

Remembering the Thaksin Years: Shining Light on Corruption

November 1, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, The Thaksin Years



From Thairath, November 1, 2013

Cartoon title: Isn't really there any dark corner?

On table: Sent Rakhiat to prison

On the front of table: Public Health Ministry

On papers in the dark: Civil servants; corruption

Thaksin's Set Zero

November 1, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai, Thaksin Amnesty



From Komchadluek, November 1, 2013

Thaksin: Don't come closer!!! I only want to 'Set Zero'

• เซต ซีโร่ ...



From Thairath, October 29, 2013

Title: Set Zero...

Men from left to right: Start to count down... Five... Four... Three... Two... One... Zero

Independent organizations attentively listen to the whistle blowing

November 2, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, November 2, 2013

Cartoon title: Attentively listen to the whistle blowing

On shirt of man listening: Independent organizations

On paper: Extraordinary agenda; topple the government; get rid of the Premier

On back of man blowing the whistle: The accused

On back of Death: Order to suppress the people; 100 dead bodies

Words in the crowd: The Democrat's followers

Phi Nooring (to the independent organizations): You take orders too?

Mouse: No injustice

In Thailand, nurturing young adults' Baptist faith

November 2, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[In Thailand, nurturing young adults' faith](#) – Baptist Press, November 2, 2013

...Ruth visited a young woman from the village one Saturday who had asked how to become a Christian during an English camp led by the church planting team. This was a significant question from someone raised in a heavily Buddhist society where conversion to Christianity often can mean being disowned by family...

Want the best expat experience? Head for Thailand, China, or India, not Europe

November 2, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Want the best expat experience? Head for Asia](#) – FT, October 30, 2013

Overall winner though is Thailand, with Bahrain in second place...

Thai Women Don Monks' Robes

November 3, 2013

Categories: Buddhism

[Thai Women Don Monks' Robes](#) – IPS, November 1, 2013

...Unlike the 33,903 Buddhist temples that house an estimated 250,000 monks in Thailand, the Songdhammakalyani Monastery is the first temple built for women by women. The abbess, Venerable Dhammananda Bhikkhuni, is the country's first fully ordained nun or Bhikkhuni in a Theravada monastic lineage.

The temple's roots stretch back nearly five decades when Venerable Dhammananda's mother, Venerable Voramai or Ta Tao Fa Tzu, became the first fully ordained Thai woman in the Mahayana lineage in Taiwan and turned their family home into a monastery...

Thailand Looks to Restart Southern Peace Talks, Despite Little Progress

November 3, 2013

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Thailand Looks to Restart Southern Peace Talks, Despite Little Progress](#) – VOA, October 30, 2013

...“Things have clearly changed and the obvious factor is the talks. There’s a lot of skepticism about the talks and some of it is justified. Some of it is misguided – some of the criticism is political in nature based on the fact that Thaksin was instrumental in getting cooperation from Prime Minister Najib in getting the process started. Thai officials are determined to keep the process alive,” said Wheeler.

The near daily attacks in Thailand’s south rarely garner international headlines. On Tuesday, three senior members of a Thai police ordnance team were killed when a hidden bomb detonated while they were examining another explosive device...

Snipers and Thaksin

November 3, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Thaksin Amnesty



04/11/56

From Manager, November 3, 2013

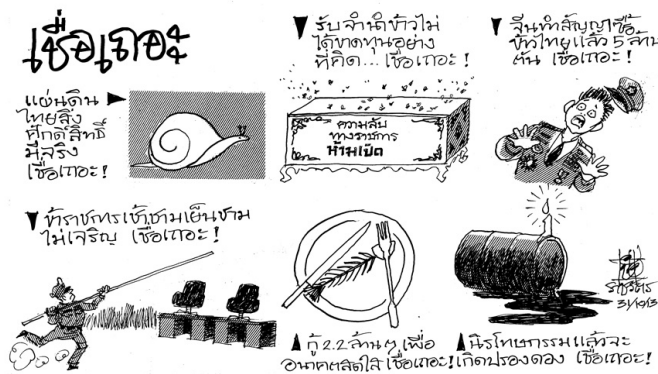
Sniper in blue shirt: Don't obstruct the amnesty bill... Let Maew return soon... We've been waiting for him for a long time.

Caption: These people want the bill to past sooo much...

Believe me

November 3, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, November 3, 2013

Cartoon title: Believe me

From top, left: Sacred things do exist in Thailand. Believe me!

Middle: The rice mortgage project doesn't cause so much loss as you think... Believe me! On coffin: Confidential. Do not open

Right: China already signed a contract to buy five million tons of Thai rice. Believe me!

Bottom, left: Lazy civil servants can never advance. Believe me!

Middle: Borrow 2.2 trillion baht for a bright future. Believe me!

Right: Pass the amnesty, and there will be reconciliation. Believe me!

Thaksin's Amnesty Explained in the Wall Street Journal

November 3, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Former Thai Prime Minister Acknowledges Murder Charge](#) – WSJ, October 31, 2013

...The indictment against Messrs. Abhisit and Suthep is viewed by many as a means of pressuring Mr. Abhisit's Democrat Party to support a controversial amnesty bill currently being debated in the House. A spokesman for the public prosecutor's office has denied the allegation, saying the indictment was a result of investigations that have been under way since late last year before the amnesty bill was proposed.

A provision of the bill, which is backed by the ruling Pheu Thai party led by current Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, Mr. Thaksin's younger sister, would give blanket amnesty to anyone accused of politically-related crimes or those accused of wrongdoing by organizations set up after the 2006 military coup. That includes Mr. Thaksin, who fled the country in 2008 to avoid a jail term and other corruption charges. Messrs. Abhisit and Suthep, as well as security personnel who followed the orders of both men, would also be pardoned...

[Thailand Gears up for Fresh Protests](#) – WSJ, October 31, 2013

Thailand's main opposition party is ramping up efforts to counter a controversial amnesty bill that would enable former leader Thaksin Shinawatra to return home a free man after he fled the country amid corruption charges in 2008...

Friends who now fight against each other

November 4, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, Thaksin Amnesty



From Thairath, November 4, 2013

Cartoon title: Did it hurt enough?

Above the key: Amnesty

Headbands on the two men's heads: UDD

UDD man on the left: The beginning of the Soi

UDD man on the right: The middle of the Soi

On back of man in the front: The Pheu Thai Party

The Pheu Thai man: The end of the Soi

On jail wall: Political prisoners

Phi Nooring: Friends who used to fight alongside each other

Mouse: Unity is power.

Indonesia, Thailand Ask U.S. About Allegations of Spying

November 4, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Indonesia, Thailand Ask U.S. About Allegations of Spying](#) – WSJ, October 30, 2013

...Thai Deputy government spokesperson Sunisa Lertpakawat called the allegations “sensitive...”

New York Times: Amnesty Bill That Would Clear Ousted Premier Stirs Thai Anger

November 4, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Amnesty Bill That Would Clear Ousted Premier Stirs Thai Anger](#) – NYT, November 3, 2013

... After three years of relative stability and calm in Thai politics, the uproar over the amnesty bill threatens a return to the deadlock and turmoil that plagued the country in the years after the 2006 coup.

Perhaps more significant than the campaign to derail the bill by Mr. Thaksin's traditional foes, including the Democrat Party, is the strong criticism from across Thai society. Newspapers that were seen as sympathetic to Mr. Thaksin and the government have published strongly worded editorials against the bill, contributing to a near unanimity that is highly unusual in the country's print media.

Members of the movement that helped propel Mr. Thaksin's party back to power in the June 2011 elections have also heavily criticized the bill...

The Pile

November 4, 2013

Categories: Thaksin Amnesty



From Thairath, November 3, 2013

Cartoon title: How long or how far do they have to carry it?

Words in the pile from top: Pain, loss, anger, desolation, injustice

On the shirts of men carrying the letters, from left: UDD ; UDD ; Commoners

ON the hooded figure's hand: Order to suppress the people

On the robe: 100 dead bodies

Phi Nooring: Carrying and fighting, are you alright?

Mouse: The hurt fighters

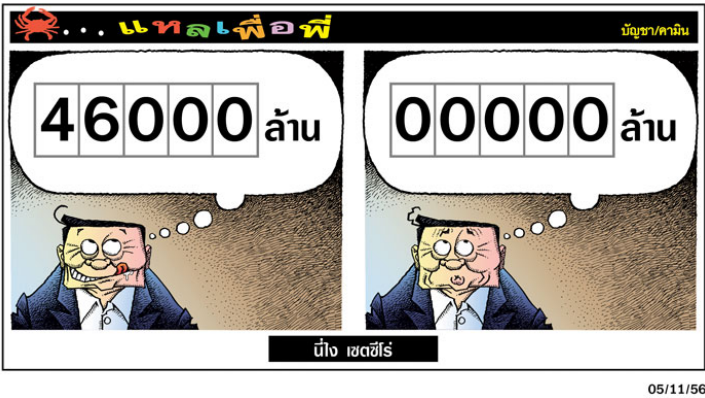


From Komchadluek, November 4, 2013

On the milestone marker: Amnesty bill

Here it is, set zero

November 4, 2013
Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Thaksin Amnesty

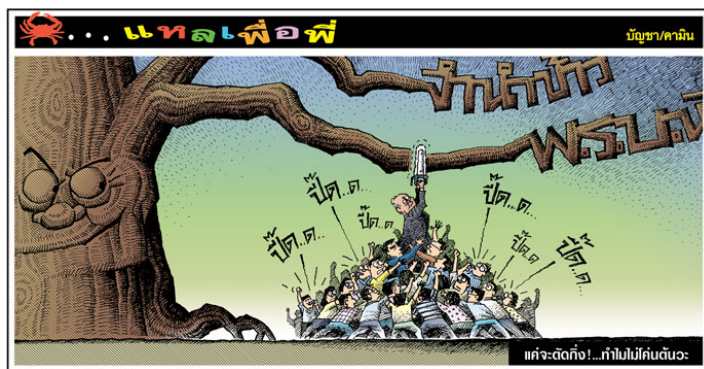


From Manager, November 4, 2013
Left: 46000 million
Right: 00000 million
Caption: Here it is, set zero.

Thaksin remains

November 5, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



06/11/56

From Manager, November 5, 2013

On the branch being cut by Suthep: Amnesty bill

On the higher branch: Rice pledging scheme

Sounds coming from the crowd: Peed... peed... peed...

Caption: Only cut a branch! Why don't you cut the tree?

A tree is as Thaksin.

Council on Foreign Relations: Thailand: It's On (Again)

November 5, 2013

Categories: Thaksin Amnesty

[Thailand: It's On \(Again\)](#) – CFR, November 4, 2013

...The prime minister was warned many times in recent months—by red shirt members of Parliament, by foreign observers, by several Thai academics—that the amnesty bill would not only simply whitewash human rights abuses going back to the 2006 coup, a reason that on its own would make excellent cause to toss the legislation in the bin. Many warned Yingluck that the bill made bad political sense for her as well: Ramming the legislation through Parliament would give the opposition—which had been unable to gain traction against Yingluck, has not won control of Parliament in an election since the 1990s, and has little idea how to change to appeal to rural, working class Thai voters—a real issue to rally around for the first time...

Southern Thailand's 'ping pong' of violence

November 5, 2013

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Southern Thailand's 'ping pong' of violence](#) – DW, November 4, 2013

As Thailand's southern provinces remain torn by violence, activists say human rights abuses are overlooked, despite efforts to re-open a dialogue between Thai authorities and Muslim insurgents...

Redshirts Channel Host Rejects ‘Censorship’ Allegation

November 5, 2013

Categories: Thaksin Amnesty

[Redshirts Channel Host Rejects ‘Censorship’ Allegation](#) – Khaosod, November 4, 2013

Many supporters of the Redshirts have been stunned by the announcement that four core leaders of the movements had been suspended from a cable TV channel long known for its alliance to the Redshirts...

