Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising: 
A select bibliography

Andrew Selth
Griffith Asia Institute

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*a select bibliography*

Andrew Selth
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Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising: A select bibliography, 2012

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The Author

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Acknowledgements

This bibliography — or, more properly, checklist — is in one sense a by-product of four decades collecting and reading books, reports and sundry other publications on Burma (Myanmar). During this period I have incurred debts to many friends, colleagues and fellow Burma-watchers, both amateur and professional. In compiling a work such as this, however, there are some people to whom special consideration is due.

I should first like to record my gratitude to Sayagyi David Steinberg of Georgetown University. Not only has he provided a foreword to this bibliography, but his advice, encouragement and support over the past 20 years has been invaluable. For their varied contributions to this project, I would also like to thank John Brandon of the Asia Foundation, Sean Turnell of Macquarie University, Nicholas Farrelly of the Australian National University, Sally and Barbara Burdon of the Asia Bookroom, Len Lambourne of The Asian Experts and Thant Thaw Kaung of the Myanmar Book Centre.

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As always, my greatest debt is to my wife, Pattie Collins. Over the past 30 years she has probably learned more about Burma — and its books — than she ever really cared to know.

Needless to say, any errors and omissions are my responsibility alone.

Brisbane
July 2012
Foreword

by

David I. Steinberg
Distinguished Professor of Asian Studies,
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The indefatigable Andrew Selth, fresh from his seemingly myriad major studies, chapters, research papers, blogs and op-eds, has demonstrated once again his catholic knowledge and his capacity for care and detail related to Burma/Myanmar. This new bibliography, which should become an essential reference for those even minimally concerned with Burma/Myanmar, is path-breaking, and is a critical guide to those both figuratively and literally Burma bound, as was his earlier work on the state of Burmese studies.

The publication of this bibliography is especially timely. As the state has entered a new incarnation in its ‘civilized’ form in 2011, after 50 years of direct and indirect military control, as most foreign-imposed sanctions have been suspended or lifted, as the iconic Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi has entered public political life, as Myanmar prepares to host the Southeast Asian games in 2013 and chair ASEAN in 2014, as international businesses seek Burmese opportunities, and as tourism is expected to explode, there will no doubt be a spurt of new publications, both ephemeral and more lasting, about aspects of Burma/Myanmar. Yet it is essential for those seriously concerned, and even those touristically inclined, to understand what has gone before if they are to comprehend the present, which is never written de novo. This bibliography, then, offers a Virgilian guide to Myanmar’s recent past, and is an essential reference component for both the interested traveller and the dedicated student or specialist.

Burma/Myanmar has been simplistically characterized as isolated and unknown. This may have been comparatively true for a quarter of a century following the coup of 1962, but has been inaccurate for the past generation. In spite of direct rule by junta from 1988 under a regime that was noted worldwide for its repression and human rights violations, the state, known since 2011 as the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, attracted more academic and political interest than might have been imagined from a country previously insulated from much of the West. From the essentially isolationist policies of the Burma Socialist Programme Party under General Ne Win (1962–1988), Myanmar (the name was changed in 1989) began to attract both international media attention and academic concern. In part, this was due to some changes in policy, such as the opening to foreign investment, but perhaps more importantly to the image of Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, who soon became the international icon of democracy, and whose example and appeal attracted many to enter the field of Burma studies and/or work on the Thai frontier among Burmese refugees. She personally seemed to exemplify the raised concerns over human rights issues in that country.

This bibliography, then, reflects that new era–now past but quintessentially relevant to the present. Scholarship on Burma after the coup of 1962 essentially dried up, as few scholars were admitted for field work, and then only in a few academic ‘safe’ fields. Responsible professors could not advocate dissertation research on a country in which field work was impossible. Tourism was discouraged and internal travel limited. With the quiet opening of Burma after the coup of 18 September 1988, and in spite of the bloody repression of the failed ‘people’s revolution’ earlier that spring and summer, growth in interest in Burma/Myanmar became evident.

This was reflected in both the human rights/democracy advocacy literature, which proliferated especially along the Thai border with Myanmar, and the stirring of disciplinary academic research and quiet field work in–country. Scholars were allowed in, often with tourist visas. We now have a new generation of scholars and published scholarly works in all disciplines. Some reflect internal conditions; others compare, and draw lessons from, the Myanmar experience with other countries. Especially important have been the contributions of expatriate Burmese scholars who have markedly enhanced study of their country from perspectives that foreigners lack.

The importance of foreign scholarly research on Myanmar is especially salient if one understands the past stringent controls over research and publishing for those within the country. Until 1988, all internal research (even in science and medicine) by anyone employed by the state (which meant all academicians) was considered classified until presented at a state-sponsored research seminar and then formally approved for public
dissemination. Since 1988, any research publications have had to meet the mercurial conditions of the official censorship board. History was reinterpreted and rewritten to emphasize the roles of the Myanmar military, and even when classic works were republished, their titles had to change ‘Burma’ into ‘Myanmar’. For example, *The Glass Palace Chronicles of the Kings of Burma* was published originally in 1923, but in 2008 republished as *The Glass Palace Chronicles of the Kings of Myanmar*. All publications had to list the military-sponsored state objectives.

Burmese expatriates writing abroad, often with family in-country, often had to be circumspect in their analyses, and ardent critics of the regime sometimes neglected balanced reporting. Most books on Burma/Myanmar published abroad were legally banned from Myanmar, but increased travel and new technology have enabled the surreptitious import and distribution of many. With a decline in the easy capacity to read the English of academic treatises, a need for the translation of important works into Burmese has become evident if present trends since 2011 in relaxation of censorship continue.

The result of internal controls has been the especial salience of foreign publications on Myanmar since 1988. They have proliferated and have provided welcome analyses of internal dynamics and external relations. Conditions within Myanmar, however, have resulted in the polarization of external opinions on whether to engage, and if so how, the regime in Yangon and then Naypyidaw. Advocacy literature on all sides of the issue expanded, often based on anecdotal evidence, since few trustworthy statistics emanated from the government. And, as Professor Donald Emmerson once noted, ‘the plural of anecdote is not data’.

Dr. Selth, in his introduction, provides a fascinating and thorough account of the various previous attempts to engage in bibliographic work, and even specialists on Burma/Myanmar may not have been aware of some of these important contributions to the literature. This is also a service to the field. His professional background in the Foreign Service and security arena, as well as being an Australian, has demonstrated that personal history in this case is an asset, rather than a liability, in preparation of this bibliography. This has meant that Dr. Selth has filled a lacuna often left virtually empty in most bibliographies. As an Australian, his emphasis on works emanating from that country fill a void, because of all Western states, the Australian government and academic community has shown the most continuous and supportive roles in analyzing Burma/Myanmar, and the worldwide audience for serious study of that country needs to recognize this contribution.

