

B350m army airship “next to useless”

November 2, 2009

Categories: Thai Military

[B350m army airship “next to useless”](#) – Bangkok Post, November 2, 2009

An airship imported by the army to carry out patrol and surveillance work in the lower South is next to useless as it is not equipped with the essential cameras the US supplier promised, an army source says...

[Surveillance plan grounded](#) – Bangkok Post, November 3, 2009

...Spokesman Sansern Kaewkamnerd yesterday said deployment had been complicated by the US reluctance to supply the two high-resolution surveillance cameras for the plane-shaped balloon...

Former Thai PM to visit his ‘brother’ Than Shwe

November 2, 2009

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Former Thai PM to visit his “brother” Than Shwe](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, November 2, 2009

...Chavalit is a former Thai Prime Minister who worked to end Burma’s isolation in the international community after the violent suppression of the uprising in Burma in 1988. He was involved in business deals with the Burmese junta in timber, fishing and hotel construction.

On his second visit to Burma in 1989 Chavalit agreed to repatriate student activists who fled to Thailand after the crackdown.

In another controversial move recently, Chavalit said the current Thai government was wrong to condemn the Burmese junta over opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi’s house arrest...

1915 – Buddhist monks at tea

November 2, 2009

Categories: Buddhism, Old photos and films



Les Bonzes prennent le thé (Siam)

Buddhist monks at tea (Siam)

1915 – Buddhist monks at tea

“Editorial coverage of Hun Sen is not fair”

November 3, 2009

Categories: Cambodia, Thai Politics



From *Truth Today*, October 27-29, 2009

The headline reads: Lead actor of the Asean Summit

[“Editorial coverage of Hun Sen is not fair”](#) – *The Nation*, November 3, 2009

The Cambodia Ambassador vigorously defends Hun Sen: ...Fourth, Prime Minister Hun Sen did not permit “... himself to be part of a cheap ploy by ... Thaksin to steal the spotlight from a major international event”, as you have wrongly alleged. You need to better learn about Samdech Techo Hun Sen. He does not need to appear in the Thai media. He only wants to be clear to everyone on what he will do...

Pornthip: Big shots could be behind the heinous crimes in Thailand's Deep South

November 4, 2009

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Pornthip: Big shots could be behind the heinous crimes in Thailand's Deep South](#) – *mysinchew.com*, November 4, 2009

...She believed that these militants might need plenty of funds to finance their actions, and it was therefore possible that they had paired up with local crime syndicates, or been involved in smuggling and other illegal activities in order to rake in the profits.

"As what I understand, it is very likely that they have been sponsored by the politicians..."

Dwarf banana now multiplied

November 5, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Dwarf banana now multiplied](#) – Manila Bulletin, November 5, 2009

...Now christened Mama Sita banana, it was introduced from Thailand a few years back through the initiative of the Mama Sita Foundation...

Thai woman and lover jailed over murder

November 5, 2009

[Thai woman and lover jailed over murder](#) – *Harborough Mail*, November 5, 2009

... Unlike British law, where trials can take weeks if not months, Thai justice proved swift.

Statements for prosecution and defence were given last Thursday and a Roi-Et courtroom found the defendants guilty.

The hearing was adjourned until yesterday, when Mr Beeston's wife and Channondon were sentenced to life behind bars...

Software police target Phuket businesses

November 5, 2009

[Software police target Phuket businesses](#) – Phuket Gazette, November 5, 2009

...A list of 1,000 suspect companies nationwide compiled by the ECD has been based on tips, some anonymous. These are typically from sources within the target companies.

...The raided companies came from a wide variety of industries, including manufacturing, real estate, automobiles, shipping, design and engineering...

Suan Dusit Poll: 72.11% disagree with the “Pattani City” idea

November 6, 2009

Categories: The Thai Deep South

Suan Dusit Poll: 72.11% disagree with the “Pattani City” idea – November 6, 2009

72.11% of respondents disagree with Pheu Thai chairman Chavalit Yongchaiyudh’s proposal for a “Pattani City” autonomous area in the Deep South. 17.31% agree and 10.58% are not sure. Suan Dusit interviewed 364 people for the survey.

Wax Thai musician

November 6, 2009

Wax Thai musician – November 6, 2009

Jack writes: *Love your site, finally i get a chance to contribute! here's the link to:* [May 11, 1925 – William H. Egberts of National Museum with Siamese musician](#)
And the [large size](#).

Thailand's shadowy southern insurgency

November 6, 2009

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Thailand's shadowy southern insurgency](#) – BBC, November 6, 2009

So far the wars of the 21st century have revolved around insurgencies with nameless, faceless and often fearless fighters bombing, shooting and beheading with little care for their own lives...

“Siamese artillery”

November 7, 2009

Categories: Old photos and films



“Siamese artillery” – November 7, 2009



1950s Bangkok street scene – November 7, 2009

Fish massage

November 7, 2009



(Photo: Tom)

Fish massage – November 7, 2009

Thaksin on a mission to humiliate Thai government

November 7, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thaksin on a mission to humiliate Thai government](#) – AP, November 7, 2009

BANGKOK — Thailand's fugitive former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra has spent much of the past three years roaming the globe, shopping for diamonds in Africa, golfing at Asian resorts – and humiliating the government from a distance.

Now, the deposed and divisive ex-leader is an economic adviser to the government of neighboring Cambodia, and that's too close for comfort for Thailand's current leadership.

The appointment earlier this week by Cambodia's mercurial Prime Minister Hun Sen has jangled nerves in the Thai capital and entangled both countries in a diplomatic brawl that prompted Thailand first and then Cambodia to recall their ambassadors Thursday.

Hun Sen had soured already tense relations last month by offering Thaksin a home in Cambodia and vowing not to extradite him. The comments rattled Thailand, which has a nasty dispute with its neighbor over border territory that led to several small but deadly clashes over the past year and a half. Thaksin was ousted in a 2006 coup after being accused of massive corruption and now helps lead the opposition from abroad.

Analysts say Thaksin's latest move could be the launch-pad for a political comeback.

"Thaksin is on a new offensive. This is a calculated campaign to undermine this government and to change governments," said Thitinan Pongsudhirak, a political science professor at Bangkok's Chulalongkorn University. "He wants to retake what he sees as his legitimate right, which is to have another election that he believes he will win."

For the government of Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva, Cambodia's action is a slap in the face it feels compelled to respond to. It called the appointment an "interference in Thailand's domestic affairs."

Thaksin is believed to be in Dubai. He has not indicated if he plans to live in Cambodia or spelled out how he will perform his new dual role as personal adviser to Hun Sen and an economic adviser to his government.

From cyberspace, Thaksin tweeted to his 40,000 Twitter followers that Abhisit's recall of the Thai ambassador was a "childish overreaction."

"I'm asking permission from all Thai people to advise the Cambodian government ... until I have a chance to serve you again," he tweeted separately, calling his new job "an honor."

Thaksin, a tycoon turned politician, was elected by landslide wins to serve two terms as prime minister from 2001 to 2006. He retains huge popularity among his rural poor power base who have staged frequent rallies calling for his pardon and return to power. But he is reviled by the educated urban elite, who led months of street protests that led to the coup and again when his allies briefly took power.

Efforts to minimize Thaksin's role in Thai politics have failed. Thai courts have sentenced him to two years in prison for corruption while in office and dissolved his political party, while his Thai assets worth \$2.25 billion have been frozen and his Thai personal and diplomatic passports canceled.

Britain, Germany and other countries have barred Thaksin, but there were no shortage of others willing to accept his investment offers and hand over new passports, including Nicaragua and Montenegro.

Thaksin posts photos of his travels on Facebook. Recent snapshots show him golfing in Brunei and Dubai, inspecting diamond mines in South Africa, sipping coffee in a private jet and meeting prime ministers or presidents on trips to Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea and the Maldives.

Investment in diamond and gold sectors has led Thaksin to Liberia, Uganda and Swaziland, prompting one tweet in August after negative headlines at home: "I've checked several times that my diamonds are not blood diamonds. Don't worry."

Thaksin's new relationship with Hun Sen is bound to revive speculation of private business deals between the two while he was prime minister.

No such ethical doubts dog current Prime Minister Abhisit, but he faces the challenge of how to calm the political maelstrom around Thaksin.

"Thailand is now in the international spotlight and its leader has been discredited," said Sompop Manarungsan, a political economist at Chulalongkorn University. "The strategy Thaksin is using, I call it 'crashing.' He is destroying everything in his path to reach his goal."

Old photos of Thai cinemas

November 7, 2009

Categories: Buildings, Old photos and films

Old photos of Thai cinemas – November 7, 2009

[Serious appreciation of Thai cinemas](#)

[Sri Muang Theatre, 1956](#)

[Sri Muang Theater, 2006](#)

Navin at the Fat Fest

November 9, 2009

Categories: Art, Navin

Navin at the Fat Fest – November 7-8, 2009

[<Back](#) – 6 of 10 – [Next>](#)



(Photo: Navin)

Opponents of Thaksin Shinawatra threaten protests as ousted leader visits Cambodia

November 10, 2009

Categories: Cambodia, Red Shirt Protest 2010



(Photo: [Manager](#))

Above: November 10 – Thaksin with Hun Sen and his family as well as former Thai Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat and his wife Yaowapa (Thaksin's sister)

[Opponents of Thaksin Shinawatra threaten protests as ousted leader visits Cambodia](#) – *TimesOnline*, November 10, 2009

...On Saturday he told *The Times*: "If I were to start the march I would start from the northeastern part of Thailand, on the soil of Thailand, but I will have to enter Thailand from the border. I can enter Thailand from Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar."
"Tonight I will meet and have dinner with Hun Sen and his family," he wrote today in a message to his supporters on his Twitter online feed. "I miss home so much..."

[Ex-Thai PM arrives in Cambodia](#) – *BBC*, November 10, 2009

[Thaksin could spark war](#) – *Straits Times*, November 10, 2009

[Point of no return](#) – *The Nation*, November 11, 2009

[Koh Chang protest heats up](#) – *Bangkok Post*, November 11, 2009

[Thai politics, Thaksin and role of monarchy](#) – *TimesOnline*, November 11, 2009

From Kitti Wasinondh, Ambassador of Thailand: ...Dr Shinawatra is neither Thailand's current opposition leader nor a leader in exile, but a person who is choosing to stay abroad to avoid a two-year jail term resulting from a finalised corruption case...

From Thaksin: ...Since being ousted in a coup three years ago I have remained committed to peaceful reconciliation rather than confrontation. My democratic legitimacy means I do not need to resort to low level political meddling...

[Thaksin in Cambodia – Koh Kong Puzzle](#) – *The Nation*, November 13, 2009

...Would Koh Kong become a virtual government in exile or will it become "Thaksin's Singapore"? Thai intelligence is paying serious attention to all such rumours...

[Thai-Cambodia dispute raises nationalist sentiment in Bangkok](#) – *VOA*, November 16, 2009

Another interesting Thai flavor for Lays

November 10, 2009

Categories: Food and Drink



Another interesting Thai flavor for Lays – November 10, 2009

The bag reads: Lays – River shrimp with condiments – Rock

The character is saying: Vote for me if you like this taste

The character is wearing boxing shorts that read: Thai boxing

Voting for the flavors are [here](#).

Navin at the Fat Fest

November 11, 2009
Categories: Art, Navin

Navin at the Fat Fest – November 7-8, 2009

[<Back](#) – 10 of 10



(Photo: Navin)

Navin at the Fat Fest

November 11, 2009
Categories: Art, Navin

Navin at the Fat Fest – November 7-8, 2009

[<Back](#) – 9 of 10 – [Next>](#)



(Photo: Navin)

Navin at the Fat Fest

November 11, 2009

Categories: Art, Navin

Navin at the Fat Fest – November 7-8, 2009

[<Back](#) – 8 of 10 – [Next>](#)



(Photo: Navin)

Navin at the Fat Fest

November 11, 2009

Categories: Art, Navin

Navin at the Fat Fest – November 7-8, 2009

[<Back](#) – 7 of 10 – [Next>](#)



(Photo: Navin)

Navin at the Fat Fest

November 11, 2009

Categories: Art, Navin

Navin at the Fat Fest – November 7-8, 2009

[<Back](#) – 5 of 10 – [Next>](#)



(Photo: Navin)

Navin at the Fat Fest

November 11, 2009

Categories: Art, Navin

Navin at the Fat Fest – November 7-8, 2009

[<Back](#) – 4 of 10 – [Next>](#)



(Photo: Navin)

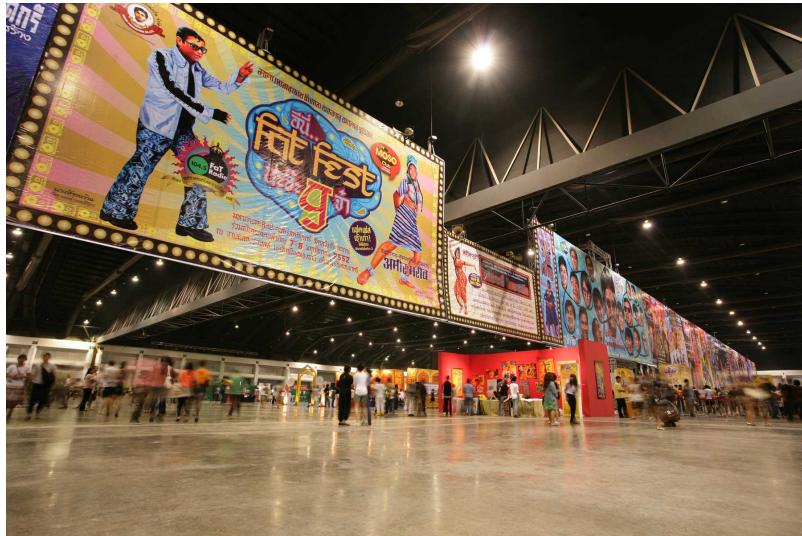
Navin at the Fat Fest

November 11, 2009

Categories: Art, Navin

Navin at the Fat Fest – November 7-8, 2009

[<Back](#) – 3 of 10 – [Next>](#)



(Photo: Navin)

Navin at the Fat Fest

November 11, 2009
Categories: Art, Navin

Navin at the Fat Fest – November 7-8, 2009

[<Back](#) – 2 of 10 – [Next>](#)



(Photo: Navin)

Navin at the Fat Fest

November 11, 2009

Categories: Art, Navin

Navin explains: *...It was the 9th Fat Fest this year Nov 7-8 at Munagthongthani. As you may know this is the annual music festival produced by Fat Radio FM 104.5 the festival also includes art and this year they asked me to do a project and the result is a series of billboards 12 meters high and 300 meters long in total!*

Earlier from Navin: [Navin's Sala](#)

1 of 10 – [Next>](#)



(Photo: Navin)

Corruption Perceptions Index 2009

November 12, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Corruption Perceptions Index 2009](#) – *Transparency International*, November, 2009
Thailand is 84 tied with El Salvador, Guatemala, India, and Panama.

The weird jackfruit

November 12, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News



The weird jackfruit – *KhaoSod*, November 12, 2009

The caption reads: The weird jackfruit – The jackfruit of local villagers in Suphanburi province that has a strange appearance that looks like Shiva Lingam . The owner reveals that the tree was planted 5 years ago and this is the first time it produces fruit. Villagers flock to make wish for their lucky lotto numbers.

Cambodia accuses Thai national of spying

November 13, 2009

Categories: Cambodia, Thai Politics

[Cambodia accuses Thai national of spying](#) – AP, November 13, 2009

...Siwarak Chohipong, a 31-year-old employee of the Cambodia Air Traffic Service, which manages flights in the country, was accused of stealing Thaksin's flight schedule and sending it diplomats at the Thai embassy in Phnom Penh, said National Police Deputy Chief Lt. Gen. Sok Phal...

Thaksin's TV Network

November 13, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

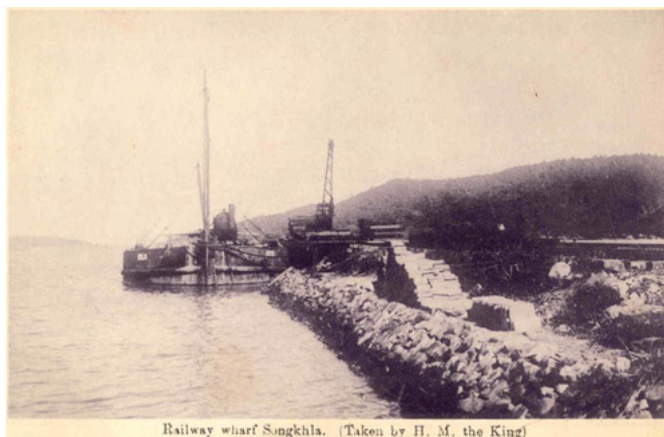
Thaksin's TV network – November 13, 2009

The billboard reads: Today – www.voicetv.co.th – Watch VOICE TV – do you?

Railway wharf Songkhla

November 13, 2009

Categories: Old photos and films



Railway wharf Songkhla. (Taken by H. M. the King)

Railway wharf Songkhla

Earlier: [Songkhla rail wharf](#)

Also: [The Songkhla train station](#) – [Walking the Songkhla line](#) – [The Songkhla to Hat Yai rail line](#)



“Bangkok – A sledge”

Saturday afternoon – Police raid software shops

November 14, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Saturday in Bangkok – November 14, 2009

Saturday afternoon – Police raid software shops – Above: Police officer taking an evidence photo of a pirate software shop at Mahboonkrong

Follow up from the American family reported by Khmer Intelligence

November 16, 2009

Categories: Cambodia

[Follow up from the American family reported by Khmer Intelligence](#) – KI, November 16, 2009

... “We hope at some point to find the right people to go to with this information. As you know, Cambodia receives close to \$1 BILLION in foreign aid, much of it for health care. When the world discovers NONE of that money or medicine actually makes it to the people who need it, things may change. Even telling this story puts us in more danger; but we came to Cambodia to help the people, not to buy Camrys for corrupt doctors. When Ho Noun came to visit us, the staff at Baray-Santouk heard she was coming and washed the walls in the front rooms, and hired people from the village to pose as patients so it looked like they were functional. It was a good ploy, because no one ever really checked. Somehow and somewhere, we’ll find the right people who are interested in where all that money goes. Maybe then, the people who need the help can actually get it...”

Earlier: [Tragedy of an American family in Cambodia](#)

Police: PAD blast caused by grenade

November 16, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Police: PAD blast caused by grenade](#) – *Bangkok Post*, November 16, 2009

[Small blast at PAD rally](#) – *Manager*, November 15, 2009

[Four hurt by firecracker at Thai protest: organiser](#) – *AFP*, November 16, 2009

[“The Thai People’s Declaration to the World”](#) – *Manager*, November 15, 2009

Thai police arrest African ivory traffickers

November 17, 2009

[Thai police arrest African ivory traffickers](#) – *Thailandnews.net*, November 17, 2009

When Thailand and Cambodia cooperated on tourism

November 18, 2009



When Thailand and Cambodia cooperated on tourism – November 18, 2009

Above is the cover of a brochure from a joint tourism campaign between Cambodia and Thailand from 2000. As far as we can tell, this may have only been used during a German tourist convention. There was initially a plan to have all the nations in this region pool their tourism advertising, but only Thailand and Cambodia ended up following through. The image is a hint at what could be if the nations in the region cooperated as opposed to competing against each other for tourists wanting to come to the region.

More old Bangkok photos – *Pantip.com*, November 30, 2009

Many, many old photos of Bangkok on this [Pantip](#) thread. About a third of these photos are from 2Bangkok, but there are plenty of others you probably have not seen before.

Writers who make up details about Thailand

November 18, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Writers who make up details about Thailand – November 18, 2009

It is an open secret that many writers (and this includes guide book writers) report on Thailand from afar while claiming to actually be here.

[Noel](#) points out this gem: *A bizarre, dreamed up description of Patpong From Maxim Magazine in [an article](#) about David Carradine's death:*

...A vast open-air sex market, the Patpong is a 20-minute walk from the hotel, past the U.S. and British embassies; an X-rated bazaar that looks like a psychedelic Bourbon Street. This is where they filmed The Deer Hunter to simulate wartime Saigon. The Patpong is divided into Soi 4, which is predominantly gay; Soi Cowboy, a note-perfect re-creation of pre-Disney Times Square, designed to cater to the Western tourist; and Nana Plaza, which is where they keep the kink. Girls in baby-doll nighties with numbers around their necks loll on red-velvet cushions behind a wall of glass, like a giant aquarium. In a far corner a Thai guy with a cash register on a rickety wooden table rings up the sales. Looking for answers at the dodgy Nana Hotel, I meet a striking-looking child bride who calls herself A. She pours herself into my lap. Like everyone I talk to in the Patpong, she doesn't know anything about Carradine, but for 10,000 baht (roughly \$300 in U.S. currency) she will come back to my hotel, tie me up, choke me, and stay the night. I take a rain check...

We bet they blame this on the editors.

[More on writer Mark Ebner's made-up article on Thailand](#) – *The Shark Guys*, November 18, 2009

...His flight was followed, he says, "by a teeth-rattling cab ride through the smog-choked, sweltering squalor of metro Bangkok, dodging rickshaws and limbless sidewalk cripples begging for change..."

[More on the Carradine/Maxim piece](#) – *Global Post*, November 24, 2009

This may one of the first articles point out the absurd Carradine article. The author Patrick notes: *...Despite the volume of facts he got wrong, and the general absurdity of his tone, the guy DID come to Bangkok. It would almost be less embarrassing if he DIDN'T. This piece went beyond misunderstanding into full-fledged lying — I'm thinking of the "child bride" bit in particular...*

PB Air: “All flights suspended”

November 18, 2009

A graphic for PB Air's announcement. On the left is a smiling female flight attendant in a blue and yellow uniform, performing a traditional Thai 'wai' greeting with her hands pressed together. The background features a light green pattern of stylized leaves. The text is in both English and Thai. At the bottom right is the PB Air logo with the tagline 'The great little airline "Saen S'.

[PB Air: “All flights suspended”](#) – November 18, 2009

More on pre-Khmer Rouge Cambodian films

November 18, 2009

[More on pre-Khmer Rouge Cambodian films](#) – *Bangkok Post*, November 18, 2009

Cambodia takes reins of Thai-owned firm as row deepens

November 18, 2009

Categories: Cambodia, Thai Politics

[Cambodia takes reins of Thai-owned firm as row deepens](#) – *Reuters*, November 18, 2009

[Thai aviation staff banned](#) – *AFP*, November 18, 2009

[Samart builds Cambodian empire without Thaksin's help](#) – *The Nation*, November 19, 2009

And [KI adds](#): Sun Chanthol, a former Funcinpec minister, defected to join the CPP following Funcinpec's demise. He is now a minister without portfolio in Hun Xen's regime. What *The Nation* failed to mention is that Samart's Siam Cement plant is a joint venture with Cambodia's Khaou Chuly group and Khaou Chuly happens to be Sun Chanthol's father-in-law.

Violence down 28 percent in Thailand's deep South, army says

November 18, 2009

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Violence down 28 per cent in Thailand's deep South, army says](#) – *EARTHtimes.org*, November 18, 2009

Violent incidents have declined 28 per cent this year in Thailand's predominantly Muslim deep South thanks to the army's hearts and minds campaign in the troubled area bordering Malaysia, the region's army commander claimed...