Although the channel, called Asia Update, has made no statement explaining its abrupt decision, many believe it is due to the opposition of the four figures against the 'amnesty for all' plan supported by Pheu Thai Party and the government...

Financial markets punishing unrest in Thailand

November 5, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Bloomberg: [Thailand's Top Fund Manager Sells Stocks as Protests Hurt Growth](#)

Bloomberg: [Peseke on Asia: China's False Hopes](#)

...Call it the Thaksin bear market. Thai stocks fell the most in six weeks as traders and investors prepared for the chaos sure to accompany the return of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra...

The Wall Street Journal: [Political Tensions Weigh on Thai Stocks](#)

Forbes: [Thailand's Bubble Economy Is Heading For A 1997-Style Crash](#)

Opposing view: the hypocrisy and emptiness of those who protest amnesty for Thaksin

November 5, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Amnesty of betrayal can't rewrite history](#) – Bangkok Post, November 5, 2013

...So let me sum this up correctly if I may. We're being asked to support this great revolt against the Thaksinisation of Thailand by placing our faith in protest leaders who:

- a) were responsible for mentoring and introducing Thaksin to Thai politics.*
- b) had an intimate business relationship with Thaksin, before turning into a serial side-switcher.*
- c) copied all of Thaksin's political tactics and policies while they were last in government.*

...Firstly, it is not and should never be called a blanket amnesty, because none of the versions of the amnesty bill give an amnesty to those who were slapped with criminal charges under the Criminal Code's Section 112, otherwise known as the lese majeste law...

The Independent: Crowds march against Thai government's bid to erase former prime minister Thaksin's corruption conviction

November 5, 2013

Categories: Thaksin Amnesty

[Crowds march against Thai government's bid to erase former prime minister Thaksin's corruption conviction](#) – The Independent, November 4, 2013

...In an interview in Singapore last week, he played down his desire to return to Thailand, assuring both supporters and adversaries that the amnesty bill was needed to "reset" the country after seven years of an enduring political divide which has left dozens killed and in prison.

Thaksin is considered a reformer against the opposition royalists in a country where criticism or even detailed discussion of 86-year-old King Bhumibol Adulyadej has resulted in lengthy prison terms in recent years.

"We will soon be gone," Thaksin told the Thai-language daily Post Today two days before the amnesty bill passed through the lower house. "It is our children who will take our place and they will have to live in a bruised and battered country because of what we do, because we just want to win... to be in power and have no thought for our country."

Illegal English Lessons: Volunteering With Refugees

November 6, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Illegal English Lessons: Volunteering With Refugees](#) – wesaidgotravel.com, November 3, 2013

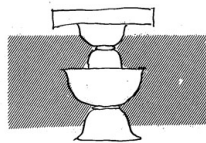
Also: [Thailand-headquartered Karen Human Rights Group wins 2013 Asia democracy award](#)

The outcome from the slave parliament

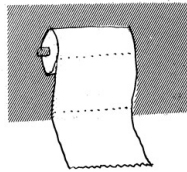
November 6, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai

● ขบวนการปฏิวัติ...



▲ รัฐธรรมนูญ
ก่อนแก้...



▲ รัฐธรรมนูญ
หลังแก้!

4/1/13

From Thairath, November 6, 2013

Title: The outcome from the slave parliament

Left: The constitution before revising...

Right: The constitution after revising!

Cambodia works to revive an ancient harp, plucked from a temple wall

November 6, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia works to revive an ancient harp, plucked from a temple wall](#) – PRI, October 30, 2013

...Even though the harp vanished, its image remained, recorded on bas-relief sculptures carved into the walls of some of Cambodia's ancient temples and monuments. Kersalé started by tracing out the shape of the harp. He studied inscriptions that might shed light on how the harps were made and used, and he examined similar instruments that survived elsewhere in the region.

The challenge now is how to make an old instrument relevant today, when it hasn't been heard in centuries...

Remembering the Thaksin Years: Kind-Hearted Thaksin

November 6, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, The Thaksin Years



From Thairath, November 6, 2013

Cartoon title: How many tear drops must be shed... to fix the right point of the problem?

In Thaksin Shinawatra's hands: Educational funds

On tray carried by the woman: Profits from legal lotto

In hands of students from left: Poverty; Composition of a poor child; Kids from slums; Baan Mungkong ; slums

Signs carried by children, from top: Educational problems; social problems; residential problems; farmland problems; warm families

Reuters: Struggling out of recession, Thailand pays price for populist policies

November 6, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Struggling out of recession, Thailand pays price for populist policies](#) – Reuters, October 31, 2013

...Exports, which account for more than 60 percent of the economy, fell 6.3 percent in September from a year earlier and private consumption dropped 1.3 percent from August.

...What could lift the country out of recession is sustained growth of tourism and a recovery in exports, which the Bank of Thailand on Thursday said were “fragile”. It has projected exports to grow just 1 percent in 2013, having started the year with a forecast of 9 percent growth...

Thai Stick: Surfers, Scammers, and the Untold Story of the Marijuana Trade

November 6, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News, Books

[Thai Stick: Surfers, Scammers, and the Untold Story of the Marijuana Trade](#) – independent.com, November 5, 2013

...Thai Stick is replete with excellent adventures: of eluding gangsters, moving “loads” off Pattaya Beach at night; surviving 40-foot storm waves in the Gulf of Alaska; or landing Zodiacs through massive Northern California surf while the Coast Guard gives chase. It also asks serious questions. While the DEA eventually squashed the Thai trade to the U.S., what did this “victory,” one of the few the War on Drugs might boast, achieve?

Shooting of 3 unarmed students in the back raises anger over the culture of impunity in the Thai deep south

November 6, 2013

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Student deaths stir anger in insurgency-hit Thai south](#) – AFP, November 5, 2013

...Villagers wearily accept they are powerless to hold to account the militants, who target Thai forces, or people perceived to be working for the authorities but they demand justice when civilians are killed by police and soldiers.

The kingdom's security forces have faced allegations of abuses ranging from arbitrary detentions and torture to killings of civilians.

Yet none has been successfully prosecuted in the near-decade of fighting.

An inquest in August showed that although Lookman, Samree and Ismael were not suspects they were still shot several times – including in the back – by policemen and soldiers who “could not separate who was who”...

Forbes: Thailand's Political Dysfunction Trumps U.S. Federalist Funk

November 6, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's Political Dysfunction Trumps U.S. Federalist Funk](#) – Forbes, November 6, 2013

...It's clear that Thaksin and Yingluck can deliver a plurality at the polls. They have done it repeatedly since 2001. Their opponents must accept this fact. But an electoral mandate isn't a right to govern unfettered. Back in 2006, when Thaksin faced mass protests against the sale of his family-owned telecoms company to Singapore's sovereign wealth fund, he pulled the same trick. He won the election, but Thailand faced a deadlock and the military stepped in. This is a poor substitute for legitimate checks on elected officials. Perhaps the only thing worse than too many democratic checks are no checks at all.

Why would Thai amnesty start in 2004? To absolve Thaksin in Tak Bai massacre, death of human rights lawyer Somchai

November 6, 2013

Categories: Thaksin Amnesty

[No amnesty for state-sponsored murder](#) – Asian Human Rights Commission, November 6, 2013

...The draft amnesty bill (in full, the Draft Amnesty for Those Who Committed Offences as a Result of the Political Protests and Political Expression of the People B.E.....) is broad, vague, and appears to be motivated by political expediency at the expense of human rights, justice, and the rule of law.

...What makes this draft amnesty a signal of a particular crisis of impunity in Thailand is that in contrast to earlier instances of mass state violence, namely 14 October 1973, 6 October 1976, and May 1992, there has been extensive investigation of the violence of April-May 2010, and the beginnings of judicial processes to hold state perpetrators to account...

Red shirt thoughts diverse on the blanket amnesty bill

November 6, 2013

Categories: Thaksin Amnesty

[Red shirt thoughts diverse on the blanket amnesty bill](#) – Prachatai, November 5, 2013

Prachatai talks to various red shirt factions — progressive activists, former political prisoners as well as prisoners currently jailed as a result of the 2010 political conflict — about their opinions on the blanket amnesty bill, which is scheduled to be considered by the Senate next week...

It's the only country on this planet...

November 7, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai, Thaksin Amnesty



From Thairath, November 7, 2013

Left, tourist: Your country ranks number 1 as a country foreigners want to see once in their lives.

Middle, Thai man: What do you want to see?

Tourist: It's the only country on this planet...

Right: ...that drafted a whitewash bill to return money plus interest to the corrupter who corrupted his own country.

Ghosts of the dead

November 7, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, November 7, 2013

Cartoon title: When you come... just blow a whistle, when we came, our heads... were blown off by you.

On Suthep's shirt: 100 dead bodies

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

Road sign reads: The Kok Wua Intersection

Words on the ghosts at right, from top: Hiroyuki Muramoto; victims of the April 10, '10 area tightening operation; Ratchadamnoen, the Kok Wua Intersection, Phan Fah

Phi Nooring: May I join the protest?

Mouse: People died on this road.

We've merely broken the snake's back again?

November 7, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Thaksin Amnesty



08/11/56

From Manager, November 7, 2013

The crowd: Yeah... We won... Yeah... We won... Tweet... Tweet... Won... Tweet...

Caption: We've merely broken the snake's back again?

Alas! My sister...

November 7, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek, Thaksin Amnesty



From Komchadluek, November 7, 2013

Left, PM Yingluck Shinawatra speaking to Thaksin: I checked. Only a bit over 30,000 protesters came out to chase you away... Brother Sin!!

Thaksin Shinawatra: Only 30,000. How shoddy! Ha ha!

Right, Yingluck: Yes... just a bit over 30,000, and 500,000. Ha ha.

Thaksin: Alas! My sister...

Thailand's investors spooked by 'forgiveness'

November 7, 2013

Categories: Thaksin Amnesty

[Thailand's investors spooked by 'forgiveness'](#) – CNBC, November 7, 2013

...Even before the latest political tension, Thailand's market faced a series of headwinds.

"Other than hopes of a rise in export demand, there is little in the pipeline by way of upside to the outlook. In contrast, downside risks abound, from consumption and investment, both of which seem to have peaked for the time being, to uncertainty about the government's much anticipated THB2 trillion infrastructure investment program," Taimur Baig, chief economist at Deutsche Bank, said in a note, adding the latest economic data "make for grim reading..."

CNN: Can Thailand's first female PM heal a divided nation?

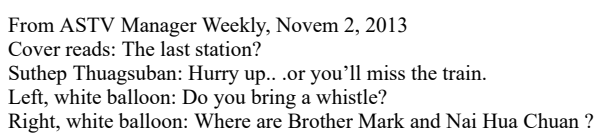
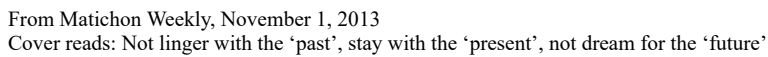
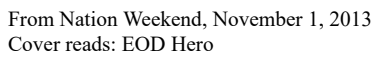
November 7, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Can Thailand's first female PM heal a divided nation?](#) – CNN, November 6, 2013

First, you may be dazzled by her gentle smile. But then the obvious question comes to mind. Am I sitting across a true leading woman or is her big brother actually calling the shots? ...

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



Bloomberg: “Welcome to the Republic of Thaksin”

November 8, 2013

Categories: Thaksin Amnesty

[Thailand's Big Brother Drama](#) – Bloomberg, November 8, 2013

...But Thaksin raised the strategy to an art form, essentially making an entire nation about him. His tenure from February 2001 to September 2006 saw nothing less than the wholesale bastardization of Thai democracy. He neutered its institutions and enriched his family members and cronies in ways that would have made a Russian oligarch blush.

