populism trumps productivity in Thailand](#) – atimes.com, May 10, 2012

...In the 1960s and 1970s, Thailand notched years of rapid growth by simply luring peasant farmers to work in factories, where productivity was then relatively high. Now, many former farmers are returning to their provincial fields to escape the high costs of urban living and profit from a new populist scheme to boost rice prices above market levels...

# Thai army secretly plans for the worst

May 11, 2012

Categories: Thai Military

[Thai army secretly plans for the worst](#) – atimes.com, May 11, 2012

*...In the event of a future coup or counter-coup, or even a civil war, battalion commanders will be the critical key links in the chain of command in getting units to move out of their garrisons and onto the streets, or conversely by issuing orders not to mobilize. RTA officers organize and ally themselves by their respective Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy (CRMA) graduating class.*

*...Taken together, however, these moves constitute a massive, self-initiated and coordinated program whose elements are tied together by a drive to increase the internal cohesion and loyalty of the army. While it's difficult to predict exactly what this multi-faceted program will mean for stability in the months ahead, one thing is certain: Prayuth's RTA is clearly preparing for any future contingency it may face and bolstering its ability to act on its own initiative in a potential political crisis...*

# Lawyer claims conspiracy against ex-Thai PM in embezzlement case

May 11, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Lawyer claims conspiracy against ex-Thai PM in embezzlement case](#) – gulfnews.com, May 11, 2012

...K.K. countered the authenticity of the documents submitted. The defence contested that the signatures were forged and that this was evident when prosecutors asked the claimant about the original copies of the documents subject to dispute but Shinawatra, who was sentenced to jail in absentia by a Thai court over different fraud charges, failed to submit the original copies.

...Shinawatra's lawyer Jasim Al Naqbi argued that the defendant abused the claimant's political and financial status and blackmailed him to fill his pockets. When it was the defence's turn to present their argument, Abdul Raouf said prosecutors created a lot of confusion...

# IMF Says Thailand Should Unwind Stimulus With Recovery

May 11, 2012

Categories: Economy

[IMF Says Thailand Should Unwind Stimulus With Recovery](#) – Bloomberg, May 11, 2012

...The Bank of Thailand has kept its benchmark rate unchanged at its past two meetings, resisting pressure from the government to resume cuts in borrowing costs to help businesses recover from floods that swamped thousands of factories in the fourth quarter of last year. While inflation slowed in April to the lowest in more than two years, rising wage and oil costs are reviving price pressures...

# **When Thailand's government started offering microfinance loans to villagers, did anyone benefit?**

May 11, 2012

Categories: The Thaksin Years

[Taking credit: When Thailand's government started offering microfinance loans to villagers, did anyone benefit?](http://phys.org) – <http://phys.org>, May 10, 2012

...In areas where loans were disbursed, consumption grew, income for those in agriculture and other forms of business grew, and wages grew for laborers — all signs of economic growth — but overall asset growth in the villages decreased...



# Why is Chalerm trying to arrest the commander of the Democratic Karen Buddhist Army?

May 11, 2012

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Myanmar/Burma

[The curious case of Thailand's 'Most Wanted'](#) – asiancorrespondent.com, May 11, 2012

...One approach to this is that the Burmese government may have requested Thailand's help in squeezing the ethnic armies along the border that are refusing to sign ceasefires (the DKBA being one of the remaining few), and a drugs pretext would generate the most support from Thai law enforcement officials and politicians now saddling up closer to the Burmese government (Chalerm has something of a platform to operate from with the 2003 listing). Moreover, while Thailand in the past used border groups as a buffer against its traditional enemy, the Burmese army, the days of needing to keep Burma at arms length are fading, and with it the incentive to support and allow border armies to flourish...

# Laos of Central Siam

May 12, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films

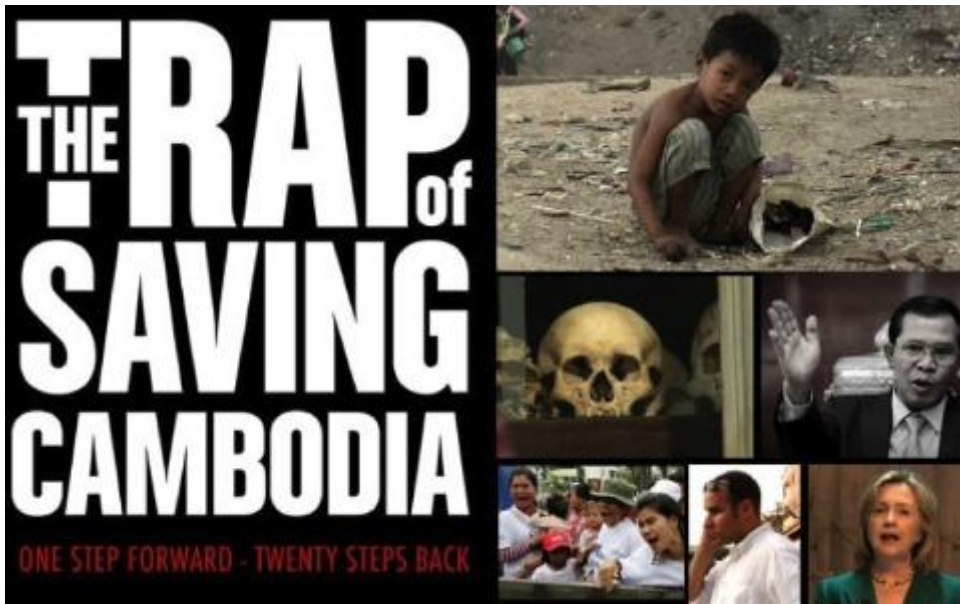


Old postcard, Laos of Central Siam, date unknown

# Cambodian News Roundup

May 12, 2012

Categories: Cambodia



[The Cambodian Wild West – Good economics can only do so much without good politics](#) – WSJ

...Indeed, Prime Minister Hun Sen is worsening the state of affairs. Cambodians may credit him on the economic front, because he formalized the flexible regulations history informally bequeathed to him. But politically, he has been in some form of power since 1979, consolidated it in a 1997 coup, and has kept concentrating it in the executive thereafter. Three opposition legislators resigned last year in frustration at the way the government intimidates them, calling the National Assembly a “rubber-stamp parliament...”

[Cambodian Land Deals Raise Human Rights Concerns](#) – VOA

[NGOs Contribute to Cycle of Corruption: Filmmaker](#) – VOA

[UN envoy rebukes Cambodia over shooting of protesters](#) – BBC

[Remote Cambodian burial sites reveal lost past](#) – timeslive.co.za

[Cambodia LGBT Pride celebration kicks off Saturday](#) – phnompenhpost.com

# Weekly News Magazine, May 4, 2012

May 12, 2012

Categories: Uncategorized



From Siamrath, May 4, 2012

The cover reads: Prem is not an opponent... ?



From Matichon Weekend, May 4, 2012

The cover reads: He came in with an unofficial ticket



From Nation Weekly, May 4, 2012

The cover reads: Celebrate 'Coronation Day'

# **Another Coup Looming in Thailand?**

May 12, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Another Coup Looming in Thailand?](#) – cfr.org, May 10, 2012

Refers to this article: [Thai army secretly plans for the worst](#) – atimes.com, May 11, 2012

# Celebrating 500 Years of Successful Thai-Portuguese Trade

May 13, 2012

Categories: Economy



[Celebrating 500 Years of Successful Thai-Portuguese Trade](#)

# Walmart Supplier in Rights Row

May 13, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Walmart supplier in rights row](#) – Bangkok Post, May 13, 2012

*...According to the minutes of a meeting between the Cambodian diplomat, the company's executives and Thai labour authorities, obtained by the Bangkok Post Sunday, the ambassador was told a misunderstanding arose among the company's 1,050 Cambodian workers when the Thai government increased the minimum wage by 40% from 176 to 246 baht per day on April 1.*

*Workers received their wages for March—calculated using the old rate—on April 5, which caused confusion. Regarding the accusation that the company had withheld workers' personal documents, the management admitted doing so, but said it was in the best interest of workers. The company said it provided a service to help workers report to immigration officials every 90 days...*

Earlier: [Songkhla: Strikers claim shots fired](#)

Earlier: [Phatthana Seafood factory in Songkhla: Strings attached to offer made to Cambodian workers](#)



# **£6m Thai coins deal for Llantrisant's Royal Mint**

May 14, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[£6m Thai coins deal for Llantrisant's Royal Mint](#) – walesonline.co.uk, May 14, 2012

...“This deal is great news for Britain and has a special importance for me as Welsh Secretary as the aRMour nickel plated steel blanks which Thailand's coins will be made from will be supplied by The Royal Mint, based in Llantrisant, South Wales...

# Five Years Ago: Editorial Cartoons

May 15, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Five Years Ago: [Editorial Cartoons – May 2007](#)

# DSI Chief Tarit Massages Thaksin

May 15, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Tharit Pengdit



From Manager, May 15, 2012

Left: Woman: Where does it ache, Brother Tarit? I'll massage there and really make it disappear.

The caption reads: Tarit in Chawala

Right: Tarit: Which lawsuit are you anxious about, Brother Tu ? I'll make it vanish before your very eyes.

The caption reads: Tarit outside Chawala.

# Myanmar Tilts Toward South Korea

May 15, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma, North Korea

[Seoul: Myanmar halts arms buys from Pyongyang](#)

[Myanmar to observe UN N.Korea resolutions: Seoul](#)

[Lee: Korea to help Myanmar achieve both democracy, economic development](#)

[South Korea's Lee Offers Aid to Myanmar Ahead of Suu Kyi Meeting](#)

# **Media Censorship to be Abolished in Burma**

May 15, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Media Censorship to be Abolished in Burma](#) – The Irrawaddy, May 15, 2012

Burma's media will not have to pass through censorship once the new Myanmar Press Council is formed in June, according to a senior director at the Press Scrutiny and Registration Department (PSRD)...

# **Thai Premier hails Islamic culture**

May 15, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai Premier hails Islamic culture](#) – gulf-daily-news.com, May 15, 2012

# This area is prone to criminal activity

May 16, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards, Thai Military



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

This sign in front of Wat Thepthidaram reads: This area is prone to criminal activity. Please be aware of your belongings. Best wishes from Samranrat Police Station. If something happens, call 191 or 02-2262136. Fax 02-2257430 [www.samranrat.metro.police.go.th](http://www.samranrat.metro.police.go.th)

# Thailand ranks 41 in university ranking

May 16, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand ranks 41 in university ranking](#) – The Nation, May 16, 2012

While Thailand is ahead of seven other countries, including India and Indonesia, it lags behind China and Malaysia when it comes to the quality of higher education. China is at No 39 while Malaysia is in 36th place...



# Thailand orders a million Android tablets for schools

May 16, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand orders a million Android tablets for schools](#) – androidcommunity.com, May 15, 2012

...The country has allocated \$32.8 million to ship just under a million tablets to its 6-8-year-old students, with 400,000 shipping out within the next 90 days. The second half of the program, with another 530,000 tablets, is expected to cost another \$33 million...

# Thailand Ranks as No. 1 Outbound Destination for Indian Travellers

May 16, 2012

Categories: India, Tourism

[Thailand Ranks as No. 1 Outbound Destination for Indian Travellers](#) – asiatraveltips.com, May 16, 2012

For the calendar year 2011, the Tourism Authority of Thailand has revealed that a record number of 917,832 Indians travelled to Thailand in comparison to 791,185 in 2010, making it the number one destination for Indians with a growth rate in excess of 16% in 2011...

# **Bible school to start over in Thailand**

May 16, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Bible school to start over in Thailand](#) – onenewsnow.com, May 15, 2012

# Thai Q1 Smartphone Sales Raked in over USD255 Million

May 16, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[First Quarter Smartphone Sales Raked in over USD255 Million in Thailand: GfK Thailand](#) – gfkrt.com, May 16, 2012

*...Another apparent smartphone trend in Thailand is the increasing penchant towards Android smartphones. As with most of the other markets in the region, popularity of such phones has been on an upswing. From its market share of 16 percent in quarter one last year, volume sales of Android smartphones have skyrocketed to reach 59 percent in the latest quarter.*

*“Smartphone penetration level in Thailand is considered low when compared with some of the other markets in the region like Singapore and Malaysia where the larger proportion of the population have already converted from their feature phones,” observed Dr. Wichit. “This presents a huge potential to smartphone manufacturers and we can expect the rate of adoption to accelerate when telecom operators in the country fully roll out their 3G services in the very near future. It is predicted that the Thai smartphone market will more than double in value and volume size in 2012,” he concluded.*

# THAILAND: Mapping urban farming

May 16, 2012

Categories: Maps

[THAILAND: Mapping urban farming](#) – irinnews.org, May 16, 2012

A Geographical Information System (GIS) is being used to map vegetable production in the greater Bangkok region, seat of Thailand's capital, to analyse how urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA) contribute to food security in the city of more than 14 million...

# **Bangkok to Rangoon Railway Planned – Special Economic Zone in Three Pagodas Pass**

May 16, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Burma Railway Set for Renaissance](#) – The Irrawaddy, May 16, 2012

...Burmese Railway Minister Aung Min, also a leading government peace negotiator, told the opening ceremony of the Karen National Union (KNU) liaison office in Three Pagodas Pass on Tuesday that talks were already underway with Thailand regarding construction of the railway.

Measuring 415 kilometers (258 miles) from Bangkok to Rangoon, Aung Min said that the project will also benefit the businesses of local people who live near Three Pagodas Pass. However, the railway project hinges on Naypyidaw securing a lasting peace deal with the Karen rebels.

“Our citizens will only have to make a daytrip to Thailand after construction is completed,” said Aung Min.

“Local development will also grow much more than before...”

# Worshipping Thaksin and Uncle SMS

May 17, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 17, 2012

Under Thaksin's photo: Dad

Under Ampon Tangnoppakul photo: Ah Kong

Box: Red shirt have another, older relative to worship.

# Thaksin Flies the Country

May 17, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, May 8, 2012

Someone on the plane says: Adjusting the cabinet depends on Ms. Yingluck... She is captain.



# Myanmar to celebrate first gay pride event

May 17, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar to celebrate first gay pride event](#) – channelnewsasia.com, May 17, 2012

...Same-sex relations are criminalised under the nation's colonial penal code, and although it is not strictly enforced, activists say the law is still used by authorities to discriminate and extort...

# **Dawei: Myanmar mega-project may be on a road to nowhere**

May 17, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar mega-project may be on a road to nowhere](#) – Reuters, May 17, 2012

...Italian-Thai – the “Italian” refers to one of its founders 54 years ago – is pressing ahead and has started to relocate 30,000 people to make way for the 250 sq km (97 sq mile) complex which will allow in pollution-belching heavy industry that Thailand doesn’t want...

# **Cambodian security forces kill teenage girl during clash with villagers armed with axes and crossbows**

May 17, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodian security forces kill teenage girl during clash with villagers armed with axes and crossbows](#) –

Independent, May 16, 2012

...A 2007 report by the group Global Witness highlighted what it said was a network that linked those involved in illegal logging with the police and military and senior politicians. “Cambodia is run by a kleptocratic elite that generates much of its wealth via the seizure of public assets, particularly natural resources,” the report concluded.

Megan MacInnes of Global Witness said of Mr Wutty’s death: “Sadly there is a long and well-documented history of activists trying to protect Cambodia’s being attacked and dying. This is not the first...”

# Thailand: Two Years After Crackdown, Still No Justice

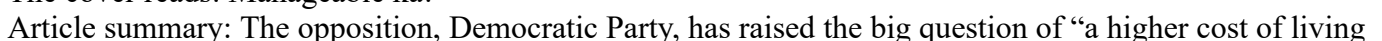
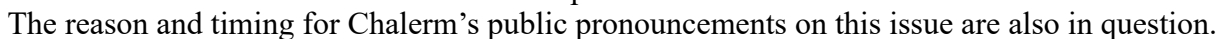
May 17, 2012

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Thailand: Two Years After Crackdown, Still No Justice](#) – HRW, May 15, 2012

*...The Abhisit government charged UDD leaders and hundreds of UDD protesters with serious criminal offenses, but did not file charges against any government officials or military personnel. Since the government of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra took office in August 2011, the focus of criminal investigations has shifted entirely to cases in which soldiers were implicated, while ignoring those involving UDD violence...*

## Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



that occurring all over Thailand” to the government. This question is surely important to the government because one of the policies which helped PM Yingluck to gain more votes during the last election was to increase peoples’ savings, not to reduce it. With a question from the Democratic party, it damages the face of Yingluck’s government because a higher cost of living is contradicting higher savings. Subsequently, PM Yingluck has counterattacked by saying that normally in quarter 2 people will feel a higher cost of living because they have more spending while earning the same amount, for example there is a long holiday in April and some need to pay tuition fee for their children (in effect, they are saying prices are not rising, but people just feel like they are). Despite what the PM said, a higher cost of living has been felt by the people. So, PM Yingluck needs to run propaganda that the situation is and will be under control with her favorite phrase, “it is manageable”.



