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**ARMED CONFLICT IN ASIA:  
SOUTH EAST ASIA**

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# ARMED CONFLICT IN ASIA: SOUTH EAST ASIA

## Myanmar (Burma): Civil War & Ethnic Insurgencies.

- Nature: One of the world's longest-running internal armed conflicts.
- **Reasons :**
  1. Ethnic marginalisation
  2. Military dominance
  3. Democratic suppression
- **Major Actors :**
  1. Myanmar military (Tatmadaw)
  2. Ethnic Armed Organisations (EAOs): Kachin, Karen, Shan, Arakan Army
  3. Pro-democracy People's Defence Forces (PDFs) after 2021 coup.
- **Current Status :** Intensified nationwide conflict post-2021 coup; humanitarian crisis and refugee flows to India and Thailand.

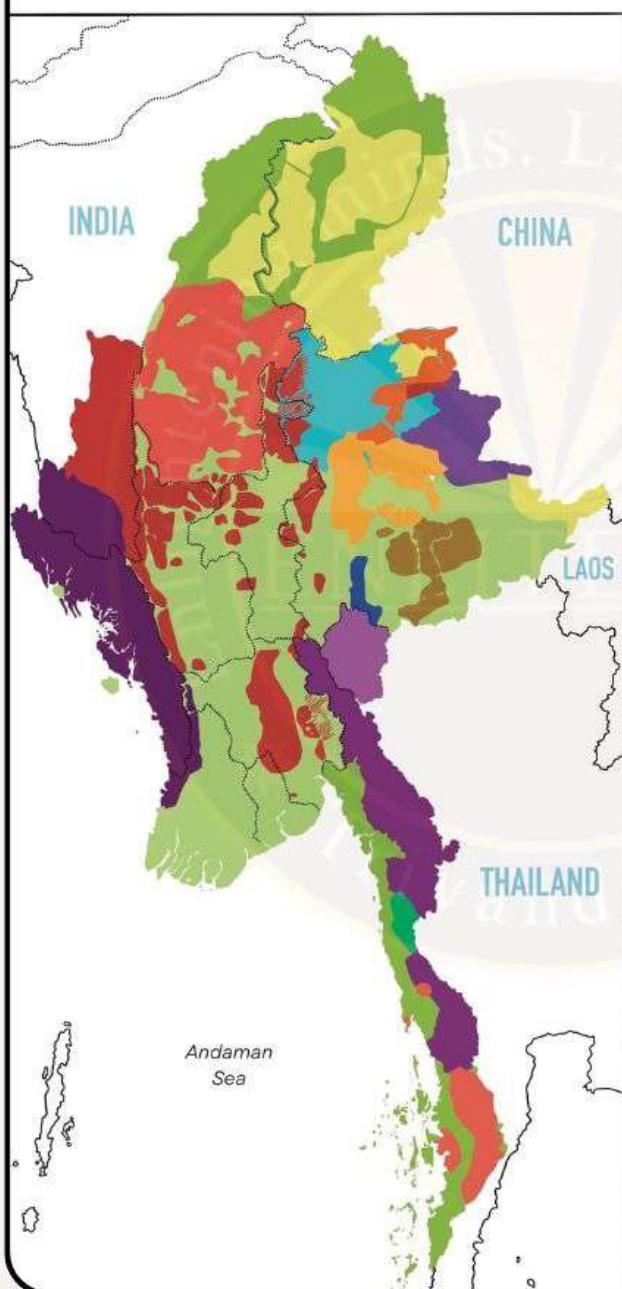




# ARMED CONFLICT IN ASIA: SOUTH EAST ASIA

## Myanmar Battlefield Map as of July 2025

Myanmar's battlefield is fragmented, with the military controlling only pockets while resistance group hold most of the countryside. Despite losing ground, the military touts the Aug. 19 capture of Demoso as proof of strength. A Dec. 28 election is planned, but voting will be limited to secured and military-approved parties.



### Territorial Control

- Junta
- People's Defense Force
- Arakan Army
- Chin resistance
- Kachin Independence Army
- Ta'ang National Liberation Army
- Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army
- Shan State Progress Party
- Restoration Council of Shan State
- Karen resistance
- Karen resistance
- Pa-O National Liberation Army
- New Mon State Party
- United Wa State Army
- National Democratic Alliance Army
- Zomi Revolutionary Army



# THAILAND-CAMBODIA CONFLICT (BORDER DISPUTE)

## Nature :

- Inter-state border dispute between Thailand and Cambodia.
- Periodic armed skirmishes rather than a full-scale war.

## Reasons :

- Sovereignty over areas surrounding the Preah Vihear Temple (11th-century Khmer temple).
- Colonial-era boundary demarcation (Franco-Siamese maps) led to overlapping claims.

## Role of Regional & International Actors

- **ASEAN:** Mediation and observers (limited by non-interference norm).
- **ICJ:** Legal clarification reduced military tensions.

## Current Status

- Largely stable, with joint committees managing the border.
- Risk of flare-ups persists during political transitions or nationalist mobilization.





# THAILAND-CAMBODIA CONFLICT (BORDER DISPUTE)

