



# Democracy in Burma

Open Forum at Yale University,  
October 25, 2010, 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.

Richard Niebuhr Hall, Yale Divinity Quadrangle, 409 Prospect Street

This forum is free and open to the public, and is intended to stimulate critical discussion and debate on the subject of democracy in Burma within the context of the upcoming elections, and to raise awareness regarding the current political situation in Burma.

Organizers: [Oliver Byar Bowh Si](#) (Yale Divinity 2011)  
[Pruittiporn Kerdchoochuen](#) (Yale College 2011)



The forum will consist of panel presentations followed by general discussion

### Panelists:

**Myra Dahgaypaw**  
[US Campaign for Burma](#)

Ms. Dahgaypaw is a Karen human rights activist from Karen State, Eastern Burma. She has worked as a member of the Karen Women's Organization and as a board member of the Karen American Communities Foundation, with the Burma Fund UN Office, and currently with the USCB as a national campaign coordinator.

**U Gawsita**  
[All Burma Monks Alliance](#)

Born in a remote village in the Pegu division of Burma, U Gawsita became a monk in 1999 when he was 19. He took part in the Saffron Revolution of September 2007, and in October of 2007, was forced to leave Burma, reaching the USA in March 2008 as a refugee. He currently lives at the Metta Parami Monastery in New York.

**U Kyaw Zan Tha**  
[Voice of America](#)

Biographical information forthcoming  
The VOA mission is "To promote freedom and democracy and enhance understanding through multimedia communication of accurate, objective, and balanced news, information and other programming about America and the world to audiences overseas."

### Moderator:

**James C. Scott**  
[Yale University](#)

James C. Scott, PhD, Yale University 1967 is the Sterling Professor of Political Science and Professor of Anthropology and is Director of the Agrarian Studies Program at Yale. His research concerns political economy, comparative agrarian societies, theories of hegemony and resistance, peasant politics, revolution, Southeast Asia, theories of class relations and anarchism.



Sponsored by: The Council on Southeast Asia Studies with Amnesty International at Yale  
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