From Siamrath, May 11, 2012

The cover reads: Our beloved King – Concerned about his people

Article summary: Undoubtedly His Majesty the King is the most respected and revered by Thais. His Majesty has been involved in many social and economic development projects—one of the most well-known is a social-economic theory of self-sufficiency. He devotes himself to his people since he became the King and up until now. Even though he is in the hospital he still has shown a great concern to his people. Every time when he leaves the hospital to perform his royal duties, all Thais are happy and joyful to see his smiling face and a good health. Long Live the King.

# Mechai Viravaidya: Combating Hardship in Rural Thailand

May 18, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Mechai Viravaidya: Combating Hardship in Rural Thailand](#) – PBS, May 17, 2012

...In 1960, Thailand and the Philippines had about the same population, about 60 million people, 50 million people. Today, the Philippines has 94 million people, and there's a lot of poverty. Thailand has 1.8 children per family. It's got about 68 million people, and it's making progress...

# **Burmese ‘Slaves’ held for two years in a shrimp factory near Bangkok**

May 18, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Burmese ‘Slaves’ Rescued from Thai Factory](#) – The Irrawaddy, May 17, 2012

...He said the BAT staff informed local authorities about the conditions in the factory and the plight of the desperate workers, but were told they would have to produce stronger evidence, such as photographs or videos, before the authorities could take further action...



# Myanmar's central bank aims for weaker currency

May 18, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar's central bank aims for weaker currency](#) – Reuters, May 18, 2012

Myanmar's central bank wants to weaken its newly floated currency and prevent further rises that could derail reforms to its economy, a deputy central bank governor said.

Nay Aye, one of two deputy governors, added that foreign banks will be able to form joint ventures in Myanmar by 2014, a year earlier than expected, as foreign investors begin to size up one of Asia's most promising frontier markets following the suspension of U.S. and European sanctions...

# Thai PM to visit Australia

May 18, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai PM to visit Australia](#) – skynews.com.au, May 18, 2012

...Prime Minister Julia Gillard on Friday said Her Excellency Ms Yingluck Shinawatra would visit between May 26 and 29 in recognition of the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Australia and Thailand...

# Thailand's 30,000 child boxers

May 18, 2012

Categories: Sports

[Girls fighting for survival](#) – The Age, May 18, 2012

...US director Todd Kellstein, in Melbourne for the screening, says the first response of many viewers is horror at little girls fighting for money.

But after watching 300 bouts and interviewing parents, children, referees, spectators and bookmakers, Kellstein found he couldn't condemn the sport...

# **Bangkok has the most Facebook users with 8.7 million active users in the last month**

May 18, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[The Facebook Stats Game: Brazil Has The Highest Active Reach; Bangkok Tops The List Of Cities](#) – techcrunch.com, May 17, 2012

...Bangkok is currently the Metropolis with the most Facebook users: according to its latest figures, Thailand's capital had 8.7 million active users in the last month...

# **20 Years Ago Today: Black May – Enough: End this terrible tragedy**

May 19, 2012

Categories: Today in History

20 Years Ago Today: [Black May – Enough: End this terrible tragedy](#)

# Khaosod: Who Killed the Red Shirts?

May 19, 2012

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010



Above: The truth of 10 April-19 May 2010

Record of the bloody day – inquire into who killed...?

98 bodies

The episode that continues... The truth from KhaoSod The death of 90 bodies.





Above: International reporters all gave testimony.

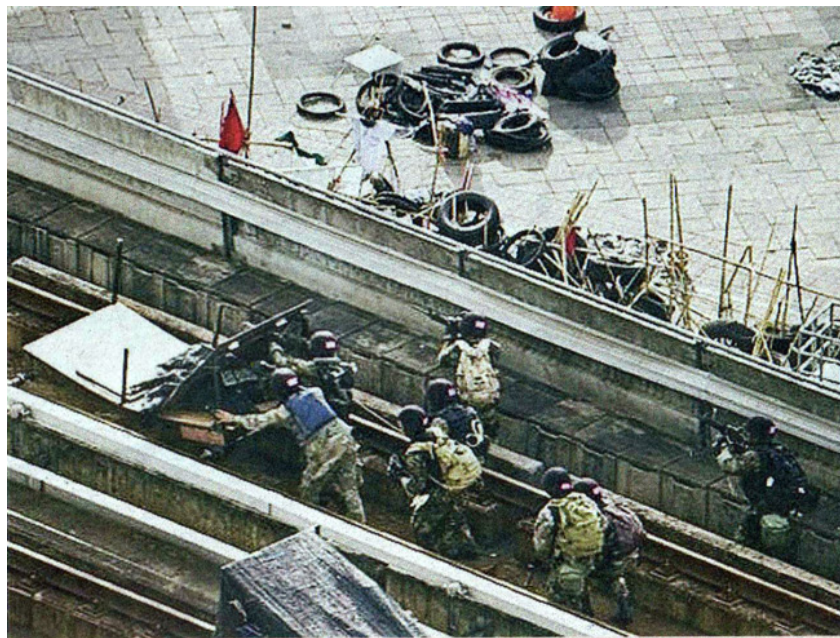


Above: At Bon Kai, Rama IV



Above: Seeking witnesses and evidence – “Green bullets”





**เจอหลักฐานเจ็บบนบีทีเอส**

Above: Found excellent evidence on the BTS.



**พบกระสุนทหารในศพเหยื่อ**

Above: Soldiers' bullets found in witness bodies.





Above: Criticize “Thaksin”

Video link 19 May 2011

“Today walk to the destination... you don’t need to carry a boat to send me to the hill.”

# After the floods and rioting: Bangkok Rising

May 19, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

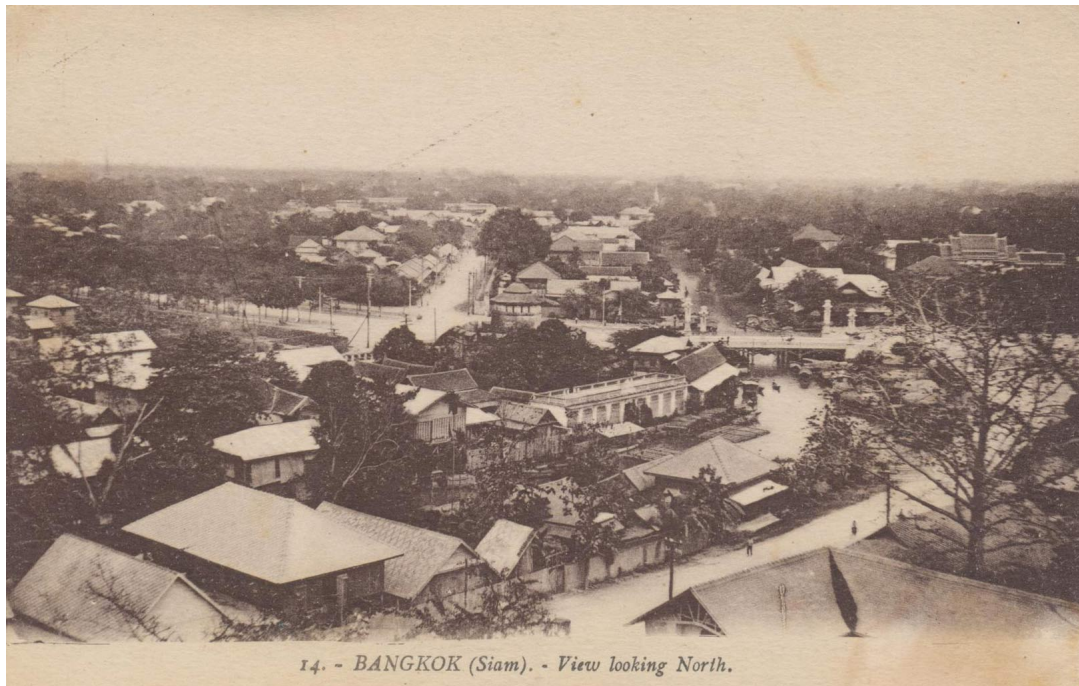
[Bangkok Rising](#) – NYT, May 15, 2012

One morning in January, I watched as young Thai men and women emerged from the Erawan Bangkok shopping mall, put down their Comme des Garçons and Burberry bags, and bowed with folded hands to the Hindu creation deity Brahma at the Erawan shrine conveniently located just outside. In Bangkok, it seemed, retail therapy was not a secular substitute for religious healing, but rather went together with it. This was merely one contradiction in a city famous for them. Walking past the massage parlors and transvestite clubs of the red-light district Nana and into the packed temples and spirit houses, I marveled at how the city combines the promise of guilt-free sex with a profound faith in the Buddhist cycle of karma...

# Looking North from Golden Mount

May 19, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Old postcard, Bangkok (Siam), View looking North, unknown date



Detail of the [Mahakan Fort community](#)

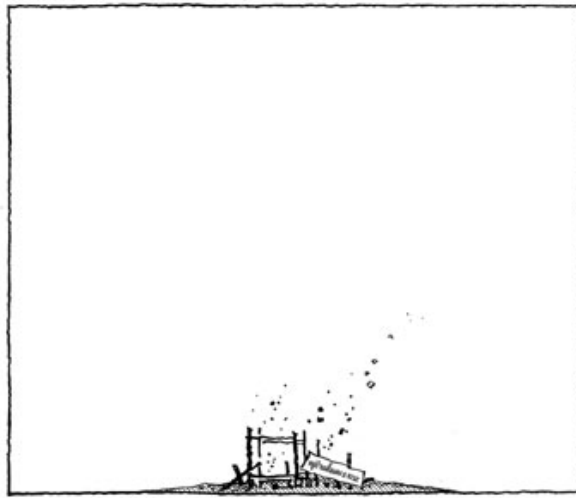
# Burning Bangkok vs Burning the Red Shirt Village

May 19, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



ก่อกรรมไว้มิ่งใหญ่ขนาดนี้



กรรมตามสนองแค่นี้เดียว?

From Manager, May 18, 2012

Left: They committed a huge sin like that

Right: But received such small retribution like this? .



From Thairath, May 19, 2012

The cartoon title: Looking back at the past from Chana to Ratchaprasong. Who liked burning down buildings?

Sign at left: Democratic red-shirt village fights against drugs

On the man's back: Fighting against red-shirt supporters

Sign over skulls: Ratchaprasong

Sign held by the mouse: Return honor to the dead and freedom to the political prisoners  
Left mouse: They like violence.

# Calm prevails in Thailand, though divisions remain, 2 years after violent political upheaval

May 19, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Calm prevails in Thailand, though divisions remain, 2 years after violent political upheaval](#) – WP, May 19, 2012

*...Many Thais who oppose Thaksin have come to terms with his sister's government, saying she has managed to maintain an uneasy but welcome calm. And Thai politics has not yet produced a viable alternative to the Thaksin camp.*

*"I'm not satisfied with this government, but to be honest the Abhisit government wasn't any better," said Siriluk Pornchaitipparat, an anti-Thaksin cafe owner who had to shut her central Bangkok shop for 10 days in 2010 when the Red Shirt rioting raged in her neighborhood...*



# Dissolution Bomb

May 20, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 20, 2012

Cartoon title reads: The helper is in trouble again.

On the hooded figure's robe: Ordering people killed

On the arm: Letting the case expire – The EC

Above the bomb: Money donated by East Water

On the bomb: Dissolve the Democrat Party

Running man: Ruengkrai who likes to kick people out of their position

Left mouse: Release the political victims

May 20, 2012  
Categories: Today in History



20 Years Ago: [Black May – City braces for more riots](#)



# Red Shirt deaths: Should we forgive and forget?

May 20, 2012

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The banner reads: Bon Kai residents have never forgotten the 15 bodies of heroes who passed away. People are welcome to light candles to salute and memorize all heroes here at 6pm.

[Red Shirt rally recalls bloodshed](#) – AFP, May 20, 2012

*...The city's vast Central World shopping mall, which was set alight in the chaotic and bloody endgame to the 2010 protests, closed early as the crowd packed into the courtyard outside waiting for Mr Thaksin's address.*

*"We love him," said Sunan Chansinng, who made the two-hour trip from Pattaya for the rally. "He cares about the poor and nobody else does in Thailand..."*

[Thaksin: Let's put unity before justice](#) – Bangkok Post, May 20, 2012

*..."We have to drag the murderers into jail. We have to execute them," Mr Suporn said. "Real power is not in the hands of the government. It's still in the hand of the ammart. The Yingluck government's power is with the red shirts."*

*Tida Tawornseth, UDD chairwoman, said reconciliation could only come after justice. "It's not that we don't want reconciliation. But reconciliation must come with truth. There must be truth and justice before reconciliation," she said...*

[Thailand: 2 years after conflict, gunmen go unnamed](#) – globalpost.com, May 19, 2012

*...As relatives of the dead solemnly commemorate the protests' two-year anniversary, there is little hope that their loved ones' killers will ever face trial.*

*No soldier or official has been charged. The identities of armed commandoes within protest camps, who sometimes resisted troops with their own military-grade weapons, remain a mystery.*

*The mystery may go unsolved forever. A pending amnesty bill in parliament would absolve all officials, protesters, cops and troops implicated in the 2010 political violence.*

*The bill's passage would continue a pattern in Thailand: explosive protests, harsh army crackdown and then amnesty all around. The latest round of protests recalls protesters challenging the Thai army's grip on politics in 1976 and 1992. Both were sparked by popular anger towards coup plotters. Both ended in scores of civilian deaths...*

# When the Red Shirts Accepted an Offer of New Elections & Announced an End to Their Rally

May 20, 2012

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Road to victory is red](#) – Bangkok Post, May 20, 2012

*...By May 3, 2010, Mr Abhisit proposed to dissolve parliament in September and hold an election on Nov 14, if the protesters were willing to stand down. The UDD had achieved its objective. Extreme measures worked out for them. They got what they came for. UDD leaders announced their acceptance of the terms. They told Thailand and the world they were setting a date for disbanding their demonstration. Then they changed their minds...*

The full article:

*Road to victory is red – Bangkok Post, May 20, 2012*

*Two years after the bloody crackdown on May 19, 2010, Thaksin Shinawatra is on the road to victory, one that is paved by blood, death and political intrigue, engineered by both sides of the political divide and the finishing line has little to do with democracy.*

*The Thai political landscape since the September 2006 coup has been shaped by intrigue and injustice, more so than usual. In February, 2010, the red shirt United Front for Democracy Against Dictatorship (UDD) once again gathered. They demanded a general election. They had every democratic right to do so.*

*What followed was a two-month siege of Bangkok, but a peaceful, democratic protest soon flirted with the extremes. One step into the extreme always leads to another more extreme step and eventually open rebellion.*

*Painting then prime minister Abhisit Vejjajiva's residence red with human blood was stepping into the extreme. But extremes are required otherwise a demonstration is likely to go unnoticed. Holding concerts in Sanam Luang would not have achieved any political aims.*

*Storming the Thaicom satellite station was also an extreme act, but government troops had shut down the red shirt People's Channel. An extreme situation required an extreme measure.*

*The illegal occupation of Ratchaprasong district caused, according to reports, as many as 100,000 people to be out of work, and many to go bankrupt. The irony is that the movement for democracy trampled on the basic human rights of others. But even in this, sympathetic observers can empathise and reason that an extreme situation required an extreme measure.*

*However, extreme measures would eventually be met with extreme reactions.*

*At Phan Fah Bridge, troops clashed with protesters. Twenty-five people were killed and more than 800 injured, five of whom were members of security forces. Extreme measures went beyond acceptable bounds, and both sides were guilty.*

*By May 3, 2010, Mr Abhisit proposed to dissolve parliament in September and hold an election on Nov 14, if the protesters were willing to stand down. The UDD had achieved its objective. Extreme measures worked out for them. They got what they came for. UDD leaders announced their acceptance of the terms. They told Thailand and the world they were setting a date for disbanding their demonstration.*

*Then they changed their minds.*

*Some argued the reason was that UDD leaders didn't want to face criminal charges against them. Some argued that UDD leaders wanted government and army leaders to face criminal charges also. Some argued*

