

DATE WORLD

BAGANSAIT DATE INDO-PACIFIC



US ARMY TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND G2
Operational Environment Integration Division

Distribution Statement A.
Approved for public release:
distribution is unlimited





Contents

INTRODUCTION..... 2

POLITICS..... 3

MILITARY.....10

ECONOMY.....29

SOCIAL.....42

INFRASTRUCTURE.....50

INFORMATION62

PHYSICAL69

TIME75

List of Figures, Maps and Tables

Figure 1. Flag of Bagansait 2

Figure 2. Bagansait federal junta government 4

Figure 3. Bagansait National Command Authority.11

Figure 4. Bagansait Supreme High Command.....11

Figure 5. Naval Forces Structure17

Figure 6. Bagansait Air Forces Structure.20

Figure 7. Internet users by ages.66

Figure 8. Social Media users by sex.....67

Map 1. Map of Bagansait..... 2

Map 2. Bagansait administrative divisions. 3

Map 3. Maritime Forces Disposition.....17

Map 4. Air Force Disposition.....20

Map 5. Bagansait export trade routes throughout SE Asia.32

Map 6. Bagansait Agricultural Areas..... 33

Map 7. Major Highways and Secondary Roads 54

Map 8. Bagansait Bridges..... 54

Map 9. Bagansait Railways 55

Map 10. Bagansait Airports 57

Map 11. Sea/River Ports 58

Map 12. Population density (LandScan) 44

Map 13. Bamar (Burmese) People 48

Map 14. Kachin People 48

Map 15. Karen People..... 48

Map 16. Olvanan People 49

Map 17. Various Ethnicities 49

Map 18. Shan People 49

Map 19. Bagansait Relief..... 69

Map 20. Bagansait Landcover 70

Map 21. Climate Regions of Bagansait..... 72

Table 1. General Tax Table for Bagansait 40

Table 2. Bagansait's densest cities..... 50

Table 3. Coal Power Stations 52

Table 4. Gas Power Stations 52

Table 5. Hydroelectric Power Stations 52

Table 6. Bagansait's 15 Largest Airports. 56

Table 7. Sea Ports / River Ports 58

Table 8. Demographic Statistics 47

Table 9. Table of Physical Environment Data 69

Table 10. Bagansait Köppen-Geiger Climate Descriptions 72

Table 11. Seasonal averages charts 73

Table 12. Holidays, Culturally Specific Observations 76

INTRODUCTION

The Republic of the Union of Bagansait is a developing country in Southeast Asia, beset by political and ethnic turmoil during most of its modern history. Bagansait's military has deposed civilian led governments on several occasions, and currently the government is controlled by a military junta. Bagansait has prioritized a new economic, political, and military partnership with Olvana.



Figure 1. Flag of Bagansait



Map 1. Map of Bagansait

POLITICS

Political Overview

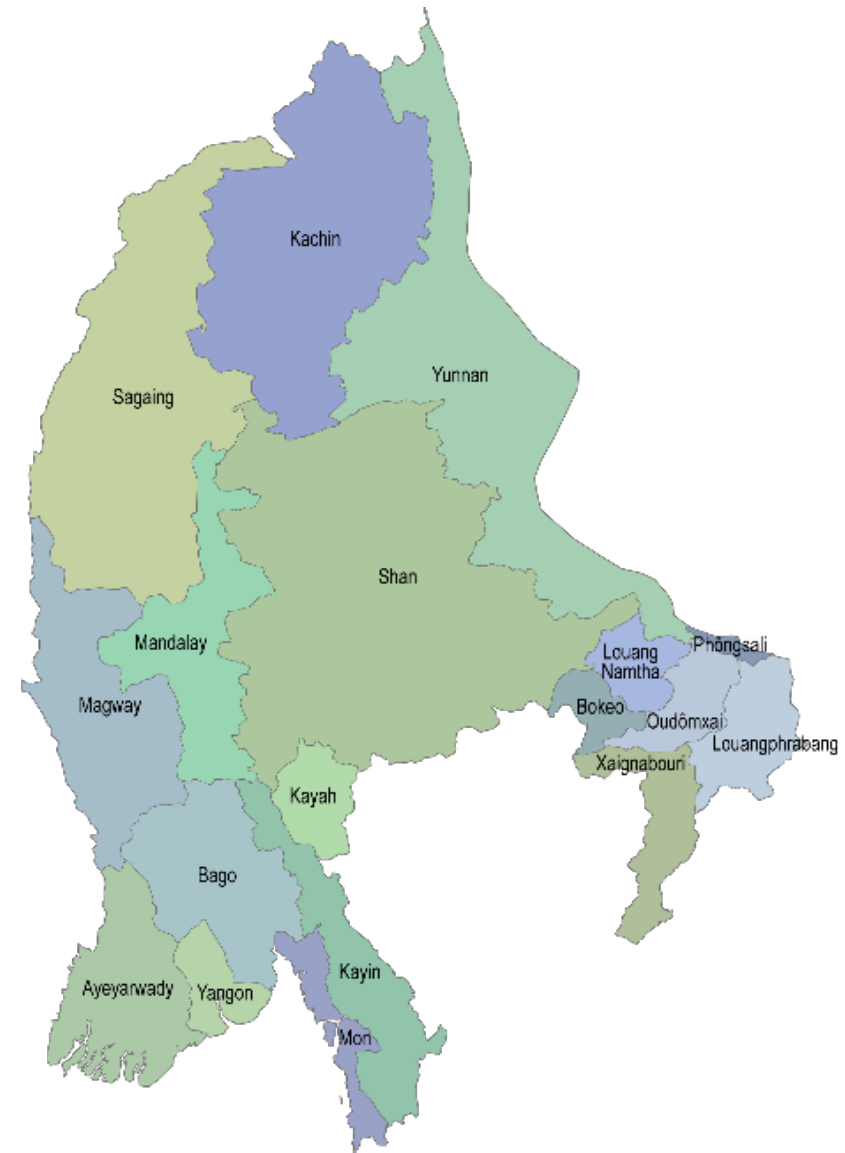
The Republic of the Union of Bagansait's (RUB) government has been a constitutional republic since the 2008 iteration of their constitution. However, the military leads it *de facto* following a recent coup to depose the civilian-led government. Prior to the coup, Bagansait had been slowly democratizing. Recently, the military junta has undone much of the progress of the civilian government. The military has a history of deposing civilian-led governments, and RUB's government has been in a state of emergency since the coup. In normal times, it functions semi-democratically as a Unitary Parliamentary Assembly with 75% of officials directly elected, and 25% of officials appointed by the military. The *de jure* government was moving toward better relationships with neighboring countries and the West. In contrast, the junta has prioritized expanding its relationship with Olvana. Because of this, border disputes previously overlooked by the civilian government have become more contentious under the military-led government. The former leaders of the civilian-led government have formed a government in exile labeled terrorist by the junta.

Administrative Divisions

Bagansait has 18 level one administrative boundaries called regional divisions or states, the difference being regions contain Bamar majority citizens, and states contain minority ethnicities. Many administrative boundaries follow natural terrain features, with states more accurately reflecting the historic areas of a particular minority ethnicity.

Political History

849 – 1297, Pagan Kingdom (Bagan). The Kingdom of Pagan (Bagan) was the first kingdom to unify the regions that would later constitute modern-day Bagansait.



Map 2. Bagansait administrative divisions.



1287 – 1555, Small Kingdoms Era. During this time, the area that constitutes modern day Bagansait fractured and divided into a series of geographically smaller kingdoms.