...The bill might have gotten further if it had also applied to people charged with lese-majeste, which mandates prison sentences as long as 15 years for defaming or insulting the king, queen, heir apparent or regent. Instead the bill would have allowed Yingluck's brother, army officers and former Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva, who faces murder charges for authorizing soldiers to use weapons during unrest in 2010, to walk free — not average Thais. It left the pro-Thaksin Red Shirts and opponents known as the Yellow Shirts wondering who, or what, they had been fighting for.

It's time that the Republic of Thaksin became less about one man and more about the aspirations and needs of Thais.

Lost kingdom: Myanmar's forgotten royals

November 8, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Lost kingdom: Myanmar's forgotten royals](#) – AFP, November 8, 2013

...But one episode when the military tried to enlist the royal family to help it counter communist insurgents ended the generals' enthusiasm for the monarchy, Shah said.

Local people thronged to catch a glimpse of the family and women knelt and spread their hair on the ground for the family to walk on.

"So taken aback were the generals by the depth of public sentiment demonstrated for the royal family, that they no longer involved the family in any further campaigns," Shah said....

Thailand Protesters Unite: Leaders Aim to Trigger Early Election

November 9, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand Protesters Unite: Leaders Aim to Trigger Early Election](#) – phuketwan.com, November 8, 2013

...Long-time Shinawatra opponent and protest leader Suthep Thaugsuban forecast yesterday that the protesters would establish a “Population Court” from Monday and organise a vote on whether or not the government is needed.

Chasing profits, power producers fuel Thailand's solar rush

November 9, 2013

Categories: Energy

[Chasing profits, power producers fuel Thailand's solar rush](#) – Reuters, November 8, 2013

...With oil imports hitting a record \$38 billion last year, or 9.3 percent of GDP, Thailand unveiled a plan this year to triple its solar power capacity to 3,000 MW by 2021.

Renewable energy is expected to account for a quarter of Thailand's energy mix by 2021 from 8 percent now, of which about a fifth will come from solar power...

Thai Billionaire Courts Controversy In Slugfest For Control Of Myanmar Brewery

November 9, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai Billionaire Courts Controversy In Slugfest For Control Of Myanmar Brewery](#) – Forbes, November 7, 2013

Billionaire Charoen Sirivadhanabhakdi, Thailand's third-richest tycoon with a net worth of \$10.6 billion, is in the midst of a slugfest, yet again. Fraser & Neave 's (F&N) local partner in its beer joint venture in Myanmar has begun arbitration for what it claims is its "contractual right" to buy over the parent company's 55% stake in Myanmar Brewery...

The Economist: The government's latest attempt to get Thaksin Shinawatra back has united almost everyone against it

November 9, 2013

Categories: Thaksin Amnesty

[Thailand's amnesty bill—Groundhog days](#) — The Economist, November 9, 2013

...The protests are further evidence, if any were needed, of how deeply the question of Mr Thaksin continues to poison the well of Thai politics.

...Ms Yingluck, indeed, has become merely Mr Thaksin's proxy as he runs the country from Dubai. She has explored every avenue to get her brother back, including royal pardons, constitutional amendments and five other kinds of reconciliation bill. In forcing through this latest measure, the government badly misjudged the public mood and the strength of the forces arrayed against it...

Govt warns of tough action if protests escalate to “incite purging of the present administration”

November 9, 2013

Categories: Thaksin Amnesty

[Govt warns of tough action if protests escalate irrationally](#) – MCOT, November 9, 2013

...Dragging the conflict until next Monday would cause damages to the country, said Mr Suranand who brushed aside the possibility of dispatching military forces to deal with demonstrators.

Regarding an announcement by Democrat MP Suthep Thaugsuban to set up a people's tribunal to resolve the amnesty controversy, Mr Suranand said it was inappropriate to raise the idea of a kangaroo court when all parties concerned should follow the legal procedure.

He said he believed a rally by Red Shirt demonstrators in Bangkok on Sunday will be organised peacefully.

Those who successively hold undemocratic activities or attempt to topple the government will face tough action, he warned...

Burying the past—again

November 11, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun, Thaksin Amnesty



From [Arun](#), November 10, 2013

On the project billboard: Golden location, the Set Zero project, luxurious project opened on the Democracy Monument
Underground, from top: May 2010; 6 October 1976; 14 October 1973
Cartoon title: New projects, same location

“Set Zero” for the “Fat Family”

November 11, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Thaksin Amnesty



From Khaosod, October 26, 2013

Title: Set Zero... Fat family

On the book Yaowapa is holding: Blanket amnesty bill

Her husband, former PM Somchai, is standing behind her.

Friendship prevents the war from breaking out

November 12, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, November 12, 2013

Title: Friendship prevents the war from breaking out. The impact returns to those who are malevolent.

PM Yingluck is shaking hand with Cambodian PM Hun Sen.

Foreign Minister Surapong Tovichakchaiku is holding a poster saying "ICJ's balanced judgment"

Thai ambassador to the Netherlands and a leader of Thai legal team Virachai Plasai is holding a Thai flag.

Man with glasses is holding a poster that says: Bring back Preah Vihear. Cause a conflict between Thailand and Cambodia.

Man laying down is holding a poster that says: Reject ICJ's judgment.

Sign in the hole: Suthep's hole to overthrow the government.

Sound from the hole: Peed...

Phi Nooring: Ultra-nationalist

Mouse: Being a nationalist with rationality.

Blowing up the rule of law

November 13, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, November 2, 2013

Thaksin: Ok!!! Let's set zero from the beginning again.

Words above the plunger: amnesty bill

Words on the constitution bomb: Thailand's rule of law system

Thida and Thaksin

November 13, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Khaosod, November 6, 2013

Title: Super deal or Super failure?

On Red Shirt leader Thida's shirt: UDD

The shadow is meant to be Thaksin.

Sending a fighter to heaven

November 13, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, November 13, 2013

Cartoon title: Sending a fighter to heaven

On lantern: Ajarn Vorapol prommikkabutra

On the back of Jatuporn Promphan: UDD

Phi Nooring: The brave who dared to fight against the dictator

Mouse: The Red Shirt's decent man

Remembering the Thaksin Years: Thaksin Makes Children's Dreams Come True

November 13, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, The Thaksin Years



From Thairath, June 24, 2003

Title: Make children's dream come true... fulfill his own dream!

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's dream: The dream government for the next 20 years

Children's dreams: a dream teacher, a dream cheap-tuition fee, a dream school, a dream food, a dream house, the Bann Mankong

IMF calls on Thailand to ditch rice support scheme

November 13, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[IMF calls on Thailand to ditch rice support scheme](#) – Reuters, November 11, 2013

...Pulling the plug on a rice price guarantee scheme for farmers might help stem the losses of billions of dollars of state funds, but Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra would risk losing crucial rural support by doing so.

Farmers helped Yingluck sweep to power in 2011, when she promised to bring back the subsidies and handouts that helped her brother Thaksin Shinawatra win two terms in office.

The rice policy has been a disaster, however, with losses of 136 billion baht (\$4.3 billion) in the 2011-2012 crop year. After that, the government ceased reporting the losses, although former central bank governor and finance minister Pridiyathorn Devakula recently estimated the total at 425 billion baht...

Thailand death fall: Liverpool man in court

November 13, 2013

Categories: Falling

[Thailand death fall: Liverpool man in court](#) – liverpoolecho.co.uk, November 12, 2013

A Liverpool man appeared in court charged with the murder of a man who plunged from a balcony in Thailand.

Darren Taylor, 34, originally from Walton, was allegedly pushed from the balcony of his sixth-storey flat in Bangkok on June 13.

A man named by Thai authorities as James Anthony Durnan, 23, faced Ratchada Criminal Court in Bangkok yesterday...

Thailand to issue every citizen their own IP address “to provide more services to people”

November 13, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Ministry focuses on its goal to turn Thailand into an ICT hub](#) – The Nation, November 7, 2013

...It will extend the current 13-character personal ID into 14 characters for IP purposes, as a result of which all citizens will have their own personal IP – the first country in the world to do so this, he said.

...”The personal IP address will allow the government to provide more services to people, such as information on personal rights and alerts, via their IP addresses. This will create a win-win situation between government and all members of the public...”

Coca-Cola to check Cambodia land-grab claim

November 13, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Coca-Cola to check Cambodia land-grab claim](#) – atimes.com, November 12, 2013

...The move came a month after global human rights group Oxfam and its supporters kicked off a campaign calling on Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, and Associated British Foods, three of the largest players in the sugar industry, to “commit” to zero tolerance for land grabs. In the campaign, Oxfam cited, among others, a seven-year-old land grab case in Cambodia.

Some 200 families in Sre Ambel district in the Koh Khong province have been fighting for land from which they were evicted in 2006 to make way for a sugar plantation supplying Tate & Lyle Sugars, which sells sugar to franchises that manufacture and bottle products for Coca-Cola and PepsiCo.

The plantation is controlled by companies which are 70% owned by Thai sugar giant Khon Kaen Sugar Co Ltd (KSL)...

British rights activist says Thai defamation case ‘politically motivated’

November 13, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News, Human Rights



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=http://www.youtube.com/embed/wP93lCLrB4E>



[Thailand: British rights activist says defamation case ‘politically motivated’](#) –

...The company sued Hall for defamation, which is a criminal offence in Thailand, and violations of the Computer Crimes Act in February 2013, after the release of a report he co-authored for the Finnish rights group Finnwatch. If found guilty, he could face up to seven years in prison and damages of \$10m.

The report – [Cheap has a high price: Responsibility problems relating to international private label products and food production in Thailand](#) – alleges that a pineapple canning factory operated by Natural Fruit employed children as young as 14, confiscated migrant workers’ documents and severely underpaid them. The factory management is accused of discriminating against and abusing migrant workers, who made up most of the workforce and were largely smuggled into the country from neighbouring Burma (Myanmar)...

The Economist on the Thai-Cambodian border decision

November 13, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News, Cambodia

[Thailand and Cambodia – Once more, with feeling](#) – The Economist, November 11, 2013

...the verdict comes at a time when both governments are facing crises of legitimacy. Hun Sen has reason to celebrate the ruling. It may well boost his standing after he won re-election in July by a surprisingly thin margin. As ever, it is Thailand's domestic politics that remains the main source of tension between Thailand and Cambodia, and it may prove so again.

The current Thai prime minister, Yingluck Shinawatra, and her Pheu Thai party government, have suffered badly as a result of a brazen and aborted attempt to ram through an amnesty bill. The motion would have paved the way for the return of her brother, Thaksin Shinawatra, a former Thai prime minister who was deposed in a 2006 coup and as polarising a figure as is known in this part of the world. The mood among the ultra-royalists and -nationalists who oppose him, along with the Democrat Party camped in the streets of Bangkok, is already upbeat. They have thwarted the return of the man they most loathe (though they still have to figure out how to beat the Shinawatra clan in elections).

Ms Yingluck cannot be seen to be too friendly with Cambodia at such a time...

Can Myanmar and North Korea Say Goodbye?

November 13, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Can Myanmar and North Korea Say Goodbye?](http://thediplomat.com) – <http://thediplomat.com>, November 13, 2013

...Since then, Myanmar has undergone a radical era of transformation and talk of such a North Korea-Myanmar axis in Asia has largely subsided. In fact, to build confidence with the United States and South Korea, Myanmar has pledged that it will entirely cut off relations with North Korea, including weapons shipments and any sort of military commerce...

Robbed?

November 14, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, November 14, 2013

Left: Khmer “bandits”: Yeah!!... We robbed their country and got about a thousand rai.

Caption: Robbers win.

Right: Government: Yeah!!... Our country was robbed and lost about a thousand rai.

Caption: Owners also win.

Remembering the Thaksin Years: Stop Throwing Babies Away!

