

HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMAN SECURITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

HUBUNGAN INTERNASIONAL DI ASIA TENGGARA

OUTLINE OF THE LECTURE

- Human rights, human security and international relations
- Human security in Southeast Asia
 - Refugees, migrant labors
 - Disaster relief, pandemic diseases
- Human rights in Southeast Asia
 - The international and regional dimensions
 - Confronting human right abuse in Southeast Asia
 - Addressing the crimes against humanity

HUMAN RIGHTS, HUMAN SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- Human rights
 - Basic rights or freedom of human beings
 - French Revolutionthree 'generations' of human rights
 - civil and political rights (liberté)
 - economic, social, and cultural rights (égalité)
 - solidarity rights (fraternité)



HUMAN RIGHTS, HUMAN SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- Human security
 - 'Freedom from want' and 'freedom from fear'
 - A people-centered view of security: different from the traditional notions of national, regional or global security
 - Usually dealing with food, health, environmental, community and personal security

HUMAN RIGHTS, HUMAN SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- Global dimension of human rights and security
 - Human rights: 'Universal Declaration of Human Rights' (194
 - Human security: 'United Nations Development Program' (1
 - The transnational impacts of human right/security issues
- International regimes on human rights and security
 - International treaties
 - International organizations/agencies
 - United Nation and its agencies
 - Development agencies and regional development banks
 - International NGOs
 - Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, etc.



HUMAN SECURITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- International authority on refugees
 - United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
 - Refugees in Southeast Asia
 - Refugees of the Indochina Wars
 - Vietnamese, Cambodians, Hmong from the Laos,
 - 'forced' repatriation by the Thai authorities
 - 'country of first asylum' third-country settlement



HUMAN SECURITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

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- **Cross-border refugees from Myanmar**
 - Ethnic minorities such as the Karen and Chin
 - UNHCR was not allowed to process asylum-seekers in Thailand
 - Malaysia has not signed UN Covenant on refugees
 - 'Boat people' □ an ASEAN solution?
- **Montagnard: fled to Cambodia**
 - UNHCR negotiated with both Cambodia and Vietnam



REFUGEES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- **Thailand Repatriated Hmong to Laos**
 - December 2009**



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HUMAN SECURITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- International authorities on migrant labor
 - International Organization for Migration (IOM)
 - UN special rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

HUMAN SECURITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Migrant labors in Southeast Asia
 - Direction of labor migration: Indonesia, the Philippines, Myanmar Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand
 - Bilateral agreements on migrant labour
 - Thailand with Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Malaysia
 - Malaysia with Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand
 - Indonesian labors in Malaysia
 - 70% of the migrant labor in Malaysia from Indonesia
 - UN special rapporteur (2006): serious abuse of Indonesia migrants in Malaysia
 - Anti-Malaysia protest in Indonesia in 2007

HUMAN SECURITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Humanitarian relief in Southeast Asia
 - Natural disasters in Southeast Asia: typhoons, flooding, earthquake, mudslides, volcanic eruptions, etc.
 - The Indonesian earthquake and Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004
 - large scale of international humanitarian rescue and relief operation
 - The 2008 cyclone attack in Myanmar
 - Military Juntas reluctant to accept foreign aids
- Pandemic diseases in Southeast Asia
 - SARS (Severe acute respiratory syndrome) in 2003
 - Avian Flu: esp. the H5N1 strain
 - HIV/AIDS: Thailand, Myanmar and Indonesia
 - Key actors/factors: WHO, regional cooperation, generic drugs

HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- The international dimension
 - UN institutions and procedures
 - United Nation Human Rights Council (UNHRC)
 - UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCR)
 - UN special rapporteur for Myanmar, special envoy for Myanmar, and special representative for human rights in Cambodia
 - The US State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Rights and Labour (DRL) issues annual report on human rights
 - International Human Rights NGOs

HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

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- The regional dimension
 - ASEAN Human Rights Commission (established in 2009)
 - National Human Rights Agencies
- Conflict between protecting human rights and respecting the sovereignty of individual countries

HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Human rights abuses in Myanmar
 - The military junta and Aung San Suu Kyi
 - Aung San Suu Kyi has been barred from politics between 1990 and 2010
 - The crackdown of Buddhist monks' demonstration in 2007
 - US, EU, Canada, Australia, Japan and South Korea imposed sanctions
 - UN envoys unable to make a difference
 - ASEAN, China and India were sympathetic
 - The general election in 2010 and the release of Aung San Suu Kyi
 - Most sanctions lifted afterwards



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HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Human rights in Cambodia
 - The UN special representative has been critical of Hun Sen attack on civil society groups and democratic activists
 - The response of Cambodian government
- Human rights in Indonesia and East Timor
 - The bloody crackdown after the 1965 coup in Indonesia
 - The 1991 Dili massacre in East Timor

HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Human rights in Malaysia
 - The use of Internal Security Act (ISA)
 - The trial against Anwar Ibrahim
- Human rights in Vietnam
 - Political opposition
 - Religious freedom and ethnic minorities

HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- The Crime against humanity
 - Genocide, massacre and other related crimes
- Cambodia and the Khmer Rouge
 - An estimated 1.7m Cambodians died under Khmer Rouge
 - The UN and donor countries requested investigation and trial
 - Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC)
 - The trial of Kaing Guek Eav - known as Duch – started in 2009
 - 'Enemies of the People' (<http://enemiesofthepeoplemovie.com/>)

HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Indonesia and the East Timor
 - Human rights abuses around the independence of East Timor
 - UNCHR voted to investigate the affair in 1999
 - Ad Hoc Human Rights Court set up in 2002, with limited impact
 - Commission on Truth and Friendship established in 2005

HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Victims of Khmer Rouge



The Genocide Center outside Phnom Penh



QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

- Please discuss the background factors such as backward economy, instable domestic politics, radical ideology, and harsh international environment, and consider how these factors led to human right abuses in Southeast Asia.
- How to improve the situation of human security in Southeast Asia? Please answer the question with regard to natural disasters, pandemic diseases, migrant labors, and international refugees respectively.

NEXT

**• Domestic Security:
Separatism and Terrorism**