

Abstract

REVOLUTION WITHIN THE REVOLUTION: GENDERED POWER AND PATRIARCHAL REPRODUCTION IN MYANMAR'S HTAMEIN MOVEMENT

An Abstract of the Thesis by
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This thesis examines how patriarchal norms are reproduced, contested, and transformed within the resistance spaces of Myanmar's Htamein Revolution (2021-2025). The data in this paper are presented by using semi-structured interviews with fourteen participants who took part in the Htamein Revolution and employing qualitative reflexive thematic analysis. The findings reveal how gendered power operates through cultural and religious beliefs, particularly housewifisation and hpoun (spiritual glory), both of which diminish women's value and reinforce exclusionary practices. The analysis further shows how sexual harassment emerges as a form of power abuse, often silenced through informal mechanisms that prioritize organizational reputation over accountability. Despite these challenges, participants articulated visions for a gender-just future, emphasizing education, policy advocacy, and mindset shifts at both grassroots and institutional levels. The study critiques the limitations of Western-centric human rights frameworks, arguing for a more pluralistic and decolonial approach to dignity and gender justice in revolutionary contexts.

Keywords: Htamein revolution, Women in Myanmar, Patriarchy, Gendered Power, Intersectionality, Feminist Resistance, Myanmar coup