*that Thaksin made the call because given the public mood a November election might not go in his favour. Some argued that Mr Abhisit was lying.*

*In any case, democracy was sacrificed, whether due to fear of criminal charges, a vendetta against the government and army leaders, personal political interests, or mistrust. And the red shirts supported their leaders in ignoring democracy. The irony of it.*

*The struggle was evidently less about democracy, and more about personalities.*

*So it was a stalemate, senseless and aimless. Meanwhile, Bangkok was fast disintegrating into a state of anarchy; every day bullets were exchanged and bombs . Instead of democracy, there was anarchy. Law and order must be restored. The law must be swift, severe and certain, otherwise there is anarchy. In Thailand, the law is often slow, soft and uncertain, except when it concerns lese majeste. Hence, criminals enjoy trampling on the law in a country often called lawless, even without this red uprising.*

*Facing anarchy and an open rebellion, the government asked the UDD leadership to send home the civilians before government troops moved in to make arrests. Nobody wished to go home. Government troops moved in on May 19 to arrest law breakers. The UDD resisted with violence, a bloody and unfortunate crackdown ensued at the hands of the authorities; Bangkok and provincial city halls burned at the hands of red shirts.*

*Two years and 91 dead bodies later, the UDD still believe they have the right to break laws and resist arrest without repercussions, a democratic movement continuing to display anarchist behaviour, believing they are above the law. Inciters of violence and people who break the law must be punished, but instead their leaders sit in parliament.*

*Under the emergency decree, government troops are not legally liable for their actions. But the law must also be just, or it is not democratic. An emergency decree should not excuse wanton violence. Justice must be served. Those found to have used excessive violence must be punished, but none are. The mysterious men in black should be identified and brought to justice, but none will be.*

*True justice is the same for both sides; swift, severe and certain. Instead, we have two children on the playground, arguing, "You respect the law first!" "No, you first!" "No, you first!" "No, I won't if you don't!" "Well then, I won't either!"*

*Consequently, two years and 91 dead bodies later, the law continues to be slow, soft and uncertain, except where lese majeste is concerned. Instead the hate is swift, severe and certainly perpetuating, with cries of injustice screamed and acts of injustice committed by both sides of the political divide. The irony of it.*

*The death and destruction was unfortunate and tragic. It could have and should have all been avoided. But that didn't happen. Justice must be served, but that is not going to happen either. The DSI might have linked 25 deaths to the military, but that is stating the obvious, understating it in fact. The question is, will anyone put the handcuffs on the generals? The DSI's findings were just for show. It is this hatred that helps keep the UDD going strong, in their actions and in the streets. This is what helped the Pheu Thai Party to victory in the July 2011 general election and helps build the red villages. It is this hatred of Thailand's traditional elites that will pave Thaksin's road to victory.*

*The bungles sadly and comically committed by the Yingluck Shinawatra administration don't matter. These can't compare with the cries of "You killed 91 people" \_ never mind that those deaths also included soldiers. The approval rating of PM Yingluck is still the envy of any national leader. This struggle is not about democracy; it's about the hate for them and the love for us.*

*He who controls the national budget controls national destiny, and his name is Thaksin. Every region, province, town, district, village and house wants a taste of the 2.4 trillion budget bill that will be debated in parliament this coming week \_ as they should, everyone is entitled.*

*Thaksin once famously said that those provinces that didn't vote for him should not expect anything from him. But he should be wiser now. The national budget could be used as an incentive for more of Thailand to bow to Thaksin.*

*The once powerful political parties/factions and their mighty overlords have all been effectively swallowed up by Pheu Thai. Red villages are mushrooming; one is even being built in Songkhla province, the southern heartland of the Democrats. Whether by accident or design, hates and the injustices are to the benefit of Thaksin \_ a true opportunist knows how to capitalise, and a businessman who isn't an opportunist is a bankrupt businessman.*

*His sister makes for an ideal brand ambassador, to be adored, defended and championed by most red shirts. His best people \_ whose political bans will be lifted at month's end \_ are set to take charge, officially. UDD leaders, inciters of violence, sit in parliament. Other political parties and players have become but convenient pawns. Invasion of the stronghold of the Democrats has begun. The 2.4 trillion baht budget is a cake that everyone wants to taste.*

*By this time next year, our PM could very well be someone holding a Montenegro passport. Many would argue that this is the unavoidable next step in the evolution of Thai politics \_ one extreme leading to another. Bumpy it will be and unless there's a U-turn ahead somewhere, this is the road to victory. This is not about right or wrong, this is about who plays the better game, and has more luck on their side.*

*Of one thing we can be sure; the law will be swifter, severer and more certain under Thaksin, if his past record as prime minister is anything to go by. As far as justice is concerned however, we would have to go by his human rights record.*

# Reds Then and Now

May 21, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 21, 2012

Left, words on the shirts of prominent Red Shirt leaders: Peasant

Right, words on the shirts of prominent Red Shirt leaders: Aristocrat, Aristocrat's wife, Aristocrat, Nearly become Aristocrat

The caption reads: Wearing the wrong shirt?

# **Australian Medical Association: Thailand is the HIV capital of the world**

May 21, 2012

Categories: HIV-AIDS

[Sex tourism to Thailand and Indonesia driving rise in HIV cases](#) – The Courier-Mail, May 21, 2012

...He said Thailand and Papua New Guinea had the highest rate of HIV per head of population, with 1300 out of every 100,000 people diagnosed with the disease in Thailand and 900 per 100,000 in PNG.

“I would want to get that message out again about safe sex – I don’t know how much young men are aware that Thailand is the HIV capital of the world,” Dr Kidd said...

# Details of Thaksin and Manchester City

May 21, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Manchester City: a tale of love and money](#) – guardian.co.uk, May 18, 2012

*...At the end of August 2008, Manchester City, always written up as the people's club (in contrast to Manchester United's corporate greed), had been owned by the fugitive former prime minister of Thailand, Thaksin Shinawatra. He was accused of murderous human rights abuses, had been convicted in absentia of corruption and the club was hurtling towards ruin.*

*...in June 2007, somewhat desperate, agreed to sell to Thaksin Shinawatra, who had been accused of human rights abuses, ousted as prime minister of Thailand in a military coup, charged with three counts of corruption and had his financial assets in Thailand frozen. He appointed Sven Göran-Eriksson as manager and provided the wherewithal to sign exciting new players including Martin Petrov, Vedran Corluka and Elano, a real, live Brazilian international. The accounts from Thaksin's single season owning Manchester City, 2007–08, show that, as many had suspected, Elano, Petrov and several others were signed in installments, not as the result of massive investment from Thaksin. He had put some money into the club, but not as much as it had appeared. A year later, with Thaksin on the run, City's finances plummeted.*

*...Abu Dhabi United did not say at the time exactly how much they had paid for Manchester City, but a figure of £150m later emerged, meaning that Thaksin had made a personal profit of £90m...*



# **Lost in Transition: Transgender People, Rights and HIV Vulnerability in the Asia-Pacific Region**

May 21, 2012

Categories: HIV-AIDS

[Lost in Transition: Transgender People, Rights and HIV Vulnerability in the Asia-Pacific Region](#) – undp.org,  
May 17, 2012

...Figures cited in WHO, UNDP and UNAIDS (2009) and Godwin (2010)...cite city as follows: Lahore 0.5 percent, Bangkok 11 percent; Phuket 12 percent; Bandung, 14 percent; Chiang Mai 17 percent and 18 percent (two studies); Surabaya, 25 percent; Jakarta, 22 percent and 34 percent (two studies); Phnom Penh 37 percent; Mumbai, 42 percent; Delhi 49 percent...

Earlier: [Australian Medical Association: Thailand is the HIV capital of the world](#)

# **SRT Mulls Running Diesel Trains on the Complete Red-line Section**

May 22, 2012

Categories: Mass Transit

[SRT Mulls Running Diesel Trains on the Complete Red-line Section](#) – TAN, May 21, 2012

The State Railway of Thailand is considering operating traditional diesel trains on the 15-kilometer section of the Red Line electric rail route from Bang Sue to Talingchan, expected to be complete this month...

# Yingluck Everywhere

May 22, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Decade of action for road safety 2011-2020 — Help making roads safe — Travel safely  
Road Safety Center, Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department, Interior Ministry  
Left: Thanit Tienthong, deputy interior minister  
Right: Yongyuth Vichaidith, deputy PM and interior minister; Yingluck Shinawatra, prime minister



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

At the airport: Prime Minister's Cup – Street Soccer – It is a new project to protect and to fight against drug problems as well as to support youth to have a good quality of living. Street Soccer consists of 5 people per team – the rewards are a trophy, 17 million baht and a free travel package to watch Premiere League in the United Kingdom.

# What It's Like In Thailand's Deadliest Prison

May 22, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[What It's Like In Thailand's Deadliest Prison](#) – huffingtonpost.com, May 21, 2012

...A U.S. State Department study found that every year spent in a Thai prison is equivalent (in damage done to body and mind) to five years in a standard U.S. prison.

...Decent food is denied, medical care is made unavailable; as are the thousands of other ways that people have found to hurt each other. Torturing the body and mind to the limits of endurance is a perverse art form that's often refined to its highest degree by authorities in prison.

But Thai prison is far less violent than the U.S. prison system, as Western societies are far more obsessed with domination and control; which thus makes our prisons more coercive and subject to destructive outbursts...

# Nine Years Ago: Klong Mass Transit

May 23, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Nine Years Ago: [Klong Mass Transit](#)

# **Moken gypsies find themselves at sea in the modern world**

May 23, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Moken gypsies find themselves at sea in the modern world](#) – brisbanetimes.com.au, May 22, 2012

...They are recognised by the Thai government, which provides some health benefits and education, but they do not have citizenship.

Just a few years ago the children had never seen a banana or apple, ridden in a motor vehicle, watched television, could not write or count and became frightened when someone took their picture, believing they were trapped in the camera. They still have no running water or toilets in their shacks which do not have walls or windows...

# The story of Abu Zubaydah, waterboarded 83 times in Thailand

May 23, 2012

Categories: Thai Secret Prison

[An Excellent Reason Not to Torture Prisoners](#) – NYT, May 22, 2012

*...Later, Mr. Zubaydah was turned over to the C.I.A. and to a secret prison in Thailand, where he was water-boarded at least 83 times in one month. In the early 2000s, such treatment was routine: The Bush administration reasoned that, after 9/11, anyone who objected to torture was hopelessly naïve. Anything short of torture, they seemed to think, meant coddling terrorists.*

*But Mr. Zubaydah's interrogators told the Times that, after being water-boarded, he revealed nothing more of value. The C.I.A. succeeded only in tainting the evidence against him...*

More on the [Thai Secret Prison](#)



# Thai Director Endorses Analog Movie Camera

May 23, 2012

Categories: Film and TV

[Thai Director Endorses Analog Movie Camera](#) – wwd.com, May 22, 2012

Photography company Lomography has teamed up with video-on-demand platform Mubi to create a special edition of its LomoKino hand-cranked analogue movie camera, endorsed and signed by award-winning Thai director Apichatpong Weerasethakul...

# Thailand on a panic-stricken afternoon

May 23, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand on a panic-stricken afternoon](#) – theage.com.au, May 20, 2012

*...Panic takes longer to set in when it's being expressed all around you in a foreign language, so we can only giggle when a hysterical lady boy runs past us, screaming into his mobile phone: "We're going to die..."*

# Myanmar's Suu Kyi to speak at forum in Bangkok

May 23, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar's Suu Kyi to speak at forum in Bangkok](#) – AP, May 23, 2012

A party official says Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi will speak at an economic conference next week in Thailand's capital, in her first trip abroad in 24 years...

# Thaksin Tricked the Buffaloes

May 24, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 24, 2012

The buffaloes say: Meow , you think who we are? So you lied to us.

The caption reads: No need to doubt it.

# Controversial Cambodian Activist Fights Southeast Asian Sex Trade

May 24, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Controversial Cambodian Activist Fights Southeast Asian Sex Trade](#) – AFP, May 23, 2012

...This position, which underpins Mam's reliance on brothel raids as a tool to fight trafficking, enrages other activists, such as the Asia Pacific Sex Worker Network, which argues consenting adult sex workers need "rights not rescues."

Sweeping raid-and-rescue operations and police round-ups of street-based sex workers are not only ineffective, experts say, but lead to "systematic violations of sex workers' human rights," New York-based Human Rights Watch said in 2010 report.

Mam's organization, AFESIP, has also been criticized for accepting sex workers picked up during Cambodian police roundups which HRW has said constitute "arbitrary arrests and detentions of innocent people."

Mam dismissed HRW's assessment...

# Parents of students killed in Thailand coach crash make travel plea

May 24, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News, Highways and Roads

[Parents of students killed in Thailand coach crash make travel plea](#) – BBC, May 23, 2012

...”We would like the FCO (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) to update its website to the level that the US does, indicating that it’s extremely dangerous travelling by road...”

# **Lady Gaga keeps her cool in Bangkok despite wearing a rubber suit in temperatures of 33C**

May 24, 2012

Categories: Music

[Not feeling the heat... Lady Gaga keeps her cool in Bangkok despite wearing a rubber suit in temperatures of 33C](#) – Daily Mail, May 23, 2012

...Gaga has two days off before she performs in the country and she told her fans she hopes to buy a fake Rolex at the market...

# From rickshaws to riches: Amazing photos of Bangkok from 100 years ago that show a metropolis in the making

May 24, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



[From rickshaws to riches: Amazing photos of Bangkok from 100 years ago that show a metropolis in the making](#) – Daily Mail, May 23, 2012

[More old photos from 2Bangkok.com](#)



# **Lady Gaga's comment about buying fake Rolex sparks backlash in Thailand**

May 24, 2012

Categories: Music

[Lady Gaga's comment about buying fake Rolex sparks backlash in Thailand](#) – AP, May 24, 2012

...Now she is stirring nationalist fervour in Thailand, where people tend to get upset when the country's seedy underworld is highlighted by outsiders.

"We are more civilized than you think," tweeted Thai DJ Surahit Siamwalla, who has a ticket to Friday's show in Bangkok but said he plans to boycott.

"She came to our home, but instead of admiring us she insulted us," said a commentator on popular Thai web board pantip.com...

# Thai's Irrawaddy Dolphins At Risk Of Extinction

May 25, 2012

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[Thai's Irrawaddy Dolphins At Risk Of Extinction](#) – Bernama, May 25, 2012

...In April and May this year, local fishermen found seven dead dolphins in the Irrawaddy Dolphin conservation zone in Songkhla Lake...

# Thailand transfers telephone fraud suspects to China

May 25, 2012

Categories: China

[Fraud suspects transferred](#) – chinadaily.com.cn, May 25, 2012

...Yang said the suspects were based in Taiwan and funded the whole fraud operation. Others were divided into several major groups, including phone calls, network maintenance, and specialists in withdrawing, transferring and laundering money.

“The ring leaders bought or rented network servers and equipment to set up the host computer and circuits in Taiwan, and calling bases were scattered in Thailand, Malaysia, Cambodia, Indonesia and even Fiji,” he said.

“Meanwhile, they mainly hired unemployed young men from the Chinese mainland, who were cheated to work abroad with high salaries with tourist visas, and received formal training to form a complete fraud operation,” Yang said...

# Why doing business in Bali is no holiday

May 25, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Why doing business in Bali is no holiday](#) – smh.com.au, May 21, 2012

...Her advice to other business owners setting up in Bali is to “be extremely careful and try not to trust anyone, no matter how charming they may be”.

“Also be prepared for setbacks, lots of surprises and remember that if you do manage to get through all the trials and tribulations, being able to call Bali your home is a wonderful thing.

“The most important point to remember is one basic cultural difference. We bules – foreigners – tend to plan for the future while most Balinese live in the here and now.”

# **Born this way? Lady Gaga meets Thai ‘lady boys’**

May 25, 2012

Categories: Music

[Born this way? Lady Gaga meets Thai ‘lady boys’](#) – AP, May 26, 2012

...”A million people have to pay to see a Gaga concert, but Gaga paid to see our show!” cabaret manager Nipon Boonmasuwan told Friday’s Thairath newspaper. When the performance ended, she took the stage to shake hands with the dancers and handed out six tickets to her Friday night show...