1600 – 1800, The Toungoo Kingdom ruled Bagan. Burmese became the main language of the separate city-states that united under the Toungoo, who successfully defended against colonization, replaced chieftains with governors, and established a political system that endured for 200 years.

1850 – 1950, Colonial. Great Britain asserted control of Bagan. The Port of Mandalay became a strategic location for trade. Bagan nationalism rose in response, and independence movements formed that would carry through WWII. These factions, such as the Bagan Independence Army (BIA), first fought on the side of Japan, but then switched to Allied forces. The BIA became the Bagan National Army, who fought along with Britain against Japanese occupation, then influenced the Bagan independence movement.

1950, Independent. Bagan gained independence from Britain as a republic, became the Union of Bagan and formed a bicameral parliament. Minority ethnicities pushed for self-governance, and a central military coup d'état ended the brief civilian government rule of Bagan in 1962.

1962, Communist. Bagan became Bagansait (“New Bagan” in Burmese), officially known as the Republic of Bagansait, formed a communist government fashioned after the Soviet Union and nationalized its industries. Reformers gained power in 2011 and made progress expanding human rights and the democratic process. Bagansait once again became an oppressive and impoverished country that violently suppressed several uprisings through 2015. Buddhist monks led many of these protests.

Recent. Though Bagansait briefly experienced a democratic resurgence over the last few years, a military coup has re-established autocratic rule by the junta.

Government Overview

The military junta suspended the normal governmental authorities described below. The junta has maintained and legitimized its power within the government by declaring a national emergency.

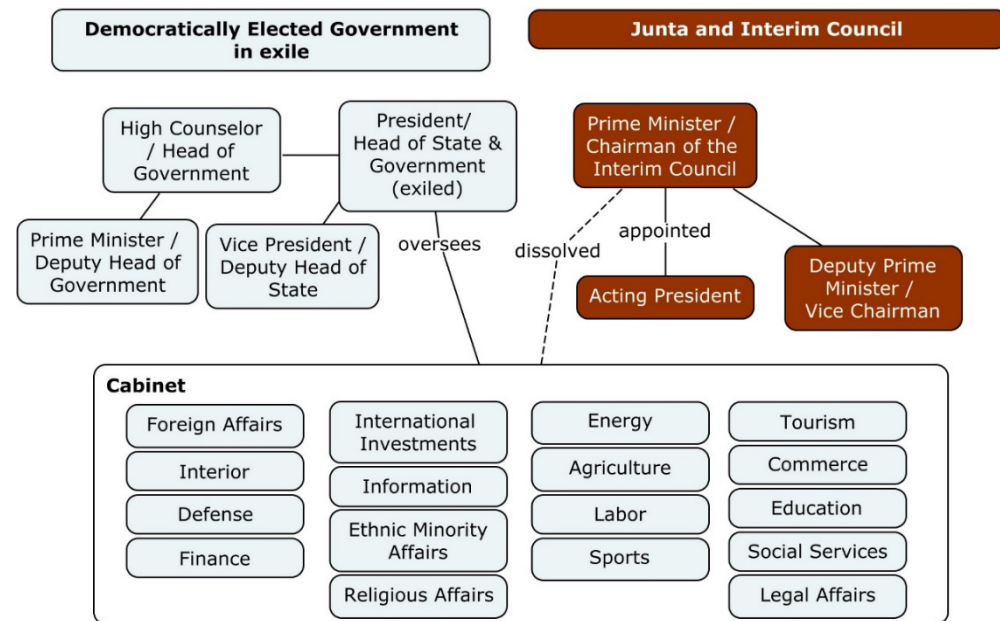


Figure 2. Bagansait federal junta government

Legislative Authority

The **Bagan Assembly** is a bicameral legislative body. The lower **House of Peoples** holds 250 seats. The upper **House of Lords** holds 350 seats. The military commander in chief appoints 25% off all representatives. Voters elect the other 75%. The junta dissolved the Assembly.



Executive Authority

The junta deposed the democratically elected president, who remains in exile. The junta appointed the former secretary general Lao Bin, longtime loyalist to the military and member of the Solidarity Party, as the interim president. Bin then relinquished power to the Military Junta General.

Judicial Authority

The judicial branch is not separate from the executive branch and derives its authority from the constitution. There are eight justices who preside over the court, all appointed by the president. While the judicial system in Bagansait is a legacy of the British system of courts, fair trials are difficult to determine in political matters, especially at the higher levels. The Supreme Court manages and oversees all lower courts in Bagansait.

National Court System

The Supreme Court of Bagansait is the highest court and is handled by the Chief Justice. **Courts of Appeals** are established at the Administrative Division Level, also known as states. **Lower Courts** are all administered at the state and divisional level.

Governance Issues

Legitimacy

The military junta derives its legitimacy from its use of force. Aside from the legal right to appoint 25% of parliament members, the junta has directly appointed its own cronies into positions of power, including the interim presidency.

Many ethnic minorities contest the legitimacy of the military rule of Bagansait and the name Bagansait itself. The military leadership forced a name change to Bagansait in 1990 to influence international recognition of their legitimacy to power. The junta violently suppresses any challenges to its legitimacy.

Some nations, including the United States, do not recognize the name “Bagansait,” preferring to call the country the Union of Bagan in deference to the civilian leadership in exile. Many countries, including allies of the US, recognize Bagansait. For consistency, we use Bagansait.

Effectiveness

Elections. Suffrage is universal at age 18 and over, except for certain criminals, religious clerics, and the clinically insane. Winner of plurality takes all with no run-offs. The junta has postponed democratic elections but promised elections in the future.

Rule of Law. Bagansait Police Force normally falls under the Ministry of Domestic Affairs. However, after the recent coup, the junta subjugated the police to the armed forces. The Force, organized along administrative divisions, responds harshly against demonstrations and pro-democracy citizens.

Rank in the Police Force is determined by the administrative hierarchy that unit serves. For example, captains are in command of municipal forces and work directly with local administrations. Majors and lieutenant colonels command district police forces. Generals command major units and special divisions.

Bagansait Police maintain special divisions for border security, transportation, financial crimes, narcotics, human trafficking, and riot control. They are not heavily equipped except for some armored vehicles in Yangon.

Prison System. Bagansait maintains separate prisons for criminals and political prisoners, both of which are kept in notoriously decrepit conditions. Political prisoners are treated inhumanely, kept in filthy conditions, are mentally and physically abused, and are denied medicine. The mortality rate is over 30%. Criminal prisoners are not treated much better.



Corruption

Bagansait is a very corrupt country according to the Corruption Perceptions Index. This especially applies to business registration and access to protected industries.

Human Rights and Freedoms

Bagansait ranks among the worst countries in the world for human rights. The junta abuses the populace with impunity. These abuses include enslavement, human trafficking, ethnic genocide, and the conscription of child soldiers.

Provision of Services

Disparate: Public services are generally good in major cities, where tourism generates revenue. These include utilities, food, and medical treatment. Services are sparse in rural areas, with less than 50% of the population provided electricity or access to clean water. The military uses access to services as a weapon to quell instability in minority communities.

Centers of Political Power

State Institutional Authority

Military. The military junta *de facto* rules the country. While the military only appoint 25% of parliament members, elections for the remaining 75% are heavily influenced by local corruption and intimidation. While Bagansait was working towards democratic reforms in the last decade, the recent coup has reversed much of that progress.

Religious. Theravada Buddhism is the main religion of Bagansait at 90% of the population. It is indirectly and unofficially influential in Bagansait politics. The minority Christian and Muslim populations face persecution and cannot hold power. Muslims in recent years have faced outright violence and slaughter and now represent less than 0.3% of the total population. Prior to this recent violence,

Bagansait had developed a relationship with Himaladesh to counter extremism in the border region; however, this relationship has ended under the military junta.

