

# Muslim Rulers And Rebels: Everyday Politics And Armed Separatism In The Southern Philippines

BOOK REVIEWS—SOUTHEAST ASIA 903

The fundamental conclusion that the Burmese military has grossly mismanaged a country of extensive resources and potential riches, leaving the bulk of its multiethnic population in poverty and substandard conditions, cannot be effectively denied. Dr. Mya Maung accurately charges that the changes that have taken place since 1988 have not been effective in terms of the need for basic economic policy reforms and in alleviating the problems that the society faces. He considers that the bankruptcy of the military has been saved, postponed may be a better characterization of his position, by the involvement of senior members of the regime in the narcotics trade, which has provided funding directly and indirectly through recycled funding, for some of the economic enterprises.

His criticisms of the military also focus on the extensive expenditures of the military as a percentage of the national budget (that which is admitted, although, as he notes, much is hidden). This denies the population alleviation of their educational and health-related needs by underfunding these sectors. These arguments are well founded and illustrate the essential social decay in a society that on the surface has many glittering tourist-related buildings and monuments, but whose priorities are not related to the basic human needs of its people.

The author writes half in an academic tone and half almost as a journalist, especially the latter when he deals with the political system and its effects. He sometimes uses journalistic adjectives to add that color and detract from his essentially valid arguments.

This is not a text, although it could be used with caution as supplementary reading in Southeast Asian courses on the politics and economics of the region. It is, therefore, a helpful addition to the meager literature on that country, but it is not the definitive work on the period and, alas, with his death, Maung will not be able to complete his important studies.

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*Muslim Rulers and Rebels: Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines.* By THOMAS M. MCKENNA. Berkeley and London: University of California Press, 1998. xv, 364 pp. \$50.00 (cloth); \$20.00 (paper).

This well-researched and clearly written book is a major contribution to understanding Muslim politics and societies in the Philippines. The author has combed archives and libraries and has learned especially from residents in Cotabato, where he lived for well over a year in 1985–86 and again for several months in 1988. From his rich load of information, he has written a nuanced analysis of the origins and meanings of Muslim separatist movements and other Muslim political activities in the southern Philippines.

What he especially wants to understand are the armed separatist movements among Philippine Muslims during the 1970s–1980s, particularly in the Cotabato area of Mindanao. Second, he studies other political activity among Muslims, including elections in 1986 and 1988 and everyday politics, especially among residents in one neighborhood of Cotabato City. There have been many studies of Muslim politics, especially armed rebellions, in the Philippines. Two features make this one different from most. One is the concerted effort McKenna makes to understand the separatist movements from the perspective of local residents. Second,

Muslim Rulers and Rebels. Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines. Thomas M. McKenna. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS. Muslim Rulers and Rebels: Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines (Comparative Studies on Muslim Societies) [Thomas M. Muslim Rulers and Rebels Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines. by Thomas M. McKenna (Author); August ; First Edition. Muslim Rulers and Rebels: Everyday Politics and Armed. Separatism in the Southern Philippines, by Thomas M. McKenna. Comparative Studies on Muslim. Muslim Rulers and Rebels: Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines. Front Cover Thomas M. McKenna. University of California . Muslim Rulers and Rebels: Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines, Comparative Studies on Muslim Societies, 26 by Thomas M. Muslim Rulers and Rebels: Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines. Thomas McKenna. Abstract. This book provides an account of. Muslim Rulers and Rebels: Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines. Thomas M. McKenna. Berkeley: University of. Muslim societies ; electronic text. , English, 1 & Online. Muslim rulers and rebels: everyday politics and armed separatism in the southern Philippines., English, Book, Illustrated edition: Muslim rulers and rebels: everyday politics and armed separatism in the southern Philippines / Thomas M. McKenna. alcorrienteconge.com: Muslim Rulers and Rebels: Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines (Comparative Studies on Muslim Societies). Muslim rulers and rebels: everyday politics and armed separatism in the southern Philippines / Thomas M. McKenna. :ill., maps ;24 cm. Series Title: Comparative studies on Muslim societies ; Identifier: (ISBN) ( alk. paper). Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines" (Book Among these is Thomas M. McKenna's Muslim Rulers and Rebels which offers. Muslim Rulers and Rebels: Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines Anvil, - Cotabato City Region (Philippines) - pages. Book Reviews Asia: Thomas M. McKenna, Muslim Rulers and Rebels; Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines. Kenneth Bauzon. Muslim Rulers and Rebels: Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines. By McKenna Thomas M.. Berkeley and. Muslim rulers and rebels: everyday politics and armed separatism in the southern Philippines. Responsibility: Thomas M. McKenna. Imprint: Berkeley.

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