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Ruling Myanmar

From Cyclone Nargis
to National Elections



Edited by
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and Trevor Wilson

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RULING MYANMAR

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November 2010 sees the first elections in Myanmar/Burma since 1990, to be held as the culmination of the military regime's "Road Map for Democracy". The conditions under which the elections are being held are far from favourable, although the laws and procedures under which they will be conducted have been in place for seven months and quite widely publicized. Political controls remain repressive, freedom of expression and assembly does not exist, and international access is restricted by government controls as well as sanctions. While the elections represent a turning point for Myanmar/Burma, the lead-up period has not been marked by many notable improvements in the way the country is governed or in the reforming impact of international assistance programmes. Presenters at the Australian National University 2009 Myanmar/Burma Update conference examined these questions and more. Leading experts from the United States, Japan, France, and Australia as well as from Myanmar/Burma have contributed to this collection of papers from the Conference.

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