Rare crocs found hiding in plain sight in Cambodia

November 18, 2009

Categories: Cambodia

[Rare crocs found hiding in plain sight in Cambodia](#) – *The Associated Press*, November 18, 2009

...DNA taken from 69 crocodiles housed in the moats of the Phnom Tamao Wildlife Rescue Center showed nearly 50 percent were Siamese crocodiles, which until recently were believed to have become extinct in the wild...

“PB Air will go out of business on Monday”

November 18, 2009

Categories: Airports and Airlines



“PB Air will go out of business on Monday” – December 18, 2009

We are hearing: *It's official: PB Air will go out of business on Monday.*

Earlier: [PB Air: “All flights suspended”](#) – November 18, 2009

Live feed of the baby panda in the Chiang Mai Zoo

November 18, 2009

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[Live feed of the baby panda in the Chiang Mai Zoo](#) – zoothailand.org, November 18, 2009

Airplane on GoogleEarth

November 20, 2009

Categories: Airports and Airlines

Airplane on GoogleEarth – November 20, 2009

Tom notes: *...someone from our board found this [odd thing on GoogleEarth](#). It measures about 33 meter in length and 30 meter wing span. But I believe more that's an illusion, that the airplane flew through the satellite cam. One of our guys went there, to check it out—but you cant see inside, its in the middle of 3m high elephant grass.*

Bangkok city model

November 20, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Bangkok city model – November, 20, 2009

Fans of city planning will enjoy this huge model of Bangkok in the Din Daeng City Planning office. Note that it is closed from 12:00-1:00 for employee lunch and they do not seem to want to turn on the room lights or air conditioning for visitors. [GoogleEarth Placemark](#)

[Scale model of Bangkok goes on display](#) – *Bangkok Post*, November 14, 2009

Earlier: [The Shanghai Urban Planning Museum](#)

Clearing the corner

November 21, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Clearing the corner – November 21, 2009

A huge lot on the corner of Rama 4 and Si Phraya Road is being gradually being cleared of old shop houses. [Google Earth Placemark](#)

Thaksin and UDD member chat on a webcam in Dubai

November 21, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thaksin and UDD member chat on a webcam in Dubai](#) – *YouTube*, November 21, 2009

Web of intrigue

November 23, 2009

[Web of intrigue](#) – *The Nation*, November 23, 2009

Prosecution reveals how the Shinawatras hid and multiplied their assets while in power...

Thai film tops TIFF list of decade's best

November 23, 2009

[Thai film tops TIFF list of decade's best](#) – *CBC News*, November 23, 2009

See Through the language, See through politics, Thaksin Regime

November 24, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics

Political words – from *See Through the language, See through politics, Thaksin Regime*, Editors Dr. Jermsak Pinthong and Dr. Ammara Prasitrattasint

Slow Chuan, Honey Blade and Aging Blade –

These words can all be used to refer to Chuan Leek-pai. His nicknames reflect some of his character. ‘Slow Chuan’ tells us about his management and working systems. ‘Honey Blade’ reflects his rhetorical skills, while ‘Aging Blade’ shows that his working efficiency is not as good as before.

"Santa Maew" is a name for Thaksin Shinawatra, who has spent a huge sum of the country's central budget while officially visiting the central and the northeastern regions of Thailand. He was like Santa Claus giving away gifts to people on Christmas. However, it is said the spending was aimed at lifting up his image and his party Thai Rak Thai's image for the coming general election.

The government cannot afford to be lax in upcoming showdown with Thaksin

November 24, 2009

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Govt cannot afford to be lax in upcoming showdown with Thaksin](#) – *The Nation*, November 24, 2009

...Thaksin has spent money to lure at least 50 retired generals – all of them his classmates in the pre-cadet school – to stand by his side, plus some older veterans and ex-mercenaries from the wars in Vietnam and Laos. They have betrayed their country for Thaksin's money and the promise of more spoils if their mission is accomplished.

Thaksin's soldiers of fortune comprise the red shirts, hired thugs, members of the Pheu Thai Party and followers left from the dissolution of his two earlier parties. They are supposed to be more formidable and they also aim high – abolition of the monarchy, if possible.

Their objectives have never been kept secret. The red-shirt leaders simply intend to topple the government – via treason or otherwise. Their counterparts in Chiang Mai talked on the radio last week, saying that they would kill Abhisit if he sets foot in the province to attend the meeting of the Thai Chamber of Commerce. They will mobilise up to 100,000 people from eight northern provinces to fulfil the mission...

[Red shirts indefinitely postpones rally from Sunday](#) – *The Nation*, November 25, 2009

[Thaksin to Red Shirts: 'postpone rally, it's not right time'](#) – *TNA*, November 25, 2009

[Thaksin's new name: Takki Shinegra](#) – *The Nation*, November 25, 2009

Thaksin to receive \$425 per month as Hun Sen advisor

November 24, 2009

Categories: Cambodia, Thai Politics

Thaksin to receive \$425 per month from the Cambodian government – *Khmer Intelligence*, November 24, 2009

...Following his appointment earlier this month as the 117th official adviser to Prime Minister Hun Sen, fugitive former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra will receive a monthly salary of US\$425 from the Cambodian government. Strangely enough, among the legion of Hun Sen's advisers, Thaksin has been given no special status such as "Senior Adviser" or "President of the Prime Minister's Advisory Council." He just seems to be "primus inter pares..."

[Cambodia makes Thailand's Thaksin adviser: government](#) – AFP, November 5, 2009

... "Thaksin has already been appointed by royal decree... as personal adviser to Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and the adviser to the Cambodian government in charge of economy," said a government statement read on television.

"Allowing Thaksin to stay in Cambodia is virtuous behaviour...good friends need to help each other in difficult circumstances," it added...

Suriyasai: Thaksin's Dubai declaration to topple Mark's government

November 24, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics

Suriyasai: Thaksin's Dubai declaration to topple Mark's government – translated and summarized from Daily News; Column: Politics News; Date: November 24, 2009

PAD coordinator and acting secretary-general of the New Politics Party reveals the UDD core leaders visited Thaksin at his residence in Dubai and that the Dubai declaration containing the 5 steps is launched aimed at generating chaos in Thailand.

According to Suriyasai, the 5 steps of the plan are

- 1) The mass gathering of 1,000,000 people
- 2) The plan to pressure the Abhisit-led government to dissolve parliament by launching UDD mobile protests
- 3) The plan to wreak chaos in the country if no parliamentary dissolution occurs
- 4) The plan to continuously denounce General Prem Tinnasulanonda, the Privy Council President and attack the aristocracy-especially during the December 5th celebration period to drag in the Army to be involved and trigger a coup
- 5) The plan to establish a national reconciliatory government as per Gen. Chavalit Yongchaiyuth's proposal after this coup. This would give an opportunity for Thaksin to negotiate.

All about Samak Sundaravej

November 25, 2009

Categories: October, 1976, Thai Politics



Forgive – *ASTVManager*, cartoon “Obamark” by Bancha/Kamin, November 25, 2009

The crowd is shouting "Forgive each other" in front of the gate at Bamrungrad Hospital where Samak passed away.

The caption at the bottom right says “Yesterday, many Thais said this word.” At left are ghosts of those lynched and tortured during the events of 1976 and at the right at Truth Today (Red Shirt) supporters.

Remembering Samak – November 26, 2009

Komchadluek, September 5, 2008

Right: The headlines read:

Samak turns the game to avoid Army resistance – Seizing back power to prevent Anupong from staging coup – Orders forces to suppress the people

No resignation, no parliament dissolution – “Tej resignation is due to his wife” – Move on public referendum

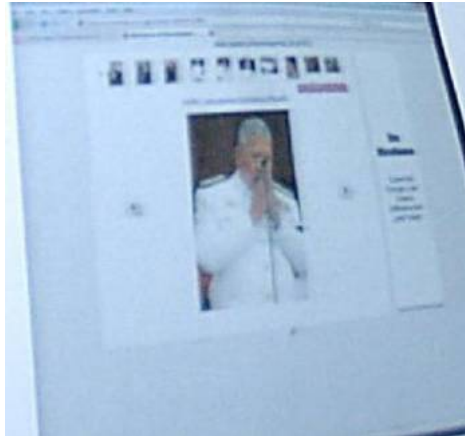


Above: *Daily News*, November 26, 2009

The headline reads: The passing away of ‘Samak Sundaravej,’ former Prime Minister, ending of a legendary ‘politician’, inventor of the *Chimpai Bonpai*



Above: *Daily News*, November 26, 2009
The headline reads: Samak manifesting power by showing up at Parliament



(Source: INN)



Above: *ASTVManager*, November 25, 2009
The headline reads: Samak Sundaravej – passing away, but his speech talent is immortal
The headline on the right: Stop the ‘wicked red’ –
Security bill to launch in metropolitan – Keeping watch that "Maew" might show up at the border
The headline next to the photo of PAD coordinator Suriyasai Katasila reads: Revealing the five step plan – "Dubai declaration" – Maew as country CEO
The reds stir up a mess in Chiang Mai – Thai tours reduced – Foreign tours cancelled



Above: *ASTVManager*, November 25, 2009
The headline reads: Samak Sundaravej – passing away, but his speech talent is immortal



Above: *ASTVManager*, November 25, 2009
The headline reads: Samak Sundaravej – The passing away of the immortal conservative



Above: *Daily News*, November 26, 2009 – Undated photo of Samak and family



[Samak dies of cancer](#) – *The Nation*, November 24, 2009

[Thailand has lost a great politician: Noppadon](#) – *The Nation*, November 24, 2009

Left: Young Samak

[The long twilight of the Bangkok Governor – June 7, 2004](#)

[Governor Samak's mass transit plans remembered – *Matichon Daily*, January 5, 2004](#)

[Manit Sriwanichpoom's "Pink Man" series](#) (right) was in part inspired to question a new, materialistic generation who would support right-wing figures from the 1970s like Samak.



(Image: [Manit Sriwanichpoom](#))

[Samak on newspaper front pages from August, 2008](#)

[Samak editorial cartoons from September 2008](#)

[Samak under pressure, September 4-5, 2008](#)

[Samak on newspaper front pages from September 10-13, 2008](#)

A master at making controversial statements:

[Angry reaction to Samak's 'Suu Kyi is a Tool' remark](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, August 26, 2008

[Historians reject PM's 'distortions'](#) – *The Nation*, February 18, 2008

[Sidelines: Samak spits venom as Thaksin's nominee](#) – *The Nation*, August 26, 2007

[A mention of the classic "sinful sex" insult](#) – *The Nation*, November 9, 2007

Samak on [Wikipedia](#) – [BBC](#)



From *Phujatthan*, September 4, 2008 – Editorial cartoon showing PM Samak signing the Emergency Degree with the blood of the deceased protestor.

About Samak Sundaravej in the years before he became PM

Samak Sundaravej is a colorful personality.

He was part of the cabinet in 1976 and has been accused by the media of allegedly being involved in radio campaigns at the time that drove mobs to storm Thammasat University. Samak served in various subsequent governments as leader of the Prachakorn Thai party, including a stint as Deputy Prime Minister in Baharn's government in the mid-1990s alongside Thaksin and Chavalit Yongchaiyudh.

He had a colorful run as the popularly elected Bangkok Governor, confounding critics who questioned why Bangkokians would elect a personality from the dictatorial era. As governor he initiated many plans, among them an [ambitious ring rail plan](#), canceling the [art museum project](#) in favor of a shopping center, proposals for underground parking structures under the BMA plaza and Sanam Luang, [redevelopment ideas for the Rattanakosin island area](#), and the corn cob apartments (a folksy scheme to design low-cost housing along the pattern of a corn cob). Samak also worked hard to get the delayed [Skytrain extensions](#) started, but was unsuccessful.

Eventually, most of his ideas came to nothing or were reversed and the media poked fun at the ['Long Twilight of the Bangkok Governor'](#).

Despite being at odds with the central government when he was governor of Bangkok (the city government and central government are traditionally at odds), after Samak left office he began a series of talk shows along with media commentator and former senator Dusit Siriwan that consistently supported government policies and attacked its critics.



(Source: Channel 9, MCOT)

During 2005 and 2006, Samak had a talk show every weekday at 11:30 on state-run TV 9, along with Dusit Siriwan. The pair also have a similar talk show on channel 5 and on radio.

On these programs they expressed views on current events and commented on issues suggested by viewers via SMS. These views included relentless criticism of the National Reconciliation Commission (the group supposedly charged with finding solutions to the problems in the South) and attacks against its chairman, Anand Panyarachun. Critics who oppose the government's handling of events in the South also came under fire.

Old-style nationalistic issues are also repeated, such as the contention that only one foreigner was killed in the events of October 6, 1976 when right-wing mobs overran Thammasat University.

Samak's shows

Chao Nee Tee Muang Thai (This Morning in Thailand) – Channel 5

Samak Dusit Kid Tam Wan (Daily Views (or Daily Thoughts))

by Samak and Dusit) – Channel 9
Kho Tet Ching Wan Ni (The Facts of Today) – FM 94

Critics called their programs "hate-spewing shows" and demanded they be taken off the air in the same way the Thaksin government removed various anti-government programs. They allege that the show were similar to broadcasts made in the run-up to the October 6, 1976 events that stirred hatred against protesting students.

Samak and Dusit have been quoted as saying their shows "mirror society's opinions" and in some respects this may be true. Right-wing views do have a prominent place in Thai society, even though they may not be apparent to the casual observer. There is a belief that those who set themselves up in opposition to authority or openly protest have failed and are tainted because they are breaking the social compact that requires avoidance of confrontation. This feeling leads to suspicion about all those who 'oppose'—NGOs, activists, and those who appear to oppose nationalistic interests such as maintaining order at all costs in the South.

Thai humor: The Samak-Dusit Show needs the
NRC to criticize – October 31, 2005

[Poojadkuan](#) jokes: Government house: Maew declared no matter what he will absolutely not dissolve the National Reconciliation Commission. He is worried that the TV program "Daily Views," hosted by Samak and Dusit, may have no issue to complain about. And one thing Maew is afraid of is that Thai people will not have a news analysis program like "Daily Views" to watch.

More [Poojadkuan columns](#)

[Petition to be lodged against Samak, Dusit](#) –
Bangkok Post, October 8, 2005

...All participants agreed that Mr Samak and Mr Dusit had distorted facts in their remarks, aired on television Channels 5 and 9 and the 94MHz radio station, that only one person was killed in the incident and that the victim was not Thai but a "Yuan," understood to refer to communist insurgents from Vietnam.

They also agreed that Mr Samak and Mr Dusit were playing unconstructive roles as members of the media, especially when mentioning violence in the deep South which could cause suspicion and hatred and lead to bloody clashes.

...Pitthaya Wongkul, chairman of the Campaign for Democracy, said the broadcast media was still the government's tool, as it was before the Oct 14, 1973 uprising when the junta government controlled radio and television stations. State-controlled broadcast media, especially the Yan Kroh radio channel in 1976, aired programmes that incited people's hatred against students, and those with opposing views to the government were considered security threats, he said. He said although Mr Samak and Mr Dusit had shown respect to the country, religion and the monarch then, they were now using their programmes to defend the government and slander the opposition...

[SAMAK-PREM UPROAR – Samak calls it a day](#) – *The Nation*, February 13, 2006
TV commentator Samak Sundaravej and co-host Dusit Siriwan announced Monday that they would stop hosting all radio and TV programs following uproar over their criticism against the privy council chairman...

89.75 – translated and summarized from [Manager](#), August 10, 2006
Mungkorndum (Black Dragon), alias of Mr. Thornchai Sakmungskorn, who cohosts with Mr. Samak Sunthornvet on 89.75 Mhz, Unity Radio. This is a [community radio station](#) that supports Thaksin and the government and will criticize people or organizations that are anti-government. Recently, it criticized the court that imprisoned Election Commission members.

Samak is back! –
translated and summarized from [Manager](#), August 17, 2006
Samak-Dusit are ready to come back to the microphone. They have the role of Maew's mouthpiece through the radio waves after Newin sent someone to discuss with Channel 9 to clear time for two radio programs, 100.5 and 96.5 Mhz. These will start on Monday, August 21.

Union opposes Samak's return – *Bangkok Post*, August 23, 2006
The labour union of Mcof Plc is opposed to the Mcof radio programme rearrangement to accommodate senator-designate Samak Sundaravej, staging a comeback as a guest commentator on a radio talk show on FM 100.5. The reprogramming is seen as an attempt by a certain politician to interfere with the media, the union said in a statement released yesterday.
The union said the order to include Mr Samak in the programme did not come from the manager of the radio station.
But it had been dictated by someone with a higher authority who put in a specific request to have Mr Samak back on the air, the union said. Starting Monday, the 4pm to 5pm show would be broadcast from Monday to Friday...

Samak, Dusit make hasty exit after brief radio comeback – *Bangkok Post*, August 25, 2006
...The source said the labour union, which earlier demanded the duo be taken off the air for allegedly stirring divisions within society, may have had a lot to do with their decision to call it a day.
The union earlier made known its willingness to testify before the Election Commission, or a court, if there were a case in the future involving politicians using state media to canvass for votes.

The source said political figures close to a major party had brought the two into the programme, but then told them to quit. They feared that if the duo made political comments they would favour the major party and get it into trouble with the EC...

Samak hits back below the belt – *The Nation*, November 8, 2007

"Who did you fornicate with last night?" Samak asked a female reporter from Nation News Agency, an affiliate of The Nation...

Samak the right choice for People's Power – *Bangkok Post*, August 2, 2007

...Mr Samak has a strong support base in Bangkok, where he was elected member of parliament several times. His constituency, Dusit district, has a big concentration of army personnel. He also enjoys huge support among members of the national police force...

Samak ad – *Matichon*, September 1, 2006

MV1 – See every truth that you cannot watch and listen to from others... by Samak Suthornvej and his team from satellite television station MV1 and local cable TV network all over the country. If you are interested contact call center 02 467 1999.

"Talk on the country's problems" program every day at 07:00-08:30.

Watch on the internet at www.Ireporter.tv or www.mv1.co.th



More on [Troubles in the South](#)

and [Nationalism and Right-wing Politics](#)

More from the Thai-language press: Thai-language [newspaper headlines and editorials](#) – Also: [War and Peace at the Southern Border](#) – [Survey of Fah Diaw Kan](#)

– [Poojadkuan](#)

[columns](#) – [The end of a dayweekly](#)

– [Thaksin](#)

[dictionary](#)

Chiang Mai: Exploring the old alleyways of a former kingdom's capital

November 25, 2009

Categories: History

Chiang Mai: [Exploring the old alleyways of a former kingdom's capital](#)— *WSJ*, November, 2009

Thai Airways' excess baggage charge costs more than seat

November 25, 2009

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[Thai Airways' excess baggage charge costs more than seat](#) – *Time*, November 25, 2009

Source of East Coast cholera outbreak suspected to be from Thailand

November 25, 2009

Categories: Health

[Source of East Coast cholera outbreak suspected to be from Thailand](#) – *Thailandnews.net*, November 25, 2009
Cholera outbreaks in Terengganu and Kelantan were believed to have been spread from Thailand...

Happy Air

November 26, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Jani points out: *Yet another classy airline site:* [Happy Air Travellers](#)
And a [thread on the forum](#) about the company

Thai police vow crackdown on Buddha statue thieves

November 26, 2009

[Thai police vow crackdown on Buddha statue thieves](#) – *Thailandnews.net*, November 26, 2009

...At least 20 heads of Buddha statues have recently been reported stolen from temples in the World Heritage province of Ayuthaya, which was the kingdom's capital from 1350 to 1767, said deputy national police chief Jongrak Juthanond...

In pictures: Bangkok soup vendor's working day

November 26, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[In pictures: Bangkok soup vendor's working day](#) – *BBC*, November, 2009

Thai tourism could be our teacher

November 26, 2009

[Thai tourism could be our teacher](#) – Thanh Nien Daily, November 26, 2009

...I used to think that Thai tourism authorities were only good at organizing sex tours or shopping trips. But now I know their entire tourism system is a machine superior to most others in the region...

Thai Media Project – November 2009

November 27, 2009

Categories: Thai Media Project

Komchadluek, November 12, 2009

The headlines read: Cambodia rejects Thaksin extradition – Foreign Ministry submits request again – Mark to move on second strategy
Retaliation degree increases – Hun Sen continue his quibbling – Talk is open, but no touch Ambassador urges *Times* on news revision
Thai-Cambodian Border closure equal pain
Hun-Sin – Intimate friends to outdo “Mark”



Matichon, November 12, 2009

The headlines read: Govt asks extradition – Suddenly rejected – Cambodia challenges- Hun Sen embraces ‘Maew’ live on TV
The caption to the hugging photo reads: Close intimacy – Police Lieutenant Colonel Thaksin Shinawatra and former Premier embraces Somdej Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia during the meeting at Hun Sen’s residence in Kandal province in the suburb area of Phnom Penh, Cambodia on November 11



RoboJew – *Vote*, November, 2009

The headline reads: ROBOJEW moves on the Thaksin plan 2 – Crunching down Prem, clearing the guilt of Thaksin



From *Vote*, November, 2009

The headline reads: Army report by Khunying Jomthong – Army-government together pushes special measures, the black bowed work of Southern militant fighting tools – the balloon – bomb scanner – POOR?



From *Daily News*, Cartoon by Palungkorn, November 20, 2009
 The cartoon title reads: One man's meat is another man's poison.. ?
 The words on the arm holding the pistol reads: Mischievous group
 The words on the arm holding the bomb reads: Faking the situation
 The words on the paper read: National Security Bill

The 76 billion baht asset freezing case gambling with the country's future – translated and summarized from *Thai Post*, Author: Pliew Seengern, November 20, 2009

Have you ever come to think what Thaksin and his supporters attempt to do now and also their brave announcement to topple the Democrat Party-led government before the end of December?

To me, I can see Thaksin's strategy: for him to achieve the victory and I named it as the "fluttering vulture" plan. The plan is relying on both movements inside and outside the country—especially Thaksin's movement by mean of his foreign policy relies on the Phnom Penh headquarters with Cambodian PM Hun Sen as co-leader.

As for the movement inside Thailand, Thaksin's supporters regardless of age and seniority are trying to work to please the headmaster and to make sure the work is finished on time.

Why? This is because the Supreme Administrative Court's special litigation investigating political post holders is to give a verdict on the 76 billion asset freezing case of Thaksin soon.

On November 19, 2009, three witnesses gave testimony to the court. One of the key witnesses Waratchaya Srimajan gave testimony to the court and affirms the evidence of the Securities and Exchange Commission report on the alleged corruption of more than 5 percent shareholdings that belongs to Thaksin under Ample Rich Investment and the Win Mark Corporation.

This is clear enough for Thaksin's speeding up strategy. I can say that the 76 billion baht asset freezing case is the core issue that changes the loyal heart to betray the land. I say that the verdict on this case is the verdict on Thailand's future.



Komchadluek, November 12, 2009

The title reads:

Thai Cambodian border trade off

The 2 red stars on the map indicate Bangkok and Phnom Penh, the 2 capital cities.