# Golden Teak Transforms Derelict Thai Mansion

May 25, 2012

Categories: Buildings

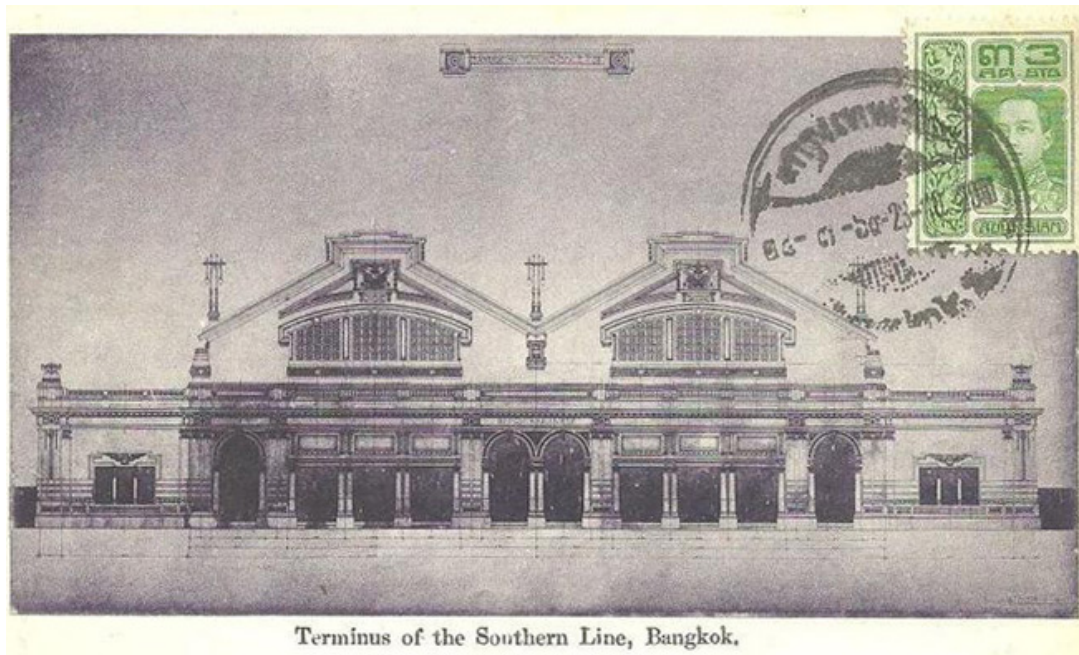
[Golden Teak Transforms Derelict Thai Mansion](#) – NYT, May 24, 2012

*...he columns — 50 of them, each 9 meters, or 30 feet, tall — are the structural support for the house, built with scholarly precision in the Lanna Thai style...*

# Terminus of the Southern Line, Bangkok

May 26, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Old postcard, Terminus of the Southern Line, Bangkok

# No settlement in sight for southern Thailand

May 26, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[No settlement in sight for southern Thailand](#) – atimes.com, May 23, 2012

*...War termination expert Monica Duffy Toft, an associate professor of public policy at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government...has found that negotiated settlements are two times more likely to break down and return to hostilities than decisive military victories. Toft and other academics note that in victory the outcome effectively eliminates one side or, more frequently, damages it to an extent where it must abandon its political goals. These insights and the general trend towards settlements may help to explain the contrasts between the current insurgency in southern Thailand and the comparatively weaker one waged during the late 1960s through the 1980s. With extensive support from the United States, Thailand's military had a decisive edge over the earlier generation of Malay Muslim separatists.*

*...the Thai military lacks the same level of US military support it enjoyed during the Cold War to militarily defeat domestic threats. At the same time, by providing aid to civil society groups, many foreign donors and governments, including the US, are propping up a domestic movement that is pressing the Thai government to introduce substantial reforms and negotiate with insurgents. These international dynamics have played a role in tilting the balance-of-power towards insurgents and contributed to a protracted military stalemate...*



## **Eight Years Ago: Gay Isaan movie wins hearts, prize at Cannes**

May 26, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Eight Years Ago: [Gay Isaan movie wins hearts, prize at Cannes](#)

# **British teacher, 40, fighting for his life in Thailand after ‘stranger savagely attacked him with a metal bar’**

May 26, 2012

Categories: Thailand in the International Media

[British teacher, 40, fighting for his life in Thailand after ‘stranger savagely attacked him with a metal bar’](#) – Daily Mail, May 25, 2012

# HM The King's visit to Ayutthaya

May 26, 2012

Categories: The Monarchy



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=>



# Myanmar Mystery: A Missing Vice President

May 26, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar Mystery: A Missing Vice President](#) – WSJ, May 26, 2012

...However, a government official familiar with the situation confirmed in response to questions that Mr. Tin Aung Myint Oo, who is 61 years old, was out on “medical leave” with “a serious medical problem” and “may be” considering resignation. The official declined to provide further details...

Also: [Myanmar power protests put new reforms to the test](#) – AP, May 25, 2012

# Fake Stuff All Over Thailand

May 27, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, May 27, 2012

The caption reads : There's many fake stuff all over Thailand.

Top left: There are real policemen and fake policemen.

Top middle: There are real MP and fake MP.

Top right: There's real democracy and fake democracy.

Bottom left: There's real travellers and fake travellers.

Bottom middle: There's the real prime minister and fake prime minister.

Bottom right: There is the real speaker of parliament and fake speaker of parliament.



# The Release of the 111

May 27, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 27, 2012

The cartoon title reads; The good smell of freedom

A mouse on the left: Lucky that you were released.

On the small sign: Release political prisoners

# Nine Years Ago: Thaksin takes on the godfathers

May 27, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Nine Years Ago: [Thaksin takes on the godfathers](#)



# Living large in Thailand: Steroids in Pattaya

May 27, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[‘Steroid vacations’ a dangerous rage for the ripped](#) – theage.com.au, May 27, 2012

...In 2006, bodybuilder John Hurlock was arrested and charged at his Townsville home for smuggling steroids into Australia. But Hurlock fled the country before he could be prosecuted. Today he lives in exile in central Bangkok, where he buys the same drugs over the counter at the chemist.

"I ordered steroids online and the second time I did so, the Queensland cops came crashing through my door with sniffer dogs. I find that crazy," Hurlock told The Sunday Age. Each week, he "cycles", which involves using a combination of deca durabolin, testosterone cypionate and trenbolone, a powerful horse drug that is widely considered the best anabolic steroid on the black market, but also the worst for side effects...

[Living large in Thailand: Sharky's tale](#) – watoday.com.au, May 27, 2012

..."I do it because it makes me feel good, and whose business is it to say I shouldn't? Look at all the damage done by alcohol and tobacco. They cause far more destruction to people's lives..."

[Zyzz, the late bodybuilder who gets Googled as much as Gillard](#) – smh.com.au, May 27, 2012

Larger photos of the steroid "athletes" [here](#).

# Pickpockets hit Lady Gaga concert in Bangkok

May 27, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Pickpockets hit Lady Gaga concert in Bangkok](#) – Asia News Network (The Nation), May 27, 2012

Police arrested five members of a Vietnamese pick-pocket gang at Suvarnabhumi Airport as they were about to flee home after reportedly stealing valuables from fans during the Lady Gaga concert in Bangkok on Friday...

# Do Not Dump Rubbish Here

May 28, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Do not dump rubbish here!

# Thaksin's Road Up the Mountain

May 28, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 28, 2012

Man: You dismissed them like that... but if you can't reach your destination, when you come back, they won't help you.

Thaksin: Wooo... those people are stupid, I will come back and deceive them shortly and then I can use them the same as before.

# Amid the Ruins, Reconciliation for Thaksin

May 29, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, May 29, 2012

The caption reads: At least this act of parliament could make these two persons reconciled.

Coup leader Gen. Sonthi says: Let's forget our disagreement in the past, Meaw.

Thaksin says: Yes, Bung, let's reconcile.

# Lady Gaga in Bangkok

May 29, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Thairath, May 24, 2012

The photo caption reads: Gaga has come. Superstar Lady Gaga mugs good-naturedly for a mobile-phone photo with her Thai music fans. A large crowd of fans went to Don Mueang airport to welcome and greet their superstar by screaming. Lady Gaga arrived on from the Philippines on her personal jet.

[Lady Gaga keeps her cool in Bangkok despite wearing a rubber suit in temperatures of 33C](#)

[Lady Gaga's comment about buying fake Rolex sparks backlash in Thailand](#)

[Born this way? Lady Gaga meets Thai 'lady boys'](#)

[Pickpockets hit Lady Gaga concert in Bangkok](#)

[Thailand's culture ministry filed a complaint to police against Lady Gaga for misuse of the Thai flag](#)

[Forget Gaga—Indonesia Wild for Own Raunchy Shows](#)







From Komchadluek, May 25, 2012



# **In Cambodia, a Start-Up Combines Web Sales Skills and Hair Extensions**

May 30, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[In Cambodia, a Start-Up Combines Web Sales Skills and Hair Extensions](#) – NYT, May 28, 2012

...The e-commerce site that sells hair extensions operates out of a five-story building here that lacks elevators and, sometimes, power. Employees typically have to travel to remote villages by motorbike or foot to pick up the goods that Arjuni sells. And the office floor is cluttered with piles of hair strands instead of computers...

# Amid Disorganization, Aung San Suu Kyi Visits Thailand

May 30, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Amid Disorganization, Aung San Suu Kyi Visits Thailand](#) – NYT, May 30, 2012

...A trip outside Myanmar is a personal milestone for Ms. Aung San Suu Kyi — her first journey abroad in 24 years. But planning it appears to have been an afterthought. For example, no one from her office contacted the Thai Foreign Ministry, which normally coordinates such high-profile visits. “As far as I know, we have not been approached by her team,” Mr. Thani said a few hours before she was to land.

...In the year and a half since her release from house arrest, those who have had dealings with her have generally been forgiving of the quirks of her operation: her staff is hard to reach and e-mails often go unanswered.

# **Thailand 41st most attractive environment among ASEAN countries for developing tourism**

May 30, 2012

Categories: Tourism

[Singapore most attractive: Report](#) – newkerala.com, May 30, 2012

...ASEAN member countries span the entire rankings. Singapore, the highest placed nation in the bloc, ranks 10th out of the 139 countries. Next are Malaysia (35th) and Thailand (41st), which do well despite some weaknesses...

# **Big expansion planned for overcrowded Bangkok airport**

May 30, 2012

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[Big expansion planned for overcrowded Bangkok airport](#) – Reuters, May 30, 2012

Airports of Thailand Pcl (AOT) is to spend about \$1.9 billion over the next five years to expand capacity at Bangkok's overcrowded Suvarnabhumi airport by a third...

# **JPF calls on Thai Government to prevent enforced disappearances and ensure remedies for past disappearances**

May 30, 2012

Categories: Human Rights

[JPF calls on Thai Government to prevent enforced disappearances and ensure remedies for past disappearances](#) – [humanrights.asia](http://humanrights.asia), May 29, 2012

*...JPF has found that two government policies directly contributed to increasing enforced disappearances in Thailand: the highly militarized counter-insurgency approach adopted in southern Thailand by various governments and the War on Narcotic Drugs beginning in 2003. In addition to these two policies, JPF has found that particular categories of people are vulnerable to enforced disappearances throughout Thailand. These are: (i) people with close relationships with officials and /or come into conflict with officials; (ii) activists engaged in human rights, political or corruption activism; (iii) witnesses of crimes or human rights violations; and (iv) migrants...*

# Rushing the House Speaker

May 30, 2012

Categories: The Thaksin Years



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=>



With the government reneging on conducting public hearings on its reconciliation bills and being pressured by dissatisfaction from Red Shirts and former Thai Rak Thai execs demanding cabinet posts, a lightning quick passage of some form of bill that creates a blanket pardon will be crucial.

Tonight's surprise attempt by the House Speaker to speed up the debate and voting on these bills is typical of this strategy. It was met with a physical response from the opposition as they rushed to stop the speaker from ramming through the measure.

# Student Thuggery

May 31, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



From Thairath, May 26, 2012

The photo caption reads: Students/gangsters: CCTVs at Bang Na BTS station caught this picture of Bangkok Technology students while they closed the road and stopped an air-con bus no. 129 to get on and hurt their rival students. The driver refused to stop, so they fired at the bus, wounding a male bank employee.

# Weekly News Magazine, May 25, 2012

May 31, 2012

Categories: Uncategorized



From Nation Weekly, May 25, 2012

The cover reads: Thung Makham Yong – Paddy field of His Majesty the King



From Matichon Weekly, May 25, 2012

The cover reads: Reconciliation?





From Siamrath, May 25, 2012

The cover reads: 'Thaksin – Red Shirts' cannot cut off relations

# Firing the Thai Airways chief

May 31, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, May 21, 2012

The caption reads: Fall from the heavens

On a chair: Piyasawat

More

2015: [How politics ran Thai Airways into the ground](#)

2014: [The Thai Airways CEO who was fired after leading a financial turnaround](#)

# Thaksin's Son Eats Cheap Noodles

May 31, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 31, 2012

Thaksin's son Oak says: This shop is really cheap... I can pay just my leftover money to get this very big bowl of noodles.

On the cart: BUNG good taste – The national reconciliation act. – Pay cash, no credit, sick of demanding payment

The caption reads: Oh... Oak recommended some cheap stuff again.

# **Coming out in Cambodia: Women in same-sex relationships stand up for human rights**

May 31, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Coming out in Cambodia: Women in same-sex relationships stand up for human rights](#) – Guardian, May 30, 2012

In a Cambodian case that has attracted UN attention, Phlong Srey Rann is currently serving a five- year prison sentence for having sex with her girlfriend. She has been charged with human trafficking and illegal detention despite insisting that their relationship was consensual.

The case is surrounded by controversy and police are suspected of fabricating charges that the defendants' girlfriend was underage...

# Amnesty Showdown – May 31, 2012

May 31, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Yingluck Backs Party Efforts That May Absolve Thaksin](#) – Bloomberg, May 31, 2012

...“Reconciliation must be accepted by the majority of the people,” Yingluck said in an interview in Bangkok today, amid opposition to draft proposals that call for an amnesty for certain charges since the generals ousted her brother, Thaksin Shinawatra. “We got the clear mandate from the people...”

[Thai bill targets Thaksin Shinawatra return](#) – AP, May 31, 2012

[More police at Parliament](#) – Bangkok Post, May 31, 2012

[1,000 reds join ex-TRT execs to celebrate end of political ban](#) – The Nation, May 31, 2012

...Via video link, Thaksin vowed that he will never forget the red-shirt supporters and will always be grateful for their backing.

“I might be unclear because [the signal is very bad because I am outside and it’s causing me to lose concentration. In case there’s any misunderstanding, I apologise to you now,” he said. “I am a grateful person. I will never forget, not even the person who handed me a glass of water. Red-shirt brothers and sisters, I will never forget you.”

“When I return, I will turn red-shirt power into being the power to build a good economy and society for Thailand,” he said...

[PAD wants to be in House chamber](#) – Bangkok Post, May 31, 2012

...Citing Sections 56, 87(2) and 87(3) of the constitution regarding the people’s right to have access to public information, the PAD wants 200 of its supporters to be allowed inside the House chamber to listen to the debate.

The House speaker is asked to reply to the request in one hour...

[Thaksin says sorry for ‘anger’ remarks](#) – Bangkok Post, May 31, 2012

...Thaksin closed his speech by encouraging the House No.111 politicians to let bygones be bygones and proceed down their political paths again.

“My brothers, today it’s time for us to return to resume political roles and help drive the country forward,” he said...

[MPs brawl in unity bill chaos](#) – Bangkok Post, May 31, 2012

...The House of Representatives erupted into chaos when Mr Somsak cut short the opposition’s protest and called for a vote to decide if reconciliation bills should be moved to the top of the agenda.

Democrat MP Thana Chirawinit approached Mr Somsak’s bench and criticised him for serving Thaksin...

[Thai “yellow shirts” rally against Thaksin amnesty moves](#) – Reuters, May 30, 2012

Earlier: [Rushing the House Speaker](#)

# Video: Police ring House Speaker as reconciliation/amnesty bills expedited

May 31, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=>



This time a successful attempt to expedite the debate on the reconciliation/amnesty bills as police ring the speaker and opposition MPs shout and throw things.

Also: [Amnesty Showdown – May 31, 2012](#)

Yesterday: [Video: Rushing the House Speaker](#)

# Forget Gaga—Indonesia Wild for Own Raunchy Shows

May 31, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Forget Gaga—Indonesia Wild for Own Raunchy Shows](#) – AP, May 31, 2012

...Preteen boys watch the singer wide-eyed as she straddles a speaker, whipping her long hair wildly. She licks the microphone and drops to the ground, repeatedly thrusting her pelvis toward a camera. Lady Gaga's onstage antics are almost tame compared to this act, known as dangdut, the most popular genre of music in this predominantly Muslim nation of 240 million...

