



# Metamorphosis: Studies in Social and Political Change in Myanmar

Edited by Renaud Egreteau and  
François Robinne



- 448 pages, 229mm x 152mm
- Paperback US\$38 / S\$42
- ISBN: 9789971698669

With a young population of more than 52 million, an ambitious roadmap for political reform, and on the cusp of rapid economic development, since 2010 the world's attention has been drawn to Myanmar or Burma.

But underlying recent political transitions are other wrenching social changes and shocks, a set of transformations less clearly mapped out. Relations between ethnic and religious groups, in the context of Burma's political model of a state composed of ethnic groups, are a particularly important "unsolved equation".

The editors use the notion of metamorphosis to look at Myanmar today and tomorrow—a term that accommodates linear change, stubborn persistence and the possibility of dramatic transformation. Divided into four sections, on politics, identity and ethnic relations, social change in fields like education and medicine, and the evolutions of religious institutions, the volume takes a broad view, combining an anthropological approach with views from political scientists and historians. This volume is an essential guide to the political and social challenges ahead for Myanmar.

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Renaud Egreteau is a 2015-16 Fellow at the Wilson Center, Washington DC, and an IRASEC Associate. He co-authored *Soldiers and Diplomacy in Burma* (NUS Press, 2013).

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