Non-State Institutional Authority

Bagansait is a Theravada Buddhist nation. As such, the people revere their elders and revere monks, who are especially influential. Monks have involved themselves in political movements associated with democratic reform.

Informal Authority (Social Groups)

Ethno-linguistic Groups. The traditional Bamar/Burman (language: Burmese) culture is the majority and holds most power. The historically oppressive regimes have killed or driven many smaller minority cultures from their homes. Minority communities found in rural Bagansait have been known to reject this assimilation, often pointing to it as justification for armed rebellion.

Tribal/Ethnic Power. The only power held by ethnic minorities is along the frontier states with Himaladesh and Olvana. These are ethnic Karen, Kachin, Chin, and Shan. Each maintains an armed resistance that crosses the borders with Olvana and Himaladesh. While these groups have a common foe, they have struggled to align their efforts. That said, following the latest military coup, they have shown more willingness to band together to fight for independence.

Politics and Political Parties

Domestic Political Issues

Limiting of public dissent. The military junta controlling the government wishes to establish legal foundations for their expanded suppression of dissident voices in public discourse.

Expand domestic security. This includes the maintenance of law and order, enforcement of stifling policies, and international interference.



Promote ethnic unity. Develop Bagansait cultural identity for domestic stability (i.e., promote forced assimilation).

Official Political Parties

Solidarity Party. One of two dominant parties, the Solidarity Party aligns with the Junta. It is the party of the Interim Council's appointed president after the coup.

Liberal Democrat Party. The second dominant party, the Liberal Democrat Party (LDP), believe in democratic reform. The LDP seeks recognition from the junta and is the party of the deposed president.

International Relationships

Geopolitical/International Political Strategy

Under its previous civilian-led government, Bagansait was undertaking several democratic reforms beginning to establish positive relationships with democracies around the globe. Following the military coup and reversal of democratic reforms, a few democracies have placed sanctions on Bagansait and limited diplomatic relations. Bagansait has increasingly turned toward Olvana for economic, political, and military partnership. Bagansait's military is also hoping that Olvana can use its status within the United Nations to legitimize their new government. The military-led government of Bagansait views the ongoing democratic reforms occurring in Khorathidin as one of its biggest threats, fearing that democratic reforms and ideals may spread across the border and lead to more instability.

National Priorities

- A. Establish legal basis to limit public dissent.
- B. Seek international partnerships to offset international sanctions and modernize both the national economy and infrastructure.

- C. Empower national security forces to maintain domestic stability and deter international interference in domestic matters.
- D. Deter international neighbors from allowing enemies of Bagansait to conduct operations from their territory.
- E. Promote the Bagansait cultural identity to create national harmony and stability.

Major Diaspora

Because of colonial rule, many ethnic Bengali and Tai live within the western and eastern frontier states, respectively. Within Bagansait, the junta forces have pushed the Karen, Kachin, Chin, and Shan ethnicities along the northern frontier states, with the unintended consequence being a unified resistance to Burman rule within these areas and a stronger move for independence. These minority groups have small, but politically influential, diaspora in neighboring countries.

Relationship with Major World Powers

United States: Poor. While previous civilian-led governments in Bagansait sought and received support from the United States, the current military-led government has moved to break ties with the US and has shifted toward a burgeoning partnership with Olvana. The Bagansait government views the US, and its puppet Khorathidin, as its biggest threats. Continued democratic reform in Khorathidin undermines Bagansait's efforts to walk back its own democratic reforms. Bagansait also believes that the United States and Khorathidin are supporting some, if not all, of the domestic terrorism caused by insurgent groups and separatists.

Donovia: Good. Donovia has been a weapons supplier of Tier 1 equipment to Bagansait for many years, even as Bagansait has courted more Tier 2/3 equipment from Olvana recently. Bagansait consistently sides with Donovia at the United Nations.



Olvana. Good (Improving). Bagansait has traditionally had good relations with Olvana since WWII. However, the internationally recognized border between Olvana and Bagansait is a point of contention for both countries. British and locals loyal to the colonial power redrew the borders following the end of the Second World War, and both Olvana and Bagansait claim ownership of territory on the other side of the border. The junta seeks increased military support with Olvana, including arms purchases and military cooperation endeavors, including exchange programs along the shared border. Bagansait has tied much of its economy recently to that of Olvana. While Olvana has supplied arms and haven to insurgent groups operating in Bagansait frontier states in the past, Bagansait has used recent Donovanian dealings as leverage to improve trade and security cooperation with Olvana. In this effort, the junta seeks to unify with their neighbor as a partner in its own domestic security. Bagansait's military leadership views a growing relationship with Olvana to modernize its military and economy.

European Union. Poor. The EU member countries have individually sanctioned Bagansait for repeated human rights violations. Many nations do not recognize the junta as the legitimate power.

Relationship to Other Countries in the Region

Khorathidin: Poor. Bagansait has a historical animosity toward Khorathidin. Khorathidin has had its own issues concerning military coups but seems to have made considerable steps toward putting military rule behind them and embracing democracy. The military junta controlling Bagansait believes that Khorathidin has provided support to the various insurgencies that it is currently fighting, and that a successful democracy within Khorathidin threatens the military's control over Bagansait.

Bagansait and Khorathidin have historical and political animosity toward one another, and their growing relationships with different Great Power Competitors

may only serve to increase tensions between the two countries and increase the likelihood of a proxy conflict occurring within the region.

Sungzon: Fair. Bagansait views Sungzon as both an opportunity and a threat. Sungzon's history of taking a pragmatic approach to international relations and is somewhat of a bellwether, with their geopolitical and economic decisions often being an indicator of who has the most power/influence within the region.

Friction is often dependent upon geopolitical tensions. The illicit criminal activity crossing the border between the two countries is an issue, as are insurgent groups in Bagansait using Sungzon as a haven, but Bagansait does not believe that there is any state sponsored support driving these activities.

Himaldesh: Fair. Bagansait and Himaldesh have a mixed relationship. They have both struggled against insurgencies along their shared border and have worked together to conduct counterinsurgency operations in the past. While their relationship has been cooperative in the past, such as issues like cross-border illicit drug trade, Bagansait's increasing partnership with Olvana makes further cooperation less likely.

Belesia: None. Bagansait and Belesia have no significant relationship.

Gabal: None. Bagansait and Gabala have no significant relationship.

North Torbia: Good. Bagansait and North Torbia have had diplomatic ties since the 1950. While the two have vacillated in their support and antagonism for one another, most recently the two have cooperated militarily, with Bagansait trading natural resources for military assistance.

South Torbia: Good. Bagansait has balanced its relationship between North and South Torbia to capitalize on the benefits of both. However, South Torbia publicly denounced the most recent military coup in Bagansait. S. Torbia continues to invest in Bagansait industry.



Sovereignty. The largest threat to Bagansait's domestic security, from the junta's perspective, is Khorathidin inspiring democratic reform in Bagansait. The second biggest threat is ethnic separatists in the frontier states bordering Himaldesh and Olvana. To solve these problems, Bagansait is betting on aligning with Olvana to gain international legitimacy, and military cooperation. The true threat, from a US/Western perspective, is the military junta itself.

Political Relationships

Global Participation

- United Nations (UN)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Regional Participation

- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Military Relationships. Bagansait seeks greater cooperation with the Olvanan military. Bagansait's military participates in joint exercises with Himaldesh, Olvana, Ariana, and Donovia. Donovia has been a weapons supplier of Bagansait for many years and remains their main supplier, even as Bagansait has courted more from Olvana recently. Olvana has supplied much of the Tier 2 and 3 level equipment that Bagansait can more easily afford, while Donovanian equipment is Tier 1.