November 14, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, The Thaksin Years



From Thairath, November 14, 2002

Cartoon title: It's time to save lives... society

On garbage tank: For garbage dispose only. No infant disposing

Sign carried by girl: Stop harassing children.

Sign carried by boy: Don't abandon infants.

Sign in Thaksin Shinawatra's hands: Don't victimize children for sexual purposes.

The result is tied

November 14, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, November 14, 2013

Cartoon title: The result is tied.

Left: Cambodia

Right: Thailand

Judge: The World Court of Justice

Protests lose steam or gather steam?

November 14, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Bangkok protests lose steam after government backtracks on bill](#) – DPA, November 13, 2013

...But only a few hundred attended the main anti-government rally Wednesday in the west of the city.

“The concept of civil disobedience is a new one for Thai protesters,” said Eakanat Phromphan, a former Democrat legislator. “Let’s see if it gains steam on Friday...”

[Thailand’s Yingluck on shaky ground as protests gather steam](#) – Reuters, November 12, 2013

...A rejection of the bill by the Senate late on Monday appears to have had no impact on protesters who vowed to continue until the draft was killed off, threatening the kind of turmoil that has plagued Thailand since the military ousted Thaksin in a 2006 coup...

[Thailand: anti-Thaksin protesters set new targets after amnesty bill defeat](#) – Guardian, November 12, 2013

...Although the protests have drawn a high profile and are the largest so far against Yingluck’s government, it was unclear if they are sustainable, especially in view of the overwhelming support Yingluck’s government has in parliament...

Haphazard vicious storm

November 15, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, November 15, 2013

Cartoon title: Haphazard vicious storm from the whistle of injustice

On face of the man: Double-standard justice

On whistle: topple the government

On necktie: sloppy

Myanmar to re-issue bank notes with national hero General Aung San's image

November 15, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar to re-issue bank notes with national hero's image](#) – IANS, November 14, 2013

...General Aung San, along with his seven councilor members and his bodyguard, were all assassinated at Yangon's prime minister's office July 19, 1947 before Myanmar regained independence Jan 4, 1948.

After Myanmar won independence, the then bank notes were set to bear Aung San's image until the military take-over...

Thailand Has Become A Major Hub For Gold

November 15, 2013

Categories: Economy

[Thailand Has Become A Major Hub For Gold](#) – businessinsider.com, November 14, 2013

...Earlier this year India moved to suspend gold imports from Thailand. India had a 1% duty on the import of gold jewelry from Thailand at the time, compared with 10% on other countries.

Indian officials believed gold imports from Thailand originated elsewhere and that Thailand was taking advantage of the bilateral free trade agreement between the two nations...

No capital controls for Thailand: Finance Minister

November 15, 2013

Categories: Economy

[No capital controls for Thailand: Finance Minister](#) – CNBC, November 14, 2013

Thailand will not resort to capital controls to stem the outflow of hot money from its economy, even as the prospect of a scale-back in U.S. monetary stimulus looms ever larger, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Kittiratt Na-Ranong told CNBC...

This family is so great... Wish they stay in Thailand forever...

November 16, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, November 16, 2013

Title: This family is so great... Wish they stay in Thailand forever...

Suthep blowing a whistle: Call for an assistance from those who have special power . Call for a rally to overthrow the government.

On his shirt: 100 dead bodies

Papers around the skulls: Oil palm, building the police stations, and fraud of ALRO-4-01

On the boy's shirt: Daddy's boy

On the ball: Land fraud in Kao Pang

On fighting man: Thani Thaugsuban

On man throwing a chair: Chain Thaugsuban

Phi Nooring: To inherit...

A mouse: Causing a conflict

Remembering the Thaksin Years: The Murderer in the 20 Pub

November 16, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, The Thaksin Years



From Thairath, November 16, 2001

Cartoon title: A single bullet

On arm that firing a pistol: The murderer in the 20 Pub

On paper above smoke: Confidence in the juristic process

On back of man in the front: Crime Suppression Police

On papers above men lying faces down on the floor, from left: Protected by the Army; Moles in Bang Bon Police station; Helps from politicians

Myanmar: From isolation to leader

November 16, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar: From isolation to leader](#) – asianewsnet.net, November 14, 2013

At the close of the East Asia Summit in Brunei Darussalam, Myanmar officially accepted the chairmanship of Asean 2013-2014. Myanmar's leaders proved to the world that a state's foreign policy can change an isolated country to an open and democratic country...

Don't Thai to me!!

November 18, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, November 18, 2013

The phrase "Don't Thai to me!!" is supposedly used as slang in Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong to warn someone not to lie. It is thought to be based on the Thai tendency to lie as a course of habit, even when it clear the speaker is lying. However, it has been suggested that the usage of this phrase overseas is an urban legend that has been circulated in Thai-language circles.

If we lose this time...

November 18, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



19/11/56

From Manager, November 18, 2013

Man dragging the plow: Yes, son... in Nov '13, we rose to fight... but too few of us showed up, and so we lost...

Caption: If we lose this time... it must be a long long time!!!



20/11/56

From Manager, November 18, 2013

Caption: The tiger's getting tired.

Suthep: We'll finish it by the 24th

The tiger: Hope not to postpone again this time

My belonging...

November 19, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, November 19, 2013

Cartoon title: My belonging... nobody can touch (lucky you don't all die)

On book's spine: The '07 constitution

On the cover: Inherit the CNS's dictatorial power; the bureaucracy CNS's

On arm of the man: Parliament

Phi Nooring: Bigger than any organizations

Mouse: Don't want to lose power

The real solution for Thaksin

November 19, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai, Thaksin Amnesty



From Thairath, November 5, 2013

Left, Thaksin: Miss Fortune teller, why am I still exiled and why can I not wipe out all wrongdoing?

Middle, fortune teller: Because you still have the wrongdoings which you have done in your previous life.

Thaksin: Ok. I see...

Right: Hey, Hua Kiang... Revise the blanket amnesty bill to cover all wrongdoing since my previous life. This is my order.

Eating the people

November 19, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, November 19, 2013

Frogs: Peed!!!

Battle lines drawn: Pheu Thai Party formally rejects Constitution Court authority

November 20, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Pheu Thai, House leaders raise pressure on court – Red shirts threaten to rally at judges' homes](#) – Bangkok Post, November 19, 2013

The Pheu Thai Party says it will not accept the Constitution Court's ruling on Wednesday on the proposed charter amendment to alter the make-up of the Senate, whichever way it goes.

Apiwan Wiriyachai, a member of Pheu Thai's strategic committee, said the panel has discussed all possible scenarios and agreed it will not accept the court's judgement even it is in the party's favour.

Mr Apiwan said the panel has agreed the charter court has no authority to rule on the case and by doing so it will interfere in the legislative branch...

Franklin Graham Event bringing Christianity to Chiang Mai

November 20, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand Believers Eager for Franklin Graham Event on Nov 22-24](#) – christianpost.com, November 19, 2013

...”I’d say there’s an indifference to Christianity,” said Chad Hammond, director of Asian affairs for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. “They don’t view it as a threat in Thailand. In India and some other places, Christianity is viewed as a threat. Here, I think there’s just an indifference. A lot of people are Buddhist because their parents are Buddhist, and it’s just part of the culture...”

Thai govt unable to pay subsidies since October 1

November 20, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand issues bond as it struggles to pay rice farmers](#) – Reuters, November 19, 2013

Thailand scrambled on Tuesday to fund a rice subsidy scheme that has not paid out to farmers since Oct. 1, a delay that risks alienating key supporters of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

A state bank will issue a 75 billion baht (\$2.38 bln) bond to plug the funding gap by early December, as the government tries to head off the prospect of farmers joining protests that are already the biggest since it swept to power in 2011...

What does the monitor lizard say?

November 20, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News



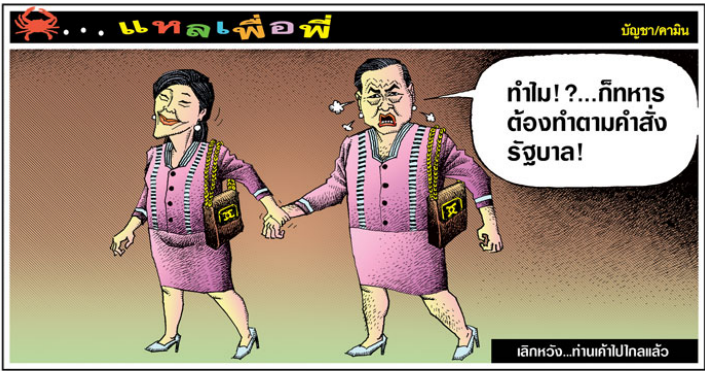
<https://youtube.com/watch?v=http://www.youtube.com/embed/b4u2sToFW-I>



Thailand's humorous answer to the world-famous "The Fox" music video: "The Hia." Thanks to Tom for pointing this out.

Soldiers must follow the government’s command!

November 20, 2013
Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



07/11/56

From Manager, November 6, 2013
Gen. Prayuth: Why!?... Soldiers must follow the government’s command!
Caption: Stop expecting ... he has already gone far.

Weekly News Magazines, November 8, 2013

November 20, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, November 8, 2013

Cover reads: Facebook Mob



From Matchon Weekly, November 8, 2013

Cover reads: People Alliance for the Democrat – Suthep Fight without Retreat



From ASTV Manager Weekly, November 9, 2013

Cover reads: Expel the whole family

In red star: Free, Against the End-of-the Soi Bill sticker

Who has more?

November 21, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, November 21, 2013

In the blackboard: Buffaloes are a majority group in the country.

Red buffalo: It's not true, teacher. I watched "Blue Sky Channel" last night and it said that numbers of people supporting them is higher than us.

Bloomberg: Thai Rice Hoard at Record Seen Hurting Prices Amid Global Glut

November 21, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

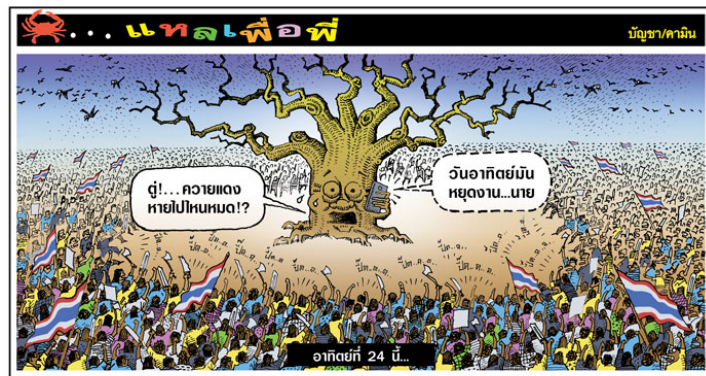
[Thai Rice Hoard at Record Seen Hurting Prices Amid Global Glut](#) – Bloomberg, November 21, 2013

...Thailand has spent 678 billion baht (\$21.3 billion) since October 2011 buying about 29 million tons of milled rice from farmers. The program spurred the buildup of record reserves and dethroned the country as the largest exporter...

Where are the red buffaloes?

November 21, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Thaksin Amnesty



22/11/56

From Manager, November 21, 2013

Thaksin as a tree: Tu, where are the red buffaloes?

Tu : They don't work on Sunday, sir.

Caption: Sunday the 24th...

Italian-Thai ditched as Thailand, Myanmar seize Dawei development zone

November 21, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Italian-Thai ditched as Thailand, Myanmar seize Dawei development zone](#) – Reuters, November 21, 2013

...He said the focus was on getting the basic infrastructure in place in Dawei to attract Japanese firms.

That meant stripping ITD, Thailand's largest construction group, of its 75-year concession to lead the project and hiring an international firm to carry out due diligence on work it has already started. That should be completed by May 2014 and ITD would be reimbursed for the work so far, the officials agreed at the meeting on Thursday...

