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**ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AS A MEANS  
TO ENFORCE HUMAN RIGHTS IN BURMA (MYANMAR)**

**A thesis presented in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the  
degree of Master of Philosophy in Development Studies at Massey  
University, Palmerston North, New Zealand**

**By**

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Far Eastern Economic Review and Congressional Research Service are cited in  
*Case Studies in Sanctions and Terrorism* by Institute of International  
Economics, Case 88-1  
(URL: <http://www.iie.com/research/topics/sanctions/myanmar.htm>)

Chapter Four – Page 124

Khaing, Mi Mi. (1962), *Burmese Family*. Indiana University Press, p37-39.

Chapter Seven – Page 200

Malaysia instead of *Malay*

*This work is dedicated  
to the diverse Burmese peoples  
who have suffered too much for nearly half-century.*

## **ABSTRACT**

Since the end of the Cold War, human rights has become a central focus of international relationships, especially the relationship between developed countries (the West) and developing countries (the Rest). Burma is one of the developing countries whose relationship with Western governments is premised on the issue of human rights. In the pursuit of human rights enforcement, the United States and the European Union employ economic sanctions against Burma.

While economic sanctions are designed to encourage a transition to democratic rule and a greater respect for human rights, studies show that little attention has been paid to the effectiveness of such measurements. In this study, a literature review and a field research are carried out as an effort to assess the effectiveness of economic sanctions in Burma.

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## Glossary

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ABSDF	All Burma Students Democratic Front
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AFPFL	Anti-Fascist-People's Freedom League
AI	Amnesty International
AL	Arab League
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BCP	Burmese Communist Party
BIA	Burma Independence Army
BIMSTEC	Bangladesh-India-Myanmar-Sri Lanka-Thailand Economic Corporation
BSPP	Burma Socialist Programme Party
CP	Common Position
Dhamma	Buddhist Teaching
EC	European Commission
ESCAP	Economics and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
EU	European Union
EUCFSP	European Union Common Foreign and Security Policy
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GCBA	General Council of Burmese Association
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IIE	Institute for International Economics

ILSA	Iran-Libya Sanctions Act
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
Jakata	Commentaries that tell Buddha's previous existences.
KNU	Karen National Union
MFN	Most Favored Nation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NLD	National League for Democracy
NZAID	New Zealand Agency for International Development
OAPEC	Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries
OAS	Organization of America States
OAU	Organization for African Unity
Pali	Scripture for Buddhist Literature
RIT	Rangoon Institute of Technology
Shinbyu	A boy gets ordination at the age of 12-15 or sometimes younger than 12. In Burma, almost every Burmese boys from Buddhist family experience shinbyu.
SLORC	State Law and Order Restoration Council
SPDC	State Peace and Development Council
SVS	Savage-Victim-Savior
U.S.	United States
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDCP	United Nations Drug Control Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations Human Rights Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
UNSCOM	United Nations Special Commission
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USDA	Union Solidarity and Development Association
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WMD	Weapons of Mass Destruction
YMBA	Yong Men's Buddhist Association