There remain gaps needing analysis, and these are demonstrated by gaps in the bibliography, but as Burma/Myanmar continues to attract attention, they likely will be filled. There are no contemporary and serious studies of Myanmar–U.S. relations (although one is in process), of bilateral ties between Myanmar and Russia, or between Burma and each or both of the Koreas. A comprehensive study of Christianity in its socio-political setting is needed. Dr. Selth has wisely avoided including works in preparation on some of these issues, for the time disparities between research and publication may be extensive. Yet the increase in those enrolled in advanced programs on Burma/Myanmar, and those with experience in and on that country will no doubt begin to fill the void.

A corollary of the relative isolation of Burma/Myanmar, its notoriety in the narcotics literature, its strategic location, its long and porous border with Thailand, and its ostensible ‘exoticism’, have all given rise to a variety of both serious literature and the pulp fiction inhabiting airport book kiosks. The last item may be dismissed, but the fiction field should not be ignored either by the serious scholar or the ardent traveler.

Scholarship and analyses obviously need personal commitments, but they also need institutional bases. Although a variety of international academic institutions and some research organizations teach on and/or conduct research about Burma/Myanmar, their focus is usually Southeast Asia or Asia more broadly interpreted. There is a paucity of international educational institutions solely devoted to that country. There is one in the United States (Northern Illinois University), one in China (Yunnan National University), one in India (Manipur University), and one in Thailand (Naresuan University). The small number of such centres may limit future scholarship and inadequate analyses could adversely affect policy choices. Universities also now tend to focus on disciplinary studies, rather than on area research, which limits university employment opportunities for some Burmancially inclined. A decade and a half ago, a meeting on Burma/Myanmar attended by representatives of most ASEAN governments at that time needed to draw on Western specialists on that country because those in the ASEAN states had no analytical capacity. That situation has begun to be rectified, but clearly the ASEAN states and their neighbors need to expand their sights.

Griffith University is to be congratulated for its interest in opening vistas on Burma/Myanmar. Two decades ago, it sponsored a major international conference on Myanmar, attended in part by the Australian Minister for
Foreign Affairs and Trade. Since then, especially in the last decade, the steady stream of papers on public policy issues has added significantly to our understanding of that country and its relations with the region.

The serious student, the professional journalist, the potential investor, the policy advocate, and even the prospective traveller to Myanmar will welcome this publication. It is an important contribution to the burgeoning interest in Myanmar, and we are all once again in Dr. Andrew Selth’s debt.

Notes

Introduction

Wisdom is in the books.
(old Burmese proverb)

Before the rise of a new democratic movement under Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma (now Myanmar, as the country has been officially known since 1989) was largely neglected by the scholarly community. The difficulty of gaining access to primary sources, and of reading them in the Burmese language, tended to deter all but the most dedicated researchers. Also, from the time the armed forces seized power in 1962, until they took back direct political control of the country in 1988, Burma retreated into isolation and strict neutrality in international affairs. Foreign residents were kept to a minimum and tourists were actively discouraged. Outsiders wishing to study the country tended to be viewed with suspicion, either as potential challengers to the official version of Burmese history or as purveyors of ‘alien cultural influences’. Field work became very difficult and access to reliable data was almost impossible.

Before 1962, there was a small but vibrant academic scene inside Burma, which saw the publication of a number of major works by local figures. Some were published in English or by foreign publishing houses. Under the military regime, however, even local scholars found it difficult to gain access to sources, particularly government records, and their research was subject to official censorship. There were a number of notable exceptions, but following the coup relatively few serious works were published in the major Western languages about Burma’s history, politics, economy or contemporary society. Occasionally, travel books featured a chapter or two on Burma, but they tended to deal only fleetingly with the state of the country and its people. From time to time, the international news media published stories about particular developments in Burma, but these items tended to be short and lacking nuance. Also, they were not always very accurate or balanced. At the same time, support for geographically-defined ‘area studies’ declined. Starved of funding and unable to conduct original research during the 26 years that General Ne Win ruled the country, many academics turned elsewhere for subjects to explore. Burma studies languished. As David Steinberg observed in 1981, for many years ‘contemporary Burma has been considered terra incognita by many scholars, journalists and development specialists’.

However, since the dramatic events of 1988, when nationwide pro-democracy demonstrations were crushed by the armed forces, there has been a remarkable resurgence of interest in Burma among scholars and officials. A wide range of important studies has appeared, offering ‘a variety of perspectives that reveal particular and sometimes contested perceptions of the Burmese past, present and future’. Also, over the past 24 years the struggle against military rule by both opposition political groups and the country’s ethnic minorities has been the subject of numerous books, research monographs and reports. Much closer attention has been paid to Burma’s defence policies and foreign relations. New publications have been devoted to aspects of Burmese culture and society. There have also been some important contributions to Burma studies in broader works, covering subjects such as the involvement of armed forces in politics, the development problems of ‘failed’ states and the role of ethnic minorities in Southeast Asia.

This increased level of academic and official interest has been matched by a much greater awareness of Burma among the populations of Western and regional countries, prompting the publication of numerous books designed largely for the mass market. These include travel guides, collections of photographs, novels and cookery books. After a long hiatus, the Second World War’s China-Burma-India (CBI) theatre has attracted renewed interest. In 1998 alone, there were 44 books published on this subject. There has been a flood of political tracts, usually produced by Burmese exiles and activist groups of various kinds. Also, since 1988 think tanks like the International Crisis Group and non-government organizations such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have commissioned detailed analyses on Burma-related issues, albeit from quite different perspectives. While most of these publications have been posted on the Internet, many have also been released in hard copy as reports and booklets.

In these circumstances, the need for a bibliography or check-list of Burma-related publications produced over the past 24 years has become more pressing.
Burma bibliographies before 1988

Before 1988, Burma was mentioned to a greater or lesser extent in most bibliographies of South and Southeast Asia. These included works produced both by commercial publishing houses and official bodies. The most comprehensive list, however, was associated with an academic journal.

From 1941 to 1991, the United States (US)-based Association of Asian Studies (AAS) published an annual bibliography of Asian studies as a supplement to its journal, the *Journal of Asian Studies* (and, before 1956, its predecessor the *Far Eastern Quarterly*). It was wide in scope, but tended to favour the humanities and social sciences. These bibliographies typically included a list of monographs, journal articles and book chapters on Burma written in the main Western languages, sub-divided into broad categories such as history, biography, economics and politics. From 1991, the journal’s bibliographies were made available to subscribers in electronic form, with on-line entries dating back to 1971. Cumulative printed volumes covering the period 1941–1970 were produced in two separate multi-volume sets, one in 1969–70 and the other in 1972–73.