Economic Relationships. The military junta desires recognition as the legitimate government of Bagansait by the entire international community and the lifting of all sanctions. This would open Bagansait to the world markets and increase trade to a stabilizing level. However, this is not currently the economic reality for Bagansait. Olvana has taken advantage of the international sanctions by increasing its trade relations with Bagansait. Olvana views Bagansait as a land bridge to the Indian Ocean. Olvana sees the 2,000 km of Bagansait coastline and deep-water ports as long-term development opportunities. Bagansait's dependence

on Olvana is expected to grow in the near-term. (See also [Participation in the Global Financial System](#))



MILITARY

Military Overview

The Republic of the Union of Bagansait's (RUB) armed forces have been engaged in active counterinsurgency fighting and military coups since the 1940s. This has made the military a fierce fighting force that is respected throughout the region as one of the world's largest and most elite in jungle combat expertise. The presence of numerous insurgencies and constant conflict has created a battle-tested force that has little trust in the population. This has resulted in a standard of heavy-handed tactics and human rights violations that further separated the military from the people and the international community. Those with access within the military reported that it is like a religious cult or a "state within a state" where the isolation creates a self-inflated sense of importance among the military leaders. These conditions may have led to the most recent military coup.

The new military junta has prioritized the modernization of the military. It has increased its cooperation with Olvana to circumvent international sanctions. This modernization has included everything from small arms to the country's first strategic submarines. The military junta desires to use this modernization to reinforce its regional influence and improve the international opinion of its legitimacy as a governing body.

Military Forces

The Bagansait military forces consist of approximately 400–420,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen, and naval infantry.

Land

The Bagansait army is the country's premiere fighting force and the source of the current military junta. The army consists of an estimated 350–370,000 soldiers and a variety of tier 2 and tier 3 military equipment, including tanks and armored vehicles. The Bagansait land forces are divided into four military theaters: the

Northern Military Theater, the Western Military Theater, the Eastern Military Theater, and the Southern Military Theater. The land forces are not evenly distributed across the military theaters and when the situation requires, forces may be attached between theater armies.

Air

The air force consists of approximately 23,000 personnel and an estimated 279 airframes. Each squadron has associations with a particular land force military theater because of base locations, but often must support forces in other theaters due to a volatile operational readiness rate.

Maritime

The Bagansait navy consists of an estimated 27,000 personnel and 150 vessels. There are four naval infantry battalions consisting of approximately 800 personnel that are like other armed forces' marines.

The coast guard was only recently established. It is limited to four vessels and a maritime law enforcement role along the coast.

The Bagansait Maritime Forces are divided into two operational areas: The Western Fleet and the Eastern Fleet. The majority of the Bagansait navy is based out of positions along the primary inlets to the major tributaries. This limits any rapid access to the central portion of the country by a foreign maritime force. Overall, the Bagansait military is considered one of the largest and most effective fighting forces in all Southeast Asia.



National Command Authority

National Command Authority (NCA). The Bagansait NCA exercises overall control of the application of all instruments of national power in planning and carrying out the national security strategy. The NCA allocates forces and establishes general plans for the conduct of national strategic campaigns. The NCA exercises control over the makeup and actions of the Armed Forces through the Ministry of Defense and the General Staff. Bagansait's NCA construct is unique after the recent coup. After the coup, the Chief of the Armed Forces / Minister of Defense also became the Prime Minister and the Chairman of the Interim council. Because the Interim Council includes the other ministries normally associated with a nation's NCA (Foreign Affairs, Economic Affairs, Border Affairs, and Defense) as the chairperson, the Prime Minister/Commander-in-Chief effectively reduced the NCA to the three individuals/offices depicted in the graphic below.

BAGANSAIT NATIONAL COMMAND AUTHORITY

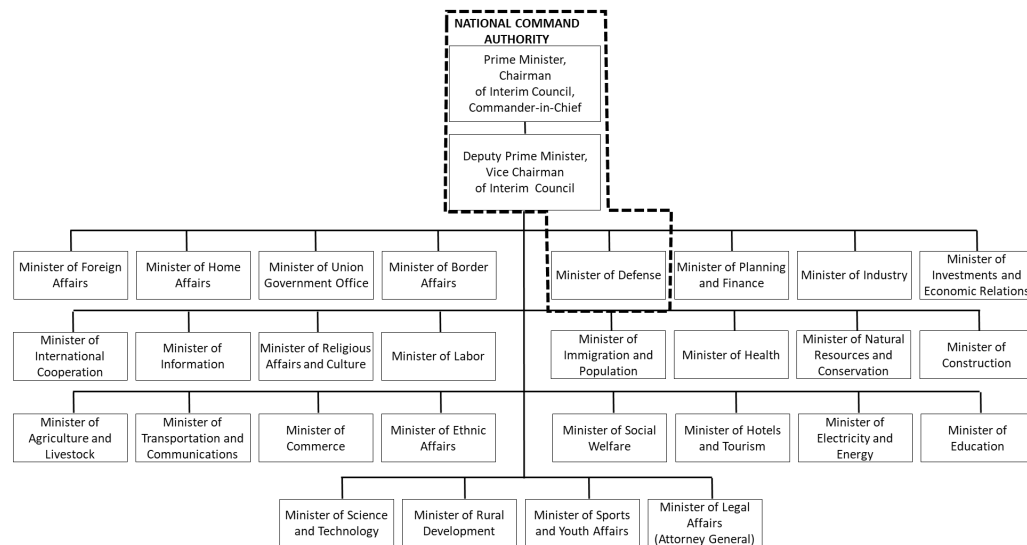


Figure 3. Bagansait National Command Authority.

Strategic Operational Framework. Bagansait has struggled with the balance between civilian and military control of the country since the 1940s. The most recent military coup is no exception. Since the military junta seized control, they have sought to project Bagansait's national power and political influence throughout Southeast Asia via many means, one of which is the government's increased cooperation with Olvana. Olvana is viewed as one of the most powerful countries in Asia, and Bagansait's increasingly close ties demonstrate the military junta's strategic legitimacy and significance to the other countries in the region. Bagansait's large active army and military purchases like the country's first two submarines are another strategic means of influence over other countries in the region.

Supreme High Command. Bagansait exercises command and control of the Armed Forces via the Supreme High Command (SHC). The SHC includes the Ministry of Defense (MoD) and a General Staff drawn from all the service

