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MYANMAR’S
MOUNTAIN AND MARITIME
BORDERSCAPES

LOCAL PRACTICES, BOUNDARY-MAKING
AND FIGURED WORLDS

EDITED BY SU-ANN OH
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Finally, it is with sadness that I write that one of the authors, Bianca Son, passed away in 2014. She had just been awarded her PhD from SOAS and was looking forward to a fine academic career. Her chapter was co-written with a colleague, N. William Singh, who took on the responsibility of completing the revisions.

Su-Ann Oh
Notes on Language, Terminology and Geographical Names

In this volume, “Burma” is used to refer to the country under British colonial rule up until 1989; “Myanmar” is used when referring to the country from 1989 onwards.

“Burmese” is used as an adjective, for example when referring to language and nationality. With regard to the names of ethnic groups, both former and current terms are used and presented as “Burman/Bamar”, “Karen/Kayin” and so on.

Authors who have deviated from these conventions have made their preferences known in the endnotes of their individual chapters.
Contributors

Maxime Boutry obtained a PhD in Social Anthropology and Ethnology at the School for Higher Studies in Social Sciences (EHESS, Paris) in 2007, dealing with the appropriation of the marine environment by Burmese fishermen in the Tenasserim Region (southern Myanmar). His research questions the processing of Burmese identity through inter-ethnic relationships, and notably the interactions between Burmese fishermen and Moken (a few thousand sea gypsies inhabiting southern Myanmar and southern Thailand). Taking frontiers as “laboratories” where Burmese societies' adaptations to political, social, economical and cultural changes are shaped, he seeks to detect, through different scales of time and space, forms of continuity in the changes affecting Myanmar. In the meantime, his work fits with an applied anthropology on subjects such as Burmese immigration and human trafficking, as well as a reflection on humanitarian aid since cyclone Nargis struck Myanmar in 2008.

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by refugee-migrants as a material and spiritual resource. Fieldwork for this project on humanitarian cultures was done in conjunction with the project cluster “Streams of Knowledge along the Thai-Burmese Border Zone: Multiple Dimensions of People, Capital and Culture”, coordinated by Decha Tangseefa (Bangkok). A research grant by the Thailand Research Fund for this project is gratefully acknowledged. Further contributions on this topic appeared in *Journal of Refugee Studies, Moussons (Social Sciences Research on Southeast Asia), Journal of Borderlands Studies, Austrian Journal of Southeast Studies (ASEAS)*.

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**Bianca Son Suantak** completed her PhD in the Department of History, University of London’s School for Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in 2013. Her dissertation is entitled “The Making of the Zo: The Chin, the Lushai and the Kuki of Burma and India”. During her studies, Bianca taught Research Methods for Historians as well as writing workshops. She also organized and convened three international academic conferences held in Thailand, SOAS and Vienna in 2009, 2011, and 2013 respectively. She contributed articles regularly to Chin and Zo organizations in Myanmar and in India.

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Abbreviations

ABSDF  All Burma Students' Democratic Front
ADRA  Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AFPFL  Anti-Fascist Peoples Freedom League
ALTSEAN  Alternative ASEAN Network
BSPP  Burma Socialist Programme Party
CBO  Community Based Organizations
CIDKP  Committee for Internally Displaced Karen People
CNF  Chin National Front
CPB  Communist Party of Burma
DKBA  Democratic Karen Benevolent Army
DoF  Department of Fisheries
EC  European Commission
EIP  English Immersion Programme
FBR  Free Burma Rangers
IDP  Internally Displaced Person
INGO  International Non-Governmental Organization
ITLOS  International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
KBC  Kachin Baptist Convention
KED  Karen Education Department
KHRG  Karen Human Rights Group
KIA  Kachin Independence Army
KIO  Kachin Independence Organization
KNG  Kachin News Group
KNLA  Karen National Liberation Army
KNLP  Kayan New Land Party
KNPLF  Karenni Nationalities People's Liberation Front
KNPP  Karenni National Progressive Party
KNU  Karen National Union
KNWO  Karenni National Women's Organization
KRC  Karen Refugee Committee
KSDC  Karenni Social Development Centre
KSWDC  Karenni Social Welfare and Development Centre
LMTC  Leadership and Management College
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<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tr>
<td>MAF</td>
<td>Myanmar Armed Forces (<em>Tatmadaw</em>)</td>
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<td>MHIP</td>
<td>Mizo Women's Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN</td>
<td>Myanmar Navy</td>
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<tr>
<td>MNNDAA</td>
<td>Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army</td>
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<tr>
<td>MNF</td>
<td>Mizo National Front</td>
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<tr>
<td>MNFF</td>
<td>Mizo National Famine Front</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOE</td>
<td>Ministry of Education</td>
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<td>MOGE</td>
<td>Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise</td>
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<td>MOI</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
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<td>MPSI</td>
<td>Myanmar Peace Support Initiative</td>
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<td>MZP</td>
<td>Mizo National Front</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAMRA</td>
<td>Peace Accord MNF Returnees Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>PDP</td>
<td>People's Democratic Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLA</td>
<td>Patriotic Liberation Army</td>
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<td>SEZ</td>
<td>Special Economic Zone</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHRF</td>
<td>Shan Human Rights Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLORSC</td>
<td>State Law and Order Restoration Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPDC</td>
<td>State Peace and Development Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBBC</td>
<td>Thailand Burma Border Consortium</td>
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<td>The Border Consortium</td>
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<td>UMEHL</td>
<td>Union of Myanmar Economic Holding Limited</td>
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<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNFC</td>
<td>United Nationalities Federal Council</td>
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<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>United Nations Commissioner for Refugees</td>
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<td>USDP</td>
<td>Union Solidarity and Development Party</td>
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<td>VSO</td>
<td>Voluntary Service Overseas</td>
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<td>WAMY</td>
<td>World Assembly of Muslim Youth</td>
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<td>WH</td>
<td>Wide Horizons</td>
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<tr>
<td>YMA</td>
<td>Youth Mizo Association</td>
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