In addition, Burma was covered in broad works that surveyed published and unpublished sources for the study of South and Southeast Asia, but rarely in any depth. Burma also featured in more specialised publications that focused on specific subject areas such as Southeast Asian ethnic groups and languages. One massive bibliography, compiled by Khin Thet Htar for the World Health Organization in 1981, covered all literature (books, articles, pamphlets, reports and academic theses) written in English relating to medicine, and allied subjects such as zoology and botany, in Burma from 1866 to 1980. Such was the general lack of interest in Burma by scholars and officials, however, that prior to the 1988 uprising there were relatively few bibliographies that looked at the country itself, in all its diversity.

Notable exceptions to this rule included works by the American scholar Frank Trager, who between 1956 and 1973 compiled four bibliographies as part of the Human Relations Area Files’ Burma Research Project at New York University. Also, in 1979 Michael Aung Thwin produced a short annotated guide to research tools on Burma, for the University of Hawaii. In 1986, the Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars in Washington DC published two bibliographical guides to coincide with an international conference on Burma studies being held in the US capital that year. In collaboration with the Library of Congress, one looked at scholarly resources, while the other listed international doctoral dissertations. The Wilson Centre followed these works a year later with *Burma: A Study Guide*, edited by Ronald Morse. It not only had nine country reports but, harking back to these two earlier works, also included selective guides to scholarly resources and the periodical literature.

Another work that deserves mention in this regard is Denise Bernot’s multi-lingual and multi-volume *Bibliographie Birmane*. The first instalment, published in 1968, was compiled from Burma-related items found in Paris libraries. While nominally covering the period 1950–1960, it included numerous references outside that period. This work was prepared in part to update the Burma section of Henri Cordier’s monumental *Bibliotheca Indosinica*. It was also designed to supplement the section on ’Burma and the Burmese’ in the *Bibliography of the Peoples and Cultures of Mainland Southeast Asia*, compiled by John Embree and Lilian Dotson, and published by Yale University Press in 1950. During the 1980s, Bernot and her colleagues at the National Centre for Scientific Research in Paris planned to produce two more volumes covering the period 1960–1970. Four fascicules were to cover subjects and another four would alphabetically list works by author. It appears, however, that the project was never completed. Only four fascicules were ever published, two organized by subject and two organized by author.

Nor were British bibliographers idle. In 1979, Andrew Griffith of the India Office Library and Records produced a brief guide to sources for the study of Burma. In 1982, the British Library Board approved a proposal to compile a South Asia and Burma ‘retrospective’ bibliography. It was designed to be a comprehensive database that would eventually cover the entire subcontinent (including Afghanistan) and Burma from the introduction of printing technology in the 16th century up to 1900. Not only was it planned to draw on the British Library’s own extensive holdings but also on works held by institutions like the India Office Library, the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), the National Army Museum and the Royal Asiatic Society. Support was also to be sought from libraries and archives in relevant countries, including Burma. The project was divided into three stages, but it appears that only a volume on stage one was produced in hard copy. It covered the period 1556–1800. In 1991, Patricia Herbert, then Head of the Southeast Asia section in the British Library’s Oriental and India Office Collections and a Burma scholar in her own right, published what was described as ‘the first and most fully annotated multi-disciplinary guide to English-language publications about Burma to appear in twenty years’. Altogether, it contained over 1,500 references in 850 numbered entries, under 30 subject headings. There were
brief biographical notes on the authors of each work. Because of its comprehensiveness, extensive annotations and helpful layout, it soon established itself as a standard reference work for scholars, librarians and booksellers interested in publications on Burma.

Ironically, while this bibliography was being compiled, the 1988 pro-democracy uprising occurred in Burma, triggering a major new phase in the country's national development. Over the next 24 years, the country experienced a series of events that has arguably changed its entire political, economic and social landscape. They have also had a significant impact on its foreign relations and wider strategic environment. This transformation in Burma's internal and external circumstances was capped by the adoption of a new national constitution in 2008 and the managed ‘election’ in 2010 of a hybrid civilian–military parliament, now ensconced in the new capital of Naypyidaw. In March 2011, to the surprise of almost everyone, President Thein Sein and his government introduced what appeared to be a wide-ranging reform program.26

As a result of all these developments, Burma has attracted a higher level of international interest than probably for any other period in its modern post-colonial history. This level of attention is likely to continue for the foreseeable future.

Burma bibliographies since 1988

The outpouring of publications — of almost every kind, and on almost every conceivable facet of Burma — since 1988 has prompted the compilation of several new bibliographies and checklists designed to bring the record up to date and to help fill gaps in the literature.27 Some of these works warrant mention here.

From August 1992, the Burma Studies Group of the AAS, based at Northern Illinois University, began printing lists of relevant publications in its bi-annual Bulletin of the Burma Studies Group. Initiated by the Bulletin’s then editor, May Kyi Win, the project was described as ‘an attempt to bring together all current articles and books on Burma in English and other European languages’.28 The items listed were drawn from popular books and magazines as well as from publications designed for a more academic readership. Entries also covered ephemera such as conference papers, newsletters and even statements about Burma by government officials. One issue included a bibliography of maps of Burma.29 By 2002, these printed lists had been overtaken by more efficient and widely available electronic databases, but the Bulletin still occasionally has items about new publications.

Since 2001, Michael Charney at London University’s School of Oriental and African Studies has periodically produced a detailed list of sources entitled ‘Bibliography of Burma (Myanmar) Research: The Secondary Literature’. The full document was last updated in 2004, when it appeared on line as a supplement to the twice-yearly SOAS Bulletin of Burma Research.30 A new version is currently in preparation and will most likely be posted on the Internet in late 2012.31 The SOAS compilation makes no claims to completeness. Indeed, it is described as a ‘living’ bibliography. It invites contributions from Burma watchers and other scholars, and periodically publishes the details of new works on line. The list of works is already quite extensive, however, running to 264 pages. Importantly, it includes references to journal articles and individual book chapters, categories of publication that were largely omitted from the Herbert volume.

In addition, the library of the South Asia Institute at the University of Heidelberg has long been working on an ambitious bibliographic project, initially prompted by the acquisition of Frank Trager’s extensive Burma collection in 1974. Additional titles have been found by investigating the holdings of major libraries and other institutions around the world. Since 2005, four ‘pre-print’ volumes have been produced, which list alphabetically and cite the locations of a large number of works on Burma, many published since 1988.32 It seems to be envisaged that, when completed, this bibliography will consist of two major parts. The first will comprise eight volumes, covering monographs, periodicals and official publications on Burma in West European languages. The second part will cover articles in periodicals and ‘multi-author publications’. A final date for the release of these works does not yet seem to have been set.