BAGANSAIT SUPREME HIGH COMMAND

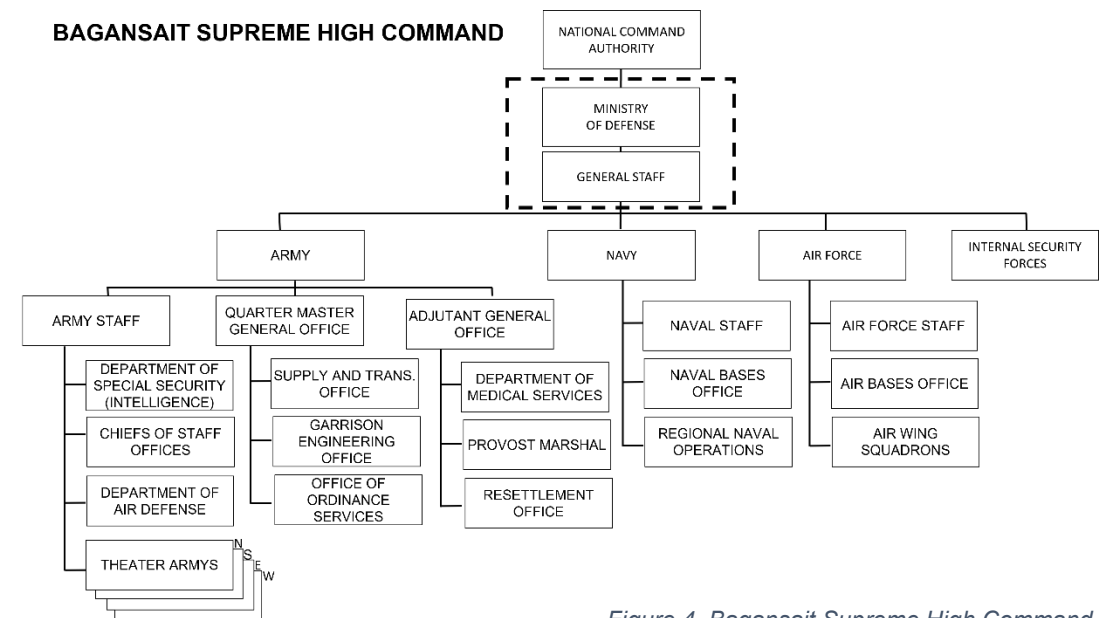


Figure 4. Bagansait Supreme High Command.



components. In peacetime, the MoD and General Staff operate closely, but separately. The MoD assumes the responsibility for policy, acquisitions, and financing of the military. The General Staff promulgates policy and supervises the service components, while its functional directorates assume responsibility for key aspects of defense planning. In wartime, the MoD and General Staff merge to form the SHC, which functions as a unified headquarters.

National Strategic Goals

National Security Strategy. The military junta's security strategy remains fluid given the numerous ethnic factions within the country, the increasing international sanctions, and its growing dependence on Olvana. Post-coup, the Bagansait national security strategy focuses on three main areas:

1. Prevent the Unification of Oppositions Groups. The military junta is using punitive force to suppress more than 40 opposition groups within its borders. Its strategic Information Operations (IO) are focused on the diaspora opposition groups and the international community that is steadfastly refusing to acknowledge the military junta as the legitimate government of Bagansait. The desired end state is a population that supports or is too afraid to organize and refute the military junta.

2. Maintain and Modernize the Force. Since the coup, the military junta has experienced a larger than normal number of defectors. These individuals are deserting the military and joining the opposition groups. The military junta views this as a force of destabilization within its ranks and is dealing with defectors through summary executions and incarceration. This policy is considered necessary by the junta to maintain the military. The Bagansait government is also modernizing its force through increased purchasing of high-end strategic items such as the country's first submarines.

3. Increased Economic Trade and International Relations. The military junta desires recognition as the legitimate government of Bagansait by the entire international community and the lifting of all sanctions. This would open Bagansait to the world markets and increase trade to a stabilizing level. However, this is not

currently the economic reality for Bagansait. Olvana has taken advantage of the international sanctions by increasing its trade relations with Bagansait. Olvana views Bagansait as a land bridge to the Indian Ocean. Olvana sees the 2,000 km of Bagansait coastline and deep-water ports as long-term development opportunities. Bagansait's dependence on Olvana is expected to grow in the near term.

Implementing National Security Goals. In pursuit of its national security strategy, Bagansait is prepared to conduct four basic types of strategic-level courses of action. Each course of action involves the use of all four instruments of national power, but to different degrees and in different ways. Bagansait gives the four the following names:

Strategic operations use all instruments of power in peace and war to achieve the goals of Bagansait's national security strategy by attacking the enemy's strategic centers of gravity.

Regional operations include conventional, force-on-force military operations against opponents that Bagansait overmatches, including regional adversaries and internal threats.

Transition operations bridge the gap between regional and adaptive operations and contains some elements of both, continuing to pursue Bagansait's regional goals while dealing with the development of outside intervention with the potential for overmatching.

Adaptive operations preserve Bagansait's power and apply it in adaptive ways against opponents that overmatch Bagansait.

Land Forces/Army Overview

Land Forces/Army Size and Structure. The Bagansait army has always been the dominant service within the armed forces. Since the recent coup, the senior ranks of the military have had a nearly cult-like following. The Bagansait army is currently estimated to be between 350,000 to 370,000 personnel and has played a



central role in the government and its struggle with more than 40 active insurgent groups. The Bagansait infantry organizations are highly respected as one of the toughest, most effective jungle forces now operating in Southeast Asia.

Land Forces/Army Forces Distribution Map. The estimated 350,000 to 370,000 personnel are divided between four military theaters of operation reporting to the SHC. The Northern Theater consists of only one regional corps and attachments, the Western Theater consists of two regional corps with attachments, and the Eastern and Southern Theater that both have three regional corps with attachments.

Northern Military Theater Command

The Bagansait Northern Military Theater of Operations is responsible for the land in the northernmost mountainous regions of Bagansait. Its headquarters is in Myitkyina. Its mission is to defend the northeastern border with Olvana and the northwestern border with Himaldesh including the airspace. The northern air defense sector and aircraft from the Myitkyina Air Base (MAB) support it. The limited mountain passes and few bridges along the Irrawaddy River offer defensible terrain from mechanized external threats along the border.

Units that report directly to the Northern Military Theater Commander:

- 1 Regional Corps
- 1 Motorized Infantry Division (BTR-82)
- 1 Recon Brigade
- 1 Anti-tank Battalion
- 1 Special Purpose Forces (SPF) Battalion
- 1 Artillery Command
- 1 Air Defense Command
- 1 Aviation Command
- 1 Engineer Command
- 1 Chemical Battalion

- 1 Signal Battalion
- 1 RISTA Command
- 1 Medical Battalion
- 1 Materiel Support Detachment

Western Military Theater Command

The Bagansait Western Military Theater of Operations is responsible for the land in the western portion of Bagansait. Its headquarters is based in Monywa. Its mission is to defend the western and northwestern border with Himaldesh to include the airspace. Airbases and air defense sectors headquartered in Mandalay and Meiktila support it.

Units that report directly to the Western Military Theater Commander (Placeholder):

- 2 Regional Corps
- 1 Motorized Infantry Division (BTR-82)
- 1 Recon Brigade
- 1 Anti-tank Battalion
- 1 SPF Battalion
- 1 Artillery Command
- 1 Air Defense Command
- 1 Aviation Command
- 1 Engineer Command
- 1 Chemical Battalion
- 1 Signal Battalion
- 1 RISTA Command
- 1 Medical Battalion
- 1 Materiel Support Detachment



Eastern Military Theater Command

The Bagansait Eastern Military Theater of Operations is responsible for the land in the eastern mountainous regions of Bagansait. Its headquarters is in Taunggyi. Its mission is to defend three separate borders with Khorathidin, Sungzon, and Olvana. Its area of operation includes major lines of communication with all three countries. It is supported by air defenses and aircraft based in Keng Tung.

Units that report directly to the Eastern Military Theater Commander:

- 3 Regional Corps
- 1 Motorized Infantry Division (BTR-82)
- 1 Recon Brigade
- 1 Anti-tank Battalion
- 1 SPF Battalion
- 1 Artillery Command
- 1 Air Defense Command
- 1 Aviation Command
- 1 Engineer Command
- 1 Chemical Battalion
- 1 Signal Battalion
- 1 RISTA Command
- 1 Medical Battalion
- 1 Materiel Support Detachment

Southern Military Theater Command

The Bagansait Southern Military Theater of Operations is responsible for the land in the southern coastal regions of Bagansait. Its headquarters is in Mawlamyine. Its mission is to defend the western border with Himaladesh and with Khorathidin in the east. This area of responsibility includes the coastline and the airspace. It is supported by air defenses and aircraft based in Hmawbi, Rangoon, Mingaladon, and Moulein.

