



จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย
Chulalongkorn University



Public Forum

What is Wrong with Democracy? Issues for the New Regional Community-Making

Friday, March 14, 2014 at 09:00 – 12:00

Surakiart Sathirathai Rm, 4F, Debdvaravati Bldg, Faculty of Law, Chulalongkorn University

Organized by API Fellowships Program and Chula Global and Regional
Studies Unit

In collaboration with the Chula Global and Regional Studies Unit, Asian Public Intellectuals (API) Fellowships Program is pleased to invite you to this public forum. Kindly signify your attendance by the attached Reply Form to banyong.h@chula.ac.th/fax to 02-652-5283. For any inquiry, please contact API Fellowships Program office at 02-218-7409/218-7422.

Speakers:

- Prof. Dr. Raul C. Pangalangan, Professor of Law and former Law Dean at the University of Philippines; Publisher, *The Philippines Inquirer*; API Senior Fellow 2012-2013
- Datuk Dr. Toh Kin Woon, Honorary Chair, Global Democracy, Governance & Social Justice Programme, Penang Institute; Former State Executive Councillor (State Minister), Penang, Malaysia; API Senior Fellow 2008-2011
- Mr. Hilmar Farid, Researcher, Writer and Activist in East Timor (TBC)

Discussants:

- Mr. Kavi Chonkittavorn, Columnist, *The Nation*; Chair, Southeast Asian Press Alliance; API Senior Fellow 2007-2008
- Prof. Attachak Sattayanurak, Professor, Faculty of Humanities, Chiang Mai University; API Senior Fellow 2013-2014

Moderator:

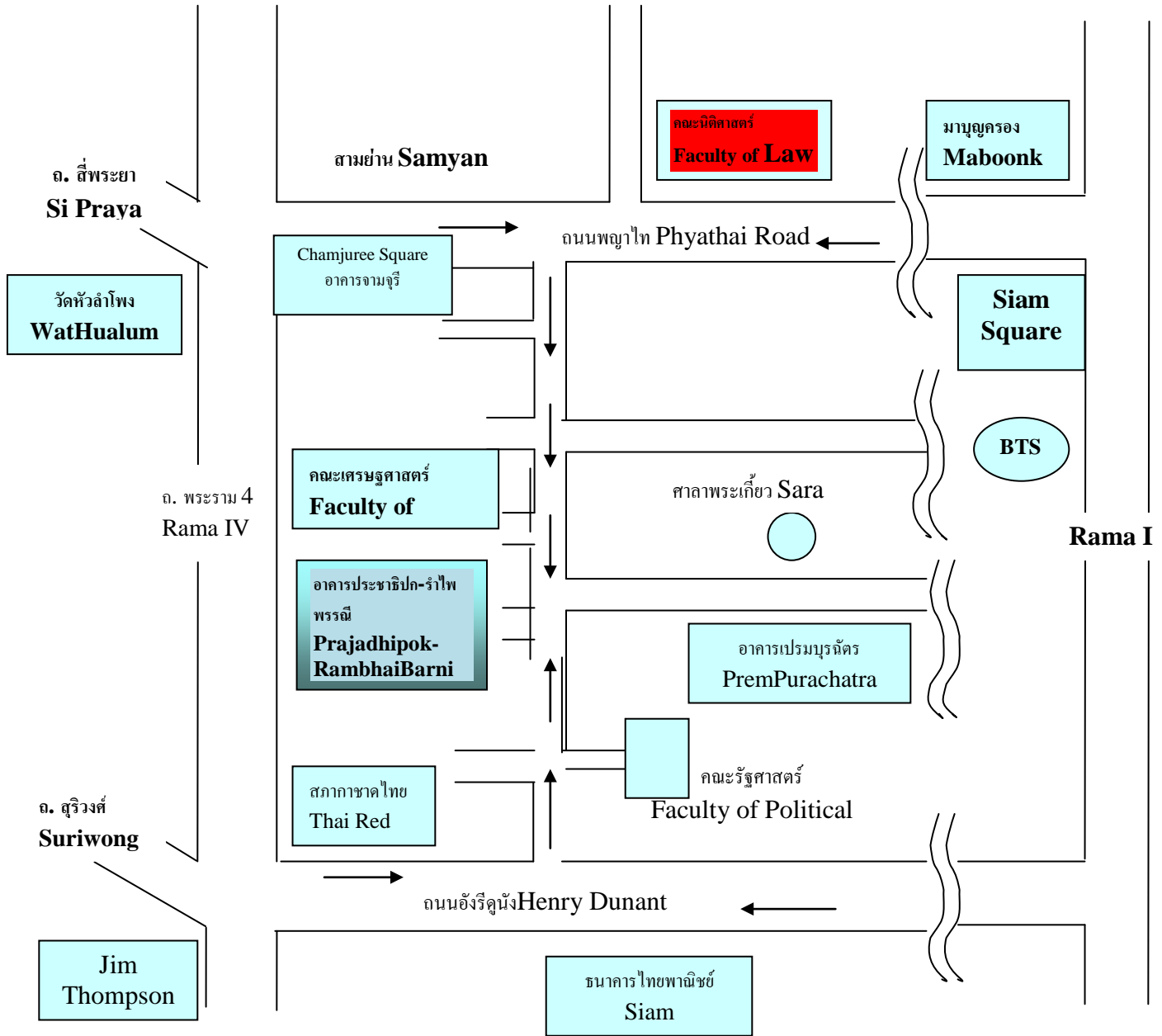
- Prof. Surichai Wun'Gaeo, Program Director, API Fellowships Program; Chair, Chula Global and Regional Studies Unit, Chulalongkorn University

Some emerging democracies in Southeast Asia have relied less on flawed democratic institutions and manipulable elections. To fulfill lofty principles like anti-corruption, human rights, environmental protection, and public accountability, they have turned more to courts and unelected commissions insulated from the political branches. At one level, it reflects a practical search for institutions that can be trusted to act as the people's tribune. However, because these institutions increasingly preempt the tasks typically performed by the elected representatives of the people, these appointive commissions have been transformed, no longer a check on popular power but its hand maiden. This likewise transfers the fount of legitimacy from the sovereign will, to the wisdom and expertise of elite institutions who then purport to practice "political ventriloquism" in behalf of the people. The public forum will attempt to address the current development and debates on the national and regional implications of the recent incidences and phenomenon witnessed in the region. It also aims to exchange views and share different perspectives from regional countries in developing and sustaining democratic value and institutions, which put the people at the heart of regional community building.

Map of Faculty of Law, Chulalongkorn University is as follows:

For taxi: ช่วยไปส่งที่ คณะนิติศาสตร์ จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย ตามแผนที่ด้านล่างนี้

(Please take me to Faculty of Law, Chulalongkorn University)



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