Since 1988, there has also been a number of specialized works in this vein. In 1993, for example, Alan Meech published an annotated bibliography of Burma philately which named 536 monographs and journal articles.33 In 1997, Sun Laichen compiled a detailed list of Chinese historical sources on Burma, which was released as a special edition of The Journal of Burma Studies.34 In 1998, Eugene Rasor produced a study of sources on the wartime CBI theatre, covering the period 1931–1945.35 This was followed in 1999 by a bibliography and ‘descriptive catalogue’ of works relating to the 1942–1945 Burma campaign, the longest and arguably the most varied of any fought during the Second World War.36 Also, in 2008 Mandy Sadan published a guide to colonial sources on Burma held in the India Office Records of the British Library. This guide was designed to provide a
general introduction to sources for ‘the study of minority histories of Burma’ during the period 1824–1948, but it also touched on works outside this frame of reference.37

Other lists can be found on the Internet. The Online Burma/Myanmar Library, launched in October 2001 under the guidance of David Arnott, carries ‘classified and annotated links to more than 30,000 full text documents on Burma/Myanmar’.38 It also has a section listing a number of bibliographies, library catalogues and checklists of works relating to Burma, and a separate page listing the publications of a number of individual Burma scholars.39 A search of the world-wide web reveals other works of this nature. In 2008, for example, Gandhimathy Durairaj from the library of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore compiled a ‘select list’ of 723 sources on Burma’s ‘Road to Democracy’.40 It covered books, journal articles and even audio-visual materials. The same year, annotated bibliographies of Burma’s geology and hydrology were compiled by the US Army Corps of Engineers, probably in anticipation of US involvement in relief efforts after Cyclone Nargis devastated southern Burma.41

Most secondary works on Burma published since 1988 have included lists of sources or suggestions for further reading, but in some cases these have been quite comprehensive. For example, Robert Taylor’s revised study of The State in Myanmar has an extensive bibliography of English and Burmese language sources, usefully divided into pre-1988 and post-1988 sections.42 Other good examples are Monique Skidmore’s edited collection Burma at the Turn of the 21st Century, Donald Seekins’ Historical Dictionary of Burma (Myanmar), Chie Ikeya’s Refiguring Women, Colonialism, and Modernity in Burma and Michael Leigh’s Conflict, Politics and Proselytism.43 There are other works that fall into this category. One unusual example is Jean-Marc Rastorfer’s 1998 study of books reprinted — or photocopied for resale — in Burma itself.44 Many of the works listed in his paper were originally published in English.

**Content and methodology**

Inspired by all these projects, this bibliography aims to provide a readily accessible selection of books, monographs and reports devoted to Burma that have been published, or in some cases republished, since the 1988 uprising.45 It is not intended to be exhaustive, either in its listings or in its coverage. As Heidelberg University’s Siegfried Schwertner has written, ‘the collection of publications for a bibliography is a story that never ends, and a complete coverage cannot be achieved’.46 A conscious attempt has been made, however, to include a wide range of publications representing all the main subject areas and political viewpoints. Broader works touching on Burma, or which include specific chapters on Burma, have not been listed, unless Burma has been specifically mentioned in the title. Also, with a small number of exceptions, entries have been restricted to works that have been produced in hard copy and released for sale or distribution.47

The items listed have been produced in whole or in part in the English language. This is because both Burma studies and the wider public discourse on Burma since 1988 have been dominated by English speakers and English language publications, including on international websites. It is important to note, however, that there is also a rapidly growing body of work published in other languages, reflecting the high level of interest now being shown in Burma by scholars, activists, journalists and others in a wide range of countries around the world.

An effort has been made to sight and verify every entry. With only a few exceptions, those works not found in my own collection have been personally inspected, usually at the National Library of Australia or the Menzies Library of the Australian National University. Both have extensive holdings on Burma (in both English and Burmese). Bibliographical ‘ghosts’ and books listed as ‘forthcoming’ have not been included. These include works described in publishers’ catalogues and advertised on retail websites, but not yet released for sale. Nor has any attempt been made to list books described in catalogues and on line as ‘printed on demand’. Not only would this make the bibliography unwieldy but, certain E-books aside, such works tend either to be reproductions of books published prior to 1988 or uncritical compilations of materials drawn from websites like Wikipedia.

The categories into which the publications in this work have been divided broadly mirror those found in Patricia Herbert’s 1991 bibliography, which in turn follow established international library practice. Additional sub-headings have been included in some places to help readers more easily find books and reports on subjects of particular interest. Where a publication could fit into more than one category — as is often the case — it has been listed once only, according to its dominant themes. If books have been given more than one title, as has sometimes occurred when a book published in Britain has been republished in the United States, or vice versa, only the title of the original version has been listed.48 If a work does not include a place of publication, the country of publication is named, where that is known.
Each publication has been cited exactly as it has appeared in print. Hence, the country is referred to both as Burma and Myanmar. Similarly, the former national capital has been shown as both Rangoon and Yangon (the new form adopted in 1989), depending on the choice of the authors and the publishers.

Authors and editors are listed under the names given on their books. Unless provided, no attempt has been made to identify pseudonyms, although these have long been common in the field of Burma studies. Similarly, Burmese names are cited as they are given on the publications in question, although in some cases hyphens have been removed, for consistency. While strictly speaking not correct usage, it is hoped that this will help avoid any confusion arising from the fact that Burmese do not usually have first names and surnames, and many use honorifics or other identifiers as an integral part of their name. Thus, for example, Daw Than Han, Maung Aung Myoe and Ma Thanegi are cited as if the titles ‘Daw’, ‘Maung’ and ‘Ma’ are part of their actual name. The same principle has been applied to names like ‘Tekkatho’ (University) Sein Tin and ‘Theippan’ (Science) Maung Wa. Where first names are clearly given, however, as in Margaret Aung Thwin, Frankie Tun Tin or Ardeth Maung Thawngmung, they have been recognized and listed as such.

It is happily acknowledged that this bibliography displays a distinct geographical bias, in that it cites a large number of works on Burma that have either been written by Australians or published in Australia. In large part, this reflects my own research base at the Griffith Asia Institute in Brisbane, and the holdings of the Australian National Library and Menzies Library in Canberra. No attempt has been made to correct this bias, as it does not distort the overall thrust of the checklist. Indeed, by including a number of works not cited in other bibliographies it helps to round out the list and demonstrates the increased attention that Burma has received over the past 24 years from Australians and Australian research centres.

No claims are made regarding the academic or literary merit of any of the works listed. As can be seen from even a cursory glance through the titles, they cover a very broad spectrum in terms of style, length, content and purpose.