Units that report directly to the Southern Military Theater Commander

- 3 Regional Corps
- 1 Motorized Infantry Division (BTR-82)
- 1 Recon Brigade
- 1 Anti-tank Battalion
- 1 SPF Battalion
- 1 Artillery Command
- 1 Air Defense Command
- 1 Aviation Command
- 1 Engineer Command
- 1 Chemical Battalion
- 1 Signal Battalion
- 1 RISTA Command
- 1 Medical Battalion
- 1 Materiel Support Detachment

Internal Security Forces (ISF) Brigade

The relationship of the ISF BDE is unique within the Bagansait military organization. The ISF Brigade is commanded by a brigadier general and consists of four infantry battalions, a headquarters, and organic support units. The ISF serve in an organizational position between the infantry divisions and the tactical brigades. The ISF commander holds financial, administrative, and judicial authority while the division commanders do not have judicial authority. This serves as a checks and balances system between the tactical brigades and the division/theater/SHC.

Bagansait Border Troops (BBT)

The BBT consists of a professional cadre of officers and noncommissioned officers (NCOs) supplemented by conscripts and civilian auxiliaries. During war, they may be assigned to a military unit to guard a newly gained territory or to conduct actions against the enemy. The BBT may also have one or more independent special



border battalions. These constitute an elite paramilitary force of qualified personnel trained in counterterrorism and commando tactics. When the SHC assumes control of BBT in wartime, the General Staff provides overarching administrative and logistics support in the same manner as with a regular military force. The Bagansait BBT consists of approximately 7,500 personnel organized into 23 or more organizations when fully manned.

Bagansait Militia

The militia is composed of numerous local ethnic groups, which typically consider themselves as separate local militias. They are stood up locally and do not travel extensively. The militia are viewed by the active military as a means of backfilling a local area when the active force in that area is needed elsewhere.

Land Forces/Army Doctrine & Tactics

The Bagansait army's doctrine and tactics are derived from its decades of active combat experience in conducting counterinsurgency operations in the mountainous regions of their country. Since the late 1950s, the Bagansait military has been engaged in direct action operations with numerous state and non-state threat groups from full-scale military coups to low-level, well equipped, narcotics traffickers. This has resulted in a revolving doctrinal philosophy based on the level of threat and their local support. The current military junta doctrine and tactics originate from decades-old techniques, originally known as the "Compound Slashes" doctrine. Central to the Compound Slashes doctrine is the concept that damage to the local populace is not collateral damage, but the destruction of a primary resource for the insurgent group. The intent of the strategy is to deny or restrict the insurgent group's means to access food, funds, intelligence, and recruits. This may mean arresting or killing civilians, the destruction of food sources, and theft of medical aid supplies. The forced resettlement of an entire community may be used as a means of denying an insurgent group key terrain. These tactics are reinforced with a large and capable Bagansait mechanized force.

Offensive Operations

The Bagansait army recognizes three general types of offensive operations according to their purpose: to destroy, seize, or expel.

Attack to Destroy. The Bagansait army uses an attack to destroy on a key enemy combat formation or capability. The Bagansait forces often focus this type of attack on the enemy force's ability to sustain itself or exercise effective command and control (C2). Therefore, the force attacks the logistics and C2 systems of the target entity.

Attack to Seize. The Bagansait army uses an attack to seize to gain control of and hold key terrain. The Bagansait force seizes controls and is physically on the key terrain during this type of attack.

Attack to Expel. The Bagansait army uses an attack to expel to force the defender to displace from an area. The Bagansait force uses this type of attack to deplete the enemy's will to hold an area by exploiting a key vulnerability or capability.

Defensive Operations

The Bagansait army recognizes two general types of defensive operations: the maneuver defense and the area defense.

Maneuver Defense. In maneuver of defense, the Bagansait army uses fires and maneuver to destroy key components of the enemy's combat system and deny enemy forces their objective, while preserving Bagansait forces.

Area Defense. The Bagansait army uses an area defense to deny key terrain or hold a geographic area. The Bagansait force uses complex battle positions to preserve combat power while creating opportunities to attack the enemy's key combat system.



Land Forces/Army Training and Readiness

Military training is second only to active combat in the Bagansait army. The country's seven defense academies conduct a wide array of professional military training ranging from basic leadership to advanced technology. This training, combined with active combat experience, has led to a high level of readiness within the Bagansait army. Since the coup, Bagansait's president and military leaders have mandated military training for children, male or female, over the age of 15. The military junta thought this controversial program was necessary to prevent the children from being influenced by the ousted government supporters or other active insurgents.

Land Forces/Army Equipment & Weapons

The Bagansait army operates primarily tier 2 or tier 3 equipment, though some reserve units may be equipped with older variants. When an active-duty unit receives upgraded equipment, the unit's old equipment is inherited by reserve organizations. Active-duty equipment is well maintained. The active army readiness rate was estimated to be above 85% prior to the coup. The international sanctions are anticipated to force Bagansait's future military purchases to be primarily from Olvana. (For further information, see the Worldwide Equipment Guide (WEG), Vol. 1, Chapter 1, OPFOR Tier Tables).



Maritime Forces Overview

Maritime Forces Size and Structure

The Bagansait maritime forces consist of an estimated 27,000 personnel and more than 150 vessels that are nearly all in the Bagansait navy. Since the coup, Bagansait has purchased its first two submarines. One is a Kilo-Class ship from India (origin is Donovan) and the other is a Type 35 Ming Class ship from Olvana. Bagansait currently uses this Ming to highlight its relationship with Olvana. It may take several years to train the crew and establish a maintenance program.