The red letters shows Thailand's seven provinces at Thai-Cambodian border: Trad, Chantaburi, Sa Kaeo, Burirum, Surin, Sisaket, Ubon Ratchathani

The black letters on the map show four provinces of Cambodia: Phratbong, Siem Reap with Angkor Wat indicated, Kampong Thom and Phrasihanu

The black letters on the bottom left read:

Ubon Ratchathani (temporarily permitted border gate)

Sisaket – permanent border gate (Chong Sangam in Phusing – Alongweng in the old Damienjoey province)

Surin – permanent border gate (Chongjom in Kanseng – old Samet in Samrong district in the old Damienjoey province)

Burirum (temporarily permitted border gate)

Sa Kaeo – permanent border gate (Banklongluek in Aranyaprathet district – Poi pet in old Jorow in Ban Tien Mien province)

Chantaburi – permanent border gate (Ban Phakkad in Pongnamron district, Ban Klongjakrob in Pailin district in Phratbong province) (Banlaem in Pongnamron district to Ban Kanrieng in Pailin district in Phratbong province)



From *ASTVManager*, November 21-27, 2009

The headline reads: Real estate – The metropolis project – Shaken – Worry over lack of permit of the architect!

"Not as brown as on TV" – translated and summarized from *Daily News*, November 17, 2009

After former chief of the Council for National Security Gen. Sondhi 'Big Bang' Boonyaratkalin takes off his boots and turns to wearing suits and focusing on his PhD at Ramkhamhaeng University, as well as other political courses, people start to think that 'Big Bang' will return to the politics.

Now, Mang Mo is 100% confident that 'Big Bang' will tap the political world in the near future.

So, he has little time to make a visit to his Muslim brothers and introduce himself as a new politician.

'Big Bang' recently told close friends that he received very good feedback and does not feel tired anymore. Moreover, he was surrounded by girls asking to take his photos. They also said, in front of him, that he is handsome and looks not as brown as on TV.

Before long listeners start to be curious and ask about what kind of girls make him brush.

He told them that they are all more than 80 years old.

Tour festival – translated and summarized from *Daily News*, November 19, 2009

The Ministry of Labour now seems to be very quiet as its minister 'Paitoon' Kaewthong offers prizes to authorities by allowing them to travel overseas.

The permanent-secretary goes to Switzerland. Three deputy permanent-secretaries take a trip to Malaysia, Turkey, France and Germany.

While the director-general of the Department of Skill Development flies to Japan, the department's secretary and committee members of the Social Security Office take a two-week trip to the United States of America.

However, all C-9 officials disappointed by the reshuffle were ready to submit a resignation letter. So, there is no doubt that the ministry is quiet.

The ministry is maybe too generous and keeps allowing officials to take holidays. He might have forgotten that the ministry still needs officials.

He himself also might face a big trouble from this.

Now who can workers count on?

Walking the hog

November 27, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: Matt)

Walking the hog – November, 2009

Matt writes: *Seen in Ayutthaya recently. Just walkin' the hog.*

Thaksin ‘will stop protests if govt spares him from jail’

November 27, 2009

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Thaksin ‘will stop protests if govt spares him from jail’](#) – Bangkok Post, November 27, 2009

...The source said Thaksin wanted the United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship movement to keep up its campaign against the government. At the same time, he wanted to open talks with the government about his fate.

Any negotiations would proceed on the condition that Thaksin would be spared the two-year jail term which he fled overseas last year to avoid...

Full text:

Thaksin ‘will stop protests if govt spares him from jail’

Published: 27/11/2009 at 02:44 AM

Online news: Local News

Fugitive former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra wants the government to spare him legal punishment. In return, he will put an end to protests against it, says a Puea Thai Party source.

The move was part of a strategy laid out by Thaksin, as conveyed by politicians who visited the ousted prime minister in Dubai recently.

The politicians included opposition Puea Thai Party members and those suspended from politics by a court decision dismantling the Thai Rak Thai (TRT) and People Power parties.

The source said Thaksin wanted the United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship movement to keep up its campaign against the government.

At the same time, he wanted to open talks with the government about his fate.

Any negotiations would proceed on the condition that Thaksin would be spared the two-year jail term which he fled overseas last year to avoid.

Last year, the Supreme Court’s Criminal Division for Holders of Political Positions sentenced Thaksin to two years in jail for a conflict of interest when he was prime minister, and Khunying Potjaman na Pombjra, then his wife, won a bidding contest to acquire land in the Ratchadapisek area. The auction was in 2003.

Thaksin’s 76-billion-baht assets seizure case, for which a court verdict is expected in January, would also be up for negotiation.

If they reached a deal, rallies against the government would cease and the Democrat-led coalition government could remain in power.

The Puea Thai source said if Thaksin was spared legal punishment, he would not mind if the government stayed on to finish its term.

One of the politicians who met Thaksin in Dubai was Puea Thai MP for Samut Prakan Pracha Prasopdee.

He said yesterday that Thaksin predicted the government would fall next year, as political and economic problems caught up with it. The coalition, he said, would probably disintegrate amid internal conflicts.

However, Thaksin did not rule out the possibility of the coalition government completing its term.

In that case, Thaksin told the Puea Thai MPs to prepare a censure debate against the government, according to Mr Pracha.

Meanwhile, Democrat MPs Wirat Kalayasiri and Boonyod Sukthinthai yesterday accused Puea Thai MP Apiwant Wiriyachai, a deputy house speaker, of inappropriate conduct, and called on him to step down.

According to the Democrats, Col Apiwant joined a red shirt protest in Samut Prakan province last week and used verbal profanity to attack privy councillor Surayud Chulanont and Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva.

He also referred “inappropriately” to Privy Council President Prem Tinsulanonda, whom the UDD accuses of being behind the Sept 19, 2006 coup.

The Democrats also criticised Col Apiwant for skipping a parliamentary session on Nov 13 to travel to Cambodia to meet Thaksin.

ASTVManager book: The gang to topple the dynasty

November 28, 2009

Categories: Analysis, Thai Politics



ASTVManager book: The gang to topple the dynasty – November 28, 2009

From *ASTV Manager*, December 21-27, 2009

The headline reads (something like): Bloody December – Overthrow – Romanov – Cruel man’s game – Sky has ill will towards the dynasty/royalty.” The photo shows the Romanov family who were executed in the Russian Revolution. This photo has been featured in Red Shirt publications in essays about the fate of monarchies who resisted reform. Like the Red Shirt movement itself, those sorts of threats are cards that are being played by Thaksin to pressure the establishment over his pardon.]

The book cover in the top left corner reads: The gang to topple the dynasty – Wicked capitalist – The Red Siamese – The poisoned media – The excessive academic – The UFO cult

Is your seafood harvested by slaves?

November 28, 2009

Categories: Human Rights

[Is your seafood harvested by slaves?](#) – truthout, November, 2009

...The murdered man was, like Winko, a newly acquired fishing slave unsure how to work the boat's machinery. But while Winko kept quiet, the new man protested. He was kicked across the deck until he tumbled overboard and disappeared in the turquoise wake.

Life is hell for Thailand's fishermen slaves, a largely Burmese workforce lured into the Thai fishing industry by brokers...

Delights of the Singapore to Bangkok jungle railway'

November 28, 2009

Categories: Singapore

[Delights of the Singapore to Bangkok 'jungle railway'](#) – *BBC*, November 28, 2009

Thanks to Mud for pointing this out.

Owl for sale at Jatuchak Market

November 29, 2009



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Owl for sale at Jatuchak Market – November 29, 2009

Maoists' offices in Beijing, Bangkok?

November 29, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

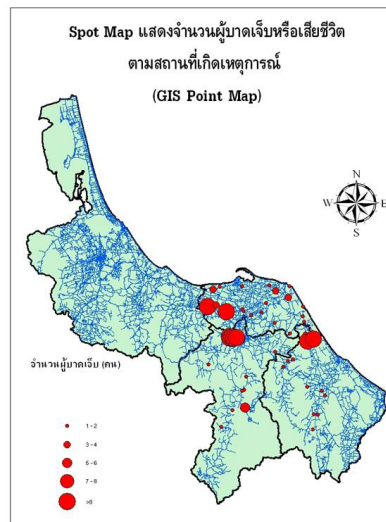
[Maoists' offices in Beijing, Bangkok?](#) – *Deccan Herald*, November, 2009

... "*The Maoists leaders from India often visit their offices in cities like Beijing and Bangkok to hold discussions with their contacts...*"

Southern Violence Statistics – November 2009

November 30, 2009

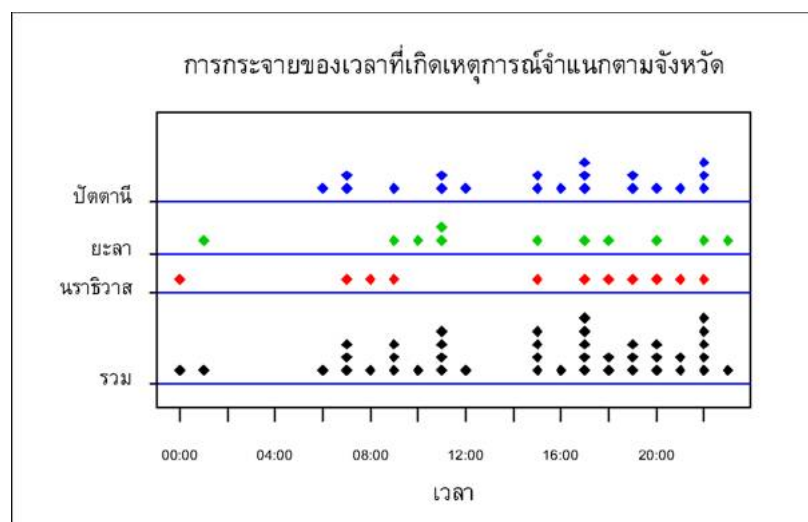
Categories: Deep South Violence Statistics



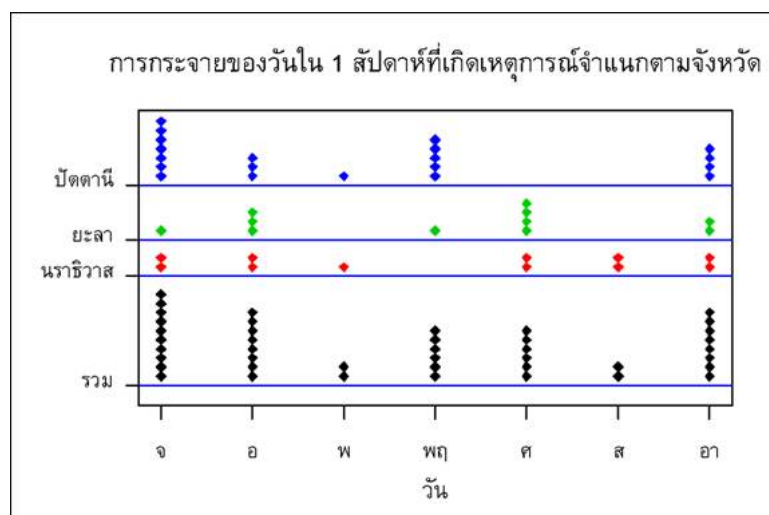
Map of four provinces in the deep south (Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat) showing numbers of the dead and injured by location.

Southern Violence Statistics – November 2009

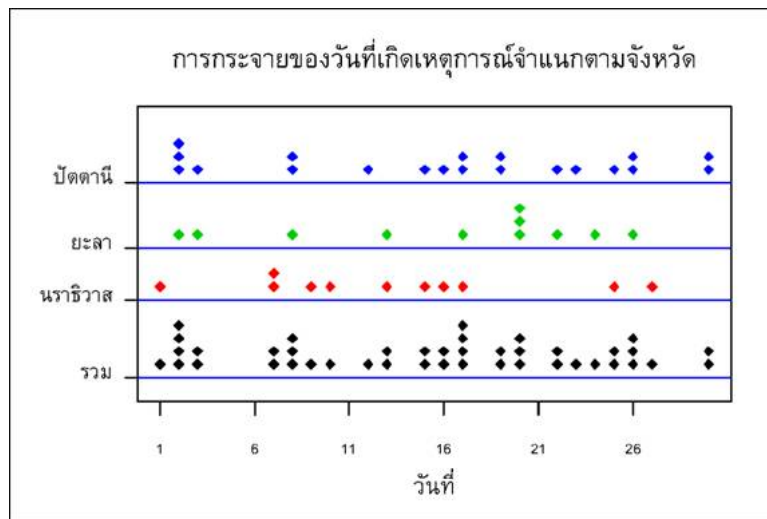
[Index of violence statistics for the Thai Deep South](#)



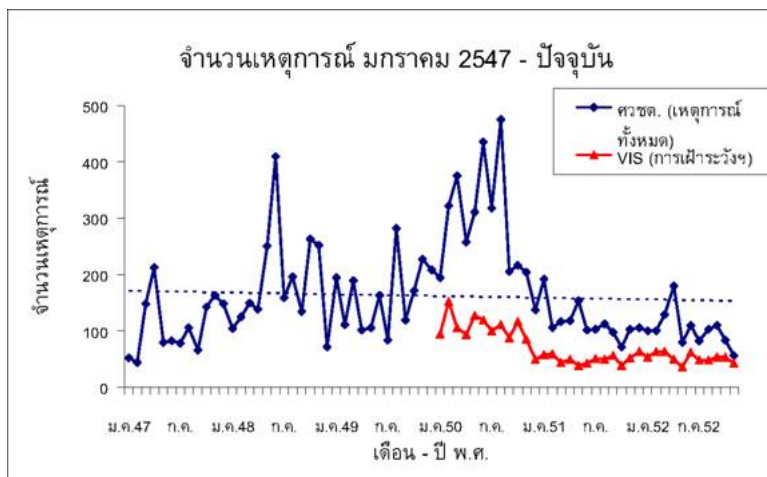
This chart shows violent incidents classified by the hour of the day (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



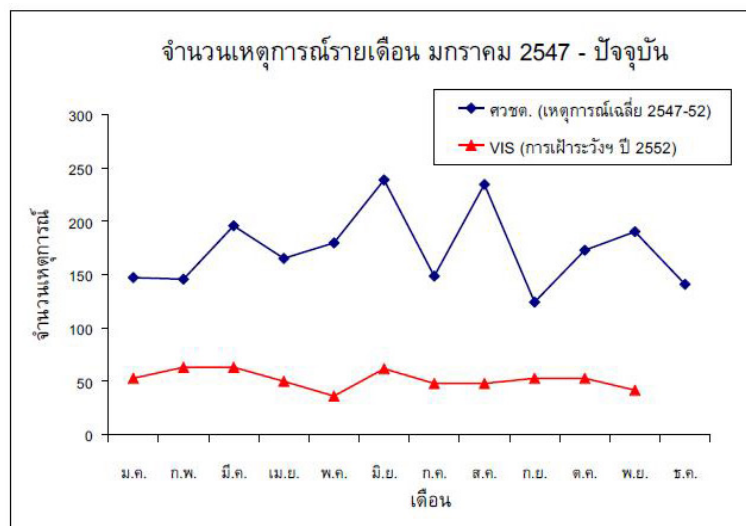
This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the week (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). The days of the week start with Monday on the left. Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



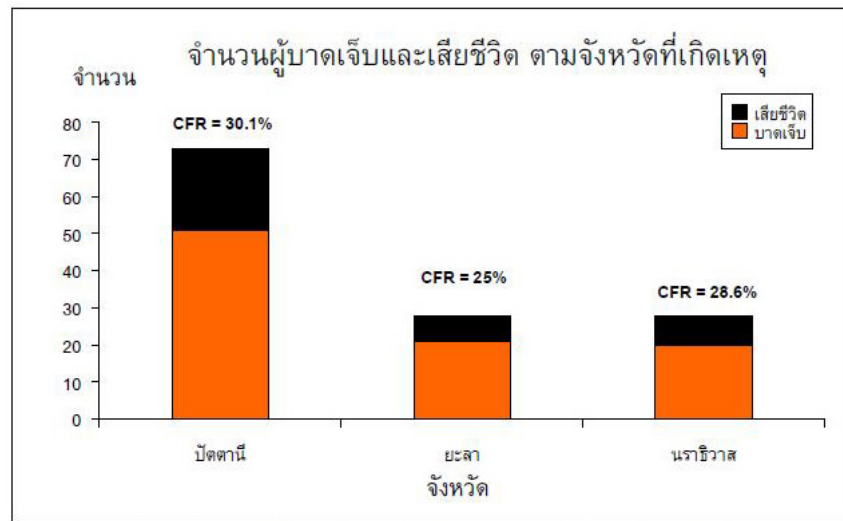
This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the month (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



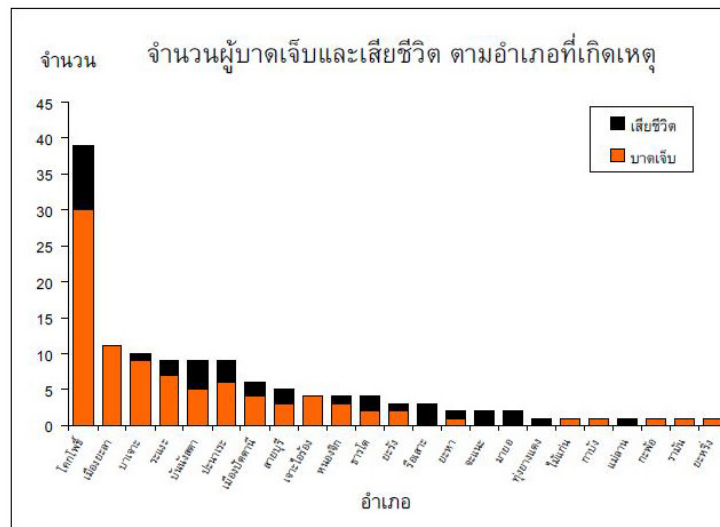
Numbers of violent incidents since January 2004. Across the bottom are the years (2547 is 2004, 2548 is 2005, 2549 is 2006, 2550 is 2007, 2551 is 2008, 2552 is 2009). The blue line shows the number of all violent incidents that took place as reported by the Deep South Coordination Center (counting all incidents both injury and non-injury). The red line shows data according to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance (a form that hospitals, doctors and clinics are supposed to fill out to report violent incidents).



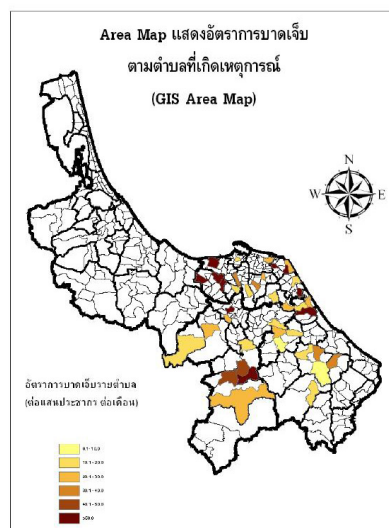
The blue line shows the average monthly level of violent incidents from 2004 up to the present. The red line shows the information provided to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance in the present year. The y-axis shows the numbers of events from 0-300. The x-axis shows the months of the year from January to December (left to right).



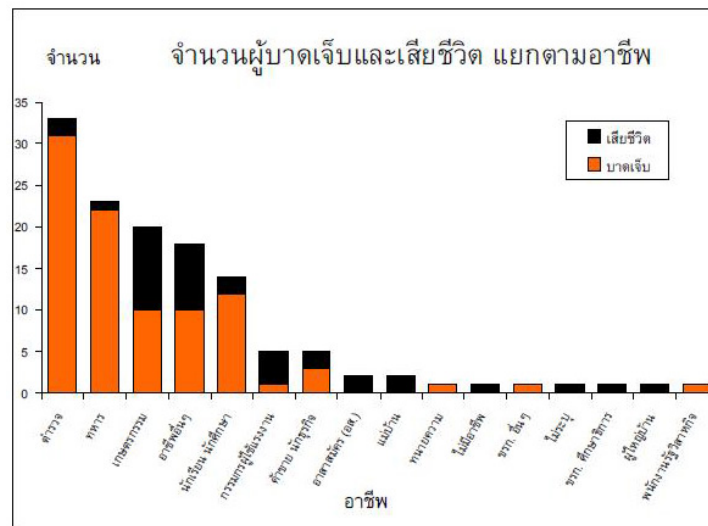
The numbers of injured and dead reported from each province where the events occurred (Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat and Songkhla). Black= dead, orange=injured. The CFR (Case Fatality Rate) of each province is above each bar.



The toll of dead and injured (y-axis), classified by the districts where the incidents took place (x-axis). Black= dead, orange=injured.



Map of four provinces in the deep south (Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat) showing the number of violent events by tambon (village). Starting at light yellow, the levels are 1-10, 10-20, 20-30, 30-40, 40-50, and greater than 60.



The numbers of dead and injured, classified by the victims' profession. Black= dead, orange=injured. From left to right: police, soldiers, agriculture, others, students-college students, laborers, merchants-businessmen, guard defense volunteers, housewives, lawyers, unemployed, other officials, unidentified, Education Ministry officials, village chief, state enterprise employers

Source: Deep South Violence-related Injury Surveillance statistics

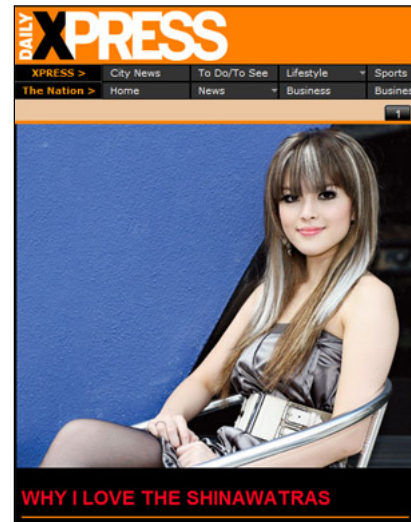
About The Nation Newspaper

November 30, 2009

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines

End of the *Daily Xpress* – November 30, 2009

Today is indeed the [last edition of the *Daily XPress*](#).



Changes at the Nation Group? – February 19, 2009

A source informs us: *Starting in April: No more Sunday edition of The Nation.. the Daily Xpress will be reduced in circulation even further.*

Advertising-free XPress? – January, 2009

A death watch has been on the *XPress* for some time, from early last year when oil prices were soaring to today when the paper seems strangely devoid of advertising.

It is still baffling that *The Nation* invests so little in their online presence (either in Thai or English) as this seems to be the future of the current print media.

[The Nation alters structure to cut costs](#) – Bangkok Post, August 1, 2008

...According to Pana Janviroj, president of The Nation, starting today the English daily is no longer operated by Nation Multimedia Group (NMG). Instead, it operates separately under NMG Co Ltd, a subsidiary of the parent company. Also, a separate sub-editing company partly owned by former sub-editors of The Nation will be set up with the backing of NMG.

Last week, the parent company offered a voluntary early retirement package for editorial staff. About 30 Thai and foreign workers out of 130 took the package...

The Nation for sale – July 25, 2008

Sources report that the Nation Group is looking to sell off the English-language *Nation* and *Xpress* newspaper operations.

Among the rumored changes:

- deep cuts including firing all foreign staff and rehiring them on one-year contracts
- setting up a new company to hold liabilities (such as staff) to clean up *The Nation* balance sheet for an eventual sale (probably complicating this is are local rules that limit foreign ownership in media to 30%)
- replacing top editors with those “less strident” about Thaksin and the PPP to regain lost ad revenue



(Source: *The Nation* front page, July 1, 1971)

[XPRESS premieres](#) – March 5, 2008

End of an era: *The Nation* to become a "business daily" – February 21, 2008

Once *Xpress* starts, *The Nation* be billed as “Thailand’s Largest Business Daily” and feature mostly business news with one page of features, op-ed, and general news. Perhaps this is to sync up to The Nation Group’s *Krungthep Turakij*, which has also been billed as “Thailand’s Largest Business Daily.”

Xpress, a free newspaper, will feature all of the news, sports, features, comics, etc. that used to be in *The Nation*.



