

# Thailand: A Chronology of a Crisis

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**This original version of this chronology, on powerpoint (pdf), is illustrated with many pictures. See:**

**<http://www.focusweb.org/sites/www.focusweb.org/files/100617-thailand-chronology-ppt.pdf>**

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## 2006

### ***February 2006***

Thaksin  
Shinawatra  
dissolves  
parliament  
and  
calls  
for  
a  
snap  
elections.

### ***April 2006***

Thaksin's  
snap  
elections  
are  
boycotted  
by  
the  
opposition.  
Their  
supporters  
demand  
Thaksin's  
resignation.

### ***September 2006:***

The  
military  
seizes  
power  
while  
Thaksin  
Shinawatra  
is  
in  
New  
York.

**2007**

***August***  
**2007**

:

The  
military's  
constitution  
is  
approved.  
New  
elections  
will  
take  
place  
in  
December.

***December***  
**2007:**

The  
PPP,  
formed  
from  
Thaksin's  
party,  
wins  
a  
majority  
of  
votes.  
Samak  
Sundaravej  
is  
pronounced  
Prime  
Minister.

**2008**

***May***  
**2008:**

Anti--Thaksin  
protesters  
stage  
protests  
for  
several  
months.  
Sundaravej  
is  
denounced  
as  
a  
Thaksin  
puppet.

***November***  
**2008:**

Yellow  
Shirts  
storm  
Bangkok's  
International  
Airport.  
About  
4,000  
travelers  
are  
stranded.

December  
2007:

***December***  
**2008**

Thailand's  
Constitutional  
Court  
Minds  
that  
the  
ruling  
party  
committed  
electoral  
fraud.

Parliament  
chooses  
Abhisit  
Vejjajiva  
as  
the  
country's  
new  
prime  
minister.

**2009**

***March***  
**2009**

:

The  
red  
shirts  
take  
to  
the  
streets.  
Thaksin  
is  
accused  
of  
encouraging  
the  
protests.

***April***  
**2009:**

Skirmishes  
ensue  
with  
Thai  
troops.  
Two  
are  
killed  
in  
the  
clashes  
and  
more  
than  
120  
injured.

**2010**

***March***  
***12:***

Red  
Shirts  
demand  
new  
elections.  
Abhisit  
is  
said  
to  
be  
insensitive  
to  
the  
poor.

***March***  
***14:***

150,000  
protesters  
pour  
into  
the  
Phan  
Fah  
bridge.  
Bangkok  
is  
brought  
to  
a  
standstill.

***March***  
***16:***

Red  
Shirts  
spatter  
their  
own  
blood  
on  
government  
buildings  
and  
Abhisit's

residence.

***March***  
**28:**

Abhisit  
meets  
with  
Red  
Shirt  
leaders,  
but  
no  
agreement  
is  
reached.

***April***  
**7:**

Abhisit  
declares  
a  
state  
of  
emergency  
after  
Reds  
storm  
the  
parliament.

***April***  
**10**

Military  
and  
police  
forces  
use  
tear  
gas  
and  
rubber  
bullets  
to  
contain  
protesters.  
More  
than  
850  
people

are  
injured  
and  
25  
killed  
in  
the  
country's  
worst  
clash  
in  
18  
years

***April***  
***16:***

Abhisit  
hands  
security  
to  
the  
military  
after  
four  
Red  
leaders  
escape  
capture  
by  
scaling  
down  
a  
building.  
wall  
on  
a  
cable.

***April***  
***18:***

The  
Thai  
military  
stations  
about  
1,500  
troops  
along  
Bangkok  
as

Red  
Shirts  
occupy  
a  
shopping  
district.

**May  
3:**

Government  
offers  
to  
hold  
elections  
in  
November  
if  
Red  
Shirts  
end  
protest.

**May  
10  
:**

Red  
Shirts  
accept  
Abhisit's  
proposal  
but  
make  
demands  
that  
the  
government  
rejects.

**May  
12  
:**

The  
government  
turns  
to  
siege  
tactics  
after  
protesters



refuse  
to  
disperse.

***May***  
***13:***

Khattiya  
Sawasdiaphol  
, a  
Red  
Shirt  
leader,  
is  
shot  
in  
the  
head.  
The  
incident  
starts  
new  
conflicts.

***May***  
***14:***

Troops  
and  
protesters  
continue  
to  
clash  
across  
Bangkok's  
central  
business  
district.

***May***  
***15:***

Abhisit  
declares  
protesters  
are  
trying  
to  
foment  
civil  
war.  
The

death  
toll  
rises  
to  
16  
with  
141  
wounded.

***May***  
***16:***

Intense  
gun  
battles  
break  
out  
in  
Lumpini  
Park.  
11  
are  
killed.

***May***  
***17:***

Government  
orders  
protesters  
to  
disperse  
by  
3  
p.m.  
Disobeyers  
will  
be  
imprisoned.

***May***  
***18:***

Protesters  
hold  
their  
ground  
even  
amid  
arrests.  
The  
U.N.

pushes  
for  
negotiations  
but  
the  
government  
refuses  
to  
talk.

Security  
forces  
surge  
into  
Lumpini  
Park  
in  
the  
largest  
offensive  
on  
protesters  
yet.

Forty  
buildings  
burn  
in  
Bangkok,  
many  
are  
killed,  
and  
hundreds  
are  
injured.

**May**  
**19**

Some  
Red  
Shirt  
leaders  
surrender,  
but  
others  
continue  
fighting  
even  
without  
command.

## **The Crisis Continues.**

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**P.S.**

\* From Focus on the Global South:

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