# News from Myanmar

May 31, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar banking's new "wow" factor – ATMs](#)

[In Myanmar, stigma and neglect add to HIV misery](#)

[Bono to present Amnesty award to Suu Kyi in Dublin](#)



# **Suu Kyi's promise: I will try my best for you. Don't feel let down, or weak. History is always changing.**

June 1, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Suu Kyi's promise to Burmese in Thailand](#) – brisbanetimes.com.au, May 31, 2012

..."Today I will make you one promise. I will try my best for you," she told a crowd of thousands of cheering and flag-waving Burmese in a town 25 kilometres south-west of Bangkok, who welcomed her like a pop star.

"Don't feel let down, or weak. History is always changing," she said on the first day of a four-day visit to Thailand...

# Fighting Among Themselves

June 1, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, May 13, 2012

The cartoon title reads: As if they don't know they share the same fate

Holding onto the branch, from left to right: 111 , Pheu Thai, UDD

Crocodiles, from left to right: The movement – To destroy the red shirts – To overthrow the government

On the hooded figure: Ordering people to be killed

# Yingluck Pressured

June 1, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, May 16, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Between the hands of a friend and an enemy

Left hand: Movement to overthrow the government – Democrats

Right hand: Pheu Thai – 111, UDD

Left mouse: Release the political victims

Right mouse: Don't squeeze

# Four Years Ago: Experience the joyfulness of children who live cultural lives

June 1, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Four Years Ago: [Experience the joyfulness of children who live cultural lives](#)

# Thaksin Ditching the Red Shirts

June 1, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, May 23, 2012

Words on the car: Aristocracy

# Amnesty Showdown – June 1, 2012

June 1, 2012

Categories: The Thaksin Years

[Bills debate postponed indefinitely](#) – Bangkok Post, June 1, 2012

[House meeting adjourned after protesters surround Parliament](#) – The Nation, June 1, 2012

The House meeting scheduled for deliberation of national reconciliation bills was adjourned from 9:30 am after protesters surrounded Parliament...

[Bangkok Blues](#) – Foreign Policy, May 22, 2012

...How could this have happened? How did one of the world's most promising democracies melt down so quickly? And what does Thailand's regression tell us about the strength — or lack thereof — of democracy in many developing countries? Indeed, Thailand suffers from several of the problems that have plagued other emerging democracies, such as Pakistan, the Philippines, Russia, and Venezuela, and have led to their regression over the past five years — a period that monitoring groups like Freedom House have marked as a global rollback of democracy.

...Like other elected autocrats including Russia's Vladimir Putin, Venezuela's Hugo Chávez, and Thaksin's friend, Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, Thaksin viewed democracy as merely a series of regular votes, after which the victor could use his electoral victories to crush all other challengers...

[Emerging World's Middle Class: Crying, 'Stop!'](#) – Forbes, May 31, 2012

[Prospect of Thaksin Return Heats Up Thailand](#) – AP, May 31, 2012

[Thaksin return talk excites Thai politics](#) – bigpondnews.com, May 31, 2012

[Yingluck Bets on Army Calm as Thai Strains Rise: Southeast Asia](#) – Bloomberg News, May 31, 2012

Earlier

[Amnesty Showdown – May 31, 2012](#)

May 31: [Video: Police ring House Speaker as reconciliation/amnesty bills expedited](#)

May 30: [Video: Rushing the House Speaker](#)

# **Beware of the gang on board the Singapore flights**

June 1, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Beware of the gang on board the Singapore flights](#) – tourexp.com, May 31, 2012

...They would strike during boarding operations, or in-flight when passengers are asleep or when using the toilets...

# Suu Kyi Shines, But Party's PR Machine Stumbles

June 1, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Suu Kyi Shines, But Party's PR Machine Stumbles](#) – The Irrawaddy, June 1, 2012

...Although some media managed to capture the moment Suu Kyi set foot on foreign soil for the first time in 24 years, the time of her arrival at Bangkok's international airport on Tuesday night was a mystery to most, because no one at the NLD's headquarters in Rangoon was available to confirm it.

Responding to criticism of the party's apparent lack of coordination, NLD spokesperson Ohn Kyaing explained that the problem stemmed largely from a lack of access to modern tools of communication. "We hope that the international media understands that we don't have all the high-tech gadgets," said Ohn Kyaing, speaking to The Irrawaddy by phone from Rangoon on Friday. "Our headquarters doesn't even have contact with right now..."

Also: [Suu Kyi Too Busy for Facebook](#) – The Irrawaddy, June 1, 2012

..."Mind you, you never know what will happen with the technological revolution," she said at a news conference. "Facebook may be old hat tomorrow. In that case, I won't go on Facebook..."



# **The worst anniversary: desperate measures as Bung mystery drags on**

June 1, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[The worst anniversary: desperate measures as Bung mystery drags on](#) – theage.com.au, June 1, 2012

The family of missing Boronia schoolgirl Siriyakorn 'Bung' Siriboon are convinced she is alive and possibly in Victoria a year after she vanished while walking to school...

# **BBC Redesigns Lonely Planet Guidebook for Cambodia**

June 1, 2012

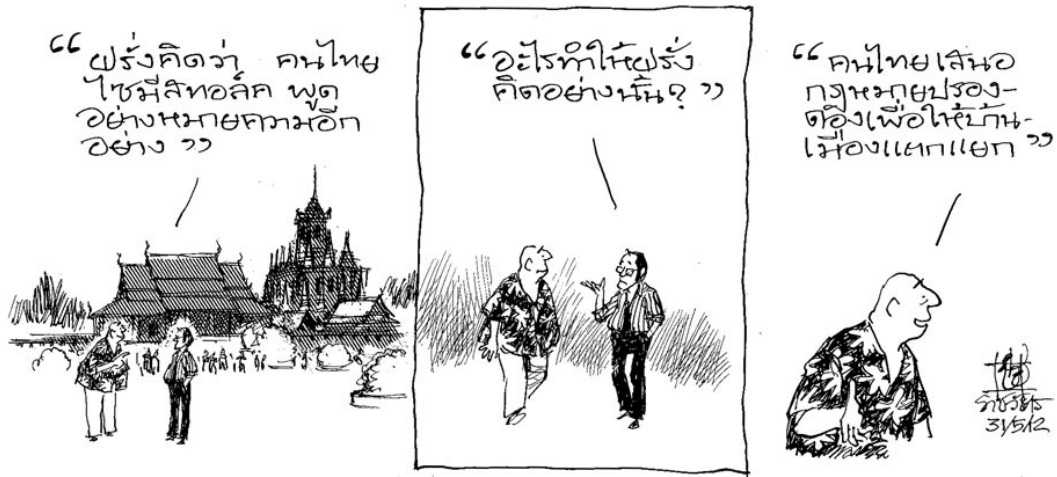
Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Lonely Planet finds new orbit](#) – phnompenhpost.com, June 1, 2012

# Thai people who speak “Siamese Talk”

June 2, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, June 2, 2012

Left: Foreigners thought that when Thais speak “Siamese talk,” it means talk something, but actually it means something else.

Middle: Why do they think this?

Right: Thais propose the reconciliation law to make the country split up.

# **BMA to close Saphan Taksin station to ease bottleneck**

June 2, 2012

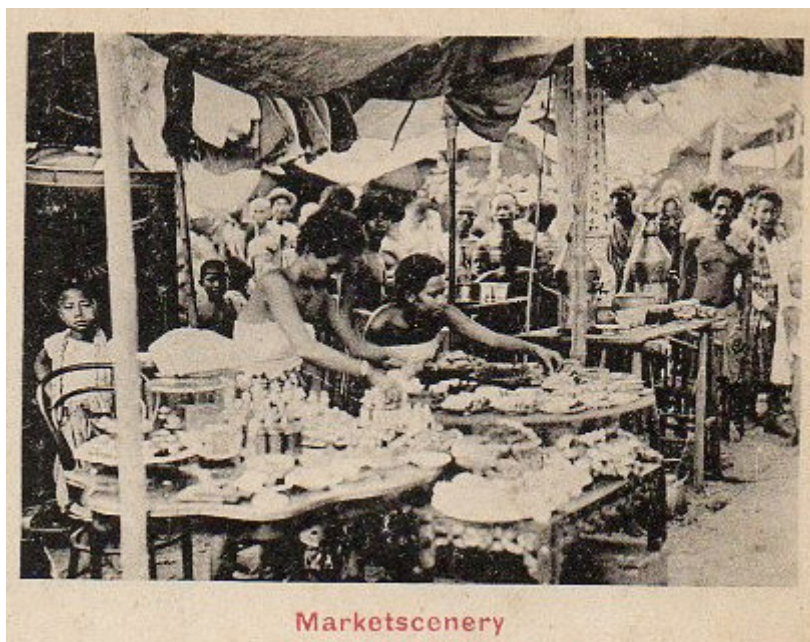
Categories: Skytrain

[BMA to close Saphan Taksin station to ease bottleneck](#) – The Nation, June 1, 2012

# Betel-nut sellers

June 2, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Details from an old postcard, Betel-nut sellers

# Stealing the Chair

June 2, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 2, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Making a smaller area for the house speaker.

MP Rangsimana pulls the chair away and says: I'm not shy.

The mouse says: They can't lose.

The tiny mouse's sign: Agitate the parliament for dictator.

# **Cambodia's Brutal Dictatorship – 10,000 Days of Hun Sen**

June 2, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[10,000 Days of Hun Sen](#) – NYT, May 31, 2012

...At 59, Hun Sen is the youngest member of the 10,000 Club. He has said that he wants to rule until he is 80. After all the pious post-Arab Spring diplomatic talk about confronting dictatorships, Cambodians can be forgiven for asking why no one seems to be paying attention while Hun Sen begins work on his next 10,000 days.

# Women Learn Thai website ranks 4th in Top Language Learning Blogs

June 2, 2012

Categories: Language

Catherine reports: [WLT came 4th internationally in the language learning section of the competition.](#) Go Thai!

[Last year WLT came 10th.](#)

*This isn't just a "fun" competition. The competition is run by two respected sites in the industry: [bab.la](#) and [Lexiophiles](#). And many of those entering are serious about the learning language industry. As am I. And I do not take it lightly that Women Learning Thai ended up representing the Thai language and Thailand in the top 25 for two years in a row, as well as placing in the top 100 for 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012.*

*Against top languages such as English, Chinese, French, German and Japanese, Thai isn't a popular language to learn. I'm hoping that by making a decent showing in the competition year after year, some just might consider Thai a viable language to study.*

[Here's my thank you post.](#)



# All About Legs

June 3, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, June 3, 2012

The cartoon title: All about legs

Top left: Legs that make Thai people become bankrupt!

Top middle: Real mafia!

The words above Thaksin: Let it go.

Top right: 111 legs which succeed in escaping from fetters, are demanding the chair.

Bottom left: Conviction for opposed board!

Bottom middle: Step-over!

On the sign: There's no additional charges for this school

A box beside her desk is donation box.

Bottom right: Legs that disparage his own order

## On the paper: Revolutionary council order

# Why was the CEO of Thai Airways fired for leading a financial turnaround?

June 3, 2012

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[CEO of Thai Airways: Heading to departures?](#) – Al Jazeera, June 3, 2012

...In 2011, the airline, partly due to last year's floods, made a loss of \$321m. This year, however, it is expected to make a \$191m profit.

But here is the catch, Thai Airways is 51 per cent owned by the country's finance ministry, and, as is often the case, new governments mean new management. And the outgoing CEO was appointed by the previous government. So, is he simply a political casualty?...

# Spanking Death

June 4, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



Two editorial cartoons one from each end of the political spectrum commenting on apparent discord between PAD and the Democrats during the attempt to halt Thaksin's reconciliation bills.

From Thairath, June 1, 2012

The cartoon titles reads: Let's reconcile before obstructing reconciliation.

On the headband: Panthamit

The man says: This war is the last war.

On the saliva: Insult the Democrat Party

On the hooded figure's cloak: Order to suppress the people

The hooded figure says: Lose in the parliament, but you want to win outside parliament.



From Manager, June 4, 2012

PAD leader Sondhi says to Democrat leader Abhisit: You said politics must happen in the parliament, Mark... Why do you come out ?!

Words behind the stage: The truth – Law to clean up the cheating man's guilt

# Getting his son into politics

June 4, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Naewna, June 4, 2012

On Thaksin's shirt: Cheating Thai politics.

On Thaksin's son's shirt: Ramkhamheang University examination cheating

Thaksin says: Try to present yourself to media very often, son. I'll push you into this circle, because there's no occupation where you can cheat and get money so much as being politician.

Son: Yes, papa.

# The Majority Pulls Down Democracy Monument

June 4, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, June 4, 2012

The cartoon reads: Thai democracy is the majority voice!!!

# HM The King's Visit to Ayuthaya

June 4, 2012

Categories: The Monarchy



From Daily News, May 26, 2012

His Majesty the King is healthy. People happily wait to welcome him, crying out “Long Live the King” at Thung Makham Yong.





From Komchadluek, May 26, 2012

People cried out “Long Live the King” loudly. A crowd of 100,000 happy subjects gathered in Thung Makham Yong. His Majesty the King was dressed in army uniform.



From Naewna, May 26, 2012

People everywhere cried out “Long Live the King” to glorify His Majesty.



From Siamrath, May 26, 2012

His Majesty the King dressed in a Special Forces military uniform. Arriving at Thung Makham Yong, people cried out “Long Live the King” joyfully as His Majesty the King recovers from illness.





From Thaipost, May 26, 2012

People cried out “Long Live the King” when His Majesty the King arrived at Thung Makham Yong.

# What's being done to protect architecturally significant buildings in Bangkok?

June 4, 2012

Categories: Buildings



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)  
2004



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)  
2008

[Architectural Heritage Preservation in Bangkok](http://bk.asia-city.com) – bk.asia-city.com, May 31, 2012

...As a case in point, [the house of ML Devathiraj P. Malakul](#), next to BTS Ratchathewi was razed by the owners to make way for a development project. The house was an intricately carved 90-year-old structure—and from the BTS platform everyone had front row seats when the bulldozers moved in. The building had not been registered but any building of architectural, historical, educational and social value is, in theory, protected under the current law. Why didn't the Fine Arts Dept. sue the Malakul family? We asked Vasu Poshyanandana, architect at the Office of Architecture at the Fine Arts Dept. "The fact is, this house was already gone, so the Fine Arts legal team might have figured it was better to put our limited resources and budget towards other urgent cases..."

[The house of ML Devathiraj P. Malakul](#)

Also: [Old House on Sri Ayutthaya Road](#)

# **China's obsession with giant statues**

June 4, 2012

Categories: China

[China's obsession with giant statues](#) – chinadaily.com.cn, May 16, 2012

# Thaksin Decides He Needs the Red Shirts Again

June 5, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, June 5, 2012

From the car: Chicken-hearted! The car is just stuck and you run to go back to that boat?

Thaksin: Stop!! Don't go, I didn't mean to shove away the prow of the ship on that day.

# Eight Years Ago Today: 'Shit Hits' billboard

June 5, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Eight Years Ago Today: ['Shit Hits' billboard](#)

# Government will spend Bt44.5 billion to build railways, gas-delivery pipes and motorways to Myanmar

June 5, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma



From Krungthepkurakit, May 20, 2012

Article title: Kittirat reveals the government will spend Bt44.5 billion to build railways, gas-delivery pipes and motorways to Dawei.

Map title: Laem Chabang Port-Bangkok-Dawei Deep-Sea Port Highway Link

Points on the map from left to right: Dawei Port – Ban Phu Nam Ron – Kanchanaburi – Nakhon Pathom – Bangkok – Laem Chabang Port

Names on the country from left to right: Myanmar – Thailand

Red line: Myanmar border – Kanchanaburi – West Outer Ring Road – South Outer Ring Road – Laem Chabang

Blue line: Myanmar border – Kanchanaburi – Nakhon Pathom – Bang Yai – East Outer Ring Road – Laem Chabang

Green line: Routes inside Myanmar

Source: Lands Department



# Malaysia: Book banning frenzy must end

June 5, 2012

Categories: Malaysia

[Book banning frenzy must end, say civil society organisations](#) – IFEX, June 4, 2012

# Few young people willing to be a “poor, stupid and unhealthy” farmer

June 5, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai Youth Seek a Fortune Away From the Farm](#) – NYT, June 4, 2012

...Only 12 percent of Thai farmers today are younger than 25, down from 35 percent in 1985, according to government statistics, and their average age jumped to 42 in 2010 from 31 in 1985.