Indeed, a few works may be considered to have only slight links to Burma. I include in this category two books on Burmese cats, whose actual ties to Burma are rather tenuous. Following Patricia Herbert’s lead, however, they have been listed for completeness. Similar thinking underpins the inclusion of Norval Morris’s book *The Brothel Boy and Other Parables of the Law*, which uses George Orwell and Burma as a literary device to discuss broader points of British, Indian and Burmese customary law. Also, the bibliography lists a number of novels which have appeared since 1988 and which are either set in Burma or in some way refer to developments there. Some of these books barely qualify for the term ‘literature’, but a selection has been included, both for completeness and to give an idea of publishing trends as they relate to modern Burma.

Given the highly politicized nature of the Burma-watching community over the past two decades, it is perhaps also worth recording that the various personal and political viewpoints represented by the publications in this checklist are noted without comment or wider implication. The bibliography is intended simply to draw attention to the wide range of books and reports on Burma which has appeared over the past 24 years. It is hoped that a work of this kind will help officials, scholars, students and others who might be looking for a readily available directory of contemporary sources, produced by a wide range of authors and institutions.

The appendix provides a comprehensive reading list for those intending to visit Burma for the first time, or who might wish to familiarize themselves with the country before undertaking more detailed studies. It was initially prepared for the Asia Bookroom in Canberra in 2006, but has been updated to take account of various publications which have appeared since then. Like all such exercises, it represents a highly personal view. However, it is included in the hope that it may help provide an introduction of sorts to a fascinating country of enormous complexity that is still little known and poorly understood. Also, the list refers to a number of works that are not mentioned in this bibliography, either because they were published before 1988 or because they are journal articles or chapters in books.
Notes


2 See, for example, R.E. Calder, Guide to Library Resources in Rangoon (Rangoon: Rangoon-Hopkins Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, Rangoon University, 1958).

3 Andrew Selth, ‘Modern Burma Studies: A Survey of the Field’, Modern Asian Studies, Vol.44, No.2, March 2010, pp.401-40. An earlier version of this article was posted on line by the City University of Hong Kong’s Southeast Asia Research Centre. See Andrew Selth, Modern Burma Studies: A View From the Edge, Southeast Asia Research Centre, Working Paper No.96 (Hong Kong: City University of Hong Kong, 2007), at <http://www6.cityu.edu.hk/searc/Data/FileUpload/289/WP96_07_ASelth.pdf>


6 All US forces in China, Burma and India were united in one Command, referred to as the ‘CBI Theatre’. This term has since gained popular currency. However, it was not one of the recognised theatres of the war, since it extended geographically across the boundaries of India Command, and of the South-East Asia and China theatres. See Mountbatten of Burma, Report to the Combined Chiefs of Staff by the Supreme Allied Commander, South-East Asia, 1943-1945 (New Delhi: The English Book Store, 1960), p.7.


9 The print version of the Bibliography of Asian Studies was available as a stand-alone title from 1969-1991, but before then was included as part of these journals.


Graham Shaw, *The South Asia and Burma Retrospective Bibliography (SABREB)*, Stage 1: 1556–1800 (London: The British Library Publishing Division, 1987). As the British conquest of Burma did not begin until 1824, there are few references to Burma in this volume. It was anticipated, however, that Burma would receive greater attention in the volumes covering stage 2 (1801–1862) and stage 3 (1868–1900).


Personal communications with Michael Charney, 21 December 2011 and 25 April 2012.


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising


45 In one case, the book was published in France but contains several chapters written in English.


47 These exceptions include a number of reports by the Brussels-based International Crisis Group, which initially produced hard copies but later seems only to have posted soft copies on the Internet. That said, many of the reports, academic papers and publications produced by advocacy groups and listed here can also be found on the Internet.

48 For example, Emma Larkin’s 2010 book *Everything Is Broken* was released in the US under the title *No Bad News for the King: The True Story of Cyclone Nargis and Its Aftermath in Burma* (New York: Penguin, 2011). When *Little Daughter* (2009) by Zoya Phan and Damien Lewis was released in the US the following year it was entitled *Undaunted: My Struggle for Freedom and Survival in Burma* (New York: Free Press, 2010).


50 Other titles include Ko, Saw, Sai, Sao and Sayadaw. ‘Ko’, ‘Maung’ and ‘Ma’, however, can also be integral parts of Burmese names, as in ‘Ko Ko Gyi’, ‘Maung Maung’ and ‘Ma Ma Lay’.


53 See, for example, the ‘FiveBooks Interviews’ conducted by *The Browser* with several authors of works about Burma, at <http://thebrowser.com/search?keys=burma&types=interview>
The country and its people

General

5. Gartner, Uta and Lorenz, Jens (eds), *Tradition and Modernity in Myanmar: Proceedings of an International Conference held in Berlin from May 7th to May 9th, 1993*, 2 volumes (Hamburg: LIT, 1994)

**Photography**


Guidebooks and descriptions

General


37. Courtauld, Caroline, Burma (Myanmar) (Hong Kong: Odyssey, 1999)


39. Discovering Myanmar (Yangon: Universities Historical Research Centre, 1999)


41. Eliot, Joshua and Bickersteth, Jane, Myanmar (Burma) Handbook (Bath: Footprint Handbooks, 1997)


46. Kollner, Helmut and Bruns, Axel, Myanmar (Burma) (Munich: Nelles Verlag, 1998)

47. Ma Thanegi, Inle Lake: Blue Sea in the Shan Hills (Yangon: Asia House, 2005)


52. Win Pe, Dos and Don'ts in Myanmar (Bangkok: Book Promotion and Service Co., 1996)


Rangoon (Yangon) and Mandalay

Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising


63. *Yangon: Green City of Grace* (Yangon: Yangon City Development Committee, 1999)

64. *Yangon: The Garden City* (Yangon: Yangon City Development Committee, 1995)

Pagan (Bagan)


77. Stadtner, D.M., with Freeman, Michael, Ancient Pagan: Buddhist Plain of Merit (Bangkok: River Books, 2005)


Naypyidaw (Nay Pyi Taw)

Travellers’ accounts

General


Pre-20th century


83. Alexander, J.E., *Travels from India to England comprehending a visit to the Burman Empire and a journey through Persia, Asia Minor, European Turkey &c in the years 1825-26*, reprint of 1827 edition (New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal, 2000)


20th and 21st century


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising

History

General


121. *Comparative Studies in Literature and History of Thailand and Myanmar*, IAS Monograph No.52 (Bangkok: Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University, and Universities Historical Research Centre, Yangon, 1997)


133. *Short History of Myanmar’s Independence Struggle* (Yangon: Defence Services Museum and Historical Research Institute, 2001)