On February 12 we pointed out the [Xpress website](#): The page seems to be a test from January 18, 2008 and contains sections such as "The Fun," "Expat," "Good Morning, Bangkok," and "The Provinces."

No word from "Thailand’s first English-language business daily," [Business Daily](#).

[The Nation creates history](#) – *The Nation*, February 27, 2008

...The changes, which will start on March 5, are meant to better serve our readers, who we regard as smart, daring, knowledge-able, and tech savvy. Thanks to a thorough survey of media in Thailand we know that our readers are exactly that and we have planned the changes accordingly...

[Brighter look for the Post](#) – Bangkok Post, March 3, 2008

...Starting today the Bangkok Post offers its readers a new look, and our latest design changes are aimed at making our newspaper more reader friendly. Apart from

providing our readers with the best stories of the day, our front page has been changed and will now serve as a "window" to help you navigate through the newspaper and its inside sections more easily.
 The Bangkok Post's latest design change has incorporated more visual effects to create a bigger impact with news stories and make our newspaper look more attractive.
 ...The Bangkok Post is the best-selling English-language newspaper in Thailand. It has long been the English-language newspaper with the largest circulation and is the only newspaper in Thailand which has its circulation audited...

[Nation Group to slim down](#) – The Nation, April 25, 2006

...Among the non-core assets is a land plot at Bangna-Trad kilometre 29 where the printing house is located. Thanachai said that while the printing house takes up 20 rai, the remaining 30 rai, facing the main road, was unused.
 "If we are not making use of the land, we may consider selling the unused land," he said.
 ...Suthichai Yoon, a director of the company who supervises the broadcasting business, said that the 24-hour television news service required high investment in terms of equipment.
 As a result, the business has incurred losses. But he said that to cut losses, Nation Channel, the TV station of NMG, would shuffle its programming to focus more on news programmes rather than on around-the-clock news reporting...



(Source: *The Nation* front page, July 1, 1971)

Happy birthday to *The Nation* – July 1

On July 1, 1971 The first edition of *The Nation* was published. On the front page, 25-year-old Suthichai Yoon wrote the newspaper's manifesto:

The How and Why of *The Nation* by Suthichai Yoon



There is one thing that every newspaper must have—a moral justification for its existence. That is what made us decide to launch The Nation.
After the only other two English-language dailies here merged under foreign ownership, it became obvious to us that the existence of such a paper as ours not only morally just, but also morally necessary...
The Nation will be a responsible newspaper that follows an independent and impartial editorial policy.
"The Nation will strive to be a medium for the mutual exchange of views between the government and the people, interpreting the actions of the government to the public while also reflecting popular sentiment. It will not shy away from voicing criticism if that criticism is of a thoughtful nature, and will voice it without prejudice or antagonism.
The Nation will identify with the Thai Press, and will on no account attempt to form part of a separate institution just because it is not printed in the Thai language...
We know a good percentage of our readers will belong to the foreign community and they will not only have adequate world news but they will also enjoy something they have not had before—a frank and accurate picture of the country in which they have chosen to live and work. To us, a brickbat is as welcome as a bouquet. The Nation is your newspaper.

(Source: *The Nation* front page, July 1, 1971)

Thai construction workers: How to sink pylons on soft ground

November 30, 2009
Categories: 2Bangkok News

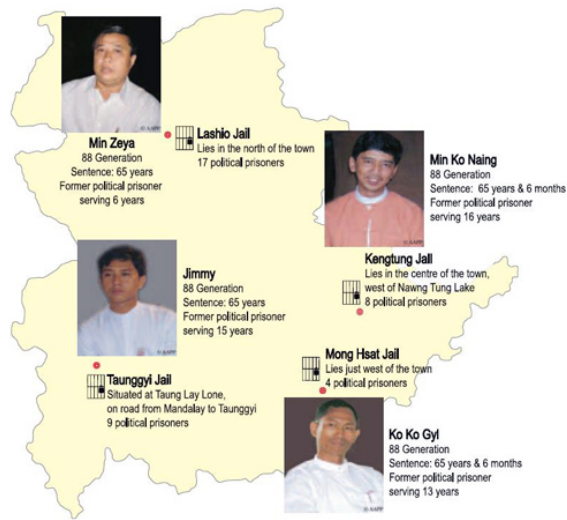


Thai construction workers: How to sink pylons on soft ground – *YouTube*, November, 2009

New guidebook reveals darker side of tourist sites in Shan State

November 30, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News



[New guidebook reveals darker side of tourist sites in Shan State](#) – *shanwomen.org*, November, 2009

[Forbidden Glimpses of Shan State](#) – *shanwomen.org*, November, 2009

Fascinating info in the pdf including the demolition of Kengtung Palace (below).



Song of Siam, 1948

November 30, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Song of Siam, 1948](#) – *YouTube*, November, 2009

Thread on this file [here](#).

Expatriate Explorer Survey 2009

November 30, 2009

Categories: Polls

[Expatriate Explorer Survey 2009](#) – HSBC, November, 2009

[Stephane](#) notes: *Here's a report you may find interesting. ...Thailand is #3, language is the main barrier and a staggering 47% of expats found love in Thailand (compared to 20% in other countries).*

Risk areas in Bangkok – Lat Phrao 101: Riskiest areas

November 30, 2009

Categories: Crime

[Risk areas in Bangkok – Lat Phrao 101: Riskiest area](#) – *The Nation*, November 30, 2009

Thai navy vessel fires on Burmese soldiers

November 30, 2009

[Thai navy vessel fires on Burmese soldiers](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, November 30, 2009

Five Burmese soldiers are injured in an exchange of naval gunfire in waters off Kawthoung Township in far southern Burma...

Waiting in traffic in front of Central World

December 1, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Waiting in traffic in front of Central World



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: No movement in traffic in front of Central World 2 hours and 15 minutes later...

“Silence Power” pdf

December 1, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics



“Silence Power” pdf – December 1, 2009

These are some scans of the extensive pdf denouncing the pro-Thaksin movement on the silence-power.com site.

The headline reads: Red Thaksin – RUIN all the land



The caption reads: for Thaksin’s comfort, the people have to dedicate their lives, blood and assets. Who is the one who lures the poor and suffering people to stand to fight for Thaksin’s comfort... for the fugitive richest man in the world?



The captions read: (Top) This is the suffering of Thaksin who has to stay abroad.
(Bottom) This is the happiness of fighting for Thaksin.

Scenes from Thaksin's visit from KhmerLiveTV

December 2, 2009

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

Scenes from Thaksin's visit from KhmerLiveTV

[2009-11-10 Thaksin visits PM Hun Sen](#)

[2009-11-12 Thaksin Shinawatra Speech Press Conference Part 1](#) (of 15)

[2009-11-11 PM Hun Sen and Thaksin Press Conference Part 1](#) (of 7)

Use of nominee companies to buy property is “against the spirit of the law”

December 3, 2009

Categories: Business, Law, Property and Development

[Use of nominee companies to buy property is “against the spirit of the law”](#) – PropertyReport.com, December 3, 2009

Full text:

Even though it is not possible for a foreigner to secure direct freehold title of land in the Kingdom of Thailand, buying a property in the name of a shell company made up of nominee shareholders is a common way to make such an acquisition. Yet, the ease at which overseas buyers can apparently circumvent the law has always been contentious.

Kert Stavorn, managing partner, Siam Legal, told Property Report, “The question of using nominee companies for the purpose of buying property has been around for years. The practice appears to have been tolerated by the authorities, but technically, nominees aren’t recognized under the law.”

Most would-be foreign buyers are made aware of the situation, but with the practice so widespread, the method of using shell companies has virtually become the norm.

Dr. Sopon Pornchokchai, managing director, Agency for Real Estate Affairs, said, “Nominee companies have almost become quasi-legal; that is to say that although they clearly go against the spirit of the law, there has been such lax enforcement over the years, the situation has been allowed to persist.”

Still, there is growing concern that foreigners may use nominee companies to buy up large swathes of property in rural locations where land is currently very inexpensive. As the economy picks up and land prices start to appreciate, protecting locals from very sharp property price increases has come back onto the agenda again.

Stavorn said, “In a move to tighten up on the practice, the government last year required all shareholders to show that they have real funds. Although this is not a change in legislation par say, it essentially forms a land office notice that the law will be more strictly enforced.”

News has recently appeared that additional moves by the government could be on the way. The Bangkok Post reported in Oct 2009 that the Department of Business Development, in conjunction with the Department of Special Investigation, the Lands Department and Provincial Governors, was preparing to commence more widespread checks on suspected nominee companies following spot checks during 2008.

Stavorn said, “For those looking to buy a property, the best risk vs. reward scenario is to buy it leasehold, which will definitely secure 30 years.”

Leases are freely assignable and so a leasehold property can certainly be resold on the same basis.

“As for renewing a lease you certainly can write an option to renew for another 30 years into the contract. The only area requiring some attention is if the lessor passes away since, under civil law, the contract will have technically formed a personal obligation. There is growing acceptance that this obligation would be assignable to a successor but it is hard to find enough legal precedent currently.” Stavorn said.

Whilst a leasehold arrangement may seem less palatable as compared to apparent freehold ownership under a nominee company structure, it would certainly seem a much safer option given the scrutiny that these dormant entities are currently receiving.

“If you keep your expectations to the original 30 year period then this would be the best stance to take.” Stavorn added.

For foreign developers looking to purchase land or property for development using nominee companies the position could be more precarious since property development is not permitted under the FBA. Nominee status could be used as a supporting element or even the reason for initiating any action.

“For someone who simply holds a personal property already using a company with nominees, I think it would not be necessary to be overly concerned. Although there are reports from time to time that ultimately owners could face forced sale or even confiscation of their property, it would be difficult for the government to do this in practice, and simply would not be practical.” Stavorn said.

One way to proceed is to consider a restructuring of the company by replacing the nominees with real individuals and/or have the company engage in a business under the FBA so that it is active and not in place solely as a means to secure a property for the owner.

“The only problem of replacing nominees with real shareholders might be a co-mingling of assets with the legitimate partners, but otherwise this type of structure would be good in the eyes of the law.” Stavorn said.

Properties that are truly available to foreigners on a direct freehold basis are condominium units, but these must be within an allocated quota, which currently remains at 49 per cent of the space in a given project. Relaxing the quotas could reduce the need for nominee companies in these developments.

Stavorn said, “For condominiums, removing the limitation of foreign ownership of units wouldn’t encroach on the spirit of the land code. Condominiums are already at the mercy of the free market and there is no land ownership, only air space.”

Indeed the government did provide up to 100 per cent foreign ownership of condominium units in projects that were built within a qualifying land area under a temporary stimulus package after the Asian Financial Crisis.

Others have called for the government to be more creative to help owners and prospective buyers who are considering their options. At the end of October 2009, the Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce in Thailand presented a paper to the government detailing reasons to extend current leasehold periods. The JFCCT also highlighted how simple the process could be.

“If the government does get serious they should offer an alternative such as changing the company structure into a long term lease of, for example, 50 years. It would also be a good move to reform the laws to provide leases of similar lengths for new buyers too.” Pornchokchai said.

A final option could be to allow freehold ownership of land, but only in certain designated zones such as those areas that have already been developed with foreigners in mind. This would legitimise foreign freehold ownership in those areas whilst at the same time help the local economies.

Yindee Lapidary

December 4, 2009

Categories: Gem Scam



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The area around Central World seems to be particularly bad for gem scam touts these days.

Stand around outside for a few minutes and one will likely be approached by touts claiming to be "Manager of Central World" or as in this case below, "Chief Security of the Building."

A reader reports:

...I was referred by Thai Gem Scam Group. I wish to write to your website about my bad experience on a gem fraud by the shop YINDEE LAPIDARY CO., LTD. As they have resorted to improper way of running business, I wish to publicize their acts so as to RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS and less tourists will be cheated...

My family and I were having holiday in Bangkok on 17th November. We were walking outside World Trade Centre and were approached by a man who claimed to be the Chief Security of the Building. He asked us where we are going. I told him that we were going to pray at Four Face Buddha and he told me to go another temple nearby instead.

He told us that it was Buddha Day and asked us to go to Lucky Temple to pray, by the arranged tut-tut nearby. On arriving at the temple, which was empty, which was suppose to be crowded, happened to be only a man who was praying at that time. He found a chance to talk to us, asking us to remove shoes.

He claimed that he is working as a Thai ambassador and was once a monk there and just returned from Singapore. He even showed us the name cards of some of our Singapore Police Officers, claiming that he knew all of them.

He then told us to look at the Buddha and explained to us that the right heart of the Buddha heart is bigger than his left as it contains BUDDHA HEARTS... He told us a long "story" about the miracle of having "Buddha hearts" which were orange sapphires. His mother who suffered from stroke recovered from drinking the holly water placing next to the Buddha heart...and was able to walk again.

He told me to go to a shop, see enclosed receipt, and told me, that day was the last day of sales and it was the first time that government allows to sell orange sapphire to public, which are meant to be national treasures. Each person is ONLY entitled to buy 3 items. These can be re-sold for three (3) times its price in Singapore.

We "stupidly" went to the shop and the sales person tired ways and means to persuade us to buy 3 items costing about S\$4,400.00 and realized when we returned to Singapore that they actually do not cost this much. After browsing through the website, I realized that my husband and I were actually conned by the fraud network into buying gems at inflated prices.

I do not want to know how high... He gave me his mobile number and email address, which we later tried and find them invalid.

I have often made frequent trips to Bangkok for holiday, the trip this time has turned into a nightmare!!! These acts have drastically tarnished the image of Bangkok affecting the tourism industry...

More on the
[Gem Scam](#) & [maps to the scam stores](#)

“Takki”

December 4, 2009

Categories: Editorial Cartoons

“Takki” – from *Nation Weekend*, “Ed’s gallery,” December 4, 2009

This is one of the always interesting character painting on the first few pages of every *Nation Weekend*. This one spoofs Thaksin’s alleged fake name and his travels throughout the world in the wake of the Dubai debt problems.



(Source: *Nation Weekend*, “Ed’s gallery,” December 4, 2009)

PM: Airport Link opening before April

December 4, 2009

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[PM: Airport Link opening before April](#) – *Bangkok Post*, December 4, 2009

No foreign phones

December 4, 2009

No foreign phones – December 4, 2009

From a promotional campaign on the subway: Every time you buy or choose the product you will be sure when seeing the mark to certify it meets the standard of telecommunication products of the CAT.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Thailand's Withering Democracy Leading to Political Impasse

December 4, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics

Tags: Politics

[Thailand's Withering Democracy Leading to Political Impasse](#) – *worldpoliticsreview.com*, December 3, 2010

The withering of Thailand's democracy is closing potential avenues for political resolution of the country's ongoing crisis and may lead toward widespread violence, and possibly even an armed revolt...

Step back! Chao Moon Muang leads the team

December 4, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics

From *ASTV Phujatkarn Weekend edition*, November 28-December 4, 2009

The headline reads: Step back! Chao Moon Muang leads the team –
Abruptly breaks

Other headlines on the cover:

Samak – power-felt spirit

The confession – Miss beauty within replacement position



2009 year-end Google zeitgeist: Thailand

December 5, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[2009 year-end Google zeitgeist: Thailand](#) – *Google*, December, 2009

12 places to go if the world goes to hell: Chiang Mai

December 5, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[12 places to go if the world goes to hell: Chiang Mai](#) – *businessinsider.com*, December, 2009

...What's more, while Southeast Asia has been a hotspot for war, heroin, massacres, and political turmoil for decades, Chiang Mai has remained a stronghold of peace and stability...

Malaysian credit card scammers crowd Thai jails

December 6, 2009

Categories: Scams

[Malaysian credit card scammers crowd Thai jails](#) – *New Straits Times*, December 6, 2009

...Malaysian ambassador to Thailand Datuk Husni Zai Yaacob said 246 Malaysians were in 10 prisons here, while 251 were in eight prisons in southern Thailand. He said the credit card fraud was the work of syndicates and some of those arrested had up to 10 credit cards each...

[Wise, irrepressible, and a bit of a troublemaker](#) – *The Age*, December, 2009

Sulak Sivaraksa, who is in Melbourne for the Parliament of the World's Religions, says he is known by many labels in his home country of Thailand...

HM The King's 82th Birthday

December 7, 2009

Categories: HM The King's Birthday, The Monarchy



Thai newspapers from December 7, 2009 showing large photos from HM The King's appearance and brief address on December 5.



From *Matchon Weekly*, December 4-10, 2009 – Hand in hand

HM The King's 82th birthday – December 5, 2009

December 5 is the birthday of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej. During this national holiday, buildings and trees are decorated with lights and people stroll the streets with their family and friends. It is also Thai Father's Day. It is a tradition for Thai businesses and publications to offer their birthday wishes to their monarch.

This year and last, the King has not given his annual birthday address to the nation. Here is something about the address from a past year:

[2004: HM The King's annual address to the nation](#)



From Siamrath, December 4-10, 2009 – Long live the King



From Nation Weekend, December 4, 2009 – There is only one in the world



From Daily News, December 5, 2009 – Celebrating the great and auspicious day



From ThaiRath, December 5, 2009 – TV pool broadcasts live the King's attending the meeting – Cherish HM King's prestige from the Siriraj Hospital to the Amarintravinijchai royal Throne Hall – Ratchadamneon Road magnificently decorated – Queen of England sends birthday message



From *Than Setakit*, December 3-5, 2009 – Under HM King’s royal prestige – 82 – Long Live the King, reconciliation to the nation – gift of the land



From *Post Today*, December 4, 2009



From *Matichon*, December 5, 2009



From *Komchadluek*, December 3, 2009
The headline reads: Celebrating 9 days and 9 nights for December 5th the great and auspicious day

Ban Tai, Kanchanaburi, Thailand, Sortie 684BN RAF

December 7, 2009

Categories: Old photos and films

[Ban Tai, Kanchanaburi, Thailand, Sortie 684BN RAF 0556, Frame 4003](#) – *The National Collection of Aerial Photography*, December, 2009

Hamish explains: *Photographs taken by British aerial reconnaissance teams during WWII are being made public for the first time. They include, as one would expect, lots of pictures of mainland Europe, but the link above shows an aerial shot of railway bridges over the Kwai Yai. This appears to be the only Thai picture at present but they promise more in due course...*

Attack in the Deep South

December 9, 2009

Categories: The Thai Deep South



Kolok reports: 1 died and 11 were injured in the militants' gun and bombing attack at a restaurant in Sungaipadee district.

At 6:45 am on December 9, 2009, the police team from the Sungaipadee police station in Narathiwat province, together with the Narathiwat 33 bomb disposal unit, rushed to inspect the local restaurant on Jarusathien Road in the municipality of Tambon Paluru, where a militant gun attack occurred. Then militants detonated a 5 kilogram bomb that was hidden in the motorcycle in the area. The explosion injured 12 bystanders and one later died from the injury. The investigation indicated that two militants on their motorcycle opened gunfire using an HK gun into the local restaurant before escaping. Then militant gang used a mobile device to detonate the bomb in the motorcycle which was parked in the area earlier leading to 12 injuries.



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)

One soldier and one militant dies in the Battle in Bacho – December 23, 2009

Kolok reports: At 12:50 on December 23, 2009, a team of 12 soldiers from the Marine Corps from Chulabhorn camp in Narathiwat's Muang district, led by Vice Admiral Thongchai Yaemchuti, traveled to inspect the RKK militant's hideout in Banbulga village in Tambon Kayormatee in Narathiwat after sources informed them that a militant gang planned to stage violent attacks during the new year's celebration.

When the two cars of the authorities reached the road of the Banbulga village, 100 meter away from the Tambon Kayormatee administrative organization, militants opened fire on the soldiers. A team from the Narathiwat 32 task force was dispatched to reinforce.

28-year-old soldier Pithak Meemuang suffered severe injury to the chest and died later after being rushed to Bacho Hospital. Bacho Police Chief Police Colonel Chamlong Ngamnet suffered injury from a wound on his right arm.

A militant, identified as 28-year-old Salavee Saloh, residing at the house number 104 in Moo 5 in Tambon Kayormatee in the district, died in the gunfight (above). The authorities seized evidence such as a .38 pistol, bullets, three mobile phones and battery charger, and cash.

How to make a croc look cuddly: Paint it like a panda

December 9, 2009

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[How to make a croc look cuddly: Paint it like a panda](#) – *WSJ*, December 9, 2009

Pieter notes: *For the “everything to do with Thailand” category...*

Stop the horror with soap and water!

December 9, 2009

Categories: Singapore



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Stop the horror with soap and water! – December, 2009

Poster in Singapore promoting the washing of hands.

The English version reads: Stop the horror with soap and water! Part of a [government campaign](#).

Burma threatens Thailand's stability: Bangkok Governor

December 9, 2009

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Burma threatens Thailand's stability: Bangkok Governor](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, December 9, 2009

...Thailand's Burma policy appears contradictory and lacks a coherent overall strategy, according to observers, who suggest Burma's ruling military are siphoning off the revenues from Burma's natural resource exports for both personal use and to finance the same massive military budget that is now causing concern in Bangkok...

We're sick of the Ministry of Culture

December 9, 2009

[We're sick of the Ministry of Culture](#) – Bangkok Post Blogs, December 09, 2009

...Our Ministry of (non)Culture is incredibly creative in cooking up unnecessary scandals due solely to their Jurassic outlook, authoritarian leanings and the staunch refusal to live in the real world. The straw that breaks a camel's back... is the latest incident that took place this week: Two web posters, one of them my source, were threatened with a lawsuit by one of the Culture Ministry's well-known watchdogs (she's human, by the way) after they posted critical messages on the popular Pantip web forum disparaging the antediluvian policies of our inglorious ministry. The messages, for instance, discussed the regressive tendency of the ministry as well as its dogged refusal to encourage cultural diversity by sticking to the narrow-minded definition of what Thai culture is. My source cited a name in his comments: Ladda Tangsupachai, the watchdog chief who has a low opinion on modern art, love songs, non-Thai fashion, and so on...

[The FaceBook group: We're sick of Ministry of Culture in Thailand](#)



Choose the path...

December 9, 2009

Categories: Old photos and films



“Choose the path...” – December 9, 2009

This vintage Thai Red Cross postcard reads: Choose the path – life with death – life with happiness

A few scenes from the Red Shirt rally

December 10, 2009

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2009



19:52 – Thaksin, in a pure white room, leads a candle-lighting ceremony in front of an image of the King.



Left: Thaksin bows (as is customary) to the image of the King after the singing of an anthem in the King's honor. Red Shirts at the Royal Plaza hold candles to honor the King.

19:07 – Thaksin, speaking in an emphatic, high-pitched voice, addresses the crowd. He is swaying back and forth as he speaks as if with pent up energy.



A few scenes from the rally – December 10, 2009

Also: [Meanwhile in Cambodia:](#)
[Thousands in capital march for rights](#) – VOA, December 12, 2009



17:42 – There must be some awesome photos to be had as photographers spent all afternoon standing behind the speakers getting the all-important “past the speaker into the crowd” shots.



17:40 – Royal Plaza filled with protesters



17:00 – A cappella singer sings a country music song about missing Thaksin and for the people to never forget what he did for them.