...Unlike in some parts of the world, where the image of farmers is bound together with thoughts of self-reliance, strength and nostalgia for the countryside, the Thai farmer is seen as “poor, stupid and unhealthy,” said Mr. Iam, who specializes in studying the culture of rice growing. “Farmers say that if I’m reincarnated 10 times, I don’t want another life as a farmer...”



# **IKEA product names sound like rude sex words in Thai**

June 5, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[IKEA's Products Make Shoppers Blush in Thailand](#) – wsj.com, June 4, 2012

...Reading a standard IKEA catalog aloud, though, can draw strange looks, or worse. Besides the Redalen bed, there is the very nice Jättebra plant pot, which can sound in part like a crude Thai term for sex, and a host of other problematic words...

# Time to Burn the Court

June 6, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, June 6, 2012

Chaturon Chaisaeng says: I have to burn it, this court made me unemployed for 5 years... From a minister, I had to study the Chinese language to be a Chinese singer for a living... underwent trouble...

On the building: Constitution Court

The caption reads: Aoy was angry because of his personal rancor, not about the principle.

# The Shinawatra Family Gives Back

June 6, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, May 25, 2012

Yingluck says to Thaksin's ex-wife and his son: The 7 rai is worth Bt20 million now, but it must be given over to illustrate reconciliation with the elites.

Pojaman says: 20 million, 20 million

Panthongtae says: It's a pity. It's a pity.

On the newspaper: Poo and family give 7 rai of land

The caption reads: They are used to taking. Now they have to give for once and are suffering in trying to come to terms with it.

# Democracy is a Time Machine

June 6, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Komchadluek, June 6, 2012

The man says: This thing is a time machine to bring us back to the past before 19 September again.

# Explaining Thai Democracy

June 6, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, June 6, 2012

Left: In Thailand's democracy it is difficult to have checks and balances and no any other countries are like this.

Middle: How to balance it?

We have a constitutional court to rule on discharging politicians...

Right: ...we have a kangaroo court to discharge that constitutional court as well.

# Thai Democracy Tested as Judges Battle Thaksin

June 6, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thai Democracy Tested as Judges Battle Thaksin: Southeast Asia](#) – Bloomberg, June 5, 2012

...“Did they fall asleep and didn’t know we got our power from the election?” Chalerm said, referring to judges on the nine-member Constitutional Court. “Don’t go too far. This is too much and no one can accept this...”

# The problem of Thaksin's return may finally be resolved

June 6, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's Elites Reconcile – The problem of Thaksin's return may finally be resolved](#) – WSJ, June 5, 2012

...But ultimately the red shirts may have no choice but to be patient. Once safely in Thailand and with his most talented lieutenants back in politics, Mr. Thaksin will be a formidable force again. Ms. Yingluck made a slew of ambitious promises to improve the lot of the poor, but it's unlikely she can carry them out without her brother's direct help.

On the other side, the Democrat Party and the yellow shirts face a bleaker future. Having outlived their usefulness, they have evidently been forsaken by their backers in the military and the palace...

# **Cambodian Government Prohibits VOA, RFA Coverage During National Election**

June 6, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[BBG Decries Cambodian Government Cancellation of VOA, RFA Coverage During National Election](#) – voanews.com, June 5, 2012

...The ministry prohibited five affiliate stations in Cambodia from running Khmer-language RFA and VOA programs on Saturday, June 2 and Sunday, June 3 — the day of national commune elections. The shows were all taken off the air without notice...



# Myanmar state press lauds Suu Kyi's cooperation

June 6, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar state press lauds Suu Kyi's cooperation](#) – AP, June 5, 2012

Myanmar's once-hostile state-run press offered unprecedented praise Tuesday to Aung San Suu Kyi, lauding the opposition leader for working with President Thein Sein for the country's benefit and calling the pair "the hope of Myanmar..."

# Nine maids fell from highrises this year trying to clean windows

June 6, 2012

Categories: Singapore

[Singapore Curbs Window Cleaning Amid Maid Deaths](#) – AP, June 6, 2012

...Local media on Monday featured dramatic front-page photos of a 29-year-old Indonesian maid as she fell from her employer's 12th floor apartment window Sunday. She was grabbed and rescued by neighbors one floor below.

The nine maids who fell to their deaths were from Indonesia, which supplies about half of Singapore's 200,000 maids. The Indonesian Embassy in Singapore in recent months had called for a ban on maids cleaning the outside of windows.

# Double Standard Reconciliation

June 7, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Naewna, June 7, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Double standard reconciliation..!!

Left: Poor man broke the laws... he has to be jailed..!!

Right: Rich man broke the laws... amend the laws... doesn't need to be in jailed. Moreover he will get his money back...

On the carpet: an act for cleaning up cheating man's guilt

Words on money bag Yingluck offers: 46 billion baht

# The House Speaker Crisis

June 7, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, June 7, 2012

The cartoon title reads: The House Speaker's Crisis

On the chair: The House Speaker

On the arm at left: Rangsim

Man at bottom left: Constitution Court

On the paper: Reconciliation act

Arm holding the speaker's leg: Senator who became senator by using power

On the paper under the speaker's arm: Charter amendment

On arms at top right: Democrat Party



From Thairath, June 4, 2012

Left: Prestigious House Speaker, I would like to retract my words

Middle: I didn't order you to retract your words, which words you would like to retract?

Right: I will retract the words "Prestigious House Speaker"

# Burning the Court for Thaksin

June 7, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, June 7, 2012

On the building: Constitutional Court

From left to right:

Worajed also came, please don't forget my name....

Boss... I came too, please don't forget. My name is Pluem.

I will burn it too.

Boss... I came too.

The caption reads: The brass ring... that will satisfy you.

# **Eight Years Ago: Characteristics of Thai Speeches**

June 7, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Eight Years Ago: [Characteristics of Thai Speeches](#)

# Thailand Stifles the Internet

June 7, 2012

Categories: Censorship

[Thailand Stifles the Internet](#) – WSJ, June 6, 2012

...Thailand needs laws like the U.S. Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998 or the European Union's E-Commerce Directive that clarify the risks intermediaries take on. When websites are provided safe harbor by governments, they know exactly what it will take to operate within the law and can comply accordingly...



# Cambodia: Saving the seven symbols

June 7, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Saving the seven symbols](#) – Phnom Penh Post, June 6, 2012

...According to a Royal Decree dated March 21, 2005 on the Designation of Animals and Plants as National Symbols of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the seven symbols are the kouprey, giant ibis, royal turtle, giant Mekong barb, sugar palm, rumdul and chicken egg banana...

Also: Cambodia: [Is our national anthem striking a bad chord?](#) – Phnom Penh Post, June 6, 2012

...“Thailand is a country that is very dutiful to their national music – they always stand up whenever they hear the national anthem,” he said. “Thus, teachers, students, ministries and citizens of all classes should start to value our national anthem again as we care for our country’s soul...”

# **Disturbing Signs of Myanmar's Reforms Coming Undone**

June 7, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Disturbing Signs of Myanmar's Reforms Coming Undone](#) – cfr, June 7, 2012

...Even among many highly educated Burmese working for reformist think tanks and NGOs, I have heard arguments that the reform process depends largely on the relationship between President Thein Sein and National League for Democracy (NLD) leader Aung San Suu Kyi. And indeed, their relationship is critical. But for the reform process to really take flower, Myanmar needs institutions, and politicians need to begin investing in institutions, so that reform is not totally dependent on the relationship between two people...

# What about those still imprisoned?

June 8, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, May 22, 2012

On Yongyuth's box: TRCT

On the card the lady holds: Compensation for victims of dissolving the protest

On the prison: UDD and political prisoners

Right mouse: Release the political victims

The cartoon reads: People wait to be compensated for their freedom.

## Five Years Ago Today: TRT rally at Sanam Luang

June 8, 2012

Categories: Today in History

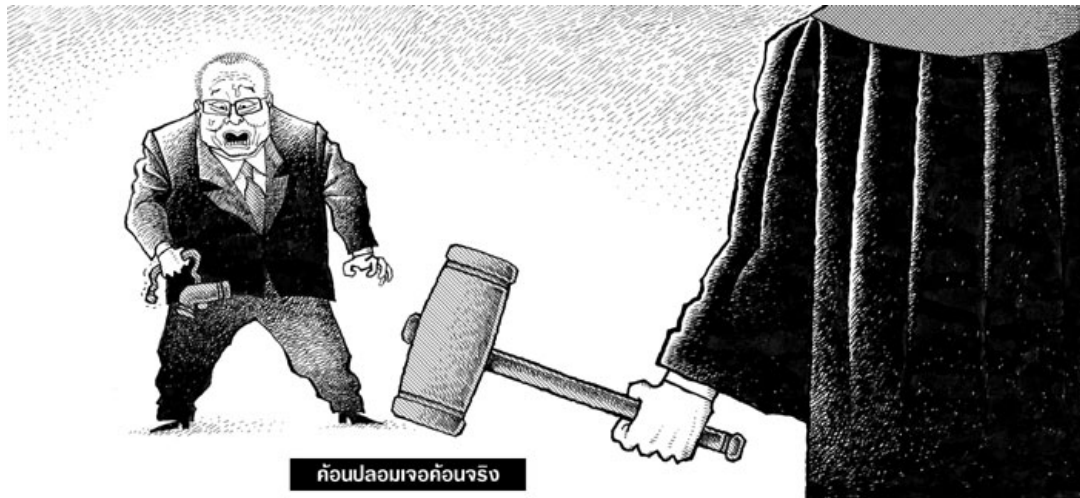


Five Years Ago Today: [TRT rally at Sanam Luang](#)

# Challenging the Court

June 8, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, June 8, 2012

The caption reads: Fake hammer meets real hammer

# Rousing the Villages

June 8, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, June 8, 2012

Left, a Pheu Thai man says: The army will revolt! The army will revolt!

Middle: I doubt that this might be a plan to discharge the position of agricultural minister from Nuttawut. Why?

Right: Show off his lie to satisfy his boss.

# Five years Ago Today: Anti-government rally at Sanam Luang

June 8, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Five years Ago Today: [Anti-government rally at Sanam Luang](#)

# Back to the brink in Thailand

June 8, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Back to the brink in Thailand](#) – atimes.com, June 8, 2012

*...Thaksin has bid to rally his red shirt United Front for Democracy Against Dictatorship (UDD) group, imploring in a fiery speech on June 2 to fight back against attempts to “steal” power from the people. During the same speech, Thaksin said he had been “betrayed”, though without saying by whom, and regretted that red shirts had been “forced to drink their own blood”. He also lambasted a 2010 Supreme Court decision that confiscated US\$1.4 billion of his wealth and served as a spark for the red shirt protests that paralyzed Bangkok’s commercial hub and degenerated into violence in April-May 2010. The rousing oratory harked back to earlier speeches where Thaksin urged his followers to stage a “social revolution” and marked a notably hard turn from his more conciliatory May 19 message, where he called on red shirts to put aside their grievances, including demands for justice for those killed during the April-May 2010 clashes between protestors and troops, for the sake of national reconciliation and his return from exile...*



# What Thais Are Really Focused On

June 8, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Khao Sod, June 7, 2012

The political games on the streets are only the visible signs of tussles taking place behind the scenes and decisions being made in the quarters of the super-rich. The real controversy at the moment, endless tweeted and discussed on forums, is the attempt to block TrueVisions from broadcasting the Euro 2012: [NBTC orders TrueVisions to air Euro 2012 footie](#)

# Threatening Judges Who Defy Thaksin

June 8, 2012

Categories: Analysis



รายชื่อองค์คณะผู้พิพากษาศาลฎีกา 76,000 ล้านบาท

นายธานิต	ไพโรจน์	สมศักดิ์	ประทีป	อดิศักดิ์	ฤทธิเทพ	พิทักษ์
1. นายไพโรจน์ วายุภาพ ผู้พิพากษาหัวหน้าคณะ ในศาลฎีกา, 602 ซ.ลาดพร้าว 94 อ.ลาดพร้าว ต. วังทองหลาง อ.เขตวังทองหลาง จ.กรุงเทพมหานคร 10310 โทร 025140262	2. นายพงศ์เทพ ศิริพงศ์คิตกานนท์ ประธานแผนก ศาลฎีกาคืออาญาของผู้ดำรงตำแหน่งทางการเมือง	3. นายธานิต เกศวพิทักษ์ ผู้พิพากษาหัวหน้าคณะ ในศาลฎีกา, 17/1 ซ.สุขุมวิท 47 (บ้านดอน) อ.สุขุมวิท ต.	ศาลฎีกา, 83 กม 6 ซ.สวัสดิการนายทหาร อ.รามอินทรา ต.ลาดพร้าว อ.เขตลาดพร้าว จ. กรุงเทพฯ 10230 โทร 025095553, 84 หมู่ 8 หมู่บ้านสวัสดิการนายทหาร อ.รามอินทรา ต.ท่าแร้ง อ.เขตบางเขน จ.กรุงเทพ โทร. 029458084	7. นายกำพล ภูสุตแสง ผู้พิพากษาอาวุโสใน ศาลฎีกา, 94 ซ.บ้านช่างหล่อ อ.อรุณอมรินทร์ ต.บ้าน ช่างหล่อ อ.เขตบางกอกน้อย จ.กรุงเทพฯ 10700 โทร.		

From [Voice of Taksin](#), February 15, 2010

The headline reads: The lists of the judges to give the verdict in the case involving the seizure of 7.6 billion baht

From left to right are the judges' names: Thanit, Pairoj, Somsak, Prateep, Adisak, Riththep, Pithak

June 2012 – The recent intimidation of judges by revealing their phone numbers is nothing new. In the buildup to the 2010 protests in Bangkok, [Red Shirt publications](#) listed personal contact details of judges involved in Thaksin's assets seizure along with articles detailing historical assassinations of the unjust.

Traditionally, Thai governments have expected to be exempt from pressure from the public or other checks and balances once they are in power. The independent organizations and judiciary oversight enshrined in the 1997 constitution were an anathema to many in the Thai political world.

As was witnessed during the Thai Rak Thai government era, subverting or otherwise exerting control over any possible check and balance on the sitting government was a priority.

In subsequent years, the activities of the judiciary in disbanding the Thai Rak Thai and People Power Parties, confiscating Thaksin's assets, and now halting the government from amending the constitution means the courts remain in the cross-hairs of the pro-Thaksin camp.

Independent checks and balances are still a new concept in Thailand and are often lumped into the same group as the shadowy and unnameable extra-political forces that continue to exert influence on the political world.

Thus, it may not be surprising that the Thai definition of democracy, in response to criticism over issues as diverse as the thinly veiled amnesty bills for Thaksin to the mass killings of suspected drug dealers, is simply "we have the most votes." Similar thinking can be seen in the nascent democracies developing in Pakistan, Venezuela, and Russia.

# Weekly News Magazines, June 1, 2012

June 8, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekend, June 1, 2012

The cover reads: MIB# – Mission to clean up the history of Coup 2006



From Nation Weekly, June 1, 2012

The cover reads: The last time!



From Siamrath, June 1, 2012  
The cover reads: War of Reconciliation

# **Admiral P is Admiral Phajun Tamprathip**

June 8, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Admiral P trying to block charter change: Pheu Thai spokesman](#) – The Nation, June 8, 2012

# Weekly News Magazines, June 8, 2012

June 9, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekly, June 8, 2012

The cover reads: Uncle Paiboon will not compromise



From Matichon Weekend, June 8, 2012

The cover reads: Article 6 says that “The Constitution is the supreme law of the State. The provisions of any law, rule or regulation, which are contrary to or inconsistent with this Constitution, shall not be enforceable.”