140. Tun Aung Chain, *Selected Writings of Tun Aung Chain* (Yangon: Myanmar Historical Commission, 2004)


**Pre-20th century**


155. Damrong Rajanubhab, *Our Wars With The Burmese: Hostilities Between Siamese and Burmese when Ayutthaya was the capital of Siam* (Bangkok: White Lotus, 2001)


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising

158. Frontier and Overseas Expeditions from India, Compiled in the Intelligence Branch, Division of the Chief of Staff, Army Headquarters, India, Volume V, Burma (Uckfield: Naval and Military Press, 2006)


20th and 21st century


Second World War


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising


206. Lyman, Robert, *Japan’s Last Bid for Victory: The Invasion of India, 1944* (Barnsley: Pen and Sword, 2011)


212. Mororama, Kohei et al, *Victory into Defeat: Japan’s Disastrous Road to Burma (Myanmar) and India*, translated by Myanma Athan Kyaw Oo, H. Tanabe and Tin Hlaing (Yangon: Thu Ri Ya, 2007)


Autobiographies, memoirs and biographies

Colonial era


244. Fowells, Gavin, *From The Dogs of War to a Brave New World and Back Again – Burma ’47* (London: The Author, 2000)


263. Tekkatho Sein Tin, with Kan Nyunt Sein, *Thakin Ba Sein and Burma’s Struggle for Independence* (Saarbrucken: VDM Verlag Dr Muller, 2011)


**Post-independence period**


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising


**Aung San Suu Kyi**


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising

301. Lintner, Bertil, *Aung San Suu Kyi and Burma’s Struggle for Democracy* (Chiang Mai: Silkworm, 2011)


Population and ethnic minorities

Population


Ethnic minorities


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising


345. Robine, Francois and Sadan, Mandy (eds), *Social Dynamics in the Highlands of Southeast Asia: Reconsidering “Political Systems of Highland Burma”, by E.R. Leach* (Leiden: Brill, 2007)


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising


Religions, religious communities and religious sites


376. Ismara, Clemente and Evans, E.P., *Father Stephen Wong: First Native Martyr of Burma* (Canberra: The Authors and German Mission, 2006)


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising

388. Selth, Andrew, *Burma’s Muslims: Terrorists or Terrorised?*, Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Canberra Papers on Strategy and Defence No.150 (Canberra: Australian National University, 2003)


Society and health


396. Burma Centre Netherlands and Transnational Institute (ed), Strengthening Civil Society in Burma: Possibilities and Dilemmas for International NGOs (Chiang Mai: Silkworm, 1999)


401. Listening to Voices from Inside: Myanmar Civil Society’s Response to Cyclone Nargis (Phnom Penh: Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, 2009)


404. Myanmar: The Role of Civil Society, Asia Report No.27 (Bangkok/Brussels: International Crisis Group, 6 December 2001)


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising

Women


420. O’Kane, Mary, Borderlands and Women: transversal political agency on the Burma-Thailand border, Centre of Southeast Asian Studies, Working Paper No.126 (Clayton: Monash University, 2005)


424. Tun Thwin, Burma: Role of Women in Socio-Political Change (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan, 1992)


426. Win May, Status of Women in Myanmar (Yangon: The Author, 1995)

427. Women Political Prisoners in Burma (Chiang Mai and Mae Sot: Burmese Women’s Union and Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (Burma), 2004)
Migrants, refugees and displaced people


431. Feeling Small in Another Person’s Country: The Situation of Burmese Migrant Children in Mae Sot, Thailand (Thailand?: Committee for the Protection and Promotion of Child Rights (Burma), February 2009)


434. Humphries, Richard, Frontier Mosaic: Voices of Burma from the lands in between (Bangkok: Orchid Press, 2007)


437. Lemere, Maggie and West, Zoe (eds), Nowhere to be Home: Narratives from Survivors of Burma’s Military Regime (San Francisco: Voice of Witness, 2011)


440. People of Burma in Melbourne: Perspectives of a refugee community (Dandenong: South Eastern Region Migrant Resource Centre, May 2011)

441. Pim Koetsawang, In Search of Sunlight: Burmese Migrant Workers in Thailand (Bangkok: Orchid Press, 2001)


443. Repatriation of Burmese Refugees from Thailand and Bangladesh: a briefing paper, Research Information Series, No.8 (Canberra: Australian Council for Overseas Aid, March 1996)


Narcotics


465. *The truth that cannot be concealed and selected articles* (Yangon: Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, 2003)

466. *The War on Drugs: Myanmar’s Efforts for the Eradication of Narcotic Drugs* (Yangon: Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, 1999)
Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising

Politics and government

Official publications


476. Mya Win, Tatmadaw’s Traditional Role in National Politics (Yangon: News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, 1999)


479. Nawrahta, Destiny of the Nation (Yangon: News and Periodicals Enterprise, 1995)


482. Seminar on Understanding Myanmar (Yangon: Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies, 2004)

483. Skyful of Lies; BBC, VOA: Their Broadcasts and Rebuttals to Disinformation (Yangon: News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, 1990)


General


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising


509. Donkers, Jan and Nijhuis, Minka (eds), *Burma Behind the Mask*, translated by P.J. van de Paverd (Amsterdam: Burma Centrum Nederland, 1996)


517. Holliday, Ian, *Burma Redux: Global Justice and the Quest for Political Reform in Myanmar* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2011)


524. *Letters to a Dictator: Official correspondence from NLD Chairman U Aung Shwe to the SLORC’s Senior General Than Shwe from December 1995 to March 1997* (Bangkok: All Burma Students Democratic Front, 1997)


529. Lintner, Bertil, *The Rise and Fall of the Communist Party of Burma (CPB)* (Ithaca: Southeast Asia Program, Cornell University, 1990)


532. McCarthy, Stephen, *From Coup d’Etat to ‘Disciplined Democracy’: The Burmese Regime’s Claims to Legitimacy*, Griffith Asia Institute, Regional Outlook No.23 (Brisbane: Griffith University, 2010)


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising

549. Silverstein, Josef (ed), Independent Burma At Forty Years: Six Assessments (Ithaca: Southeast Asia Program, Cornell University, 1989)

550. Silverstein, Josef, Two Papers on Burma, Department of Political and Social Change, Discussion Paper Series No.17 (Canberra: Australian National University, 1996)


553. Skidmore, Monique and Wilson, Trevor (eds), Dictatorship, Disorder and Decline in Myanmar (Canberra: ANU E Press, 2008)

554. Skidmore, Monique and Wilson, Trevor (eds), Myanmar: The state, community and environment (Canberra: ANU E Press and Asia Pacific Press, 2007)