Thailand's War of Attrition

November 22, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's War of Attrition](#) – FP, November 21, 2013

... Thailand, though, remains no closer to a settlement, much less in possession of a leader to help end the cycle of mutually assured political destruction.

“For Thai people, you don’t have any other choice,” says Thida of the UDD. “If you don’t choose Pheu Thai, but you support democracy, who do you choose now?”

November 22, 2013
Categories: Analysis, Editorial Cartoons - Manager

Below are two editorial cartoons we translated in recent months along with some updated comments that shed light on the calls for the PM to step aside and the desire for an unelected senate.

2Bangkok.com Editor Ron Morris' book, [The Thai Book: A Field Guide to Thai Political Motivations](#), is available in the Kindle Store.



From Manager, October 2, 2013
Yaowapha Wongsawat: Is what Brother Sin ask Nong Poo to do too risky?
Thaksin Shinawatra: She doesn't know, Daeng, that it's risky.
Caption: Not knowing due to stupidity... or knowing it, but being bad?



From Manager, September 30, 2013
President of the Parliament: Senator, please stop debating with members of parliament. It's so loud and it is disturbing them.
Caption: Next year, it will be a couples' parliament.

He can't stop...

November 23, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



From Arun, November 23, 2013

The cartoon reads: Suthep Thuagsuban, Ratchadamnoen mob leader, tweet, tweet, can't stop...

Amnesty

November 24, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Komchadluek, November 8, 2013

Thaksin: Let's withdraw!!

On the battering ram: Amnesty bill



11/11/56

From Manager, November 10, 2013

Left: Thaksin (on the phone): Poo!! You have to pack your stuff quickly!

PM Yingluck: Which country do you want me to visit?

Right: Leave the country... Silly!!

Caption: Almost the last phone-in.



From Komchadluek, November 12, 2013

On the sign: Against the blanket amnesty bill

Weekly News Magazines, November 15, 2013

November 25, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, November 15, 2013

Cover reads: Fight to the Death!



From Matichon Weekly, November 15, 2013

Cover reads: To Dream the Impossible Dream



From ASTV Manager Weekly, November 16, 2013

Cover reads: Stubbornly obdurate leading to Thailand's loss of territory

Bottom left: The Arrogant Handsome

Bottom right: The Inviting Stupid Bitch

Tattoo Erasing Clinic

November 25, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



12/11/56

From Manager, November 11, 2013

Sign on wall: Tattoo Erasing Clinic

Nurse: Faster... patients keep flowing in all the time.

On foreheads of patients: Thaksin's lackey

The 3rd man from left: Nikhom, let me get pass your queue.

Nikhom: Eh!... No!!!

Caption: Soon... this clinic will be crowded.

Off with their heads

November 25, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News



Sign at anti-government rally: Ungrateful traitors, conspiring with Hun Sen, the vicious Khmer, to undermine our country. Your punishment is... death sentence only!!!

Under the heads: Taphan Hin, the land of the brave, Muang Pichit

Thai newspaper front pages

November 25, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Thairath, November 26, 2013

White on black headline: 'Thuag' keeps pressuring TV 5, forcing the armed forces to choose sides

White on green headline: Broke in and robbed Sia of 15 million



From Daily News, November 26, 2013

May it be finished by talking ; the Crown Prince worried, mob spread out of Ratchadamnoen, the Red takes Ratchamangkala stadium

Manager cartoonists at the rally

November 26, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



25/11/56

From Manager, November 25, 2013

Left: Kamin!... we forgot to draw cartoons today.

Kamin: Yeah... busy enjoying!

Caption: We were really busy yesterday.

Thais with more than million hearts

November 26, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News



The sign reads: November 24, 2013, the Day of the mass , Thais with more than million hearts

November 26, 2013
Categories: Editorial Cartoons

From Thairath, November 11, 2013
Cartoon title: We'll wait no matter how long it may be.

13/11/56

From Manager, November 12, 2013
Caption: Just step out of the parliament and the cockroach transforms into a giant!

Gone from Thai politics

November 26, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, November 26, 2013

On the gravestones: honesty, virtue, morality, faithfulness

Northrop providing Thailand with air defense, surveillance

November 27, 2013

Categories: Thai Military

[Northrop providing Thailand with air defense, surveillance](#) – UPI, November 25, 2013

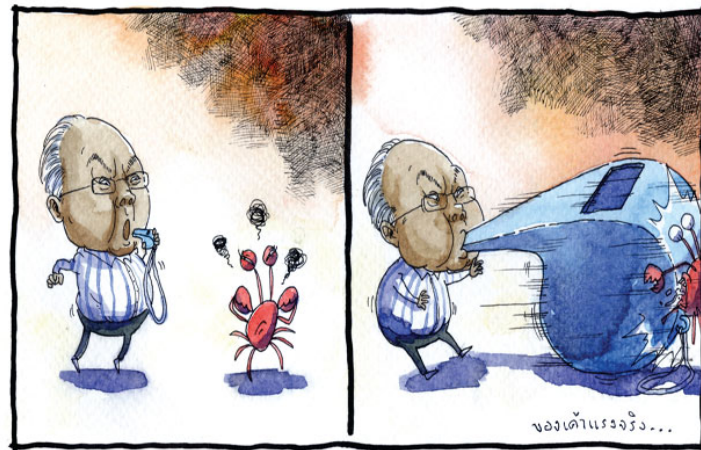
...The AN/TPS-78 is a long-range, S-band radar used by the U.S. Air Force and others. It features state-of-the-art high-power transistor technology and is adept at detecting small targets in areas of difficult land and sea clutter.

Northrop Grumman did not disclose the number of systems it is supplying Thailand.

His is really powerful...

November 28, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Post Today, November 22, 2013

At left Suthep Thuangsuban is blowing a normal size of whistle at a red crab. "Crab" is "Poo" in Thai, which is also nickname of the Premier Yingluck Shinawatra.

At right, the whistle becomes large to symbolize the mass rally at Ratchadamnoen Avenue.

At bottom right corner: His is really powerful...

Time: Thailand's Democrat Party Is Hilariously Misnamed

November 28, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's Democrat Party Is Hilariously Misnamed](#) – Time, November 28, 2013

...It's just that when it comes to Thai democracy, the ironically named Democrat Party is among the worst practitioners. Tens of thousands of Yellow Shirts are marching across the country, but demanding the establishment of royalist councils is hardly a people's revolution. If anyone has been exercising people power, it's the 15 million voters who elected Yingluck and her Pheu Thai party in July 2011. Thaksin-backed political parties have won the previous five elections with significant majorities, and Thaksin's own populist policies helped bring millions of rural poor out of poverty. He remains the kingdom's most popular Prime Minister since the abolition of absolute monarchy in 1932...

The hands that commit the crime against the democratic system

November 29, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, November 20, 2013

Cartoon title: The hands that commit the crime against the democratic system

On upper hand: Sloppy justice

On upper sleeve: Interfering in the legislative power and the constitutional jurisdiction

On lower hand: Establish the power above people

On the sleeve: Independent organizations

On the sleeve: Results of the dictatorial power the coup (on Sept. 19, 2006)

The people from left: senate speaker, Nikhom Wairatchapanich, house speaker Somsak Kiatsuranont, Premier Yingluck Shinawatra

Phi Nooring: To yield means to die. If fight, we still have a chance to survive.

Mouse: Amend the entire constitution

The Economist print edition being withheld from Thailand again

November 29, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

The Economist	Distribution of the November 30th 2013 issue of <i>The Economist</i>
November 29th 2013	
<p>This week's print edition</p>  <p>Click here to read this week's issue.</p>	<p>Due to sensitive content in this week's issue and the resulting potential risk to our distributors, we will not be distributing the November 30th 2013 print edition of <i>The Economist</i> in Thailand.</p> <p>We appreciate your continued patience and apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. We will be extending your subscription by one week to replace this missed issue.</p> <p>Remember, if your subscription includes full digital access, you can visit Economist.com to enjoy content from the print edition. If you are a Print-only subscriber, you still have access to a selection of</p>

The Economist November 30th edition will not be distributed in Thailand over some pointed comments directed at the monarchy. It is one of those articles that ends with advice for all sides with the assumption that every culture would naturally desire to behave according to Western codes of political conduct.

Berlusconi and Shinawatra: The billionaires who love power more than money

November 29, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Berlusconi and Shinawatra: The billionaires who love power more than money](#) – The Independent, November 28, 2013

...Thaksin Shinawatra, who drew his mass support from Thailand's rural hinterland, has a better claim than Berlusconi to have been a reforming prime minister. His policies did much to improve the lot of Thailand's rural poor, who were his main supporters, while doing nothing to harm the mobile phone and other companies that were the foundation of his fortune. But as with Berlusconi, his financial power gave the political playing field a permanent tilt. Shinawatra has lived outside the country since 2008 but still rules it virtually through his current party, called Pheu Thai. His youngest sister, Yingluck Shinawatra, is Prime Minister now, but it is big brother who still calls the shots, issuing orders via a dozen mobile phones, through social networks and by Skype, and summoning his minions for face-to-face meetings when there are important decisions to take...

From 2012: [Bloomberg: Thaksin: The Silvio Berlusconi of Asia](#)

The Angst of Being Thaksin

November 29, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=http://www.youtube.com/embed/KV7CpWdyg5Q>



Thanks to nearly everyone for sending the link to this... A amazingly concise overview of how Thaksin might possibly feel...

Thailand's red-shirt heartland hides its strength

November 30, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's red-shirt heartland hides its strength](#) – Reuters, November 29, 2013

...Kwanchai styles himself as a true Thaksin loyalist and was a supporter of the amnesty bill. But perhaps contradictorily, he is also a critic of red shirts who have joined the Puea Thai government.

“The people have seen so many red shirts have taken positions in the government. It makes them feel these people are not fighting for democracy but fighting for themselves,” he said.

Combined with the rice harvest and the general difficulty of organising protesters to support, rather than oppose, a government, Kwanchai estimated he is able to marshal about half as many protesters as he could in 2010.

Kwanchai sent hundreds of his supporters to Bangkok earlier in the week, but was barred from going on stage by the UDD leader, Tida. She accuses him of being an opportunist who has attached himself to Thaksin for his own benefit. He reckons she wants to steer the movement down the dangerous path of opposing Thailand's revered monarchy...

Weekly News Magazines, November 22, 2013

November 30, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, November 22, 2013
Cover reads: The Great Whistle



From Matichon Weekly, November 22, 2013
Cover reads: Loy Krathong Pheu Thai, Ying Loy Yingluck



From ASTV Manager Weekly, November 23, 2013
Cover reads: Set Zero the Slavery Parliament

Students attack bus with Red Shirts inside

November 30, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News



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



After clashes, Red Shirts end rally

December 1, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Ending the Red Shirt rally is in keeping with the overriding government desire to avoid escalation and chaos that the opposition is seeking to strengthen their claims. The government will continue to emphasize that it is following all the rules and that the protesters are committing criminal acts.

In terms of the political calculation of a sitting government vs a Thai-style protest (protest in the Thai world being a symbol, calculated by big men or not, that polite interaction is at an end and society is shamed by disunity) events now are similar to the dynamics of the 2009 and 2010 protests—it is just that the players are reversed.

[Red-shirt leaders end rally](#)

[Jatuporn claims four Red Shirts killed last night](#)

[Songkhla protesters storm exhibition promoting the government's plan to construct a high-speed rail system](#)

[PM Yingluck's 10 Year Old Son Targeted By Protesters](#)

[State union workers to join anti-Thaksin regime protest today](#)

SCMP: Thai protest leader Suthep a son of the elite with an axe to grind

December 1, 2013

Categories: Uncategorized

[Thai protest leader Suthep a son of the elite with an axe to grind](#) – SCMP, December 1, 2013

Most people faced with potential treason charges would be in hiding or running for their lives.