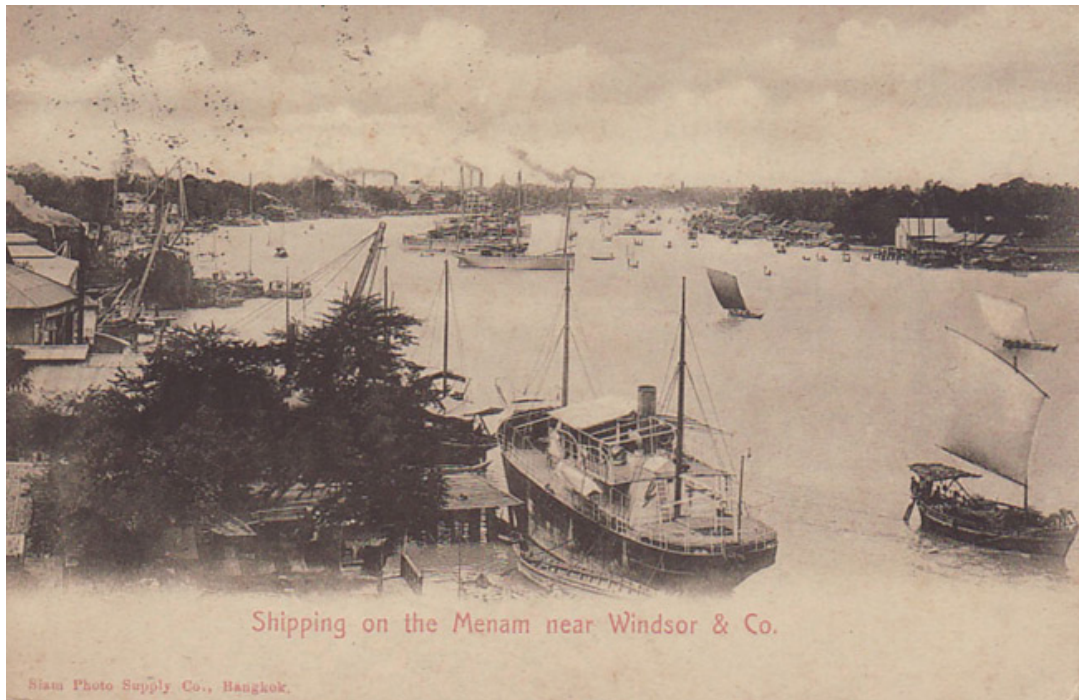
From Siamrath, June 8, 2012  
The cover reads: 3G war



# Shipping on the Menam near Windsor and Co.

June 9, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Old postcard, Shipping on the Menam near Windsor and Co.

# Three Years Ago: Bangkok Airport Scam

June 9, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Three Years Ago: [Bangkok Airport Scam](#)

Also: [The Descent of Suvarnabhumi](#)

# Abolish the Court

June 9, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, June 9, 2012

Left: Abolish the court. It's the court of aristocrats!

Middle: This court belongs to you. Why do you think it's an aristocrat court?

Because you have a dictator for back up...

Right: ...so everyone called you "Joss House"

# Cambodia: The slaves who serve us

June 9, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[The slaves who serve us](#) – torontosun.com, June 9, 2012

...”The factory doesn’t want old — they want young because of the attitudes,” he says, explaining children do as they’re told.

He would also deal in foreign girls with small figures — because they looked like Thai women and would cause less suspicion.

But when they managed to run away, M would become — as he explains — “the gangster”, tracking them down to make sure they were returned to pay off the original \$500 debt incurred when they were first hired. Along with a 20% additional fee for having to find them again. It was all so calculating...

# Remembering Ladda of the Culture Ministry

June 9, 2012

Categories: Culture and Society

[Ladda's gone, but the thought police aren't](#) – Bangkok Post, June 9, 2012

...But to be fair, Ms Ladda, to whom I talked personally on a few occasions, is a steadfast believer in her cause: to protect the nobility of Thai culture and weed out unpleasant surprises, from short skirts to TV bitchfests. She's a crusader on the eternal horseback to Jerusalem – her war cry is authentic, and her dogmatism is transparent. Her run-ins with the more liberal sections of society illustrate the wider contest to own, or define, the meaning of Thai culture in the 21st century...

# Democrats Rush the Speaker

June 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 10, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Situation changed, people changed, or democracy on tip of the tongue.

Chuan says: We believe in the parliamentary system...

Sign held by the mouse: Don't just say you love democracy

Right: ...only when our party is in government.

# Why foreigners criticize Thai people who speak “Siamese Talk”

June 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, June 10, 2012

The cartoon title: Why foreigners criticize Thai people who speak “Siamese Talk”

Top left: If gambling, they said they play “soccer gambling”!

Top middle: When cheating on flood rehabilitation budget, they said they did a “mistake by accident”!

Top right: They didn’t like the court judgement, so they said “the court robbed people’s power”!

Bottom left: coming to set up a military base, Thai people said “NASA came to do research”!

Bottom middle: Government officials came to participate in the protest , they said they came to “practice the dharma”! (in front of Dusit Zoo)

Bottom right: For the act of cleaning a convicted person, they say it’s “the act of reconciliation”!

# Shooting at the Court

June 11, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, June 11, 2012

Thaksin says: We can't eliminate him. This is the best weapon!!

On the gun: Attorney General

The cartoon caption reads: Wasan is able to endure much more than we thought.



# Sydney is a country

June 11, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, June 11, 2012

Left: It's clear that they were really trying to establish a new Thailand.

Middle: Do you have any evidence to prove this?

Right: The Prime Minister could establish Sydney to be a country!!

# Thailand screens 87-year-old banned film on Lord Buddha

June 11, 2012

Categories: Film and TV

[Thailand screens 87-year-old banned film on Lord Buddha](#) – PTI, June 10, 2012

*...As the 1925 black and white film, The Light of Asia, lit up the mega screen at Bangkok's Scala theatre, one of the very few lone standing cinema halls in the city, the band sitting on either side of the screen played appropriate background music to the trumpeting of elephants, galloping horses and around the main stars, Prince Gautama, (Lord Buddha) played by dashing Himanshu Rai and his wife played by Sita Devi...*

# The Dictator's Learning Curve

June 11, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Velvet Gloves Over Iron Fists](#) – NYT, June 10, 2012

*... "Today's dictators confound their critics by peppering their speeches, the author says, "with references to liberty, justice and the rule of law." Fair and balanced is how they wish to appear, contrary to realities. A new kind of iron fist has arrived, tucked behind an acid-whitened smile...*

# Myanmar Clashes Spur Web Use, Crackdown

June 11, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar Clashes Spur Web Use, Crackdown](#) – WSJ, June 11, 2012

An outbreak of sectarian violence in western Myanmar is helping nudge this once-reclusive country further into the Internet age as people take to the Web to condemn the clashes and help organize street protests of their own, creating a new set of challenges for the country's military-backed government...

[Muslim, Buddhist mob violence threatens new Myanmar image](#) – Reuters, June 11, 2012

# If we amend the charter, how the black screen will be gone?

June 12, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, June 12, 2012

Left: To solve the Euro soccer black screen problem, we have to amend the charter.

Middle: If we amend the charter, how will the black screen be gone?

Right: It could change from white to black, black to white.

# Eight Years Ago: Bo Bae barge

June 12, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Eight Years Ago: [Bo Bae barge](#)

# On Their Foreheads

June 12, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, June 12, 2012

Left: Yingluck: Bro 'Sin... I'm really sad. I was stamped by sin like this.

On her forehead: Can't handle

Right: Thaksin : Be patient, Poo... You will get used to it.

On his forehead: Hide stock

# **New Cambodia Art Planned for an Old Empire**

June 12, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[New Cambodia Art Planned for an Old Empire](#) – VOA, June 11, 2012

In Cambodia, the World Monuments Fund is putting the finishing touches on the first original carvings added to the famed temple ruins of Angkor Wat in some 800 years...



# Women flee from Thai karaoke parlour slavery

June 12, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Women flee from Thai karaoke parlour slavery](#) – Phnom Penh Post, June 12, 2012

...“They worked from 4pm until 3am, but they did not get a single cent from the karaoke parlour owner,” she said...

# Thailand to upgrade from squat to sit-down toilets

June 12, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand to upgrade from squat to sit-down toilets](#) – The Nation, June 12, 2012

...”Now we need to upgrade our toilets a bit,” Suchada said.

# Breaking the Power Outside of Parliament

June 13, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 13, 2012

The caption title reads: Don't break a big knife handle with your elbow.

On the headband: UDD

Above the knife: Power outside of parliament

On the knife: Constitutional Judge

The House Speaker is at far left with papers that read: charter amendment, reconciliation

Yingluck holding papers that read: Go ahead Thailand project

The mouse says: Watch out, you do by yourselves and you will get hurt by yourselves.

The tiny sign reads: Stop unfairness

# **Five Years Ago: Injustice for Thaksin? The drug-war dead must weep**

June 13, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Five Years Ago: [Injustice for Thaksin? The drug-war dead must weep](#)

# **Going White: Cambodian men join skin treatment trend**

June 13, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodian men join regional skin treatment trend](#) – phnompenhpost.com, June 13, 2012

# He sprayed acid on women

June 14, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, June 14, 2012

Left: This guy sprayed acid on women!

Middle: What is your excuse?

My life is miserable, I always was insulted all the time...

Right: ...the opposition party insulted me, my party also insulted me, so I was depressed.

# Fooling the Buffaloes Again

June 14, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, June 14, 2012

Left: I and Kokaew will scold you in front of the stage that you are chicken and fear the aristocrats... and you, you have to act as if you're ashamed and run around the stage... ok?

Right: Ok.

The caption reads: Traditional Thai dramatic performance to deceive buffaloes.

Other posts with a buffalo theme:

[Thaksin Tricked the Buffaloes](#)

[Fooling the Buffaloes](#)

[Thaksin and the Buffaloes](#)

[Red and Blue Buffaloes](#)

# The American Eagle Lands on Thailand

June 14, 2012

Categories: Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons – Arun



From Arun, June 14, 2012

The caption title reads: The U.S. requested to use U-tapao Airport.

Here it comes..! Giant bird.



# The Puppeteer

June 15, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Naewna, June 15, 2012

On the arm: Thaksin

The fat man says: Alas, just wondering when she is going to work with her own brain.

The small boy says: The government from orders.

## **Three Years Ago: No witch-hunt, says Lands Department – Foreign ownership debate intensifies**

June 15, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Three Years Ago: [No witch-hunt, says Lands Department – Foreign ownership debate intensifies](#)

# Thaksin's Hungry Ghosts Fail

June 15, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, June 15, 2012

Thaksin: What?

The ghost leader: Truffle sir, boss.

The caption reads: The result of sending ghosts to do milling in the parliament.

# Who doesn't pick up their Nobel Prize?

June 15, 2012

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

[Who doesn't pick up their Nobel Prize? A look](#) – AP, June 14, 2012

# **Cambodia bans smoking at famed Angkor temples**

June 15, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia bans smoking at famed Angkor temples](#) – AP, June 14, 2012

# Thailand's culture ministry filed a complaint to police against Lady Gaga for misuse of the Thai flag

June 15, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Lady Gaga in hot water over Bangkok concert](#) – AFP, June 15, 2012

*...The ministry said the part of Lady Gaga's performance when she wore a traditional headdress and sat on a motorcycle in a skimpy outfit with a Thai flag trailing behind was "inappropriate and hurt Thai people's sentiment"...*

# **Sydney woman jailed over false assault claim in Phuket**

June 15, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Sydney woman jailed over false claim](#) – AAP, June 15, 2012

# Report the Police for Torture—the Police Then Sue You

June 15, 2012

Categories: Human Rights

[Call for observers—torture victim sued by Pol. Gen. Bhanupong Singhara for a complaint made in good faith](#)

— humanrights.asia, June 13, 2012

*...Mr. Sudi-Rueman is being sued for making a complaint about his torture by police officials in good faith. At stake in this decision is the fate of Mr. Sudi-Rueman Mah-Lae and whether the decision will encourage or discourage torture victims from making complaints against alleged officials in the future...*



# **Cambodia celebrates 50th anniversary of victory over Thailand in Preah Vihear case**

June 16, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia celebrates 50th anniversary of victory over Thailand in Preah Vihear case](#) – Xinhua, June 15, 2012  
...Speaking at the event, Dr. Ros Chantrabot, advisor to the Government of Cambodia, said that the ICJ ruled on June 15, 1962 that the temple was situated in territory under the sovereignty of Cambodia and, in consequence, that Thailand was under an obligation to withdraw any military forces, or guards, stationed by her at the temple, or in its vicinity on Cambodian territory...

# **Nine Years Ago: Thailand joins the war on terror**

June 17, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Nine Years Ago: [Thailand joins the war on terror](#)

# **Transport Ministry to launch new Thai-Cambodian rail route in 2013**

June 17, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Transport Ministry to launch new Thai-Cambodian rail route in 2013](#) – pattayamail.com, June 16, 2012  
...After completion, the entire route will enable passengers and goods to travel from Bangkok to Ho Chi Minh City, via Aranyaprathet, Poipet and Phnom Penh...

# Culture Ministry calls topless “Thailand’s Got Talent” contestant unacceptable

June 18, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Culture minister says TGT breast-painting show unacceptable](#) – The Nation, June 18, 2012

*...She said that the program producer must provide explanation and that this inappropriate content should have been cut as the show wasn't live. She said that she personally astonished by the contestant's show in which the topless contestant also turned to the face the camera.*



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=>



# Ministry of Information and Communications asked Google to remove 149 YouTube videos

June 19, 2012

Categories: Censorship

[Politics prime target in take-down requests: Google](#) – Bangkok Post, June 18, 2012

It also reported that the [Ministry of Information and Communication Technology in Thailand asked Google to remove 149 YouTube videos](#) which allegedly insulted the monarchy. Google complied by restricting 70 per cent of those videos from being viewed online in the kingdom.

# **Let them eat tablets! Trying to stop the rot in Thailand's schools by giving out tablet computers**

June 19, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Let them eat tablets! Trying to stop the rot in Thailand's schools by giving out tablet computers](#) – The Economist, June 16, 2012

...The chief problem is that children's educational attainments are falling, even as more money is being lavished on the schools. Thailand now spends about 20% of the national budget on education, more than it devotes to any other sector. The budget has doubled over a decade. Yet results are getting worse, both in absolute terms and relative to other countries in South-East Asia...

# **Advice from Jakarta: How to move floodwater through Bangkok**

June 19, 2012

Categories: Floods

[How to move floodwater through Bangkok](#) – IRIN, June 19, 2012

...To tackle this recurring problem, Jakarta's authorities have undertaken the East Flood Canal Project, building a 23.5km canal to carry the overflow from seven major rivers – the Ciliwung, Cililitan, Cipinang, Sunter, Buaran, Jati Kramat and Cakung – to the sea.

In addition, the Jakarta Emergency Dredging Initiative to deepen and rehabilitate 11 major floodways and canals in the city will be completed by March 2017. The World Bank is providing \$140 million for the project, with the Indonesian government supplying the remaining \$50 million required...

# Thaksin making deals with Japan and Myanmar

June 19, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thaksin seeks partnership in Myanmar](#) – yomiuri.co.jp, June 17, 2012

Visiting former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra stressed the necessity of a partnership between Japan and Thailand on the development of a special economic zone in Myanmar, an impoverished Southeast Asian country now on the road to democracy.

Thaksin said during an exclusive interview with The Yomiuri Shimbun on Friday that Myanmar, Thailand's neighbor, has granted Thai companies concessions to develop a special economic zone in Dawei in the southern part of the country.

Economic development of Dawei will be "an important strategy for both Japan and Thailand," Thaksin said...

Although he was criticized for being too authoritarian and plutocratic during his term, Thaksin said he does not regret anything. "If I were prime minister again, I'd do the same thing," Thaksin said...



## Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Various

**สังคมไทย..แค่ล้าก็ชนะแล้วหรือ..!!**

6  
muc  
20/6/99

The caption reads: In Thai society, just dare to do it. You will win, won't you?

# Doling Out Money

June 20, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Various



From Naewna, June 20, 2012

Yingluck says: Don't worry, everyone will get it.

On the car: Travel cabinet

On the sign the Red Shirts are holding: Red disciples

Words above their heads: Hey!!

# Removing the Silom cemeteries 2000-2004

June 20, 2012

Categories: Today in History



[Removing the Silom cemeteries 2000-2004](#)

# Confined To A Thai Fishing Boat, For Three Years

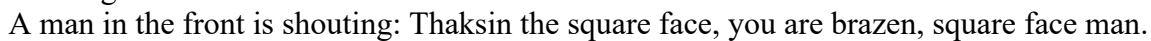
June 20, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Confined To A Thai Fishing Boat, For Three Years](#) – NPR, June 19, 2012

...he United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking interviewed fishermen on Thai boats who are from Myanmar, also known as Burma; 59 percent said they witnessed a murder by their captain...

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



# Malaysia bookstore manager charged over banned book

June 20, 2012

Categories: Malaysia

[Malaysia bookstore manager charged over banned book](#) – straitstimes.com, June 19, 2012

...ik Raina Nik Abdul Aziz, who manages the bookstore chain outlet in the capital Kuala Lumpur, is accused of distributing Irshad Manji's Allah, Liberty And Love...