571. The White Shirts: How the USDA will become the new face of Burma’s dictatorship (Mae Sariang: Network for Democracy and Development, 2006)


574. Voices of '88: Burma’s Struggle for Democracy (New York: Open Society Institute, 1998)


576. Wilson, Trevor (ed), Myanmar’s Long Road to National Reconciliation (Singapore: ISEAS/Asia-Pacific Press, 2006)

577. Yerande, V.L., Aung San Suu Kyi’s Struggle for Democracy (Kanpur: Chandralok Prakashan, 2007)


Political change and transition studies

579. Brandon, J.J. (ed), Burma/Myanmar Towards the Twenty-First Century: Dynamics of Continuity and Change (Bangkok: Chulalongkorn University, 1997)


584. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the SLORC and initiatives for Burma’s future: seminar proceedings, Research Information Series No.7 (Canberra: Australian Council for Overseas Aid, April 1996)


586. Len, Christopher and Alvin, Johan, Burma/Myanmar’s Ailments: Searching for the Right Remedy, Silk Road Studies Program, Silk Road Paper (Washington DC: Central Asia-Caucasus Institute, Johns Hopkins University, March 2007)


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising


Human rights


604. *Eight Seconds of Silence: The Death of Democracy Activists Behind Bars* (Mae Sot: Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (Burma), May 2006)


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising

619. Slave Labour in Burma: an examination of the SLORC’s forced labour policies, Research Information Series No.9 (Canberra: Australian Council for Overseas Aid, May 1996)

620. The Darkness We See: Torture in Burma’s Interrogation Centres and Prisons (Mae Sot: Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (Burma), 2005)


622. Tortured Voices: Personal Accounts of Burma’s Interrogation Centres (Bangkok: All Burma Students Democratic Front, 1998)


624. Win Naing Oo, Cries From Insein: A Report on Conditions for Political Prisoners in Burma’s Infamous Insein Prison (Bangkok: All Burma Students Democratic Front, 1996)

International aid

626. A Bridge to Recovery: ASEAN’s Response to Cyclone Nargis (Jakarta: ASEAN Secretariat, July 2009)


Foreign relations


637. Bachoe, Ralph and Stothard, Debbie (eds), *From Consensus to Controversy: ASEAN's Relationship with Burma's SLORC* (Bangkok: Alternative Asean Network on Burma, 1997)


663. McCarthy, Stephen, *The Black Sheep of the Family: How Burma Defines its Foreign Relations with ASEAN*, Griffith Asia Institute, Regional Outlook No.7 (Brisbane: Griffith University, 2006)


675. Selth, Andrew, *Burma and North Korea: Conventional Allies or Nuclear Partners?*, Griffith Asia Institute, Regional Outlook No.22 (Brisbane: Griffith University, 2009)

Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising


678. Selth, Andrew, *United States Relations with Burma: From Hostility to Hope*, Griffith Asia Institute, Regional Outlook No.36 (Brisbane: Griffith University, 2012)


683. *The New ASEANs: Vietnam, Burma, Cambodia and Laos* (Canberra: East Asia Analytical Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 1997)


685. Woodard, Garry, *Human Rights in Australian Foreign Policy: With special reference to Cambodia, Burma and China*, Occasional Paper No.6 (Melbourne: Australian Institute of International Affairs and Deakin University, 1991)
Defence and national security


690. *Brief History of the Myanmar Army* (Yangon: Defence Services Museum and Historical Research Institute, 1999)


704. *No Childhood At All: Child Soldiers in Burma* (Chiang Mai: Images Asia, 1997)

Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising


707. Selth, Andrew, *Burma and Nuclear Proliferation: Policies and Perceptions*, Griffith Asia Institute, Regional Outlook No.12 (Brisbane: Griffith University, 2007)

708. Selth, Andrew, *Burma and the Threat of Invasion: Regime Fantasy or Strategic Reality?*, Griffith Asia Institute, Regional Outlook No.17 (Brisbane: Griffith University, 2008)


710. Selth, Andrew, *Burma and Weapons of Mass Destruction: Not If, But Why, How and What*, Griffith Asia Institute, Regional Outlook No.34 (Canberra: Griffith University, 2011)

711. Selth, Andrew, *Burma’s Armed Forces: Looking Down the Barrel*, Regional Outlook Paper No.21 (Brisbane: Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University, 2009)


717. Selth, Andrew, *Burma’s Police Forces: Continuities and Contradictions*, Griffith Asia Institute, Regional Outlook No.32 (Brisbane: Griffith University, 2011)


719. Selth, Andrew, *Chinese Military Bases in Burma: The Explosion of a Myth*, Griffith Asia Institute, Regional Outlook No.10 (Brisbane: Griffith University, 2007)

720. Selth, Andrew, *Civil–Military Relations in Burma: Portents, Predictions and Possibilities*, Griffith Asia Institute, Regional Outlook No.25 (Brisbane: Griffith University, 2010)


Law and constitutions


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising

Economy, industry and trade


757. Mya Than and Tan, J.L.H. (eds), Myanmar Dilemmas and Options: The Challenge of Economic Transition in the 1990s (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 1990)


768. Soe Saing, United Nations Technical Aid in Burma: A Short Survey (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 1990)

769. Sulistiyanto, Priyambudi, Thailand, Indonesia and Burma in Comparative Perspective (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2002)

770. Supply and Command: Natural gas in Western Burma set to entrench military rule (Mae So: Shwe Gas Movement, 2006)


772. Than Nyun and Kim, Dalchoong, Myanmar-Korea Economic Cooperation (Seoul: Institute of East and West Studies, Yonsei University, 1992)

773. Tin Maung Maung Than, State Dominance in Myanmar: The Political Economy of Industrialisation (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2007)


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising


**783.** Von Hauff, Michael, *Economic and Social Development in Burma/Myanmar: The Relevance of Reforms* (Marburg: Metropolis-Verl, 2007)

Agriculture, forestry and fisheries


788. Durrenberger, E.P. and Tannenbaum, Nicola, Analytical Perspectives on Shan Agriculture and Village Economics, Yale Center for International and Area Studies, Monograph Series No.37 (New Haven: Yale University, 1990)


790. Khin Win, A Century of Rice Improvement in Burma (Manila: International Rice Research Institute, 1991)
Environment and natural history


800. McCoy, Cliff, *Turning Treasure Into Tears: Mining, Dams, and Deforestation in Shwegyin Township, Pegu Division, Burma* (Chiang Mai: Earthrights International, January 2007)


Language and literature

Language


Literature


821. Watkins, Justin (ed), *Studies in Burmese Linguistics* (Canberra: Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, 2005)


