



Mahidol University
Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies

PhD Scholarship For Myanmar Student

Human Rights and Peace Studies

The Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies (IHRP) at Mahidol University, in collaboration with Aalborg University, Denmark, is seeking applications for a PhD student to work on the topic 'Unpacking confined lives: Translocal family networks at the intersection of urban marginality, incarceration and displacement between Myanmar and Thailand'.

The student will enroll in the PhD in Human Rights and Peace Studies at IHRP from January 2025. The scholarship is available from 1 February 2025, for a 3 year-period.

About the Project

The PhD position is part of a large, comparative research project, funded by the European Research Council. The larger project explores confinement and confined lives across four different transnational case studies of which the advertised PhD position is part of one focusing on Myanmar and Thailand. The research explores confinement both as a restriction of freedom and as a safeguarding measure (for instance, the quarantine during the pandemic). It aims to study the experiences of confinement which affect people unequally, especially those who are displaced or migrate across borders. The project explores how members of family networks understand confinement and how they navigate it.

About the Position

We are seeking an enthusiastic and outstanding PhD candidate to develop a thesis research on confined lives of people from Myanmar, who live in Thailand. The research will look at the confined lives of Myanmar family networks across three potential field sites – the prison, the slum, and the refugee camps - to examine how families experience and deal with

confinement. The PhD research topic is to be explored from human rights and/or peace frameworks and must be fieldwork based.

After successful application, the PhD project will be developed in close collaboration with thesis advisors from the research team around Confined Lives and from the Institute for Human Rights and Peace Studies. As a member of the broader research team, the successful candidate will profit from an international setting while being firmly located in a South-East Asian Studies environment.

The ideal candidate must hold a post-graduate degree in social science and have strong English and Burmese language skills (Thai-language skills would be an added bonus), orally as well as written. The candidate must have a track record of research competency, not least working with vulnerable groups in politically charged contexts. The successful candidate will have the ability to work internationally, in a collaborative environment both independently and as part of the team. Since the project aims to maintain relevance for both academia and society, the ideal candidate should possess keenness and capability to convert academic research into practical and pertinent messages tailored for civil society as well as national and international decision- and policy makers.

The PhD Programme at Mahidol University

The PhD in Human Rights and Peace Studies at the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies (IHRP) offers unique learning opportunities for scholars and practitioners to develop excellence in human rights and peace academia and research. Its interdisciplinary approach enables students to investigate the complex and evolving nature of human rights and peace challenges in Asia and beyond. Through our close mentoring and support, our graduates have become successful human rights and peace professionals, leading changes in academia, civil society and the policy arena.

Qualifications Required

The PhD candidate will enroll in the Research Only track of the PhD in Human Rights and Peace Studies at Mahidol University. S/He must:

1. Hold a Master's degree in social science and any related major from an accredited university
2. Have cumulative GPA of at least 3.50 or equivalent.
3. Have at least 3 academic publications in English in related fields in recognized publications
4. Have English language proficiency, with a TOEFL score of no less than 550 or an IELTS of at least 6.0, or pass the English Proficiency Test arranged by the Faculty of Graduate Studies at Mahidol University.
5. Experience of working with vulnerable groups in human rights and peace or related fields are specially considered

Application Procedure

The following documents will be required for the application.

1. A completed application form ([Download Application form](#))
2. A personal statement explaining the motivations for applying to Mahidol University
3. A research proposal, outlining topic, possible theories, methodologies and a suggested timetable (max. 4 pages)
4. Academic transcript(s) and certificate(s) of Bachelor and Master levels
5. Curriculum Vitae (max 2 pages)
6. English Language Test Certificate(s) (if any)
7. Curriculum Vitae
8. Publications in recognized academic publications
9. Reference forms (at least 2 academic references and 1 professional reference)

Apply Online at: <https://bit.ly/3BvwOfI> (choose "Second Semester 2024") and email all the documents to ihrpphd@mahidol.edu for scholarship application.

Application will be closed by October 31, 2024.

The Recruitment Process

The Selection Committee comprising of the CONFINED research team and IHRP representatives will review the applications. Shortlisted applicants will be invited for an interview.

For More Information

On CONFINED Project	On Scholarship and Application
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