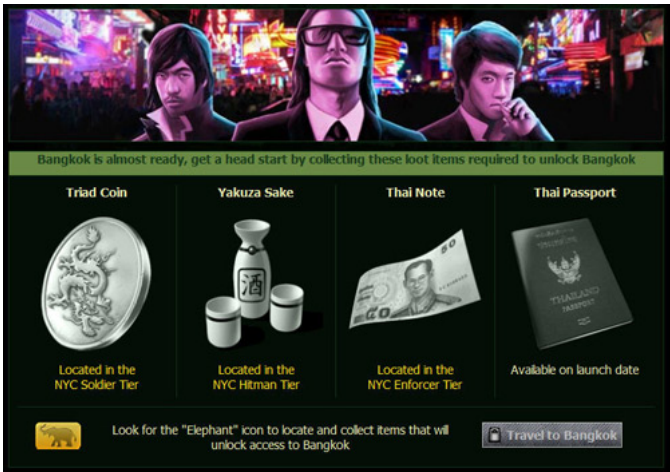


16:25 –
Grainy police traffic cameras of Royal Plaza (above) and
Phan Fa Bridge (below) at 16:25 showing the Red Shirt protesters occupying these areas.



Mafia Wars: Bangkok pre-launch

December 10, 2009
Categories: 2Bangkok News



Mafia Wars: Bangkok pre-launch – Facebook, December 10, 2009
Nils reports: *A small update: this appeared today. Players can now collect 3 Asian-themed loot items that will give access to the new job tiers later. But for now, travel to Bangkok is still locked...*

US gay couple picked to help promote Thailand and for a chance to win \$10K

December 10, 2009

Categories: Tourism

[US gay couple picked to help promote Thailand and for a chance to win \\$10K](#) – *The Examiner*, December 10, 2009

Watch the 1967 Bob Hope special

December 10, 2009

Categories: Humor

[Watch the 1967 Bob Hope special, save America's public domain videos](#) – *Boing Boing*, December, 2009

Some good Thailand jokes in there...

Police snipers guard Buddhist art in Thailand

December 11, 2009

[Police snipers guard Buddhist art in Thailand](#) – *AP*, December 11, 2009

Front yard full of toys

December 12, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Front yard full of toys – December 12, 2009

Thai universities nix cross-dressing at graduations

December 13, 2009

Categories: Culture and Society

[Thai universities nix cross-dressing at graduations](#) – *New Kerala*, December 13, 2009

Bangkok billionaires to bid for Manchester United

December 13, 2009

Categories: Sports

[Bangkok billionaires to bid for Manchester United](#) – *Merchant News*, December 13, 2009

A group of far eastern billionaires based in Bangkok have spent the last three months putting together a deal which they hope will be good enough to buy English premier league football team Manchester United...

[Chinese investors 'targeting Manchester United'](#) – *footballfanscensus.com*, December 14, 2009

[Chinese consortium believed to be lining up offer for Manchester United with Glazers standing firm](#) – *Times Online*, December 14, 2009

[Report: Manchester United on the verge of 1bn buyout](#) – *goal.com*, December 13, 2009

...Based in Bangkok, two of the six members are reportedly fans of the club, who have visited Old Trafford twice this year to watch Sir Alex Ferguson and his men in action.

A financial source in the Thai capital allegedly said: "All the finances are in place and they are ready to approach the Glazers..."

Some photos from Thaksin's visit to Cambodia today

December 13, 2009

Categories: Cambodia, Thai Politics

[Some photos from Thaksin's visit to Cambodia today](#) – *KI Media*, December 13, 2009

Thai anti-communist propaganda pictures from the 1960s

December 13, 2009

Categories: Signs and Billboards, Thai Politics



[Thai anti-communist propaganda pictures from the 1960s](#) – cnreviews.com, December, 2009

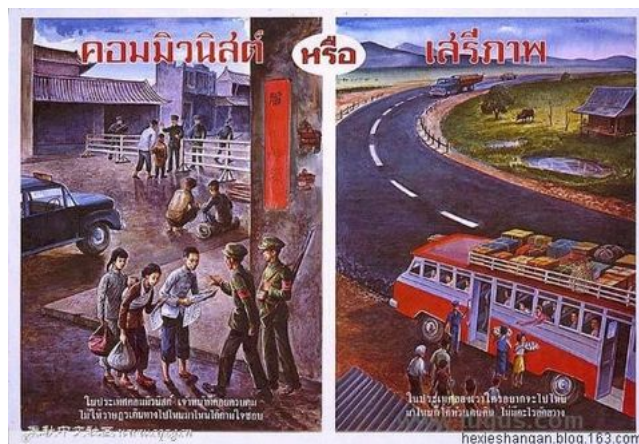
Great series of posters pointed out on [Orient Expat](#)

The following set of anti-Communist propaganda pictures six appear to have originated from Thailand in the 1960s. That's about all I know from the little information provided on He Xie Shang An (River Crab Goes Ashore). For those who don't yet know, "river crab" is a pun on the Chinese word for "harmony/harmonious", which many Chinese netizens are quite tired of given that it tends to pop up in far too many modern government proclamations and exhortations. Anyway, I've gone ahead and translated the Chinese captions. I have no idea whether or not they are translations of the original Thai captions.



中共学校在灌输共产主义向东南亚的扩张计划，泰国学校在教授正规的文理科知识。

“Communist Chinese schools are indoctrinating the Communist plan to expand towards Southeast Asia.
The Kingdom of Thailand's school are teaching standard/appropriate arts and sciences knowledge.”



中国人民被剥夺了迁徙和远程交通的自由；泰国人民则相反。

“Chinese people stripped of the freedom to migrate or travel long distances.
The Kingdom of Thailand is the opposite.”



共产党强行拆散老百姓的家人；泰王国的人民安居乐业。

“The Communist Party forcefully breaks apart the common people’s family members.
The Kingdom of Thailand’s people live and work in peace and happiness.”



共产党肥公损私，不允许中国人民有足够的私人财产，泰国人民则生活富足。

“The Communist Party makes fattens the public and deprives the private, not allowing the Chinese people to have sufficient private property.
The people of the Kingdom of Thailand however live comfortably in abundance.”



中国人民被共产党强制义务劳动；泰国人民可以自主安排劳作。

“The Chinese people are forced to perform voluntary labor.
The people of the Kingdom of Thailand can freely arrange their own labor.”



产党拆除佛像、逮捕佛教僧侣；泰国则充分保护佛教信仰的自由。

“The Communist Party tears down images of Bhudda and arrest Buddhist monks; the Kingdom of Thailand however fully protects the freedoms of Buddhist believers.”

Scottish beach used to promote Thailand

December 16, 2009

[Scottish beach used to promote Thailand](#) – *NewsLite*, December 16, 2009

Thailand still scarred five years after tsunami

December 16, 2009

Categories: 2004 Tsunami

[Thailand still scarred five years after tsunami](#) – Reuters, December 16, 2009

Suvadee Sukkasem is still searching for her son who vanished when the Indian Ocean tsunami turned this tropical paradise into a mass grave for thousands of Thais and foreign vacationers nearly five years ago...

Vanishing Thai temple drowns warming doubts

December 16, 2009

[Vanishing Thai temple drowns warming doubts](#) – *The Age*, December 16, 2009

S'pore-based family kidnapped in Bangkok

December 17, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[S'pore-based family kidnapped in Bangkok](#) – *AsiaOne*, December 17, 2009

...Police also rescued the businessman's mother and two of his children from a home in Bangkok's Suan Luang district and then rescued the business-man from another house in Muang district in Samut Prakan...

Thai government urged to investigate ‘long neck’ tourist village

December 17, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai government urged to investigate ‘long neck’ tourist village](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, December 17, 2009

Business as usual for Thai fishermen in Cambodia

December 17, 2009

Categories: Cambodia

[Business as usual for Thai fishermen in Cambodia \(2\)](#) – *Khmer Intelligence*, December, 2009

In spite of the increasing tension between Cambodia and Thailand, Thai trawlers continue to fish in Cambodia's territorial waters as usual after corrupt Cambodian local authorities in Koh Kong province resumed issuing licenses to fishing boats from the neighboring country earlier this month. The resilience of the fishing, smuggling and gambling (casinos along the border) businesses show that Cambodia's feudalistic patronage-based political system cannot afford to sever multi-faceted trade relations with Thailand.

Beer Leo's calendar

December 18, 2009

Beer Leo's calendar – December 18, 2009

A “racy” Beer Leo calendar somehow co-branded with the government is front page news in Thai newspapers.

A Suan Dusit Poll released on December 17 showed 45% of people judge the calendar as “obscene,” 38% found it not objectionable and 15% not sure. About the same percentages found it degraded women and nearly 60% felt it was inappropriate to distribute in Government House as it was promoting an alcohol company. The government angle aside, the attitudes to this calendar show how things have changed in a short time.

Up until the mid-1990s, fully nude calendars were routinely printed and distributed by alcohol companies. After the 1997 currency devaluation, most companies cut calendar production as a cost-cutting measure. In the meantime, attitudes changed. The calendars never quite came back and those that did were much tamer and harshly criticized for being against women and society.

[Exercise in bare cynicism](#) – *Bangkok Post*, December 18, 2009

Lawsuit signals new dawn in Thailand

December 18, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Lawsuit signals new dawn in Thailand](#) – *New York Times*, December 18, 2009

... "In rural areas, there is almost no enforcement at all," said Anthony Zola, a US environmental consultant. "Water pollution, air pollution, noise pollution — you can make all the complaints you want and no one pays any attention to you."

...Thailand's National Cancer Institute found in 2003 that rates of cervical, bladder, breast, liver, nasal, stomach, throat and blood cancers were highest in Rayong Province, where Map Ta Phut and other industrial zones are located. A study led by Italian researchers and released in 2007 found that people living near Map Ta Phut had 65 percent higher levels of genetic damage to blood cells than people in the same province who lived in rural areas. Such cell damage, which is a possible precursor to cancer, was 120 percent higher for refinery workers than for residents of Rayong Province's rural communities...

India is ‘thailand’ to Asia, say scientists

December 18, 2009

Categories: India

[India is ‘thailand’ to Asia, say scientists](#) – *Asia Times*, December 18, 2009

Since “thai” means “mother” in classical Tamil, the language of the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu and said to be the oldest living language in the world, “thailand” means motherland. However, India could be an ancient “motherland” of Thailand and Asia in a more literal sense, according to a new investigative study, “Mapping Human Genetic Diversity in Asia”...

Old vehicles

December 18, 2009



(Source: Unknown – Vintage photograph)

Old vehicles – December 18, 2009



(Source: Unknown – Vintage photograph)

The words read: Khaodin-Bangkok



(Source: Unknown – Vintage photograph)

The words read: The path to the Sarapadrob mountain in Petchaburi subdistrict

Poor soap opera – Ngoo Keng Kong shocking the world

December 18, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics

Nation Weekend, December 18, 2009



The main headline reads: Poor soap opera – Ngoo Keng Kong shocking the world

The smaller headline on the left reads: Victim of the victims – Maew writes the script – Somdej Daeng as director

Bombing in the Deep South

December 19, 2009

Categories: The Thai Deep South



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)

Bombing in the Deep South – December 19, 2009

Kolok reports: Militants planted a 20 kg bomb targeting the car of Bacho district chief administrative assistant, injuring severely the official. 3 defense volunteer guards died and 1 was injured.

Investigation indicates that the team of 5 authorities, led by Waesama-ae Jaeha, were traveling from the district office to participate in the village activity, but the gang detonated the 20 kg bomb, hidden in the area using a battery device.

At 12:15 on December 19, 2009, the Bacho district police officer in Narathiwat revealed that militants detonated a bomb blowing up the car of the district chief administrative assistant, causing 3 defense volunteer guards to die and 1 to be injured. The police team along with bomb disposal officials, the Narathiwat 32 military task force, and the Bacho district chief inspected the scene on the Artabueyae-Buenaepiyae road in Banuyeraw village.

The explosion left a 1 meter dept hole in the road surface. The authorities found the electric wire that was led 100 meters away into the wood nearby . The Mazda pickup car, registration plate 9ก-9080, Bangkok, was left in pieces 50 meters away from the blast spot. The militant gang left a letter, containing both Thai and Yawi words, describing the violent situation in the unrest southern provinces and signed by the “Muslimeen Dalorwittaya” group.

The 3 dead officials were identified as Sakari Reemaeyae, Muhammadsaidee Hayeehaya and Arduerang Sa-u. All the died at the scene. 2 others were reportedly injured, identified as 35-year-old Waesama-ae Jaeha, who is the district defense chief administrative assistant and Arduenan Make. The 2 were critically injured on their torsos, legs and arms and were rushed to the Narathiwat hospital.



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)

Red Cross postcard

December 19, 2009

Categories: Uncategorized



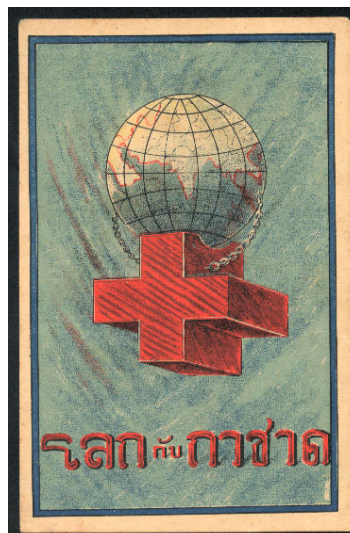
Red Cross postcard – December 19, 2009

The postcard reads: Good friend to the public is the Red Cross



More Red Cross postcards – December 31, 2009

The postcard reads: Helminth always enter into the body through skin such as in feet and normally lives in a dirty and wet area



The postcard reads: The World and the Red Cross



The postcard reads: Raising ducks and chickens, getting eggs to eat – Donating to the Red Cross, getting merit

Translation of the secret document: Revelation of the secret document of Foreign Ministry against Hun Sen and casting away Maew

December 19, 2009

Categories: Cambodia, Thai Politics

Translation of the secret document: Revelation of the secret document of Foreign Ministry against Hun Sen and casting away Maew – translated and summarized from *Post Today*, December 19, 2009

Pheu Thai MP and red shirt leader Jatuporn Prompan revealed to the press stating that Foreign Minister Kasit Piromya sent a confidential letter to Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva in attempt to counter Cambodian PM Hun Sen. The letter also includes guidelines to get rid of Thaksin Shinawatra.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister's assistant Panit Vikitset called for the clarification of the real document by the Pheu Thai for investigation of the person who reveals the official confidential document. According to the Foreign Ministry, the case is not confidential although the letter is genuine as it is the Foreign Minister's duty to report to the PM.

The content of the document contains the following topics:

1. The analytical view on Cambodian acts

1) Thaksin Shinawatra is the main “danger” threatening the government's status by relying on the strategy to generate a bad situation which focuses on cooperation with Hun Sen and the movement of the anti-government groups inside Thailand, especially the United Front of Democracy against Dictatorship (UDD). The UDD aims at weakening government stability and toppling the ruling government. However, the counter measures against the Cambodian government at this moment is limited to the non-violent diplomatic approach, since this is believed to contain any attempt to aggravate the Thai government to rely on more aggressive measures.

2) The ongoing situation is a conflict between the two governments. Thai government should not fall into the trick issues that the Cambodian wants to generate misunderstanding. The Cambodian government is the group who receives benefits from Thaksin regardless of how the final situation turns out.

2. Guidelines for practices

In order to avoid the situation from following the plan of Thaksin and Cambodian Prime Minister, the Foreign Ministry proposes the following measures:

1) Prevent and avoid the violent situation in cases that it is not necessary to use aggressive countermeasures. Act carefully and cleverly on strong counter measures. Do not follow the media trends.

2) Create accurate understanding among governmental units so they follow the right practices, especially providing information to each unit.

3) Create unity in the country and in the government to make clear to the Cambodian PM that Thaksin will never return to his powerful stance. And that the private relationship and benefits related to Thaksin and Cambodian PM are not sustainable and Cambodia possibly loses benefits in the long run regarding trade, investment and tourism, etc.

4) Separate the linkage between Thaksin and Cambodian PM and Thailand's opposition party by ceasing the conditions that benefit the movement of the group opposing the government. The government should express opinions towards the issue unanimously and follow a prudent plan that generates the least impact to the people with consciousness in reacting to the Cambodian government. This will promote public favor for the government. The government should turn the “strong sentiment” of the public that supports the government into “understanding” by relying on PR activities and managing time properly for the benefit of the Thai government including moving forward on investigating the pending corruption cases of Thaksin.

3. The methods for ending

It is a concern that the purpose of the Thai government is to bring relations back to a normal stage and not to change the Cambodian ruling system. However, the root of the problem is that Thaksin attempts to destroy the government. The solutions to the problem, hence, must focus on the root causes; (1) getting rid of the threatening danger (2) separating cooperation between Thaksin and the Cambodian PM.

The possible ways are

3.1 The best method

Maintaining the current situation to stop Thaksin and Cambodian PM from doing anything to worsen the situation, following the suggestion for the 1-2 problem and wait for the time that a third party country that is powerful or provides benefits to Cambodia to help solve the problem.

3.2 The mediocre method

1. Each party relies on intensifying countermeasures for its advantage.

2. If Cambodia relies on the intensifying measures to interfere in Thailand's internal affairs, the Thai government should follow the measures that (1) do not impact the benefits of Thailand and the people of the two countries (2) are commensurate and (3) do not generate breakup in the relations of the two countries in the long run.

At the same time, Thai government should not state countermeasures in advance as (1) Cambodia will prepare for the counter measure policy (2) It will add to a viewpoint that Thailand aims at persecuting Cambodia.

3.3 The worse method

In case Thaksin and the Cambodian PM join hands in any action that lead to wide loss of life and assets of the people, invading the sovereignty of the land and Thai core national institutes, including an act equal to the establishment of an exile government in Cambodia, which is clearly considered as the interference in Thailand's internal affair, the Thai government has to break up the diplomatic relationship and sanction Cambodia and rely on the Army to defend national sovereignty.

Thailand's top 'Tweeple' meet for an old-fashioned face-to-face

December 20, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's top 'Tweeple' meet for an old-fashioned face-to-face](#) – *AsiaOne*, December 20, 2009

Politicians and analysts such as Korbsak Sabhavas, Apirak Kosayodhin and Suranand Vejjajiva got together with others such as Phra Maha Wudhijaya Vajiramedhi at Wawee coffee shop in Soi Aree off Phaholyothin Road...

Invasion of the palms

December 20, 2009

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[Invasion of the palms](#) – *Bangkok Post*, December 20, 2009

Associated with the tropics, sugar palms have become an undesirable landscape cliché in Phuket...

Thailand native claims major legal victory benefiting widows nationwide

December 22, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand native claims major legal victory benefiting widows nationwide](#) – KSDK St. Louis December 22, 2009

...Until recently, a federal law existed that said immigrants must be married to a U.S citizen for at least two years to be considered a permanent resident of the U.S. Immigrants married less than 2 years could be deported, including a Thailand native...

Louisiana rice may rival Thai jasmine grain in US

December 23, 2009

[Louisiana rice may rival Thai jasmine grain in US](#) – *Business Week*, December 23, 2009

Human-shaped fruit

December 23, 2009

[Human-shaped fruit](#) – Sin Chew Jit Poh, December 23, 2009

Wang Chengchun from Segamat went to Thailand earlier and by chance, he bought three human-shaped fruits with his friends at RM300. It was said that the human-shaped fruits were actually a kind of natural fruit roots in Cambodia. They might be a kind of wild vine...

Thailand is not prepared for another tsunami, expe...

December 26, 2009

[Thailand is not prepared for another tsunami, expert warns](#) – Sydney Morning Herald, December 26, 2009

... "Right now, I don't think Thailand is capable of issuing a tsunami warning, of properly telling people what is going to happen, because we have a lack of information. We lack equipment to detect a tsunami especially, because the Government has not given enough support to the department concerned," he told the Herald...

Sae Daneg reveals Thaksin’s modest “mansion” in Dubai

December 27, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thaksin-and-Sae-Daneg](#) – December 27, 2009

Deep South News – December 2009

December 27, 2009

Categories: The Thai Deep South



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)

The militants detonate 15 kg. bomb made from fire extinguisher in Ruesoh injuring 8 – December 27, 2009

Kolok reports: At 2 pm on December 27, 2009, Police Lieutenant Arthit Thiensiri, police officer from Ruesoh police station in Narathiwat, was informed about the bomb attack on the Tharue-Kotabaru road in the Ban Tueloh village in Moo 7 in Tambon Rieng in Ruesoh district. The bombing attack caused 8 patrolling soldiers from the Narathiwat military task force 30-division 1111 to suffer minor injury.

The police lieutenant together with Colonel Piyawat Chalermisri, the Ruesoh police station chief and Lieutenant Colonel Jantee Chaemjan, head of Narathiwat forensic police, the bomb disposal unit and police-military force rushed to the scene.

The explosion dented the road surface causing a hole 1 meter deep and 1.50 meter wide. An electric wire led 100 meters away into a rubber plantation wood nearby was left in the area. The authorities collected evidence which was the bomb remains made from a 15 kg fire extinguisher tank and detonated by battery.

The 8 injured were found close to the car parked nearby the road. All of them suffered chest and ear pain symptoms.

Investigation indicates that an unknown militant gang detonated the bomb when the team of 8 patrol soldiers led by Captain Pakin Kuakul in a pick-up reached the spot. The militant gang detonated the 15 kg bomb hidden in the road when the soldiers' car passed the spot.



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Thai Prime Minister Abhisit and Malaysia's Prime Minister Najib Razak sign a commemorative plaque during their meeting on December 9 in Narathiwat Province.

Prime Ministers – December 9, 2009

Below: Thai children greet the Malaysian PM with Malaysian flags.



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)

Crime scene – December 8, 2009

Kolok reports: 2 army soldiers and 1 militant dies in the gunfight in Ruesoh district. 1 soldier suffered injury and 2 army guns were stolen. At 4 pm on December 8, 2009, an ambush took place in Ruesoh district in Narathiwat while a team of 6 soldiers, led by Corporal Narong Rabchan, head of the 30-2 peace corps of the 46th Field Army Division, was on patrol on the road of Ban Dee Yae village in Tambon Savor to tighten security for school teachers. 10 RKK militants opened fire on the army team and a 10-minute gunfight ensued. Two volunteer guard defense soldiers were killed. They are 28-year-old Jirayuth Singket and 29-year-old Wanlarm Radenmontree. 29-year-old Boonthim Kampeera was injured and rushed to Ruesoh Hospital. All suffered injury to the torso, legs and arms. The militants aimed at stealing guns, but the soldiers fought back. One militant died in the shooting, identified as 24 year old Abdulmarei Mueyaebasor, residing at house number 29 in Moo2 in Tambon Savor in Narathiwat's Ruesoh district. Two army HK guns were stolen.



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)

More than 1,000 gather to denounce the militants following the motorcycle bombing attack killing 3 and injuring 9 in Narathiwat – December 10, 2009

Kolok reports: At 2:00 pm on December 10, 2009, a group of more than 1,000 local residents and students in the Sungaipadee district in Narathiwat gathered and participated in an Islamic religious ceremony in front of the Sungaipadee Administrative Office. The group denounced the militant gunfire and bombing attack at the local restaurant in the Sungaipadee district on December 9, 2009 that killed 3 and injured 9 local residents. The protest group used picket signs to denounce militant attacks that led to the death of innocents. The chief of Narathiwat 33 military task force Lieutenant Yuthana Saiprasert and teams of police and soldiers participated in the event.