But not Suthep Thaugsuban, the former deputy prime minister turned street protester, who has emerged as the key figure in the political turmoil currently engulfing Thailand...

We don't accept the constitution court's ruling!

December 2, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, November 23, 2013

Left: We don't accept the constitution court's ruling!...

Middle: ...the ruling is contradictory to the democratic principle and destroys the institute of the family.

Another voice: Destroys how?

Right, Somsak: Takes husbands and wives apart by not allowing the husband-wife parliament.

[Somsak is house speaker and joint-seat convention speaker, Somsak Kiatsuranont. This refers to the so-called "husband-wife" parliament of the Thaksin era when the supposedly neutral senate became packed with relatives of government MPs. More on this idea [here](#).)

He has a mistress?!!

December 2, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



03/12/56

From Manager, December 2, 2013

Yingluck: He has a mistress?!!

Caption: Just at first glance... Poo knew that Too's changed

Small saw, big tree

December 2, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Post Today, November 18, 2013

Suthep and Abhisit are trying to cut a tree on which is written “Thaksin’s regime.” The cartoon implies that former Deputy PM Suthep Thausuban and former PM Abhisit Vejjajiva from the Democrat Party are facing a difficulty trying to overthrow the Thaksin’s regime even they can call a large rally against Yingluck’s government.

Drone camera footage of the protests in progress

December 2, 2013
Categories: 2Bangkok News



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



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



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



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



And more: [Drone camera footage of the protests in progress](#)

Tears of the red buffalo

December 3, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



21/11/56

From Manager, November 20, 2013

The red buffalo (representing Thaksin's Red Shirt supporters): What the heck? Even when we heavily pressured them, they still judge that we're guilty!!!

ABC: Political crisis in Thailand

December 3, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Political crisis in Thailand](#) – ABC, December 3, 2013

...Mr Suthep, with the backing of his old Democrat Party, wants to replace the elected government with what he calls a People's Council. It's a coded phrase for the appointment of a parliament chosen by the mob, the monarchy and the military. He makes no mention of elections. The prime minister isn't having a bar of it, and she's worried how this looks to foreigners...

Cambodian Authorities Move to Sue Pro-Opposition Newspaper Publisher

December 3, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodian Authorities Move to Sue Pro-Opposition Newspaper Publisher](#) – VOA, December 2, 2013

Cambodian authorities are moving to file a lawsuit against a pro-opposition newspaper publisher after his paper stood by its article accusing Prime Minister Hun Sen of using the military to illegally gain votes in recent national polls...

Radio Australia: Bangkok protests – Who is Suthep Thaugsuban?

December 3, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Bangkok protests – Who is Suthep Thaugsuban?](#) – Radio Australia, December 1, 2013

...So this is the quite incredible thing about the recent history of Thai politics. There were elections held in 2001, 2005, 2007 and then in 2011 and so on every occasion over more than a decade, the political parties allied to deposed Prime Minister Thaksin have come through very strongly. And I don't think there would be any reason to imagine that in an election held say in the early months of 2014, that we would see any different kind of result.

And that's why it's so difficult for Suthep and those who are out on the streets of Bangkok, calling for parliament to be dissolved and calling for the Yingluck government to step down. They don't have an electoral mechanism that they can confidently embrace in the hope of getting the reigns of power for themselves.

Because if there is a poll, I think we'd all have to bet on a government or a former government spearheaded by former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, in such a scenario coming through and doing very well at the polls. And that just basically puts us back in the same situation yet again.

It's déjà vu, but with this Thai style dynamic, which is dangerous, violent and in some cases at least, utterly unpredictable.

Uncle Sam is on Thaksin's side

December 5, 2013

Categories: Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons



From Post Today, December 5, 2013

Rangoon Planning Committee Wants Public Access to Riverfront

December 5, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Rangoon Planning Committee Wants Public Access to Riverfront](#) – The Irrawaddy, December 4, 2013

...Committee member Hlaing Maw Oo, director of the Ministry of Construction, said that most of the area along the city's Hlaing River, also known as the Rangoon River, should be designated as "green space" and called for at least 25 feet (8 meters) of space along the waterfront to be reserved for public recreation.

"We don't ask very much, just at least 25 feet for the public," she said.

According to a map distributed at the public forum, a strip of the riverfront at least three-miles long is proposed as a "Green and Blue Zone," punctuated with smaller areas demarcated for "waterfront special development." In most of the development zones along the river, buildings up to three stories high will be permitted, as long as the view of the Shwedagon Pagoda from the river is preserved...

Bloomberg: Record Rice Inventories in Thailand Jumping 17% as Exports Climb

December 5, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Record Rice Inventories in Thailand Jumping 17% as Exports Climb](#) – Bloomberg, December 4, 2013

Thailand, once the world's biggest rice exporter, will see a 17 percent jump in stockpiles to a record next year as it pursues a policy of buying from farmers at above market rates, said the Food & Agriculture Organization...

Thailand's anti-trafficking effort loses steam

December 5, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's anti-trafficking effort loses steam](#) – Reuters, December 4, 2013

The U.S. State Department is gathering information for its next Trafficking In Persons (TIP) Report, due to be published in June. It ranks countries on their efforts to combat human trafficking. Thailand faces an automatic downgrade to Tier 3, the lowest rank, unless it makes “significant efforts” to improve its record, the State Department says...

Thaksin's homecoming hopes dashed as Thai crisis reignites

December 5, 2013

Categories: Thaksin Amnesty

[Thaksin's homecoming hopes dashed as Thai crisis reignites](#) – Reuters, December 4, 2013

...The chances of another round of political conflict seemed slim a few months ago as the government of Thaksin's sister, Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, entered its third year in office after a fairly smooth ride, much to do with outwardly cordial ties with her brother's enemies, among them generals, royal advisers and opposition politicians...

I want to be a PM again

December 6, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, December 6, 2013

Yingluck parrot: I want to be a PM. I want to be a PM again. I want to be...!!!

The “dull, almost meaningless, message from the United States” on Thai political unrest

December 6, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[US's Perception of Thailand's Political Divide](#) – Prachatai, December 6, 2013

...A former American diplomat revealed that the United States was “freaking out” about the fact that there was a gap in its understanding of the Thai situation. The vacuum of information compelled the US government to interpret its relations with Thailand based on its constricted perception of maintaining the political status quo even as new players in the Thai political landscape were emerging...

Also: [In Thailand, Political Unrest Adds to Downward Economic Spiral](#)

Also: [This Yuletide, Indians to give Bangkok a miss](#)

Ex-PM Thaksin a Saintly Figure in Rural Thailand

December 7, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Ex-PM Thaksin a Saintly Figure in Rural Thailand](#) – AP, December 7, 2013

...“Ten years ago, the road you drove on to get here was dirt. There was no electricity, there was no irrigation,” said Pichai Poltaklang, a retired primary schoolteacher and local organizer for Thaksin’s political movement, commonly known as the “Red Shirts.” He ticks off government programs: the virtually free health care, the low-cost education loans, the old-age pension. “Before Thaksin came to power we were left out.”

...If no one here is calling for bloodshed, a quiet threat is always implicit. Occasionally, it’s explicit.

“Across the northeast we can seize every government office in every town, in every city, in every province,” said Thongplean Boonphunga, a middle-aged rice farmer. The elite may deride Thaksin’s followers as uneducated bumpkins, but, she notes, the country people have numbers on their side.

“They can’t control the whole country. We can,” he said...

New York Times: Thai Premier Calls for Elections as Opposition Quits

December 9, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai Premier Calls for Elections as Opposition Quits](#) – New York Times, December 9, 2013

Facing volatile street protests and the mass resignation from Parliament of the main opposition party, Thailand's prime minister on Monday called for fresh elections, the latest in a series of attempts to defuse anger against her political party and her powerful family...

How Thai tycoon Thaksin bought his way to power

December 9, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=http://www.youtube.com/embed/h-KEwNQMQrw>



People don't believe that I'm a democracy anymore!!

December 9, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



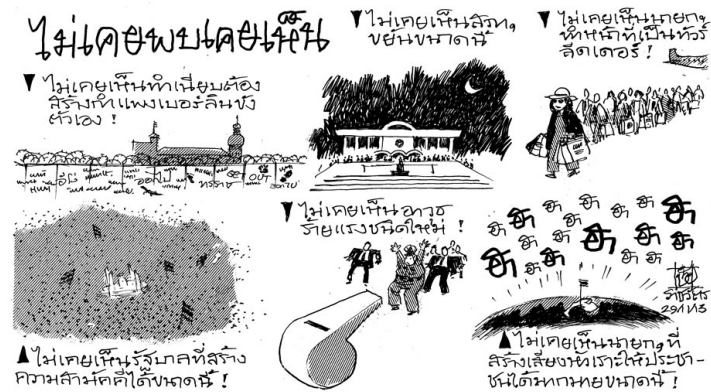
From Komchadluek, November 25, 2013

Thaksin: People don't believe that I'm a democracy anymore!!

Have never seen before...

December 9, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, December 1, 2013

Cartoon title: Have never seen before

Top left: Have never seen any government house that needs to have a Berlin Wall to surround itself

Top middle: Have never seen any parliament work so hard as this one

Top right: Have never seen any premier act as a tour leader.

Bottom left: Have never seen any government that can create such harmony

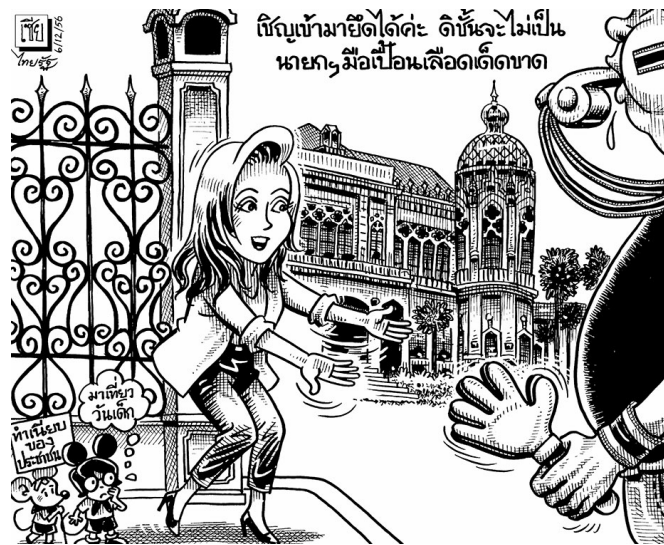
Bottom middle: Have never seen a new disastrous weapon.

Bottom right: Have never seen any premier who can make people laugh this much.

Please come to seize it

December 9, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, December 5, 2013

PM Yingluck: Please come to seize it. I won't be a PM who has peoples' blood on my hands.

Mouse man: Visiting the Government House on the Children's day?

Mouse: The Government House belongs to the people.

Who violates the constitution?

December 10, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, December 10, 2013

Left, foreigner: I don't understand the political crisis in your country.

Man: What don't you understand?

Middle: The anti-government groups are charged for being rebels because their rally violated the constitution.

Right: ...they are charged by a government that also violates the constitution.

TV is dangerous

December 10, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, December 3, 2013

Cartoon title: Will stage a coup via a monitor

From TV: Brothers and sisters, we can seize the power now!

In hand of Premier Yingluck Shinawatra: No resignation, no dissolution

Phi Nooring: In this era, TV is dangerous.

Mouse: Against the coup.

Thai Protesters Push for Eradication of Shinawatras From Politics

December 10, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai Protesters Push for Eradication of Shinawatras From Politics](#) – Wall Street Journal, December 9, 2013

...More than 150,000 people took to the streets Monday to demand that Ms. Yingluck and her brother, self-exiled former leader Thaksin Shinawatra, remove themselves from politics entirely, underscoring the starkly diverging views here of just what kind of country this prosperous Buddhist kingdom— and key U.S. ally— should be in the 21st century...

