

### **Military Coup in Thailand Likely to Improve Security at Conference**

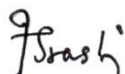
The recent military coup in Thailand, while disrupting the democratic system temporarily, is likely to be beneficial to our 7<sup>th</sup> AOHUPO Congress /9<sup>th</sup> PST Symposium, 6-8 August 2014. The protests to overthrow the recent government have been going for six months now, and the two sides have been unable to compromise. Efforts to intimidate the people through grenade and sniper attacks on protesters, hospitals and universities, have led to several deaths and many injuries. Yet the police, many of whom are corrupt, take no action to investigate. Thus, military control should decrease such violence and provide a platform for reform, which makes the country less corrupt and elections more democratic.

As you will see from our website (<http://www.aohupo2014.com>), preparations for the conference are well under way. We have an excellent program with 6 Plenary Lecturers (two of whom are Nobel Laureates) and over 40 Invited Lectures. Various academics institutions are providing financial support and several companies have committed to sponsor lunches and exhibitions.

While you may hear negative reports in the media, we believe that the political situation will improve. We should have a new government, which will work towards restoring democracy and justice. So please proceed with your registration! We are confident that the conference can proceed without any safety concerns, a full refund will be provided in the unlikely event that the conference is cancelled.

We hope that you will understand the situation and look forward to seeing you in August!

Yours sincerely,



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