(Photo: Kolok for 2Bangkok.com)

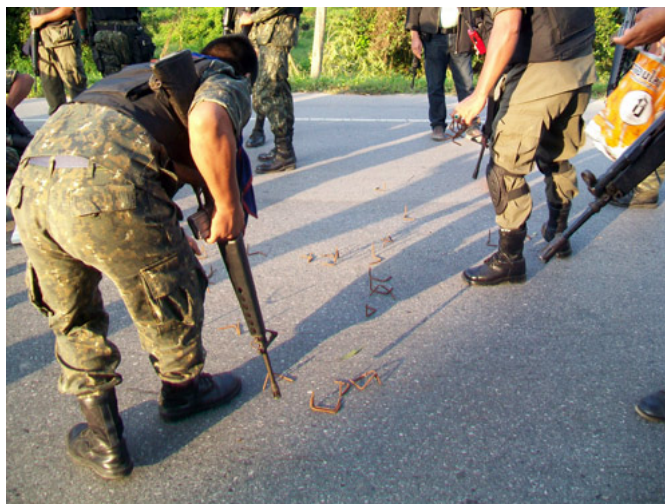


(Photo: Dr. Has for 2Bangkok.com)

Above: A banner at the roadblock left by militants. It reads: This is my land, I will answer with blood. And life.

Example of a roadblock and bomb ambush – December 9, 2009

Here are photos of a road block event that occurred in the Krongpinang district in Yala province on December 9, 2009 when militants staged series of attacks in the three southern border provinces.



(Photo: Dr. Has for 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Spikes left on the road to puncture vehicle tires.



(Photo: Dr. Has for 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Officer assembling the evidence from the roadblock—the banner, wire and cement block that made up the road block.



(Photo: Dr. Has for 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Nearby a small bomb was hidden to kill officials who responded to the roadblock.



(Photo: Dr. Has for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Dr. Has for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Dr. Has for 2Bangkok.com)

Global tinderbox – 2010 could be a year that sparks unrest

December 28, 2009

Categories: Security

[Global tinderbox – 2010 could be a year that sparks unrest](#) – *The Economist*, December 28, 2009

Thailand is rated as “high” for risk of social unrest.

New form of malaria threatens Thai-Cambodia border

December 29, 2009

[New form of malaria threatens Thai-Cambodia border](#) – AP, December 29, 2009

...Already, The Associated Press found, resistance to malaria has spread faster and wider than previously documented. Dr. White said virtually every case of malaria he sees in western Cambodia is now resistant to drugs...

Student from Thailand adjusts to American customs, weather

December 29, 2009

Categories: Thailand in the International Media

[Student from Thailand adjusts to American customs, weather](#) – *The Indiana Gazette*, December 29, 2009

...If you say “Thailand” people will always be confused about Thailand and Taiwan. They will think like it’s the same country and I’ll say “No, no, it’s a different country.” Sometimes they might not know where it is, but since we have a big tourism industry there, lots of people know about the beaches. But they don’t really know about what else is there...

The charmer making a mess of his country

December 30, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics

[The charmer making a mess of his country](#) – *Times Online*, March, 2009

Bangkok Blythe doll craze no passing trend

December 30, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Bangkok Blythe doll craze no passing trend](#) – *cnngo.com*, November, 2009

The pricey dolls with the creepy eyes continue to captivate the city's young ladies — including celebrity Chompoo Araya...

Govt. plays Thaksin card to get Tiger assets

December 30, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics

[Govt. plays Thaksin card to get Tiger assets](#) – Daily Mirror, December 30, 2009

...During the time when Thaksin was asking for political asylum from the Government of Sri Lanka and the proposal was under consideration of the Sri Lankan Government, an article was published in the newspapers to that effect. It is impossible to say whether the Sri Lankan Government took advantage of Thaksin's request in the arrest of KP and wipe out Tamil Tiger activities in Thailand, on the Thailand Government, on the basis of the assurance secured from the Sri Lankan Government that political asylum will not be granted for Thaksin, united with the Sri Lankan Government to arrest KP and to stamp out terrorist activities in Thailand...

South China Morning Post closes Bangkok office

December 30, 2009

South China Morning Post closes Bangkok office – December 30, 2009

We are receiving confirmation that the *South China Morning Post* has closed its Bangkok office (in the *Bangkok Post*) and laid off all workers.

Update: [‘Blood money’ call as SCMP axes 35 staff](#) – *The Standard*, December 30, 2009

The best of 2Bangkok in 2009

December 31, 2009

Categories: Best of 2Bangkok

What it was like to be there...

Our annual collection of the biggest news, most popular stories, and interesting links of 2009

Left: April 13, 15:35 – Sri Ayuthaya Road intersection retaken – This image shows soldiers walking around in the smoke from two buses that were set on fire by the Red Shirts as they retreated.



Also

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2009](#)

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2008](#)

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2007](#)

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2006](#)

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2005](#)

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2004](#)

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2003](#)

[Navin at the Fat Fest](#)

[Thai newspapers and HM The King's 82th birthday](#)

[Michael Jackson's death in the Thai-language press](#)

[Southern Violence Statistics](#)

[Remembering Samak](#)



Left: *Daily News*, April 14, 2009 – The Prime Minister's secretary was taken by the reds

[Red Shirt protests – January-April, 2009](#)

[The "Red" publications](#)

Right: From *Voice of Taksin*, December, 2009 – The caption reads: Romanov dynasty – Russia, Year 1613-1917



[Singapore: What will you defend?](#)

[Defaced Democrat Party posters](#)

[The Bangkok Airport scam](#)

[MOSOThai billboards by ISOC](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

[The descent of Suvarnabhumi](#)

[ASTVManager's new book](#)

Also: [Thai email forwards](#) – [Falling in Thailand](#) – [At a Hmong camp](#) – [Website censorship in Thailand](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

[Bhumjaithai Party billboards](#)

History

[Thailand 1968](#)

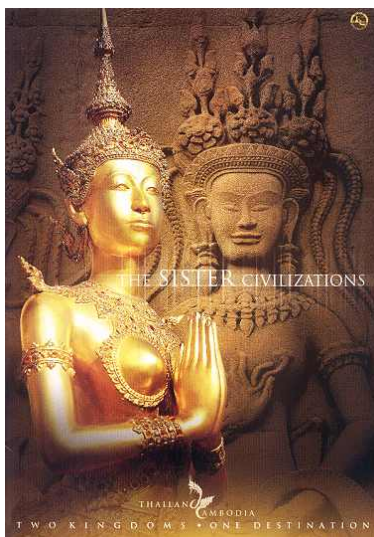
[Bangkok after Dark 1967](#)

[1991 coup headlines and clippings](#)

[Black May 1992 headlines](#)

[Old newspapers](#)

[Old photos](#)



[Silence Power](#)

Above: Cover of a brochure from a joint tourism campaign between Cambodia and Thailand from 2000.

Anti-petition billboard – September 4, 2009

The billboard reads: Do you think the listing of people's names for a petition is proper or not? If not, to whom it is not suitable for? Is it proper or not? Thais who do not agree



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Source: Vintage photo)

Above: Thai man, 1860

[Thai Media Project](#)

Translated articles and editorial cartoons from the Thai-language press

2009

[November](#)

[October](#)

[September](#)

[July](#)

[June](#)

[May](#)

[April II](#)

[April I](#)

[March](#)

[February](#)

[January](#)



1969 travel booklet: *See You In Thailand in 1969*



And of course: The burning Ferrari – *Komchadluek*, February 16, 2009

It reads: Suwat's son and "Ice" survived the accident while their Ferrari car immediately caught fire on the street. Pasu Liptapanlop, son of Suwat Liptapanlop survived the deadly accident while he and his superstar girlfriend "Ice" Apisada Kruakongka were on a trip driving the 17 million baht Ferrari car to visit Pattaya, but the car caught fire accidentally.

– Survives a deadly accident – "Ice" Apisada Kruakongka embraces her friend, Pasu Liptapanlop, with fear after the Ferrari that the two sat in during their trip to Pattaya accidentally caught fire near the College of Agriculture and Technology in Chonburi in Tambon Najomthien, Sattaheep district in Chonburi Province on February 14, 2009.

Also

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2009](#)

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2008](#)

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2007](#)

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2006](#)

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2005](#)

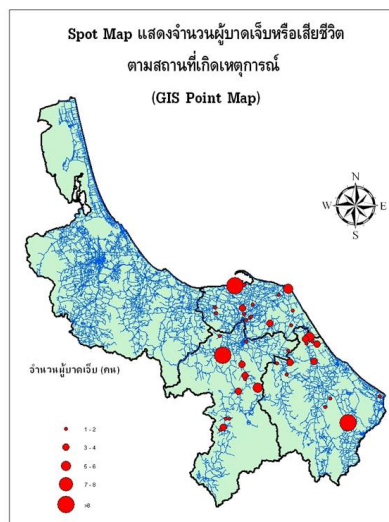
[The best of 2Bangkok in 2004](#)

[The best of 2Bangkok in 2003](#)

Southern Violence Statistics – December 2009

December 31, 2009

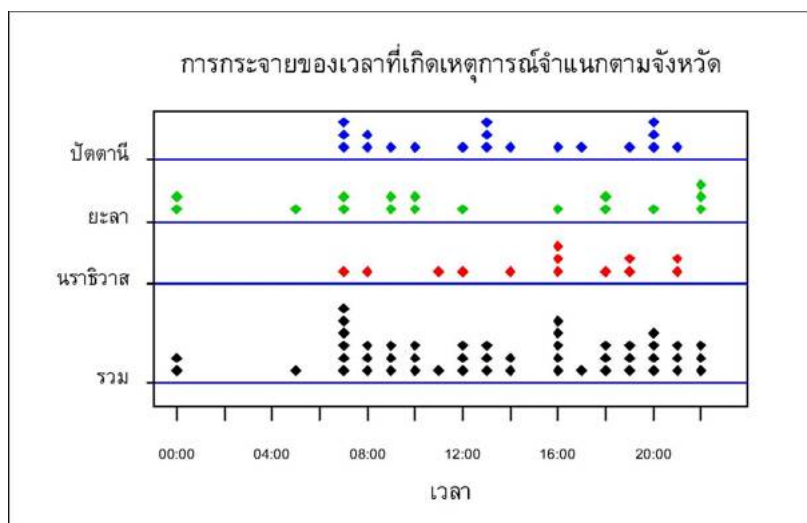
Categories: Deep South Violence Statistics



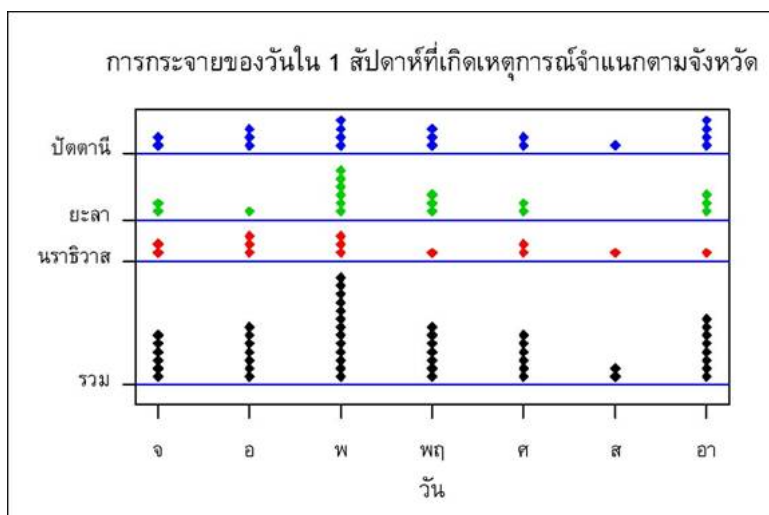
Map of four provinces in the deep south (Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat) showing numbers of the dead and injured by location.

Southern Violence Statistics – December 2009

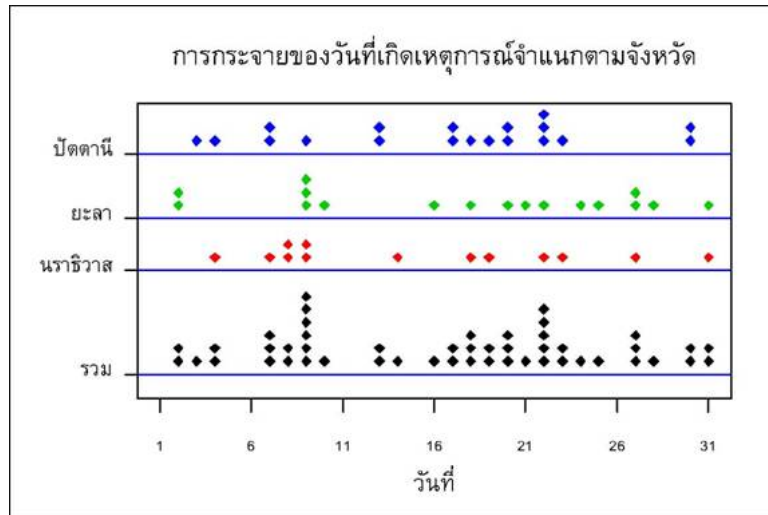
[Index of violence statistics for the Thai Deep South](#)



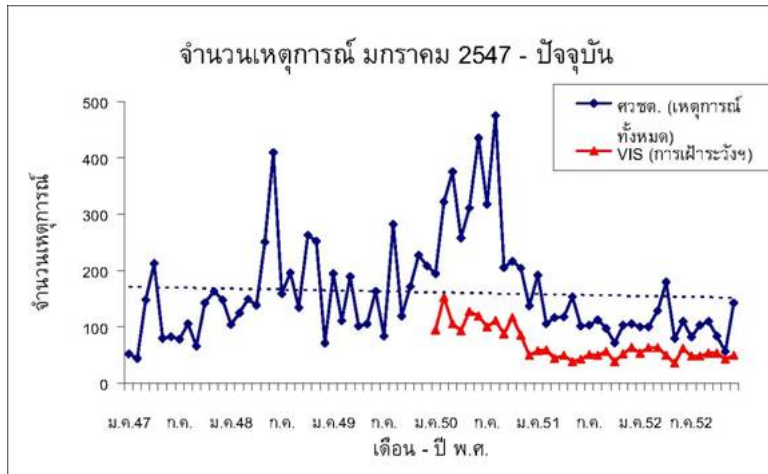
This chart shows violent incidents classified by the hour of the day (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



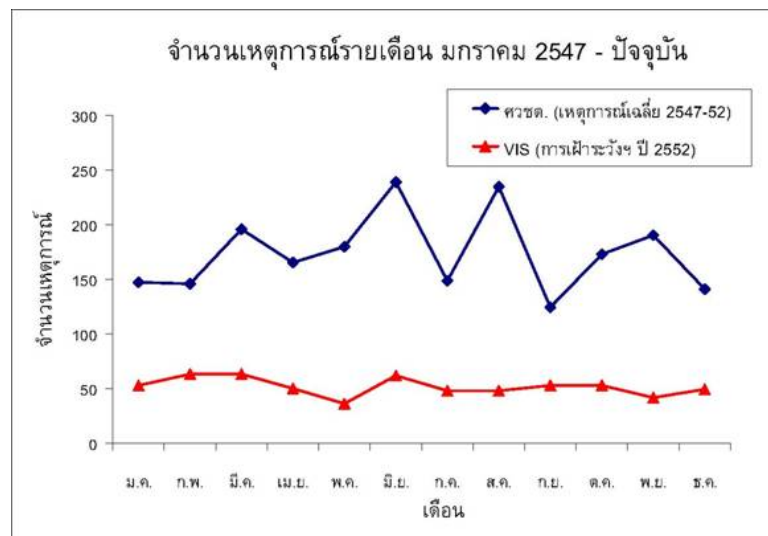
This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the week (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). The days of the week start with Monday on the left. Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



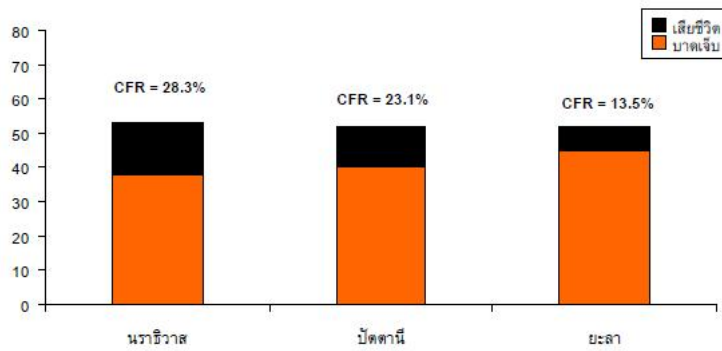
This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the month (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



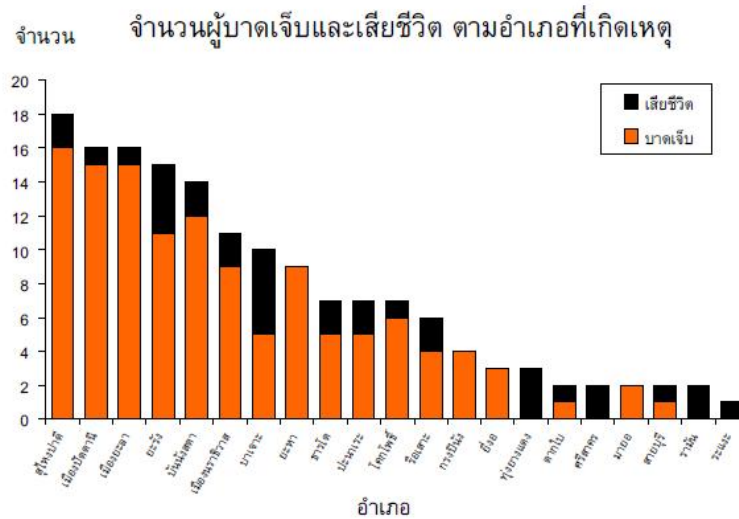
Numbers of violent incidents since January 2004. Across the bottom are the years (2547 is 2004, 2548 is 2005, 2549 is 2006, 2550 is 2007, 2551 is 2008, 2552 is 2009). The blue line shows the number of all violent incidents that took place as reported by the Deep South Coordination Center (counting all incidents both injury and non-injury). The red line shows data according to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance (a form that hospitals, doctors and clinics are supposed to fill out to report violent incidents).



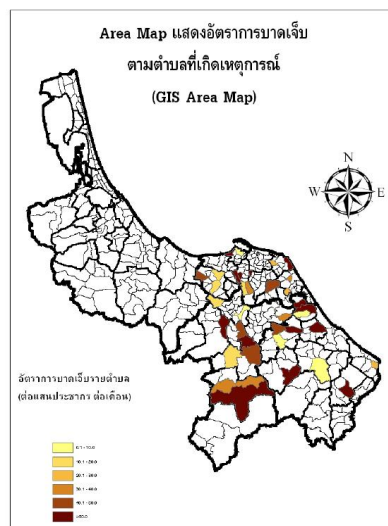
The blue line shows the average monthly level of violent incidents from 2004 up to the present. The red line shows the information provided to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance in the present year. The y-axis shows the numbers of events from 0-300. The x-axis shows the months of the year from January to December (left to right).



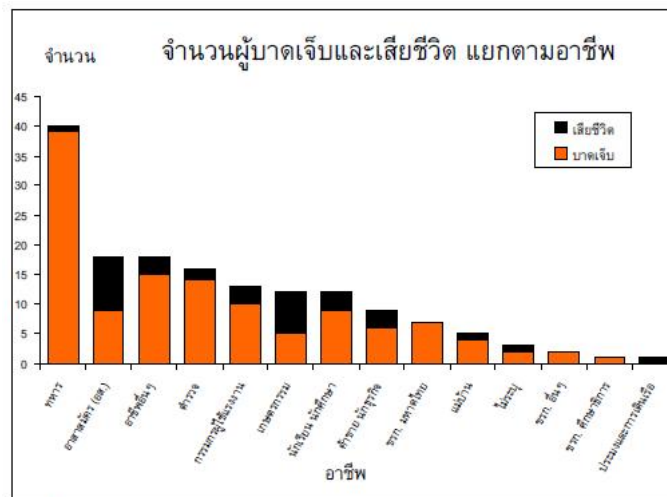
The numbers of injured and dead reported from each province where the events occurred (Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat and Songkhla). Black= dead, orange=injured. The CFR (Case Fatality Rate) of each province is above each bar.



The toll of dead and injured (y-axis), classified by the districts where the incidents took place (x-axis). Black= dead, orange=injured.



Map of four provinces in the deep south (Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat) showing the number of violent events by tambon (village). Starting at light yellow, the levels are 1-10, 10-20, 20-30, 30-40, 40-50, and greater than 60.