Bangkok fast emerging as safe haven for fake Indian currency

December 10, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Bangkok fast emerging as safe haven for fake Indian currency](#) – mydigitalfc.com, December 9, 2013

...Pakistani nationals based out of Thailand have used this South East Asian country as a safe haven to transport high denomination Indian currency into the country. Mostly, the fake Indian currency is transported via businessmen, tourists and couriers visiting Thailand on leisure or business. These Pakistani operatives having links with terror outfits as well as Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) also orchestrate a well-charted smuggling racket in fake currency into India...

You really want to evict our family from Thailand...

December 11, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, December 11, 2013

PM Yingluck: You really want to evict our family from Thailand...

Anti-government protesters: Aow!! We have been trying to kick you out for a month and you just realize it now??

Caption: Confirms she's really stupid!!!

Hard to knock down

December 11, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, December 5, 2013

On the ball: the Thaksin regime

Only one option left

December 12, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, December 5, 2013

Ghost to Thaksin: You've tried everything, used every one of your lackeys to bring you back home smartly... yet failed... now you don't have anybody left to use... except me.

Caption: Only one option left

Thai Protesters Can't Win by Dismantling System

December 12, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Bloomberg: [Thai Protesters Can't Win by Dismantling System](#)

Khaosod: [Pheu Thai Spokesman Threatens Suthep With Lese Majeste](#)

[“Teflon Thailand” is starting to lose tourists to its political chaos](#)

[Red threat to ‘surround Bangkok’](#)

[The New York Times debates the Thai monarchy](#)

[Tourism Authority of Thailand update on the current situation for tourists in Bangkok](#)

[Thai DSI chief: academics on stage at the rally & those who express support for Suthep's actions will face treason charges](#)

New York Times: Thai Prime Minister Facing Leadership Questions Old and New

December 12, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai Prime Minister Facing Leadership Questions Old and New](#) – New York Times, December 11, 2013

... Ms. Yingluck has repeatedly deflected specific questions about how often she consults with her brother and how much influence he has on her. But members of her party, Pheu Thai, said in interviews this year that they stayed in regular contact with him and that he conceived the party's main policies.

Friends of the Shinawatra family in northern Thailand point out that Ms. Yingluck treated Mr. Thaksin and her other much older siblings like uncles and aunts, partly because their mother died when Ms. Yingluck was only 18. In the context of a Thailand's hierarchical traditions, the nearly 18-year age difference between Ms. Yingluck and Mr. Thaksin provides him a level of respect and seniority, family friends say...

From the ousted Thai PM to fracking company Cuadrilla & Asma al-Assad, PR firm Bell Pottinger represents some of the world's most notorious clients

December 12, 2013

Categories: Thaksin Lobbying

[Dodgy regime? Unruly protesters? Bell Pottinger can help](#) – The Guardian, December 12, 2013

...The government of Sri Lanka; FW de Klerk, when he ran against Nelson Mandela for president of South Africa; Thaksin Shinawatra, the ousted Thai premier, whom protesters claim still controls the country; Asma al-Assad, the wife of the president of Syria; Alexander Lukashenko, the dictator of Belarus; Rebekah Brooks after the phone-hacking scandal broke; the repressive governments of Bahrain and Egypt; the American occupying administration in Iraq; the polluting oil company Trafigura; the fracking company Cuadrilla; the athlete Oscar Pistorius after he was charged with murder; the Pinochet Foundation during its campaign against the former Chilean dictator's British detention...

Democracy of the elder high school student

December 13, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Khaosod, December 6, 2013

Title: Democracy of the elder high school student

On Suthep's bag: PDR

On the constitution tray: Section 7

On his shirt: Sor. Por. Kor.

Weekly News Magazines, December 6, 2013

December 13, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, December 6, 2013

Cover reads: Kamnan's revolution



From Matichon Weekly, December 6, 2013

Cover reads: Patient soldiers



From ASTV Manager Weekly, December 7, 2013

Cover reads: Thai people love the King

The Most Instagrammed Place in the World Is a Mall in Bangkok

December 14, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[The Most Instagrammed Place in the World Is a Mall in Bangkok](#) – The Atlantic, December 13, 2013

[Bangkok mall tops list of most Instagrammed places of 2013 \(but no photo was more popular than Justin Bieber and Will Smith with 1.5 million likes\)](#) – Daily Mail, December 13, 2013

[The Most-Instagrammed Locations of 2013](#)

Reuters: General Prawit Wongsuwan & former army chief General Anupong Paochinda behind Thailand protests

December 14, 2013

Categories: 2014 Coup, Thai Military

[Powerful forces revealed behind Thai protest movement](#) – Reuters, December 13, 2013

...The forces behind Suthep are led by former defense minister General Prawit Wongsuwan and former army chief General Anupong Paochinda, towering figures in Thailand's military establishment, said two military sources with direct knowledge of the matter and a third with connections to Thai generals.

A glimpse into Suthep's connections sheds light on how he could prevail in a seemingly improbable bid to oust a leader who won a 2011 election by a landslide and impose rule by an unelected "People's Council" of appointed "good people", even as his street rallies start to flag...

Thailand: New Cover-Up in Lawyer's 'Disappearance'

December 14, 2013

Categories: Human Rights

[Thailand: New Cover-Up in Lawyer's 'Disappearance'](#) – hrw.org, December 13, 2013

...On January 13, 2006, then-Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra announced that government officials were involved in Somchai's abduction and killing: "The DSI is working on this case and murder charges are being considered. I know Somchai is dead, circumstantial evidence indicated that...and there were more than four government officials implicated by the investigation." He said that collecting evidence and witnesses was "not easy because this case involves government officials." Over the past nearly 10 years, six prime ministers – including the current Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, Thaksin's sister – have failed to press the DSI to investigate the case in anticipation of criminal prosecutions of those responsible. In April 2005, Somchai's wife, Angkhana Neelapaijit, submitted a formal complaint to the United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances expressing disappointment that Thai authorities had failed to produce information on Somchai's fate or whereabouts...

Thaksin delivers speech contending Asian countries rely too much on Western models of development

December 16, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thaksin Shinawatra delivers speech calling on Asian countries to enhance economic integration with each other](#) – Gulf News, December 15, 2013

...In his speech, Shinawatra said Asia was united in its vision for a vibrant and confident continent but that it had looked too much to the west.

“For many decades we have relied on the western model of development. Even in our regional interactions, we have always had an eye out for Europe,” he said. It was unclear throughout Shinawatra’s 20-minute speech how Asia would come together except that it needs greater economic partnership. At times he spoke of the European Union and how at a cost of integration it had “produced a large degree of sameness and standardisation” leading to an “inability to compete, therefore reducing the economic interaction and diversification...”

Somchai Neelaphaijit — One man, four disappearances

December 16, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[THAILAND: Somchai Neelaphaijit — One man, four disappearances](#) – humanrights.asia, December 16, 2013

...The disappearance of the file on Somchai's case is only the latest in a series of disappearances, beginning with the disappearance of Somchai himself. The second disappearance was the disappearance of the one police officer found guilty of criminal offences in connection with the lawyer's abduction in the court of first instance. While appealing the conviction, he supposedly disappeared in a landslide.

Somchai's wife, Angkhana, has said that she doubts the explanations regarding the disappearance of the policeman, and on this occasion the Asian Human Rights Commission doubts the explanation of the DSI regarding the third disappearance, of the file itself. That protestors would break into a government office just to go straight to the cabinet with a file on an abducted human rights defender without bothering with any other of the office's contents is a stretch of the imagination. That the government of the former premier Thaksin Shinawatra, to whom the demonstrators were opposed, was implicated in Somchai's disappearance only makes such an allegation by the DSI criminal cases director all the more fanciful...

Thaksin amnesty “the greatest act of impunity in Thailand’s political history”

December 16, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai politics ruled by ‘culture of impunity’](#) – Al Jazeera, December 16, 2013

...The massive street protests that have rocked Bangkok in recent weeks were sparked by what Sunai Phasuk, the Thailand researcher for Human Rights Watch in Asia, called “the greatest act of impunity in Thailand’s political history”.

At 4am on November 1, the ruling Pheu Thai party of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra attempted to ram an amnesty law through parliament that would have wiped clean all politically related offenses – including those involving alleged corruption and violence – since 2004.

It was widely viewed as an attempt to whitewash the corruption conviction of her brother, former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who has been described as the country’s most polarising political figure.

Originally, the bill was limited to those arrested for taking part in political demonstrations without committing acts of violence or destruction, and not those who led them...

The greatest peacemaker

December 17, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, December 7, 2013

Title: The greatest peacemaker Nelson Mandela (1918-2013)

Phi Nooring: The World Hero

A mouse: A fighter who sacrificed himself.

I won't leave

December 17, 2013
Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, December 7, 2013
Left: I'd like to ask every sector to help finding a resolution for the country...
Right: ...but don't find a way out for me for I'll never get out !

Yingluck contingency plan to move seat of government away from Bangkok

December 17, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's political crisis: Deadlock](#) – The Economist, December 14, 2013

...Yet if Ms Yingluck is going wobbly, her core “red shirt” supporters, those thousands of activists loyal to Mr Thaksin, certainly are not. They have vowed to defend the democratically elected government. There are plans, should Ms Yingluck fall, to move the government to the red-shirt heartlands in the north and north-east as a counterweight to Mr Suthep’s insurrection in the capital and the south. That would further entrench the bitter divisions between the two parts of the country, divisions that some argue have now made Thailand virtually ungovernable.

But if Ms Yingluck can make it through to next year, she knows that she has a good chance of winning a fresh mandate at the polls. Indeed, a chief reason why Mr Suthep and his allies do not accept an election as the way out of the impasse is that they would probably lose. After all, the Pheu Thai party and its earlier incarnations, all led by Mr Thaksin or his retainers, have won the last five general elections, the latest by a big margin. For however vast the anti-government crowds are in Bangkok and certain southern Thai cities, out in the populous rural north and north-east it is a different story. There Mr Thaksin and his party long ago captured the votes of millions of relatively poor rice farmers, and they have been stacking up the parliamentary majorities ever since...

I'm charged with being a traitor for having mobile toilets

December 18, 2013

Categories: Uncategorized



From Thairath, December 11, 2013

Left, Suthep Thuaagsuban: I'm proud. I'm charged of being a traitor for loving my country.

Right, Bangkok Governor, M.R. Sukhumbhand Bariphat: I'm not proud. I'm charged with being a traitor for having mobile toilets.

Familiar events

December 18, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, December 8, 2013

Cartoon title: Familiar events, sir... Ajarn

The man with the chair is current President of Thammasat University, Somkid Lertphaitoon

On the chair: Witch hunt, suspension

On Somkid's suit: President

On Somkid's necktie: Som(khob)kid

On the skirt: Um Neko

On the black flag: Freedom against the Ajarns who serve dictators

Phi Nooring: Hurts his own student

Mouse: October 6 model

Remembering the Thaksin Years: Stop Corruption Before a Disaster Happens

December 18, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, The Thaksin Years



From Thairath, December 18, 2002

Cartoon title: Stop... Before disaster!

On the jacket of the man: Transportation

On the front windshield of train: Corruption

On the right side of train: State Railway of Thailand

L-O-S-E

December 19, 2013
Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, December 9, 2013
Word on the wall reads: Lose

Suthep: How is it read?
Thaksin: L... O... S... E It reads.....
Caption: Maew is being forced to read the word he doesn't know how to spell

December 19, 2013
Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai

December 19, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, December 8, 2013

Cartoon title: The premier and her government... break records

Top left: Corruption ranking record, from the 88th down to 102nd

On the graphic: A survey by the Transparency International, the global coalition against corruption

Top middle: Record number of threats made to the courts

Top right: Record for the biggest amount of tear gas fired at people

Bottom left: Record for the most MPs and senators who become lackeys

Bottom middle: Record for a prime minister who is called the most names

Search bar reads: Ee...