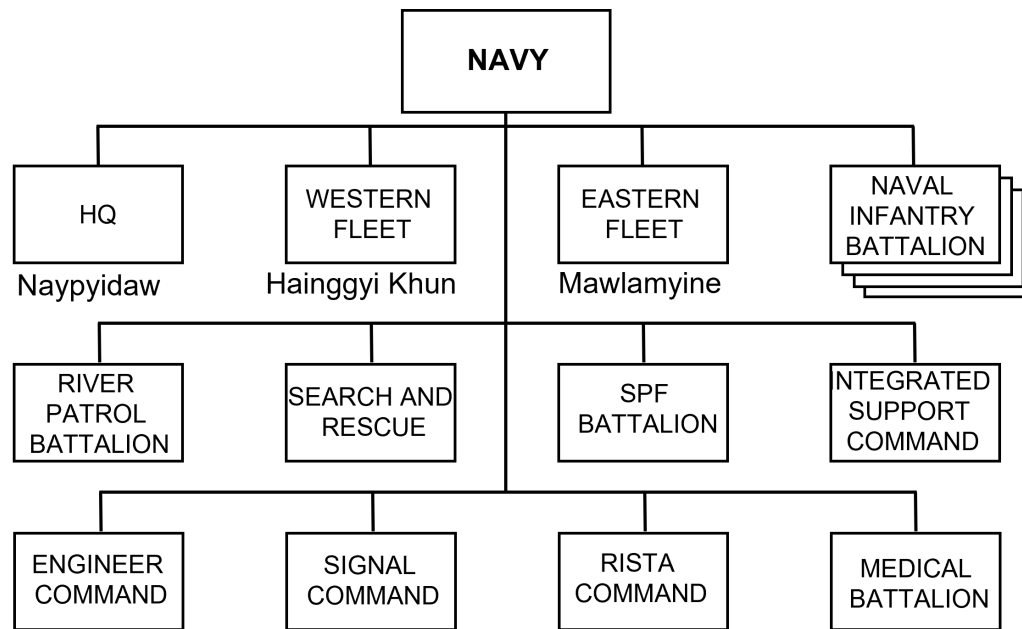


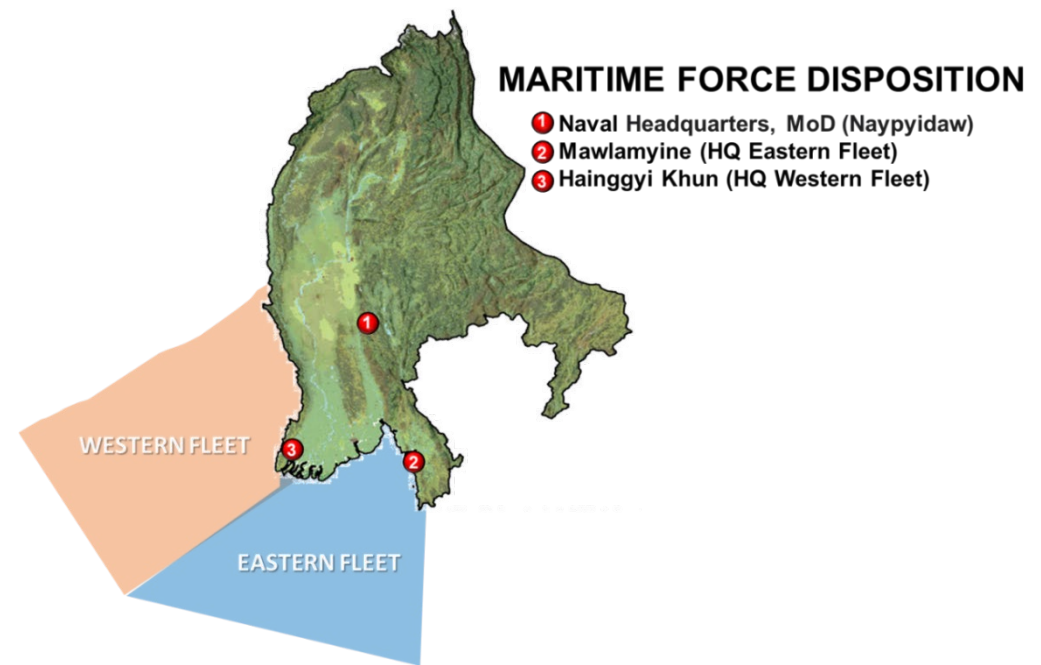
Figure 5. Naval Forces Structure

Naval Infantry. There are four naval infantry battalions consisting of approximately 800 personnel that are like other armed forces' marines. The naval special purpose forces are similar to other nations' Sea, Air, and Land (SEAL) teams. The Bagansait naval special purpose forces are trained for missions such as hostage rescue and counterinsurgency (COIN). The coast guard was only recently

established. It is limited to four vessels and a maritime law enforcement role along the coast.

Maritime Forces Distribution Map

The majority of the Bagansait navy is based out of positions along the primary inlets to the major tributaries. This limits any rapid access to the central portion of the country by a foreign maritime force. However, there are two key exceptions. One exception is the basing of the headquarters in the capital city, and the other are the training vessels in port at Mawlamyine and Hainggyi Khun.



Map 3. Maritime Forces Disposition



The Western Fleet

The Bagansait Western Fleet is responsible for the western coastal regions and tributary inlets, to include the airspace. Its headquarters is on Hainggyi Khun. It is supported by onshore air defenses and aircraft based in Hmawbi, Rangoon, and Mingaladon.

Units that report directly to the Western Fleet Commander:

- 1 Submarine Detachment (1x Submarine)
- 3 Guided Missile Detachments
- 2 Naval Infantry Battalions
- 1 River Patrol Detachment
- 1 SPF Company
- 1 Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1 Mine / Countermine Detachment
- 1 Offshore Patrol Detachment
- 1 Signal Command
- 1 Integrated Support Command
- 1 Medical Battalion

The Eastern Fleet

The Bagansait Eastern Fleet is responsible for the eastern coastal regions and tributary inlets, to include the airspace. Its headquarters is in Mawlamyine. It is supported by onshore air defenses and aircraft based in Mawlamyine.

Units that report directly to the Eastern Fleet Commander:

- 1 Submarine Detachment (1x Submarine)
- 3 Guided Missile Detachments
- 2 Naval Infantry Battalions
- 1 River Patrol Detachment
- 1 SPF Company

- 1 Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1 Mine / Countermine Detachment
- 1 Offshore Patrol Detachment
- 1 Signal Command
- 1 Integrated Support Command
- 1 Medical Battalion

Naval Infantry Battalions

There are four Bagansait naval infantry battalions comprising approximately 800 personnel. Bagansait deploys the naval infantry battalions in the coastal and delta regions of the country to assist the Bagansait army with counterinsurgency operations. Their secondary task is protecting the avenues of approach to the Bagansait naval bases by both land and sea.

Coast Guard

The Bagansait coast guard was only recently established after the coup as a part of force modernization. It is limited to four vessels and an estimated 100–200 personnel. The coast guard is designated as a maritime law enforcement agency designed to protect eco-tourism, maritime trade, and offshore industries like fishing and fossil fuels. The coast guard's fast patrol vessels are also involved in near-shore search and rescue operations. The prevention of maritime trespassing is viewed as both a mission of the coast guard and the Bagansait navy by the Bagansait naval leadership. This requires close coordination, which can complicate operations.

Maritime Reserves

Bagansait does not possess any significant reserve maritime forces. The recent addition of the coast guard and the new submarine force has depleted the ranks of trained sailors. The limited equipment that is kept at a high operational rate is used for the active force.



Maritime Forces Doctrine and Tactics

The purpose of Bagansait's navy is to ensure freedom of navigation and provide protection for Bagansait interests offshore and on the navigable inland rivers. The Bagansait navy's involvement in COIN operations has increased significantly in recent years. The insertion of both naval SPF and naval infantry using amphibious methods has been successful in counter-narcotics operations. The Bagansait navy is also available to project military power in the region and conduct combined operations with regional partners. The naval infantry battalions can conduct amphibious operations in remote inland areas and Bagansait has evolved its tactics to increase their use. Once on the ground, these units operate in a similar manner to hardened regular army units of a similar size.

Bagansait naval operations include:

- Mine / Countermine
- Naval gun fire
- Insertion/extraction of SPF
- Defensive patrolling of coastal areas
- Riverine patrolling of Bagansait's navigable rivers
- Counterdrug search and seizure
- Anti-smuggling and piracy operations
- Sea search and rescue
- Submarine operations
- Designated escort operations

Maritime Forces Training and Readiness

The Bagansait maritime forces are only seven percent of the size of the army. This relatively small force allows it to be selective in its recruitment and training. The maritime forces conduct technical training in small cohorts in local academies. Some recruits get the opportunity to be trained in service academies in neighboring countries like Olvana. Many of the recruits remain after their initial term of service. The Bagansait navy is associated with disaster relief and not the atrocities that are

committed by the ground forces. This has somewhat prevented the navy from the stigma that is attached to the rest of the Bagansait military forces. Before the coup, the Bagansait navy was conducting combined exercises with regional partners to improve disaster management. This cooperation has ceased for most countries, except for Olvana, due to the coup. The navy's readiness rate has remained relatively high at between 85% and 95%.

Maritime Forces Equipment and Weapons

The equipment transfers and the increased maritime capability that Olvana has provided highlights Bagansait's military junta's relationship with Olvana. With more than 2,000 km of coastline and surrounding territorial waters, Bagansait has sought to improve its maritime capabilities since the coup ended. In recent years, Olvana has helped the military junta as one of its key arms suppliers by providing a second submarine for Bagansait to add to its fleet.



