

**THE SCHOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES INVITES YOU TO A PANEL DISCUSSION**

**BURMA DAY 2011**

**UNPACKING BURMA'S 2010 NATIONAL ELECTION: A NATION IN TRANSITION**

ALMOST ONE YEAR HAS PASSED SINCE THE NOVEMBER, 2010 NATIONAL ELECTION WHEN THE PEOPLE OF BURMA WENT TO THE POLLS IN ALMOST 20 YEARS. THE ELECTIONS WERE A CRUCIAL PART TO THE “ ROAD MAP TO GENUINE MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY “ SET OUT IN THE MAY 2008 CONSTITUTION. THOUGH THE ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED BY SOME AS A SHAME, THE PANELISTS EXPLORE THE QUESTION “ WHAT ARE THE POSSIBILITIES FOR CHANGE, AND COULD THESE ELECTIONS POSSIBLY SEE THE EMERGENCE OF A NEW POLITICAL DYNAMIC ? ( THIS IS A KEY QUESTION EXPLORED BY AUTHOR BRUCE MATTHEWS, IN THE LATEST CANADA-ASIA AGENDA PUBLISHED BY THE ASIA PACIFIC FOUNDATION OF CANADA ) WITH THE INTERNATIONAL FOCUS ON BURMA, JOIN US AS THE SCHOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES CONVENES A PANEL DISCUSSION TO REVISIT THE TWO MOST RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN BURMA , NOTABLY THE RELEASE OF DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI, AFTER A 15 YEAR HOUSE ARREST, AND THE 2010 NATIONAL ELECTION.

A PANEL OF BURMESE DEMOCRACY ACTIVISTS, EXILES, FORMER REFUGEES AND SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WILL DISCUSS THE POLITICAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN BURMA/ MYANMAR POST-2010 NATIONAL ELECTION, AND WHAT ROLE CANADA SHOULD PLAY TOGETHER WITH ASEAN AND BURMA'S INFLUENTIAL NEIGHBORS ?

WHAT ARE THE POSITIVE POLITICAL SIGNALS AND GAINS THAT HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED SINCE THE 2010 NATIONAL ELECTION TOWARDS A MOVE TO DEMOCRATIC REFORM ?

WHAT HAS BEEN THE IMPACT OF THE BURMESE DIASPORAS, IN PARTICULAR IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS , AND WHAT ROLE WILL THEY PLAY IN MORE RECENT EVENTS TO ADVANCE OUR SHARED INTEREST FOR POLITICAL REFORM IN BURMA/ MYANMAR ?

## **SCHEDULE**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, FROM 2-6 PM**

**2:30- 5:30 PANEL DISCUSSION / Q & A**

**2:30- 3: 00 ( MEDIA PRESENTATION OF AUNG SAN SUU KYI ON  
DEMOCRACY AFTER HER 15 YEAR RELEASE : THE ECONOMIST )**

**3: 00- 4: 00 ETHNIC KAREN DANCERS**

## **LOCATION**

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY, SFU HARBOUR CENTRE CAMPUS,  
LABATT ROOM 1700, 515 W. HASTINGS ST. VANCOUVER.**

---

## **EVENT SPEAKERS**

### **PANEL ONE : PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE: CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN BURMA**

**DR. MICHAEL HOWARD, SCHOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, SFU**

**DR. ALICE KHIN, DIRECTOR, BURMA WATCH INTERNATIONAL,  
FORMER PHYSICIAN TO AUNG SAN SUU KYI**

**DR. KANBAWZA WIN, FORMER SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**TIN MAUNG HTOO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CANADIAN FRIENDS OF  
BURMA ( TBD )**

### **PANEL TWO: BURMESE DIASPORAS AND DEVELOPMENT**

**DR. TIN YEE, FOUNDER, EMPOWERING WOMEN OF BURMA ( NGO )**

**DR. THIHA MAUNG MAUNG, PROJECT IMPLEMENTER, GIVING A HAND  
TO DISPLACED LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS ( SOUTHEAST ASIA )**

**REVEREND SOE, GATEWAY MYANMAR BAPTIST CHURCH**

**THA DAR HSER, ( FORMER REFUGEE/ ETHNIC KAREN )**

**SAW JOE, ( FORMER REFUGEE/ ETHNIC KAREN )**

PLEASE NOTE: THIS PANEL IS BEING ORGANIZED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE  
FOLLOWING EXHIBITION AND NGO EMPOWERING WOMEN OF BURMA.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THERE WEBSITE AT

[HTTP://EMPOWERINGWOMENOFBURMA.WORDPRESS.COM](http://empoweringwomenofburma.wordpress.com)

PLEASE CONTACT [INTST@SFU.CA](mailto:intst@sfu.ca), OR [DANAMCCARTNEY@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:danamccartney@hotmail.com) IF YOU  
HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.