The numbers of dead and injured, classified by the victims' profession. Black= dead, orange=injured. From left to right: Soldiers, defense guard volunteer, others, police, laborers, agriculture, students-college students, business man, Interior officials, housewives, unidentified, other officials, Education Ministry officials, Fishery and Marine transport

Source: Deep South Violence-related Injury Surveillance statistics

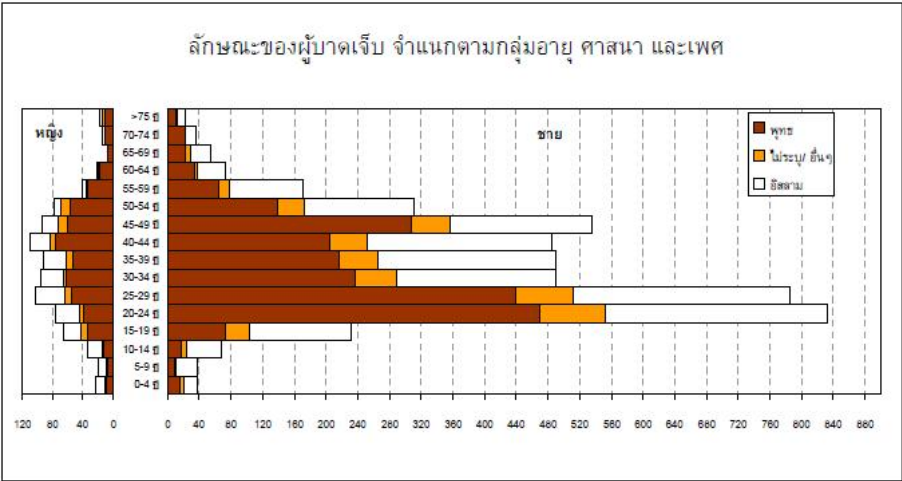
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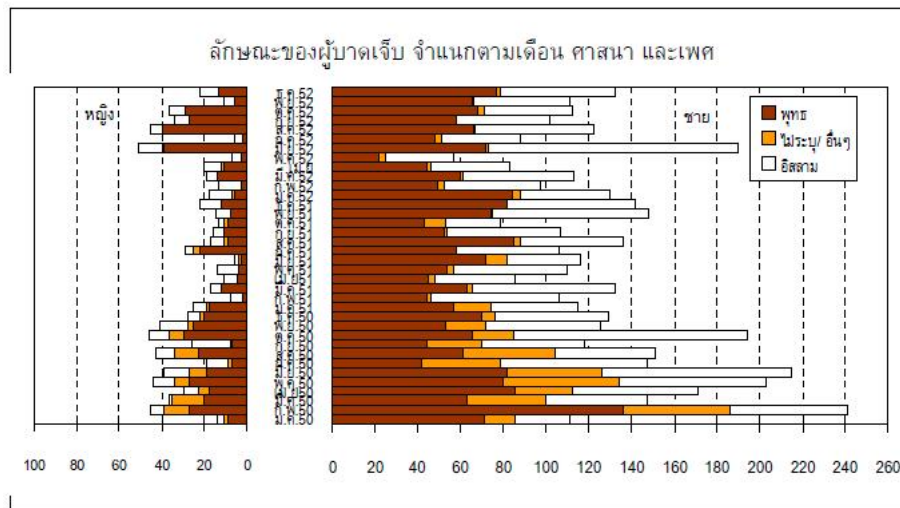
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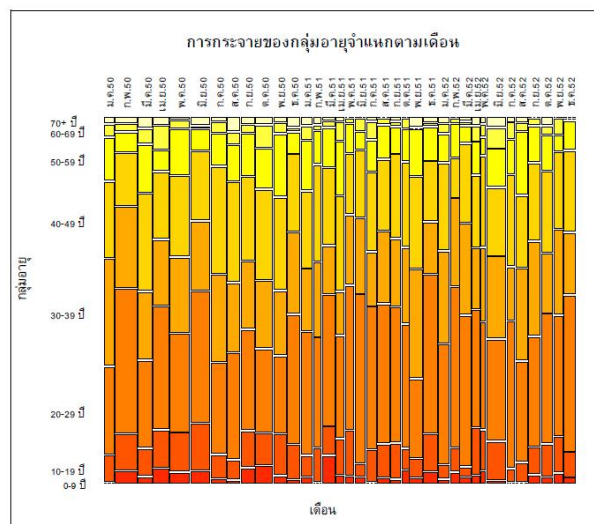
Ranking and rate (per 100,000 population per month) of casualties and deaths per province								
No	Casualty			death			Fatality rate	
	district	number	rate	district	number	rate	district	Rate(%)
1	Bannangsata	360	19.7	Bannangsata	124	6.8	Thungyangdaeng	56.4
2	Yaha	264	15	Srisakorn	51	4.9	Srisakorn	45.9
3	Kapo	79	14.4	Yaha	80	4.5	Panare	44.7
4	Ruesoh	313	13.8	Thungyangdaeng	31	4.5	Sabayoi	42
5	Bacho	207	12.3	Kapoh	23	4.2	Maclan	38.1
6	Rangae	369	12.2	Rangae	124	4.1	Chanae	37.5
7	Maikhaen	48	12.1	Ruesoh	85	3.8	Bannangsata	34.4
8	Choirong	154	11.7	Chanae	39	3.6	Rangae	33.6
9	Saiburi	259	11.7	Saiburi	76	3.4	Raman	33.6
10	Sukirin	84	10.8	Raman	95	3.3	Chana	33.3



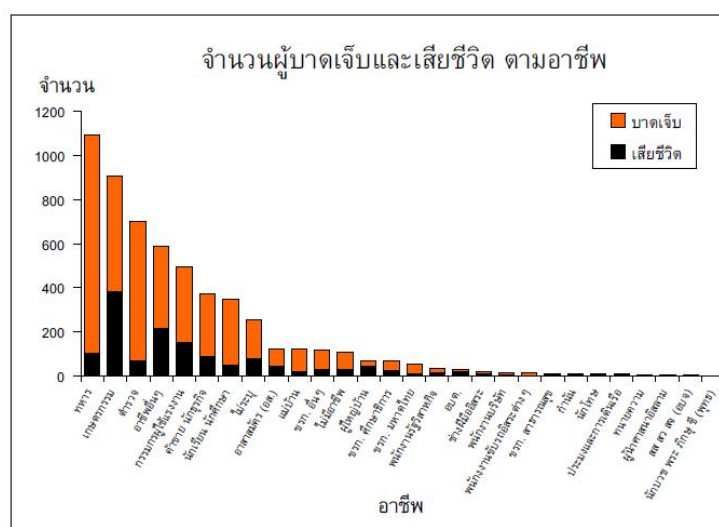
This chart reveals the types of injury, classified by the age group, religion and gender.
On the left side are female victims and on the right side are male victims.
Brown indicates Buddhist victims. Orange indicates unknown. White indicates Muslims.
The range of age appears from top to bottom.
The number at the bottom shows numbers of injured.



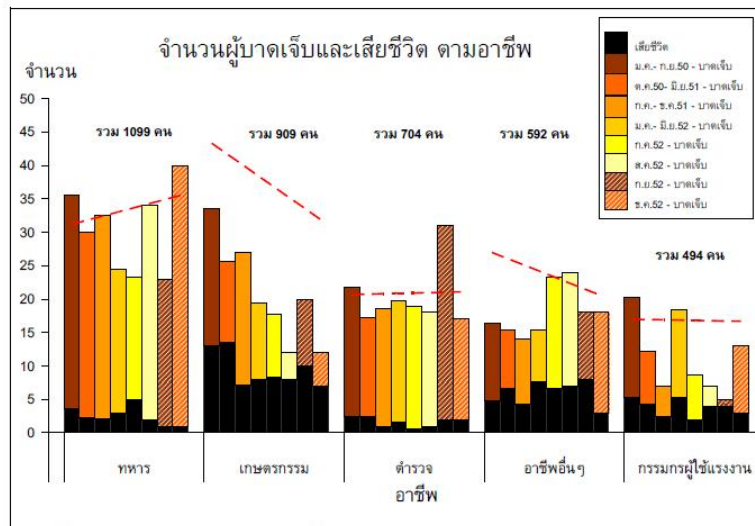
The chart reveals the types of injury, classified by month, religion, and gender.
 On the left side are female victims and on the right side are male victims.
 Brown indicates Buddhist victims. Orange indicates unknown. White indicates Muslims.
 The range of dates appear from top to bottom from December 2007 (at top) to December 2009 (at bottom).
 The number at the bottom shows numbers of injured.



The distribution of injuries by age group, classified by month.
 The horizontal axis shows the months from January 2007 to December 2009.
 The vertical axis shows the age groups.

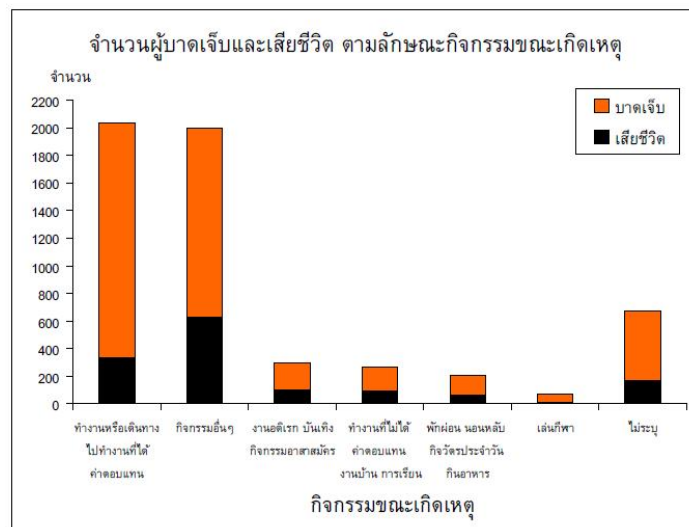


The number of dead and injured, classified by careers, from left to right:
 Soldiers, agriculture, police, others, laborers, merchants and businessmen, students and college students, unidentified, housewives, other officials, unemployed, village heads, education officials, Interior Officials, state enterprise officials, tambon administrative organization officials, freelance craftsmen, company employees, self-employed drivers, public health officials, tambon chiefs, prisoners, fisheries and marine transport, lawyers, Islamic religious leaders, MPs and senators and provincial council members (provincial administrative officials), ordained and monks (Buddhists)
 The orange color bar shows the number of injuries and the black color bar shows death.

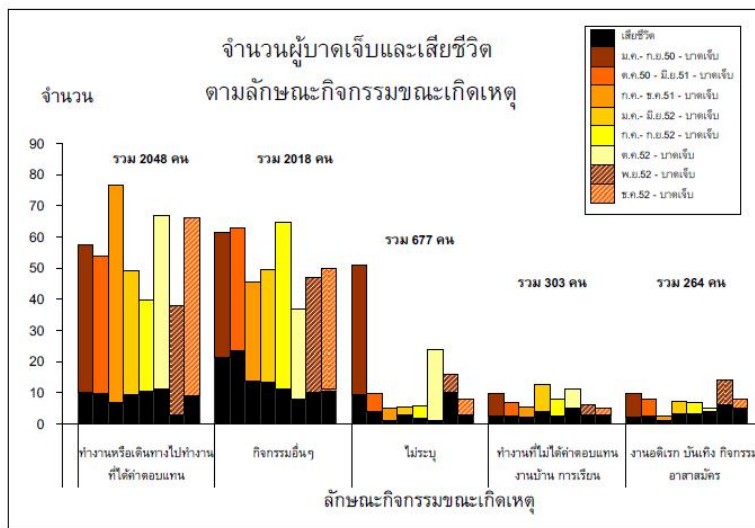


The number of injuries and dead classified by careers. The horizontal axis shows careers which are soldiers, agriculture, police, others, laborers.
The vertical axis shows the number of injuries and dead.
Above each section are the total numbers of dead and injured soldiers (1099), agriculturists (909), police (704), others (592) and laborers (494).

The color bars in the key at the top right:
Black – death
Brown – injured from January 2007 to September 2007
Dark orange – injured from October 2007 to June 2008
Bright orange – injured from July 2008 to December 2008
Pale orange – injured from January 2009 to June 2009
Yellow – injured from July 2009
Egg shell – injured from August 2009
Shaded brown – injured from September 2009
Shaded orange – injured from December 2009



The number of injuries and dead classified by types of activities happening when the attack occurred.
The orange bar shows number of injuries and the black bar shows the numbers of deaths.
The horizontal axis shows activities (left to right): traveling to employment workplace, other activities, hobbies-entertainment-volunteer activities, unemployed work-household-eating, sports, unidentified.



The number of injuries and dead classified by types of activities happening when the attack occurred. The horizontal axis shows activities (left to right): traveling to employment workplace (2084), other activities (2018), hobbies-entertainment-volunteer activities (677), unemployed work-household-eating (303), sports (264).

The color bars in the key at the top right:

Black – death

Brown – injured from January 2007 to September 2007

Dark orange – injured from October 2007 to June 2008

Bright orange – injured from July 2008 to December 2008

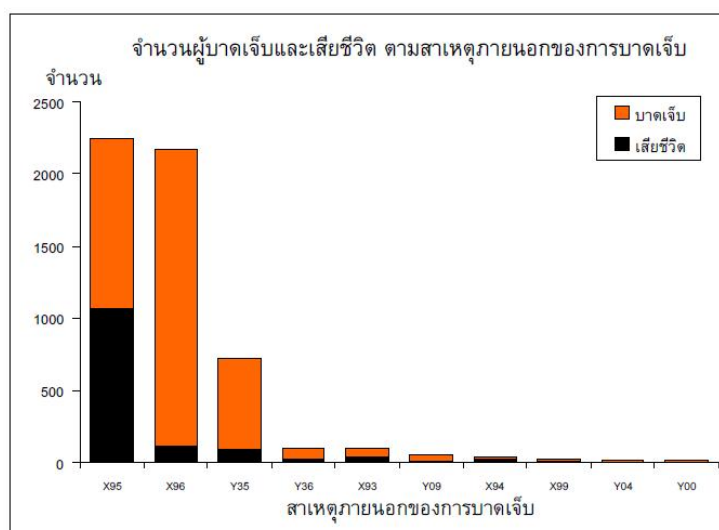
Pale orange – injured from January 2009 to June 2009

Yellow – injured from July 2009

Egg shell – injured from August 2009

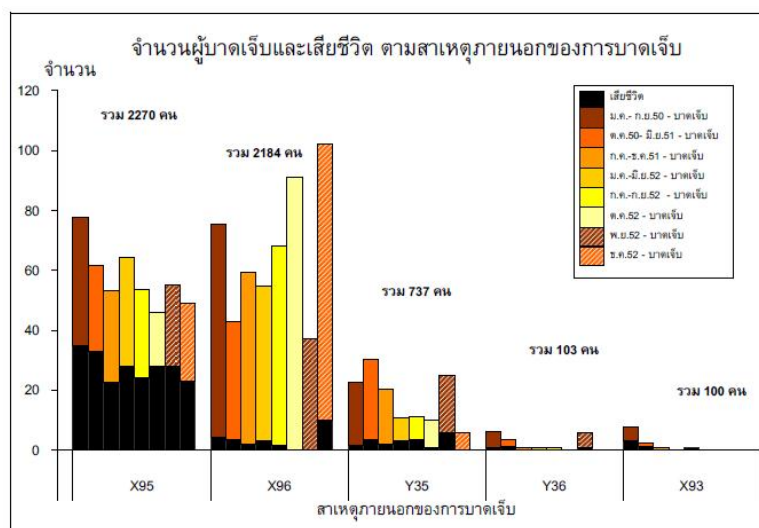
Shaded brown – injured from September 2009

Shaded orange – injured from December 2009



The number of injuries and dead classified by physical causes of injury.

The orange bar shows the number of injuries and the black bar shows the number of deaths. The horizontal axis shows the physical causes of injury.



The number of injuries and dead classified by the physical causes of injuries. The horizontal axis shows the physical causes of injury, represented by codes X95 (injured by an unidentified type of gun), X96 (injured by a bomb), Y35 (during an security operation), Y36 (during war operations), X93 (injured by a pistol). The total number of death and injury of the represented code X95 (2270), X96 (2184), Y35 (737), Y36 (103), X93 (100).

The color bars in the key at the top right:

Black – death

Brown – injured from January 2007 to September 2007

Dark orange – injured from October 2007 to June 2008

Bright orange – injured from July 2008 to December 2008

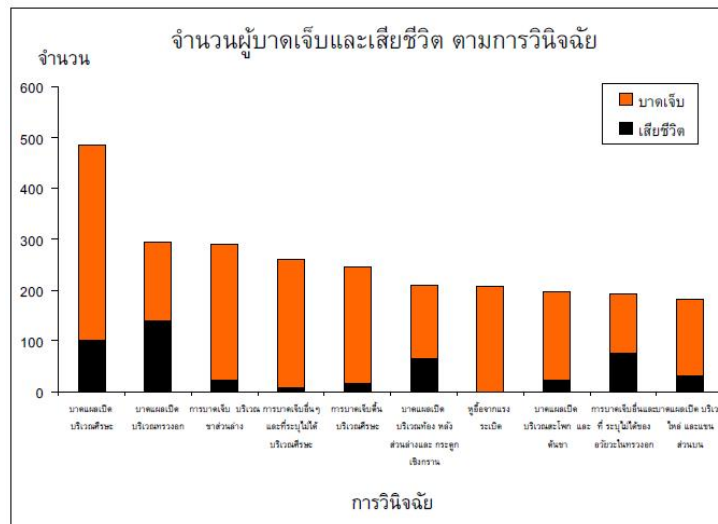
Pale orange – injured from January 2009 to June 2009

Yellow – injured from July 2009

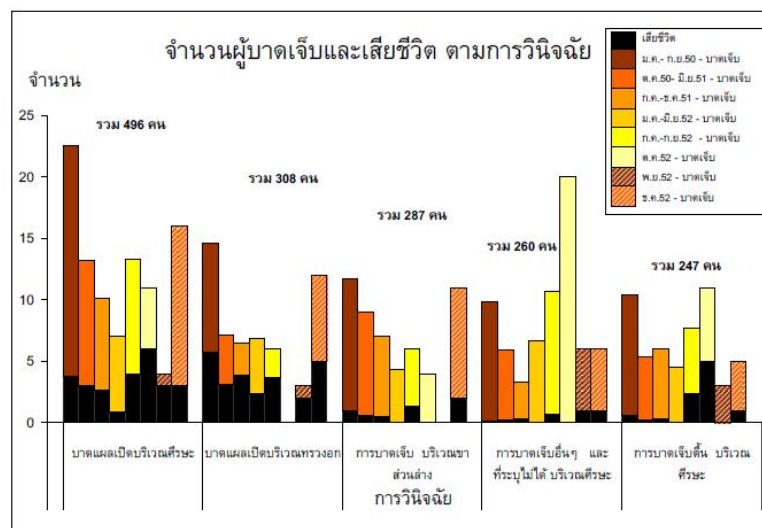
Egg shell – injured from August 2009

Shaded brown – injured from September 2009

Shaded orange – injured from December 2009



The number of injuries and death classified by the diagnosis of death and injury causes. The diagnosed causes from left to right on the horizontal axis are: open head wound, chest wound, lower leg wound, other unidentified head injury, shallow wounds on head, open cuts on stomach-lower back-hip bone, ear pain from the blast, open wounds on hip and thigh, unidentified injury and wounds of chest organs, open injury on shoulder and upper arms. The orange color bar shows the number of injuries. The black bar shows the numbers of death.



The number of injuries and dead classified by diagnosed causes, shown on the horizontal axis which are open head wounds, open chest wounds, lower leg injury, other injury and unidentified injury on head, shallow wounds on head.

Above are the total numbers of dead and injured: open head wounds (496), open chest wounds (308), lower leg injury (287), other injury and unidentified injury on head (260), shallow wounds on head (247).

The color bars in the key at the top right:

Black – death

Brown – injured from January 2007 to September 2007

Dark orange – injured from October 2007 to June 2008

Bright orange – injured from July 2008 to December 2008

Pale orange – injured from January 2009 to June 2009

Yellow – injured from July 2009

Egg shell – injured from August 2009

Shaded brown – injured from September 2009

Shaded orange – injured from December 2009

Source: Deep South Violence-related Injury Surveillance statistics

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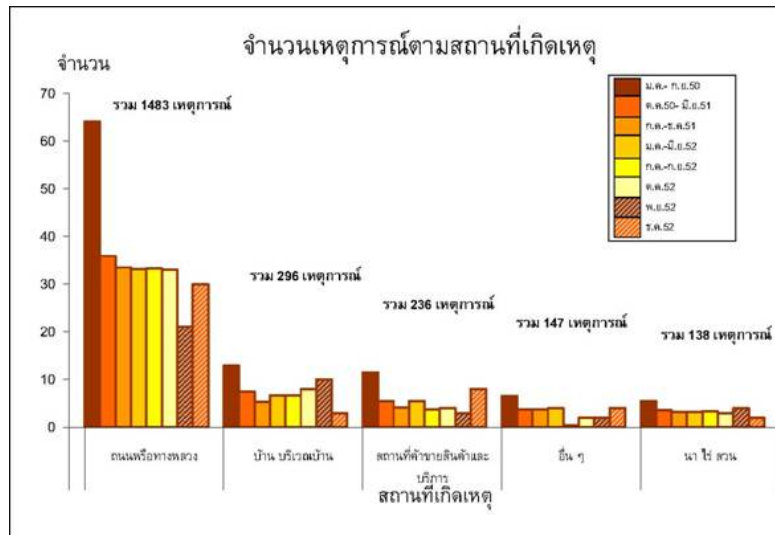
[of violence statistics for the Thai Deep South](#)

Number of incidents that occurred by district								
Numbers of incidents								
No	Pattani	860	Narathiwat	769	Yala	764	Songkhla	75
1	Yarang	140	Rangae	165	Muang of Yala	200	Sabayoi	30
2	Saiburi	139	Ruesoh	163	Bannangsata	172	Thepa	17
3	Nongchick	118	Bacho	76	Raman	148	Natawee	14
4	Muang Pattani	117	Srisakorn	62	Yaha	122	Chana	7
5	Kok Poh	78	Muang of Narathiwat	59	Thanto	46	Hadyai	6
6	Yaring	62	Cho Airong	55	Krongpinang	38	Muang of Songkla	1
7	Mayo	62	Sungaipadee	47	Baethong	20		
8	Panare	47	Chanae	45	Kabang	18		
9	Kapo	32	Takbai	40				
10	Thungyangdaeng	29	Sungaikolok	22				
11	Maikhaen	24	Yeengo	17				
12	Maelan	12	Waeng	14				
13			Sukirin	4				
Note: 10 incidents had no province specified								

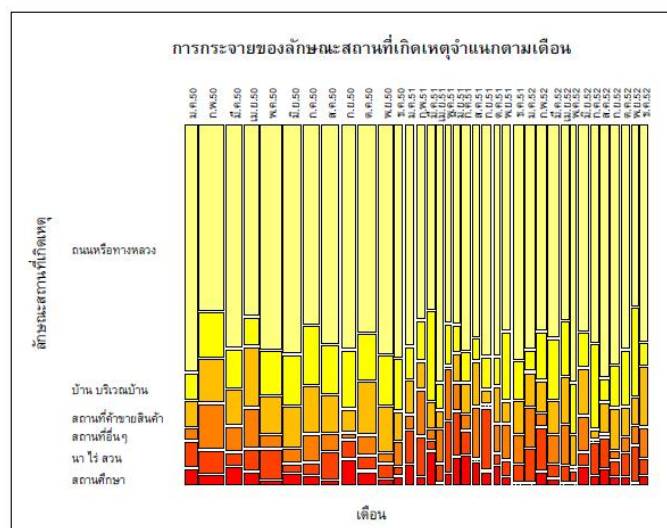
Number of incidents classified by place of occurrence

No.	Places of occurrence	Number of incidents	(%)
1	Roads or highways	1,487	60
2	Homes and residential places	297	12
3	Shops and service stores	236	9.5
4	Other places	147	5.9
5	Plantations	139	5.6

6	Educational institutes or public places	70	2.8
7	Public sport park	20	0.8
8	Construction sites or factories	12	0.5
9	Dormitory or employee residential sites, military camp	10	0.4
10	Unknown	60	2.4



This chart shows numbers of events classified by place of occurrence with regards to the period that the events occurred in. The different colors refer to the period when the events occurred. Left to right (starting with dark brown): January-September 2007, October 2007 to June 2008, July-December 2008, January-June 2009, July-September 2009, October 2009, November 2009 and December 2009. On the x-axis: The place of occurrence (left to right) road or highway (with the total of 1483 events), homes/residential areas (296 events), local shops/stores/service area (236 events), others (147 events), plantation/fields (138 events)



This chart shows the distribution of events that occur each month (January 2007 to December 2009). The different color bars indicate places of occurrence.

Light yellow – roads/highway

Dark yellow – homes/ residential area

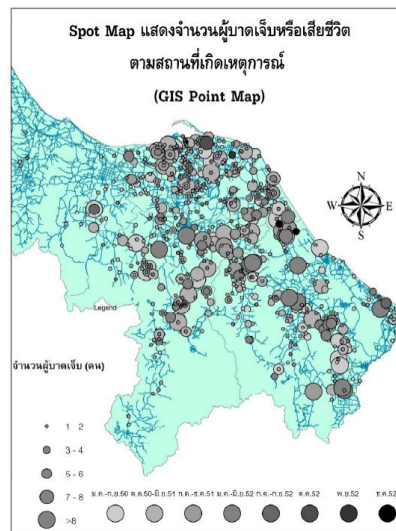
Light orange – local shops/stores/services area

Orange – Other

places

Dark orange – plantation fields

Red – educational institutes

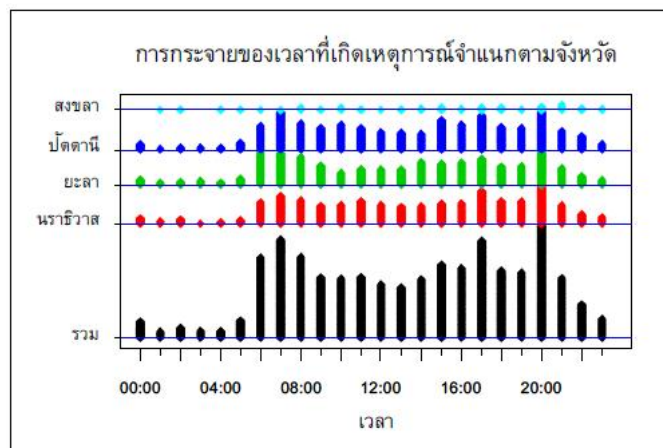


Spot map that reveals the number of deaths according to the place that the event occurred

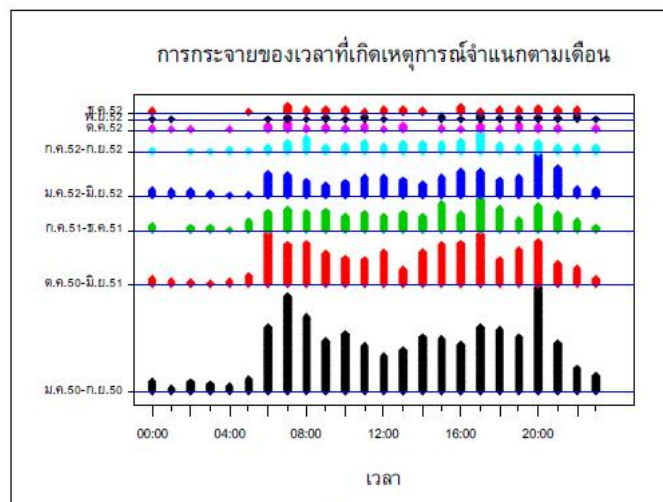
The number of casualties are classified by the size of the circle.