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising


Burma (Myanmar) since the 1988 uprising

Culture, arts and crafts


894. Ma Thanegi and Nyein, Sonny, *This is Kin Maung Yin* (Yangon: Thin Sarpay, 2010)


Recreation and hobbies


913. Than Htun (Dedaye), *Auspicious Symbols and Ancient Coins of Myanmar* (Selangor: Ava House, 2007)

914. Thorn, Philip and Bailey, Philip, *European Cricketers in India, Ceylon and Burma* (Nottingham: Association of Cricket Statisticians and Historians, 1998)

Cuisine


920. The Food of Myanmar: Authentic Recipes from the Land of the Golden Pagodas (Singapore: Periplus, 1999)

Bibliographies and research guides


Appendix

Books to read before visiting Burma

The following is a selection of monographs in English that are likely to be of interest to those intending to visit Burma for the first time, or wishing to familiarise themselves with aspects of the country before pursuing more in-depth studies. The list is not meant to be either authoritative or exhaustive, although an attempt has been made to cover the main subject areas. It focuses on works that help provide a broad introduction to the country and its people, and are likely to be readily available from good bookshops and libraries. Most can also be found on the websites of major online suppliers. Anyone wishing to delve more deeply into any of the subjects touched upon below or to pursue special interests is invited to consult the more detailed and scholarly works listed in the foregoing bibliography, or the burgeoning literature on Burma found in academic and professional journals.

Numerous ‘coffee table’ books about Burma have been published over the past 20 years, but one notable for its distinguished contributors is Myanmar: Land of the Spirit (Bangkok: Asia Books, 1996). Also worth looking through is Gillian Cribbs (ed), Back to Mandalay: Burmese Life, Past and Present (New York: Abbeville Press, 1996). A more specialised — but lavishly illustrated — volume that describes sites in Burma that are not as well known is Ma Thanegi and Barry Broman, Myanmar Architecture: Cities of Gold (Singapore: Times Editions – Marshall Cavendish, 2005).

After being ignored — or shunned — by the tourist industry for decades, interest in Burma is fast picking up, and there is now a wide range of travel guides available. The most informative and practical is probably Myanmar (Burma) (Melbourne: Lonely Planet Publications, 2011). However, Burma/Myanmar (London: Insight Guides, 2003) is easier to read and has more illustrations. A different approach is taken in Morgan Edwardson, To Myanmar With Love: A Travel Guide for the Connoisseur (San Francisco: ThingsAsian, 2009). This work is organised by theme rather than by destination. A handy reference book for those wishing to look up particular facts and figures is D.M. Seekins, Historical Dictionary of Burma (Myanmar) (Lanham: Scarecrow Press, 2006).


Burma’s main opposition leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner, Aung San Suu Kyi, has written a number of books, including *Freedom From Fear* (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1995) and *The Voice of Hope: Conversations with Alan Clements with contributions by U Kyi Maung and U Tin U* (New York: Seven Stories, 2008). The world is still waiting for a full length analytical study of Aung San Suu Kyi’s political thinking and role in modern Burmese politics. Already, however, she has been the subject of several biographies, most of which describe her broad political beliefs. The more recent of these works include Justin Wintle, *Perfect Hostage: A Life of Aung San Suu Kyi* (London: Hutchinson, 2007) and Peter Popham, *The Lady and the Peacock: The Life of Aung San Suu Kyi* (London: Rider Books, 2011). A broader perspective is taken in Bertil Lintner, *Aung San Suu Kyi and Burma’s Struggle for Democracy* (Chiang Mai: Silkworm, 2011).


Perhaps reflecting the breadth and complexity of Burma’s current economic problems, there are very few books or reports that offer a good introduction to these issues for non-specialists. One publication that has been written with the general reader in mind is *Opportunities and Pitfalls: Preparing for Burma’s Economic Transition* (New York: Open Society Institute, 2006). Should anyone wish to explore this subject more deeply, a good start would be P.J. Perry, *Myanmar (Burma) since 1962: the Failure of Development* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2007). There is also a useful overview of developments since 1988 in Koichi Fujita, Fumihara Mieno and Ikuko Okamoto (eds), *The Economic Transition in Myanmar After 1988: Market Economy versus State Control* (NUS Press, Singapore 2009). On Burma’s finance system, the best source is Sean Turnell, *Fiery Dragons: Banks, Moneylenders and Microfinance in Burma* (Copenhagen: NIAS Press, 2009).


Burma was once the world’s largest producer of opium. It is now the second largest, after Afghanistan. It is also a major exporter of meth-amphetamines. The origins of the drug trade in the Golden Triangle (of northern Burma, Thailand and Laos) are covered by A.W. McCoy’s monumental study, *The Politics of Heroin: CIA Complicity in the


The best known description of classic Burmese culture and customs is J.G. Scott, The Burman: His Life and Notions (Whiting Bay: Kiscadale, 1989), first written under the pseudonym ‘Shway Yoe’ in 1882. Another classic work, still useful for its description of traditional Burmese life, is Mi Mi Khai, Burmese Family (Bombay: Longmans, Green and Co., 1946). In recent years, there have been a number of scholarly works written about Burmese women and their place in society, but the best introduction remains Mi Mi Khaing, The World of Burmese Women (Singapore: Times Books International, 1984). A broader and more up-to-date treatment of gender issues is Jessica Harriden, The Authority of Influence: Women and Power in Burmese History (Copenhagen: NIAS Press, 2012).

It is not possible to visit Burma without being struck by the role Buddhism plays in daily life. This subject is examined in Juliane Schober, Modern Buddhist Conjunctures in Myanmar: Cultural Narratives, Colonial Legacies, and Civil Society (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2011). For those wishing to look at other religions, Islam’s position in Burma is summarised by Curtis Lambrecht, ‘Burma (Myanmar)’, in Greg Fealy and Virginia Hooker (eds), Voices of Islam in Southeast Asia: A Contemporary Sourcebook (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2006). Ruth Cernea’s Almost Englishmen: Baghdadis Jews in British Burma (Lanham: Lexington Books, 2007) covers the rise and fall of the local Jewish community. There is no succinct account of Christianity’s place in Burma, but an idea of its changing fortunes can be gained from M.D. Leigh, Conflict, Politics and Proselytism: Methodist missionaries in colonial and postcolonial Upper Burma, 1887-1966 (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2011).


Black, 2005), and a chapter on the country is included in Anne Richter, *The Jewelry of Southeast Asia* (London: Thames and Hudson, 2000).


The numbers given are those used to refer to the specific works listed. Names appear as they have been given in the bibliography, although entries have been consolidated in cases where both first names and initials have been used. Joint authors, editors and translators have been listed individually. Other people named in the introduction and appendix have not been listed.
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