# **French Architect Linked With Ousted Chinese Leader Bo Xilai Arrested In Cambodia**

June 20, 2012

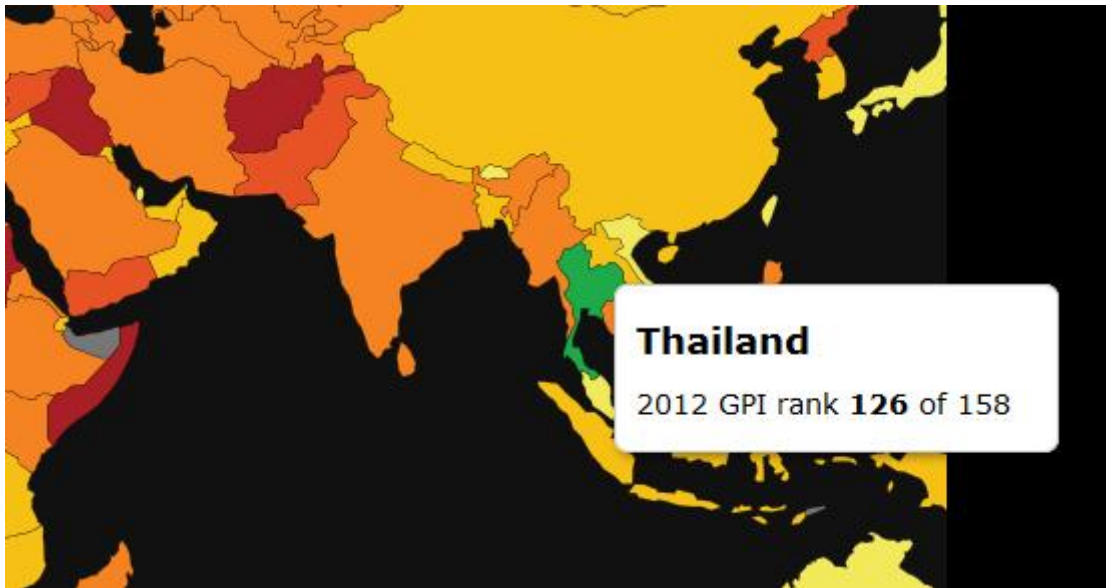
Categories: China

[A French Architect Linked With Ousted Chinese Leader Bo Xilai Has Been Arrested In Cambodia](#) – businessinsider.com, June 19, 2012

# 2012 Global Peace Index

June 20, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



[2012 Global Peace Index](#)



# **Adding insult to injury: Hospital confiscates passport of third victim of Phi Phi food poisoning**

June 20, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Scot left stranded on Thai island after her friends 'poisoned'](#) – scotsman.com, June 19, 2012

...Ms Kay, of Dundee, fell ill shortly before sisters Audrey, 20 and Noemi Belanger, 26, were found dead in their hotel room in Phi Phi Island last Friday.

The Scot spent three days in hospital being treated for suspected food poisoning but despite discharging her, hospital executives kept her passport.

Last night, she told how the hospital refuses to return it until she pays her £400 medical bill...

# Colorful politician Karun Hosakul red carded for outrageous claims

June 20, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[EC red cards Pheu Thai's Karun](#) – Bangkok Post, June 20, 2012

...1) Mr Karun accused Mr Tankhun of changing his Chinese surname, causing his father to die of grief.  
2) He accused him of being a photo model for a pornographic magazine and claimed that he was homosexual.  
3) He alleged that the Democrats were paying people 300 baht each if they turned up to listen to their speeches during the campaign...

More on [Colorful Politician Karun Hosakul](#)

Also: [Mudslinging and Murder: Rivals in Don Muang's 'Dirty Politics' Face Off](#)

Also: [Karun's kick](#)

# The Rural Island Amid Bustling Bangkok

June 20, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[A Bit of Rural Thailand Amid Bustling Bangkok](#) – NYT, June 19, 2012

...Koh Kret, with a population of about 6,000, is known for its desserts, its pottery and a half-dozen small temples mostly strung along its 6-kilometer, or 3.7-mile, perimeter. But it is the countryside and the fresh breezes that are its real attraction...

# **Suvarnabhumi ranks well below other Asian airports on surveys**

June 20, 2012

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[Bangkok Airport Draws New Complaints](#) – WSJ, June 20, 2012

...As a result, Suvarnabhumi ranks well below other Asian airports on some traveler surveys, despite Thailand's desire to be one of the region's main transport hubs. In the 2012 Skytrax World Airport Awards survey, for instance, Suvarnabhumi landed at No. 25, behind more than 10 other Asia-Pacific airports, including Korea's Incheon International Airport, Singapore's Changi Airport, and Hong Kong International Airport, which ranked first, second and third, respectively. Suvarnabhumi is currently ranked 10th among airports of its size, measured by annual passengers...

# **Rotting In The Bangkok Hilton: The Gruesome True Story of a Man Who Survived Thailand's Deadliest Prison**

June 20, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Rotting In The Bangkok Hilton: The Gruesome True Story of a Man Who Survived Thailand's Deadliest Prison](#) – seattlepi.com, June 19, 2012

...The prison food was so bad that the huge rat population would not even eat it. The inmates were fed twice a day with some rice and "soup." The rice was boll-weevil infested, and the soup was made out of remnants from a local slaughterhouse that were so hideous that I will refrain from even describing it. Allow my previous mention of the fact that rats would not touch it to suffice as explanation of just how decayed and horrid the stuff was. All of the available water was basically untreated sewage...

# Slandering Thaksin and the UDD

June 21, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 21, 2012

Suthep Thaugsuban says: Thaksin and the UDD are bloodily guilty. I slander them.

On the podium: Truth for Reconciliation Commission of Thailand (TRCT)

The words on the papers: Ratchaprasong, Kok Wau Intersection, UDD, 98 dead, 2,000 injured April-May, 2010

# Blaming Thai culture for murder in the U.S.

June 21, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Thai expert: Culture not the culprit in Publix shooting](#) – abcactionnews.com, June 20, 2012

*...ichael Jerryson, assistant professor of religious studies at Eckerd College, specializes in Thai culture and just returned from the country a week ago. He said the way Thai culture is being presented in the trial is misleading and inaccurate.*

*“Thai culture has what is called ‘sia na’ or loss of face,” explained Jerryson. “It’s about shame but not about honor...”*

# Thai soldiers killed in the Korean War, June 22, 1955

June 22, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



United Nations Symbol Cremation Urns Thai soldiers killed in the Korean War cremated near Bangkok June 22, 1955



# Weekly News Magazines, June 16, 2012

June 22, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekend, June 16, 2012

The cover reads: Step back again and again



From Nation Weekly, June 16, 2012

The cover reads: No blank television screens forever



From Siamrath, June 16, 2012

The cover reads: The Pheu Thai Party is scared of 'Prime Minister Article 7'

# How to be a Bangkok local: 10 tips on faking it

June 22, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[How to be a Bangkok local: 10 tips on faking it](#) – CNN, June 18, 2012

Hog the escalator, dress like a K-Pop star and other easy ways to look like you're a born-and-bred Bangkokian...

# Indian copy of Angkor Wat to be bigger than the real thing

June 22, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Foundation laid for Angkor Wat-replica in Bihar](#) – calcuttanews.net, June 22, 2012

*...Kishore Kunal said the temple's construction plan has been revised and it would be bigger than the 12th century temple in Cambodia, considered by some as the largest Hindu temple complex in the world...*

Update from 2015: [Bigger Angkor Wat project revived](#)

# **“Several months of torture” in the secret Thai prison**

June 22, 2012

Categories: Thai Secret Prison

[Corporations collaborated in CIA ‘black site’, claim lawyers](#) – thenews.pl, June 21, 2012

*...The human rights group identifies Gulfstream jet N63MU, operated by First Flight / Airborne Inc., as the aircraft that flew the round-trip from Washington DC, picking up the prisoners at Bangkok, and then flying “via Dubai to the remote Szymany airfield in Poland, before returning via London Luton...”*

Earlier: [The secret Thai prison](#)

# Heartbreaking Thai ‘smoking kids’ anti-smoking ad goes viral

June 22, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=>



[Heartbreaking Thai ‘smoking kids’ anti-smoking ad goes viral](#) – nydailynews.com, June 21, 2012

# Souvenir Siam Kingdom Exhibition 1926

June 23, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Old postcard, Souvenir Siam Kingdom Exhibition 1926

# Thaksin's Financial Mismanagement of Manchester City

June 24, 2012

Categories: Sports

[From Thaksin To Mansour: How Manchester City Became Richer Than God](#) – sabotagetimes.com, June 22, 2012

*...A company owned by his son, Panthongtae, had been paid £47,912 by the club for, the accounts said, 'the provision of promotional media services as part of the team's tour to Thailand'. Manchester City, with Thaksin on the run, fell into a financial plummet. They made an enormous loss, £33m, and had to take out more loans, as well as mortgage the following season's Premier League TV payments to Standard Bank, to get the cash in early. Yet at the same time they kept spending, signing on 2 July 2008, for £19m, a gangly Brazilian striker from CSKA Moscow, Jo. Garry Cook, who arrived at City in the summer from Nike, told me that he soon realised there was no money, and that players were being signed on deposit. 'The fabric of the football club had been taken away,' he said...*



# **“Phuket, Thailand: Crime Capital of Asia”**

June 24, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Phuket, Thailand: Crime Capital of Asia](#) – livetradingnews.com, June 24, 2012

*If you are headed to Thailand for holidays you will have a great time, with one exception, avoid Phuket at all costs. FOr fun, investment or business Phuket is far too dangerous for tourists.*

*Phuket is now the one of the worlds most dangerous destinations for foreign and local tourists and businessmen. Armed gangs, some Tuk-Tuk drivers, some Jat Ski operators, tour operators etc are mostly controlled by criminal elements and Phuket is no longer safe to visit for foreigners or Thais...*

# Sydney woman appeals Thai jail term

June 25, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Sydney woman appeals Thai jail term](#) – smh.com.au, June 25, 2012

...Thai-based legal sources said Bamford was being represented by a local lawyer in Phuket but warned that the appeal may lead to the court increasing her sentence by up to two years and forcing her to serve it in an adult prison.

However, following the recent murder of Australian travel agent Michelle Smith in Phuket, Thailand may also be looking to repair its battered tourist image, leading to an acquittal.

# Thailand requests 10,000 teachers from China

June 26, 2012

Categories: China

[Thailand requests 10,000 teachers from China](#) – Xinhua, June 24, 2012

...As a result, the education ministry asked the Chinese educational institutes to send 10,000 Chinese language teachers to offer language instruction for Thai students, Suchart said...

# Money and Democracy

June 26, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, June 26, 2012

The caption reads: 80 years of Thailand's Democracy!!

# Sunthorn Phu's Birthday

June 26, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



[Sunthorn Phu's Birthday 2010](#) – logo-google.com, June 26, 2010

# Saigon Zoo restores King Rama VII's bronze elephant gift

June 26, 2012

Categories: Vietnam

[City restores Thai King's bronze elephant gift](#) – thanhniennews.com, June 24, 2012

...the statue... is a gift given to the city by Thai King Rama VII after his first visit to the city in 1930.

The statue, which weighs over one ton and is 1.5 meter tall, was transported and installed at the zoo in 1935.

The king also gifted two statues to Singapore and Indonesia the same year...

# Myanmar: A Property Dispute Still Divides a Famous Family

June 26, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar: A Property Dispute Still Divides a Famous Family](#) – NYT, June 25, 2012

The opposition leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will appeal a court ruling in favor of her estranged American brother's claim to half-ownership of the Yangon villa where she has lived for almost a quarter century...

# **Buddhists Have Had Enough – March in Bangkok to Protest Buddha Bar and Disney animated dog named “Buddha”**

June 26, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Buddhists March in Bangkok to Speak Out to the World to Stop Disrespecting Buddha](#) – virtual-strategy.com, June 26, 2012

...The high light of the March will be the enormous size signs depicting “Enough” on the Buddha Bar picture also the sign “No!” on the Disney movie “Snow Buddies” which use Buddha’s name as a Dog... Mrs. Acharavadee Wongsakon, the Meditation master who is the founder and the President of Knowing Buddha organization said, “As a Buddhist, to love peace and tranquility dosen’t mean you should not do what’s right. We’ve been too quiet on these matters until the world misunderstood or forgot who Buddha is. The Buddha image is not meant for tattoo, furniture, any kind of logo, or to be used as merchandise...



# How Lisa got into drugs

June 27, 2012

Categories: Crime

[How Lisa got into drugs](#) – times.co.sz, June 24, 2012

*False job promises were used to lure Lisa Zikalala, the Swazi drug-mule who was sentenced to life imprisonment in Thailand, into accepting her role in the illicit trade.*

*Zikalala finally lifted the lid on the circumstances leading to her arrest and eventual life in jail...*

# **There's nowhere in Asia like it any more: Yangon, Myanmar**

June 27, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Preserving Asia's Last Bastion of Colonial Era](#) – AP, June 26, 2012

There's nowhere in Asia like it any more: a cityscape studded with hundreds of grand and humble buildings from the colonial era amid multiethnic communities that have remained intact, vibrant and colorful for a century and more...

# **Rare baby Sumatra rhinoceros named a ‘gift from God’**

June 28, 2012

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[Rare baby Sumatra rhinoceros named a ‘gift from God’](#) – straitstimes.com, June 25, 2012

A critically endangered Sumatran rhinoceros, which on Saturday became only the fourth birth in captivity in more than a century, was named on Monday a ‘gift from God’...

# **Thailand continues to discriminate against Philippine-made cigarettes**

June 28, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand tobacco measures fall short](#) – bworldonline.com, June 24, 2012

Bangkok is set to report to the World Trade Organization (WTO) today that it has so far implemented only one of several reforms it had vowed to put in place by May 15 in compliance with a ruling on its customs and fiscal policies deemed discriminatory against Philippine-made cigarettes...

# Jatuporn to Slim Down

June 28, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, June 28, 2012

Jatuporn says: If the court orders jail punishment , I will go on a hunger strike.

His wife says: Yeah! Let him face the charge... I want a husband in slim shape, not just like a bullfrog

The caption reads: His wife possibly wants him to be jailed.

# Thaksin: The Silvio Berlusconi of Asia

June 28, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[The Silvio Berlusconi of Asia](#) – Bloomberg, June 26, 2012

*...Opposition parties and the judiciary are determined to keep out a man they view as no less Machiavellian than Richard Nixon. So resolute, in fact, that they have resorted to warping the nation's democratic institutions to head off his return. It proves that almost six years since Thaksin's departure, Thailand's government is no more credible or efficient than it was under his leadership...*

*But Thailand's perpetual crisis is testing tolerance. Major floods last year weren't the fault of Thaksin's sister, Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra. Her unsteady handling of the deluge that breached Bangkok's defenses confirmed concerns that she is both inexperienced and a proxy for her brother as he finagles a way back into power...*

From 2013: [Berlusconi and Shinawatra: The billionaires who love power more than money](#).

# Weekly News Magazine, June 22, 2012

June 29, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekly, June 22, 2012

The cover reads: Step back to move forward



From Matichon Weekend, June 22, 2012

The cover reads: 24th June, the biggest day – the Coup d'état and the Constitution

# Invest Elsewhere: Deport foreigners found guilty of holding land plots in Thailand

June 29, 2012

Categories: Property and Development

[Ombudsmen urge draconian new law](#) – Bangkok Post, June 28, 2012

*...Ombudsman Siracha Charoenpanij said the new law would comprise punishment for companies offering advice to foreigners on how to hold Thai property by disguising their legal transaction. This would include law firms and consultants...*



# How Singapore Muzzled the Foreign Press

June 29, 2012

Categories: Singapore

[How Singapore Policed the Foreign Press](#) – Asia Sentinel, June 29, 2012

*...The Far Eastern Economic Review (FEER), faced with a similar order, decided to pull out of the market entirely. The government responded to this by simply printing its own pirated edition. Did it censor the political stories? No way ... nothing so crude as that. It simply blanked out the advertisements. It seemed to say "Report what you want, but you won't make a profit in our market doing it..."*

# Bush and Osama

June 30, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



# Australia calls for Thailand to protect tourists

June 30, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Calls for Thailand to protect tourists](#) – caseyweeklyberwick.com.au, June 30, 2012

...There have been concerted attempts by honorary consuls from countries including Australia, Germany, the Netherlands and Britain to ensure a crackdown on thugs and organised criminal rip-offs.

But bloody assaults have continued unabated – often carried out by the operators of taxi services as well as various touts and scam merchants...