The events are classified by shades of color (left to right):

January-September 2007, October 2007-June 2008, July-December 2008,
January-June 2009, July-September 2009, October 2009, November 2009,
December 2009



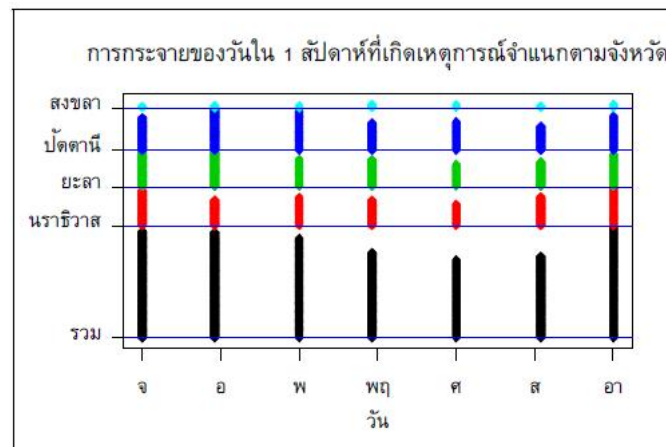
This chart shows numbers of events classified by province and time that the event occurs (each spot represents one event). The light blue represents events in Songkhla, dark blue for Pattani, green for Yala, red for Narathiwat and black represents the total numbers of events.



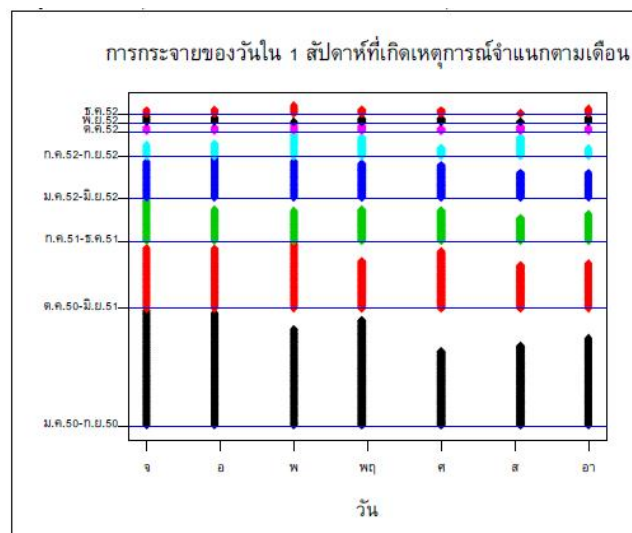
This chart shows events classified by the monthly timeline (x-axis). Each color represents the following:

Red (top)- December 2009
Dark blue (top) – November 2009
Light violet – October 2009
Light blue – July -September 2009
Dark blue – January-June 2009

Green – July-December 2008
 Red – October 2007- June 2008
 Black – January-September 2007



This chart shows the distribution of events that occur during the day of the week ranging from Monday to Sunday (bottom) and the place of occurrence: Songkhla (light blue), Pattani (dark blue), Yala (green), Narathiwat (red), total (black).

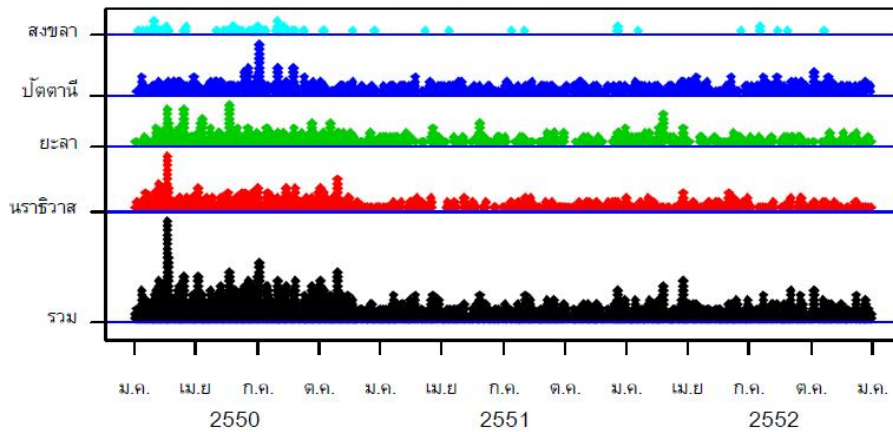


This chart shows the distribution of events that occurs by day of the week ranging from (left to right) Monday to Sunday and the date of occurrence

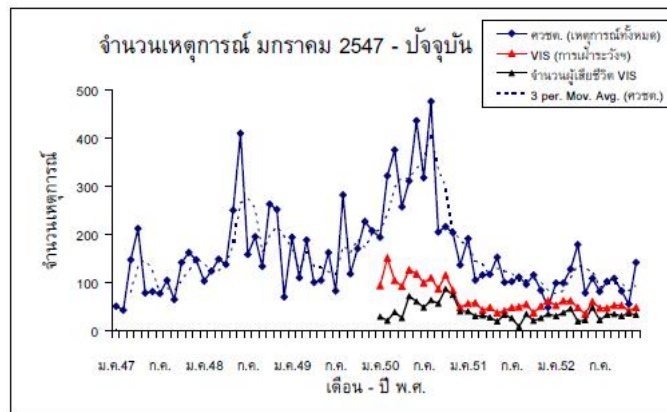
Red (top)- December 2009
 Black
 (top) – November 2009
 Light violet – October 2009
 Light blue – July-September 2009
 Dark blue – January-June 2009
 Green – July-December 2008
 Red – October 2007 to June 2008
 Black – January-September 2007

การกระจายของ วันที่เกิดเหตุการณ์

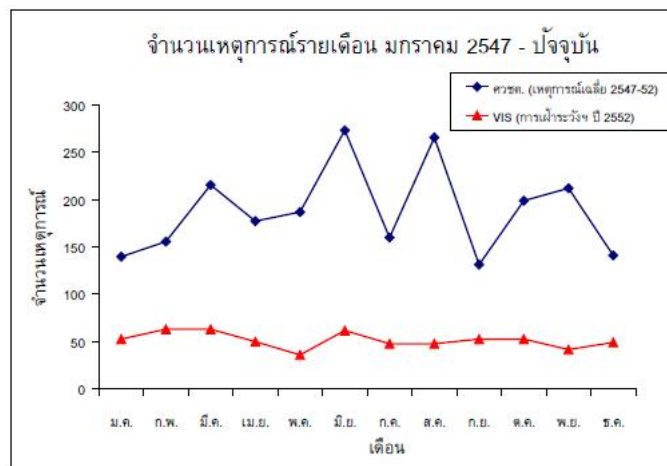
จำแนกตาม จังหวัด



This chart shows the numbers of events that occur classified by place of occurrence and monthly timeline (one spot represents one event)
The x-axis shows a monthly range from January 2007 to January 2009. The four provinces are represented by colors: Light blue (Songkhla), dark blue (Pattani), green (Yala), red (Narathiwat), black (total events).



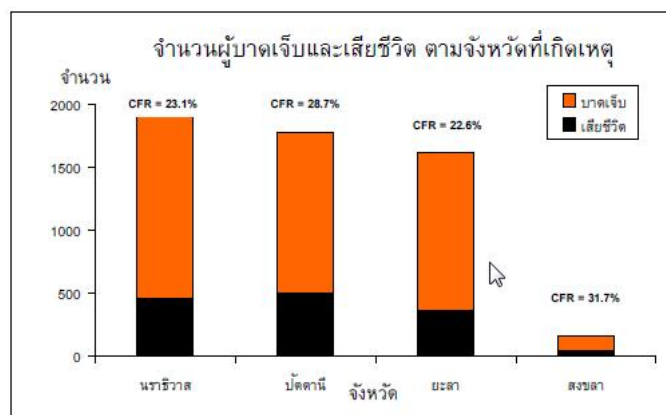
Numbers of violent incidents since January 2004. Across the bottom are the years (2547 is 2004, 2548 is 2005, 2549 is 2006, 2550 is 2007, 2551 is 2008, 2552 is 2009). The blue line shows the number of all violent incidents that took place as reported by the Deep South Coordination Center (counting all incidents both injury and non-injury). The red line shows data according to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance (a form that hospitals, doctors and clinics are supposed to fill out to report violent incidents). The black line indicates the numbers of dead reported to the VIS.



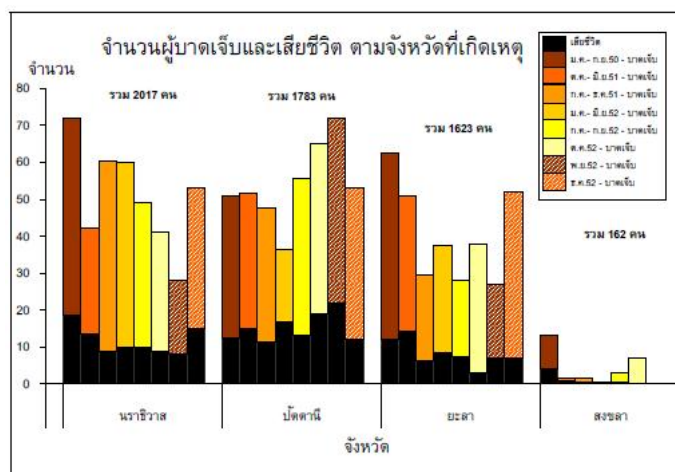
This chart shows the number of incidents that occur monthly from January 2004 up to present. The x-axis shows the 12 months of the year (from January to December). The blue line represents the average incidents that occur during the years 2004-2009 reported by the Deep South Coordination Center (DSCC). The red line represents the VIS (Violence-related Injury Surveillance) incident report reporting deaths and injuries for the present year.

Below: This table shows numbers and ratio (per 100,000 population per month) of injury and death victims and death. The information is classified by the ratio of injury, death and the Case Fatality Rate (CFR – percentage of dead compared to the overall incidents) of each province.

Provinces	Injury		Death		CFR
	number	ratio	number	ratio	Ratio(%)
Songkhla	161	0.4	51	0.1	31.7
Satun	—	—	—	—	—
Pattani	1,770	7.8	508	2.2	28.7
Yala	1613	9.7	365	2.2	22.6
Narathiwat	2007	8	464	1.8	23.1
Unidentified	10	—	2	—	20
Total	5,561	4.6	1,390	1.2	25



This chart shows the numbers of injured and dead classified by place of occurrence (left to right: Narathiwat, Pattani, Yala, Songkhla). The orange bar represents injuries and the black represents dead. Above each bar is the CFR (case fatality rate) percentage.



This chart shows numbers of injured and dead classified by province and the time period when the events occurred (left to right: Narathiwat, Pattani, Yala, Songkhla). Black represents the dead. The rest of the bar represents injured.

Brown – January-September 2007

Dark orange – October 2007 to June 2008

Orange – July-December 2008

Dark yellow – January-June 2009

Yellow – July-September 2009

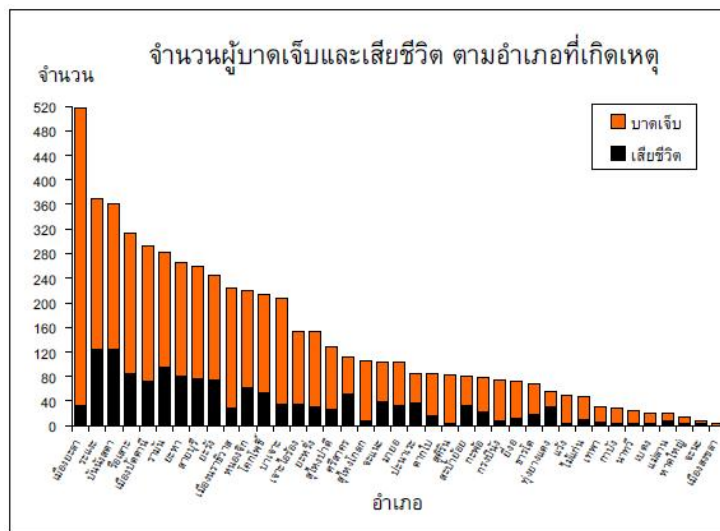
Eggshell – October 2009

Brown shaded – November 2009

2009

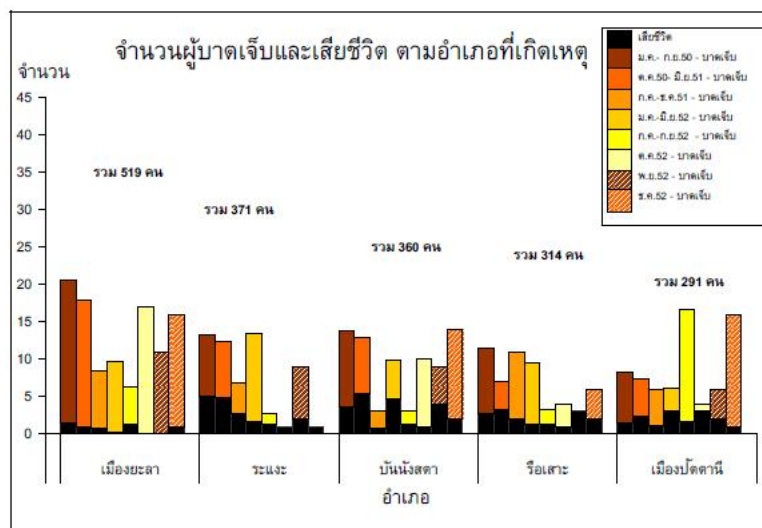
Orange shaded- December 2009

There were a total of 2017 dead and injured in Narathiwat, 1783 in Pattani, 1623 in Yala and 162 in Songkhla.



This chart shows numbers of injured and dead classified by place of occurrence. The bottom line indicates each district where the events occurred. On the y-axis are the numbers of events. The orange represents injury and the black represents death.

Left to right on the x-axis: The city district of Yala, Rangae, Bannangsata, Ruesoh, City district of Pattani, Raman, Yaha, Saiburi, Yarang, City district of Narathiwat, Nongchick, Kokpoh, Bacho, Chaoirong, Yaring, Sungaipadee, Srisakorn, Sungaikolok, Chanae, Mayor, Panare, Takbai, Sukirin, Sabayoi, Kapo, Krongpinang, Yeengo, Tarnto, Thungyangdaeng, Waeng, Maikhaen, Thepa, Kabang, Natawee, Baetong, Maelan, Hadyai, Chana, City district of Songkhla.



This chart shows numbers of injured and dead classified by place of occurrence (district). The top five districts that the events occurred (left to right) City district of Yala, Rangae, Bannangsata, Ruesoh, City district of Pattani.

Black – dead

Brown – January-September 2007

Dark orange – October 2007 to June 2008

Orange – July-December 2008

Dark yellow – January-June 2009

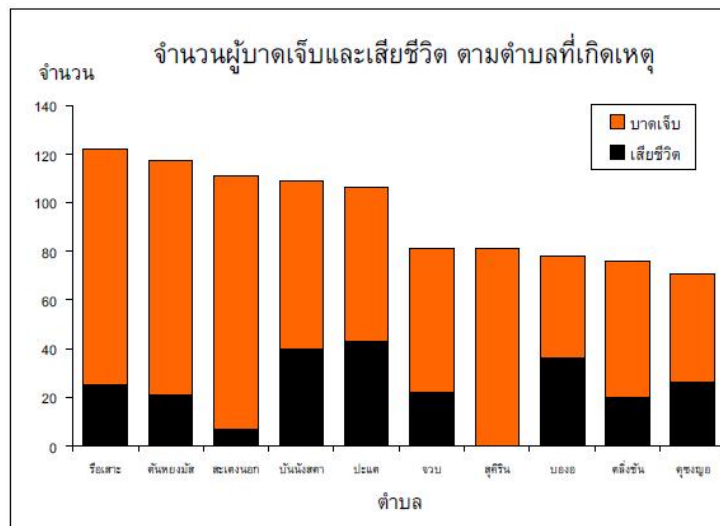
Yellow – July-September 2009

Eggshell – October 2009

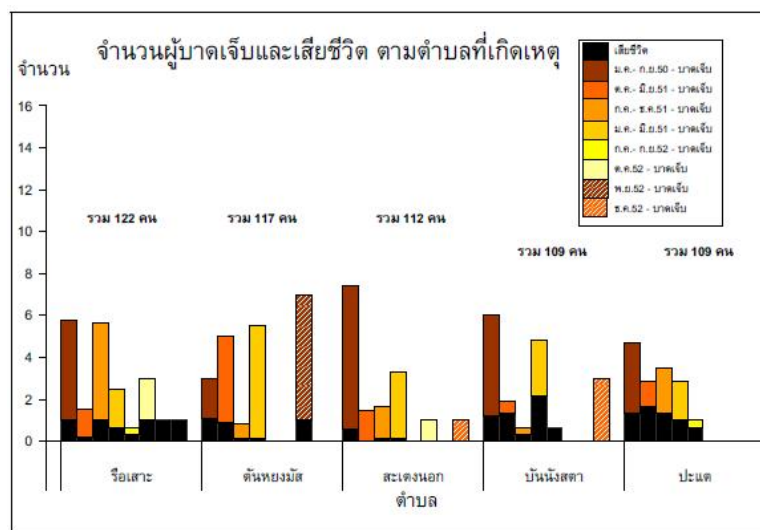
Brown shaded – November 2009

Orange shaded- December 2009

						Sakor	100
						Nammoy	100
						Sateng	100
						Hadyai	100



This chart shows numbers of injured and dead classified by place of occurrence. The top 10 tambons: (from left to right) Ruesoh, Tanyongmas, Satengnork, Bannangsata, Patae, Juab, Sukirin, Bongo, Talingchan, Dusongngo. The orange color indicates injury and black indicates death.



This chart shows numbers of injured and dead classified by tambon. The top 5 tambons (left to right) Ruesoh, Tanyongmas, Satengnork, Bannangsata, Patae. Black represents the dead and the rest of the bar represents the injured.

Brown – January-September 2007

Dark orange – October 2007 to June 2008

Orange – July-December 2008

Dark yellow – January-June 2009

Yellow – July-September 2009

Eggshell – October 2009

Brown shaded – November 2009

Orange shaded- December 2009

There were a total of 122 dead and injured in Ruesoh, 117 in Tanyongmas, 112 in Satengnork and 109 in Bannangsata, 109 in Patae.

Number of casualty and death and fatality rate (%) of the top 5 report following the hospitals that provide medical treatment						
No.	Hospital	Casualty number	Hospital	Death number	Hospital	Fatality rate(%)

Provincial and college Hospitals (total casualty of 1,114, death of 51, fatality rate of 4.6%)

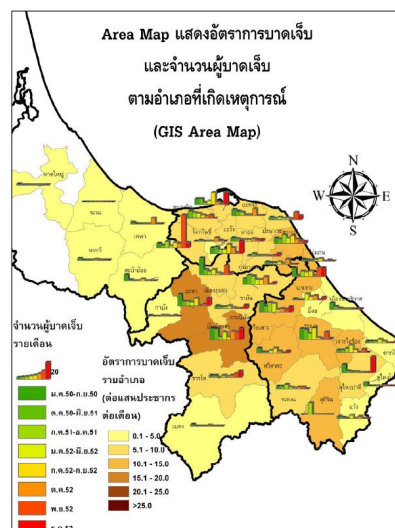
1	Yala	1030	Yala	44	Hadyai	10
2	Prince of Songkhla	208	Prince of Songkhla	9	Yala, Prince of Songkhla	4.3
3	Hadyai	50	Hadyai	5		

General hospitals (total casualty of 1,306, death of 76 and fatality rate of 5.8%)

1	Pattani	694	Narathiwat	51	Baetong	15
2	Narathiwat	680	Pattani	31	Narathiwat	7.5
3	Sungaikolok	214	Sungaikolok	5	Pattani	4.5
4	Baetong	20	Baetong	3	Sungaikolok	2.3
5	Songkhla	7				

Community hospitals (total casualty of 2,736, death of 212, fatality rate of 7.7%)

1	Rangae	239	Panare	24	Chana	40
2	Ruesoh	228	Yaha, Kokpoh	22	Panare	30
3	Saiburi	212			Mayor	18.2
4	Bannangsata	202	Ruesoh	18	Thungyangdaeng	17.6
5	Yaha	201	Saiburi	16	Chanae	13.6



This map shows the rate of casualties according to the tambon where the incidents occur.

The number of injured are classified by monthly

period as following:

Dark green – January 2007-September 2007

Green – October 2007-June 2008

Light green – July 2008-December 2008

Pale green- January-June 2009

Yellow – July-September 2009

Light orange – October 2009

Orange – November 2009

Red – December 2009

The brown color indicates the rate of injured in each district (per 100,000 population per month).

[Part 2](#)

Source: Deep South Violence-related Injury Surveillance statistics

[Index of violence statistics for the Thai Deep South](#)

Sawasdee the year 2009

December 31, 2009

Categories: New Year's Cartoons



(Source: Matichon)

Sawasdee the year 2009 – Matichon, December 31, 2009

Sawasdee the year 2009

Welcome New Year 2009 despite being shocked

As last year was the year of struggles to death

Many died and many suffered injuries

From the lacking of wisdom

May this new day of the new year and the new pole

Maintain good values and survive

Without regard to political poles that is less important than the public's severe mourning

And get rid of the entrenched corrupted generation

And get rid of the leeches

To serve even in the time of pooriness

As men who are born equally

To make Thailand the land of no slavery where money simply buys everything

With concern about the bad results that return to the bad people

And learn to become the people of no slavery

Farewell to old year and celebrating New Year 2010

December 31, 2009

Categories: The Thai Deep South

Farewell to old year and celebrating New Year 2010 – December 31, 2009

Dr. Has reports: Today military unit 1 of division 7011 together with religious and community leaders of Moo 8 and Moo 9 in the Krongpinang district and military unit 4708 hosted a new year's party for local villagers.

Krongpinang district chief Somkiat Srisanet presided over the opening ceremony. The party contained many activities such as the Islamic "Arzan" competition, the "Anashed" singing contest, the Al-quran recitation contest, including gift exchange, games, a football match between the Ban Luemu village team and the Ban U-pey village team. This was the first time for such a party and many villagers participated in hosting the party and joined the activities.



(Photo: Dr. Has for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Dr. Has for 2Bangkok.com)