Bottom right: Record of the largest number of protesters; Tweet, tweet, tweet

Whistle tank

December 21, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, December 10, 2013

On the building: the parliament

On the tank: People's Council

Thailand: Heart of the slums

December 22, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Heart of the slums](#) – The Age, December 21, 2013

Embedded in the heart of Bangkok's Klong Toey slum, an Australian family is inspired to work with some of the world's most marginalised people...

Thai navy sues website over Rohingya allegations

December 22, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai navy sues website over Rohingya allegations](#) – AP, December 19, 2013

...The English-language Phuketwan site in July posted a story carrying excerpts from a report by the Reuters news agency alleging that members of the Thai military were involved in trafficking captured Rohingya illegal immigrants.

Alan Morison, Phuketwan's editor, told The Associated Press on Thursday that he had been summoned along with one of Thai reporters on Wednesday to a police station in Phuket to formally acknowledge the charges.

The lawsuit filed by a captain on behalf of the Thai navy charges that the website violated Thailand's 2007 Computer Crime Act, which bars the circulation of material deemed detrimental to national security or that causes panic...

Thailand's nuns fight for equality

December 22, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's nuns fight for equality](#) – DW, December 20, 2013

Women are barred from ordination in Thailand's Theravada Buddhist sect. After Venerable Dhammananda Bhikkhuni was ordained in Sri Lanka, she set out to elevate women's religious status in her Thai homeland...

Inspired by Thailand, Cambodia protests intensify

December 22, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Inspired by Thailand, Cambodia protests intensify](#) – blouinnews.com, December 19, 2013

...Now, the opposition movement is heating up, fueled, it would seem, by the (relative) success of the Thai protests. (Rainsy has repeatedly cited the December 8 dissolution of the Thai parliament, in response to mass protests, as a model for the Cambodian government to follow.) On Sunday, the CNRP launched daily rallies that will supposedly continue for three months — or until Sen steps down, or agrees to hold new parliamentary elections. But while CNRP leaders have seized on the Thai model of prolonged protests, which has demonstrators in Bangkok rallying for their own prime minister's resignation, the similarities may end there...

Thanks, Tharit...

December 22, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Tharit Pengdit



From Manager, December 22, 2013

Suthep: Thanks, Tharit... today I have, because of you, a rally.

Caption: Don't forget to thank him, Kamnun

On bags: Money donations

Also: [The Downfall of Tharit the Chameleon](#)

2013 World Press Freedom Index: Dashed hopes after spring

December 23, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[2013 World Press Freedom Index: Dashed hopes after spring](#)

Press Freedom Index – Thailand rank by year (2002 first year available):

2002 65

2003 82

2004 59

2005 107

2006 122

2007 135

2008 124

2009 130

2010 153

2011-2012 137

2013 135

Kamnan uses rice cookers too wastefully

December 23, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



11/12/56

From Manager, December 10, 2013

Vendor: What! Buy rice cooker again? Where are all the ones you bought on November 24?

Suthep: I smashed them all on the 9th.

Caption: Kamnan uses rice cookers too wastefully

Could you show me how to stand in the middle?

December 23, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, December 25, 2013

Soldier: Sir, you want us to be in the middle. Could you show me how to stand in the middle?

Remembering the Thaksin Years: Thai-Malay cabinets' co-meeting

December 24, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, The Thaksin Years



From Thairath, December 24, 2002

Cartoon title: Uninvited show

On backdrop: Thai-Malay cabinets' co-meeting

On flag carried by protester: Opposing the Thai-Malay gas pipeline

On officers' shields: Police

Only the election can beat the devils

December 24, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, December 10, 2013

Title: Only the election can beat the devils

PM Yingluck is holding an election box on which is written: Election on 2 Feb. 2014

Phi Nooring: Only people's power

A mouse: We love democracy.

On men from left to right: Power outside the system will overthrow the election, destroy Pheu Thai party and kick PM Yingluck out, appoint a PM under Section 7 , NACC and drop the charges on 100 dead bodies

To protect democracy, we must have an election

December 24, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, December 24, 2013

Cartoon title: To protect democracy, we must have an election

Yingluck is carrying a ballot box away from the anti-government groups.

On the hammer: EC

On Suthep's shirt: PDRC

On shirt of man close to Suthep: STR

On hooded man: Order to kill people, 100 death bodies

On shirt of man near the hooded figure: Independent entities

Phi Nooring: Gathering of people who want to stop the election.

Mouse: Be patient for the country.

Every party is ready to compete in elections

December 26, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, December 26, 2013

Thaksin: Ok, every party is ready to compete.

On the finish line ribbon: Election in 2557 Welcome

New Year's Eve

December 27, 2013

Categories: New Year's Cartoons, New Year's Eve



Happy New Year!

[And beware the crush](#) (from 2010)



New Year's Cartoons in Thai newspapers

2004: [New Year's cartoons](#)

2005: [New Year's cartoons](#)

2006: [New Year's cartoons](#)

2008: [New Year's cartoons](#)

2010: [New Year's cartoons](#) and [here](#)

2011: [New Year's cartoons](#)

2012: [Happy New Year and the Flood](#)



Back in 2006: The New Year's bombings

2006: [New Year's Eve Bombings in Bangkok](#)

2006: [New Year's Eve bombings in Bangkok at Saphan Kwai](#)

2006: [Post-New Year's Bombing Editorial Cartoons](#)

2006: [New Year's Eve bombings in Bangkok at Victory Monument](#)

2007: [New Year's Bombing Scapegoat](#)

Australian editor Alan Morison facing five years in Thai jail

December 27, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Australian editor Alan Morison facing five years in Thai jail](#) – brisbanetimes.com.au, December 26, 2013

...Alan Morison's online newspaper Phuketwan published a story five months ago that included a paragraph from a Reuters article that was critical of Thai authorities' handling of the Rohingya asylum seekers from Myanmar.

Both he and his colleague Chutima Sidasathian were facing up to five years in jail and a fine of up to \$350 after they were charged with breaching the country's controversial Computer Crimes Act and bringing the navy's reputation into disrepute...

Christian Science Monitor: Five questions you want answered about Thailand's political tumult

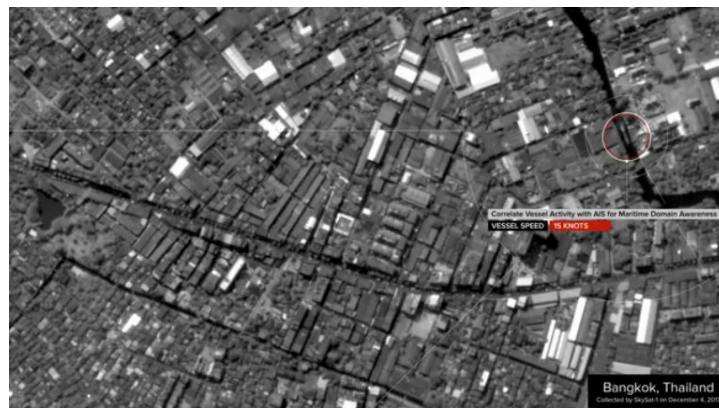
December 28, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Five questions you want answered about Thailand's political tumult](#) – Christian Science Monitor, December 27, 2013

First HD Video of Earth From Space—That You Can Buy

December 28, 2013
Categories: Maps



Above: Bangkok, Thailand

[The First HD Video of Earth From Space—That You Can Buy](#)



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



Council on Foreign Relations: Suu Kyi faces growing criticism

December 28, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Suu Kyi Faces Growing Criticism](#) – Council on Foreign Relations, December 26, 2013

...Until recently, Suu Kyi's reluctance to condemn the attacks on Muslims—she even, in an interview in the fall, seemed to condone the ethnic cleansing attacks by vaguely referring in an interview to “global Muslim power”—did little to tarnish her reputation internationally as an icon of democracy and human rights. She has continued to travel the world, receiving various awards from governments, foundations, and other institutions. But in the past two months, the world finally seems to have realized that Suu Kyi, now a politician and a declared candidate for president in 2015, is acting more and more like a politician—and abandoning much of the moral firmness that made her so respected and beloved...

Giant panda in Thailand pregnant, says zoo

December 30, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Giant panda in Thailand pregnant, says zoo](#) – AFP, December 29, 2013

...Thailand's famously celibate giant pandas produced a first cub in 2009, after artificial insemination succeeded where attempts to get them to mate using pornography and low-carb diets failed...

Thai facilities welcome Europeans with Alzheimer's; relatives say care cheaper, more personal

December 30, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai facilities welcome Europeans with Alzheimer's; relatives say care cheaper, more personal](#) – AP, December 29, 2013

...The Philippines is offering Americans care for \$1,500 to \$3,500 a month — as compared to \$6,900 the American Elder Care Research Organization says is the average monthly bill for a private room in a skilled nursing U.S. facility. About 100 Americans are currently seeking care in the Philippines but more facilities are being built and a marketing campaign will be launched in 2014, says J.J. Reyes, who is planning a retirement community near Manila.

Facilities in Thailand also are preparing to attract more Alzheimer's sufferers. In Chiang Mai, a pleasant city ringed by mountains, Baan Kamlangchay will be followed by a \$10 million, holiday-like home scheduled to open before mid-2014...

Young Teens in Cambodia Lie About Their Age to Get Hired as Plants Scramble for Staff

December 30, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia Factories Grapple With Issue of Underage Workers](#) – WSJ, December 29, 2013

...The factory believes Ms. Lim is at least 18 years old.

Except she's not. According to her parents and her birth record, Ms. Lim soon will turn 15.

Ms. Lim said that at her job interview a factory employee wrote an earlier birth year on her paperwork than the one indicated on the birth record she presented. "If they see our age is younger, they will not choose us," she said.

Her 20-year-old sister, Len, said a factory worker did the same thing when she applied there a couple of years ago before she had turned 18...

Bloody Democracy

December 30, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, December 30, 2013

Man holding the ballot box: Democracy is ready to serve to you...

On the ballot box: 2 Feb.

The ruinous impact of animosity between the Thaksin camp and its opponents

December 31, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Is democracy in Thailand in its death throes?](#) – SCMP, December 30, 2013

Thailand is once again being convulsed by extreme partisan politics, with the country's polarisation playing out on Bangkok's streets. The sense that Thailand has been through all of this before would be mildly reassuring were it not for a nagging fear that this decent and prosperous society may be set to destroy its democracy...

Bangkok murder inspired Paisley writer's story

December 31, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Bangkok murder inspired Paisley writer's story](#) – Daily Record, December 30, 2013

...The novel is set on the sleazy, but notorious, strip known as Soi Cowboy.

Suspense grips the reader from the outset with the murder of an Australian, who is kicked to death by bouncers outside a club in the seedy district...

Thailand to Host World's Tallest New Year's Eve Ball Drop

December 31, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand to Host World's Tallest New Year's Eve Ball Drop](#) – GMA, December 30, 2013

... Ohri conceived of the ball as the hotel's "gift to Thailand," he said in a statement. Weighing in at 1.2 tons, the ball measures 7 feet wide and combines 2,950 LED lights, 50 strobe lights, a steel frame of 20 hexagons and 12 pentagons, and is covered with a translucent fabric.

At 10 seconds to midnight, the "Bangkok Ball" will begin to make its 49-foot descent from a pole atop the Tower Club at Lebua. Upon reaching the bottom, another LED sign reading "2014" will be lit, as will a series of pyrotechnics over the Chao Phraya river for a grand finale...

Elections are meant to clean Thaksin

December 31, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, December 31, 2013

On soap: Election

Above Thaksin's head: Corruption