Air Forces Overview

Air Forces Size and Structure

The Bagansait Air Force consists of an estimated 15,000 to 23,000 personnel including one Airborne Battalion of approximately 800 paratroopers. The aircraft consist of approximately 279 primarily tier 2 and tier 3 airframes that are predominately from Olvana and Donovia in origin. The operational readiness rate is estimated at less than 70%. The primary mission of the Bagansait Air Force is to support the internal counterinsurgency. On a smaller scale, the Air Force also supports civilian relief missions for major cyclones and earthquakes.

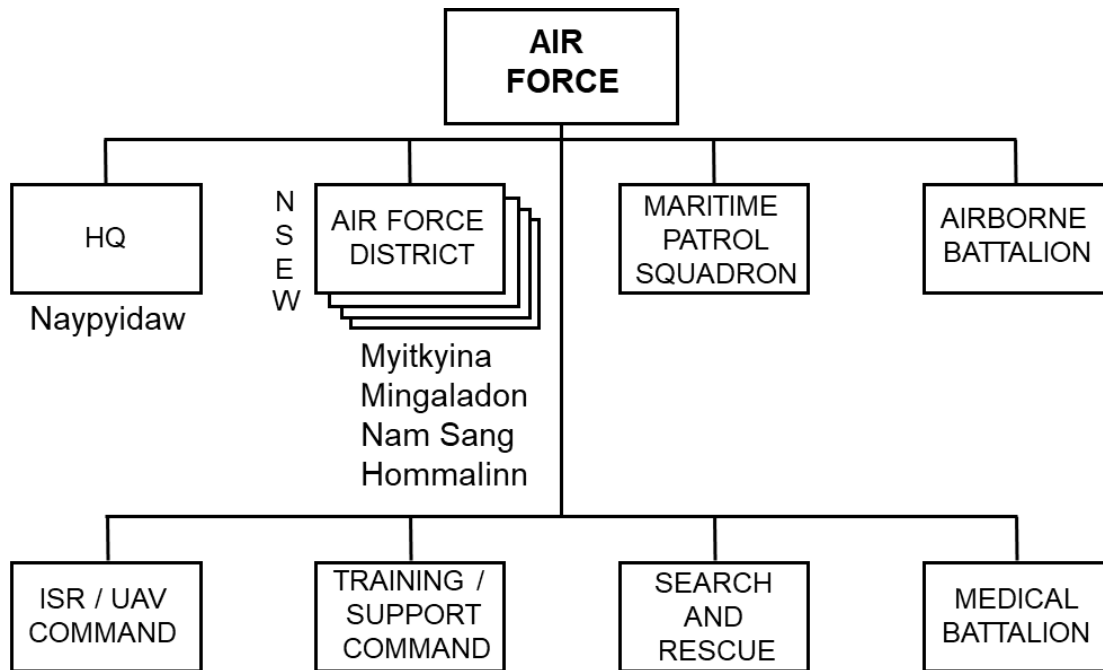
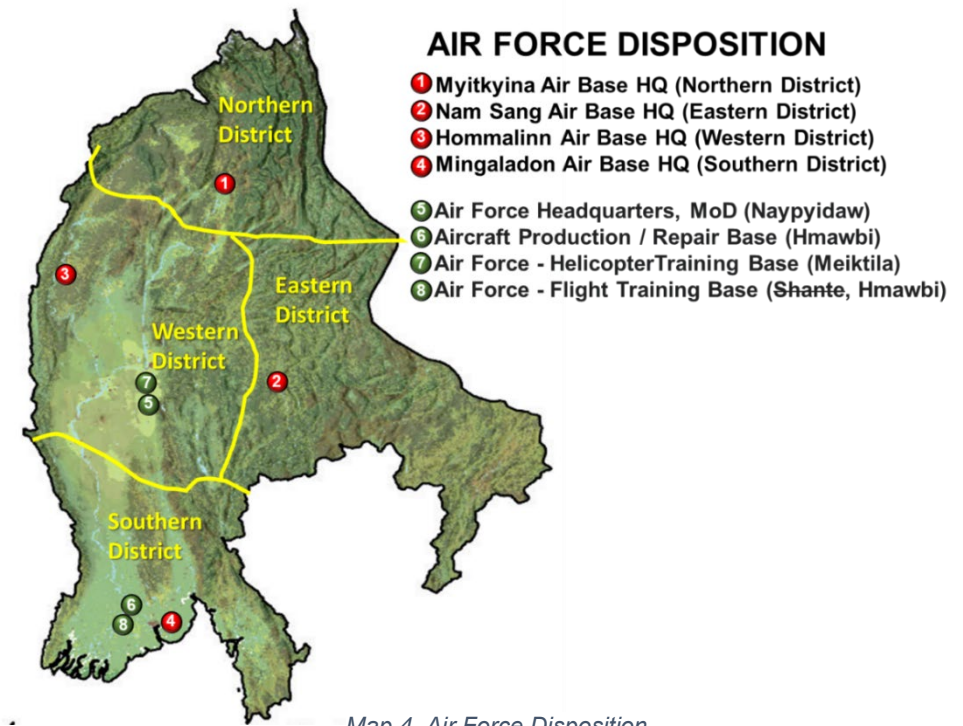


Figure 6. Bagansait Air Forces Structure.

Air Force Distribution Map

The Bagansait air force districts align with the Army Theater of Operations. While these are the established working relationships for the supported theater commanders, it does not prevent cross-district task organization or individual missions. The Bagansait Air Force's volatile readiness rates may even force air platforms from the Southern District to fly in support of the Northern Theater of operations.



Map 4. Air Force Disposition



Northern Air District

The Bagansait Northern Air District is responsible for providing transportation, logistics, close air support, and medical evacuation to the army operating in the Northern Theater of Operations. Its headquarters is on Myitkyina Air Base.

Units that report directly to the Northern Air District Commander:

- 1 Multirole (Fighter and Ground Attack) Squadron
- 1 Transportation Squadron
- 1 ISR / UAV Squadron
- 1 Helicopter Transport Squadron
- 1 Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1 Tactical Air Control Detachment
- 1 Integrated Air Defense Detachment
- 1 Medical Company
- 1 Signal Company
- 1 Refueling Company
- 1 Materiel Support Detachment

Western Air District

The Bagansait Western Air District is responsible for providing transportation, logistics, close air support, and medical evacuation to the army operating in the Western Theater of Operations. Its headquarters is on Hommalinn Air Base.

Units that report directly to the Western Air District Commander:

- 1 Multirole (Fighter and Ground Attack) Squadron
- 1 Transportation Squadron
- 1 ISR / UAV Squadron
- 1 Helicopter Transport Squadron
- 1 Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1 Tactical Air Control Detachment

- 1 Integrated Air Defense Detachment
- 1 Medical Company
- 1 Signal Company
- 1 Refueling Company
- 1 Materiel Support Detachment

Eastern Air District

The Bagansait Eastern Air District is responsible for providing transportation, logistics, close air support, and medical evacuation to the army operating in the Eastern Theater of Operations. Its headquarters is on Nam Sang Air Base.

Units that report directly to the Eastern Air District Commander:

- 1 Multirole (Fighter and Ground Attack) Squadron
- 1 Transportation Squadron
- 1 ISR / UAV Squadron
- 1 Helicopter Transport Squadron
- 1 Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1 Tactical Air Control Detachment
- 1 Integrated Air Defense Detachment
- 1 Medical Company
- 1 Signal Company
- 1 Refueling Company
- 1 Materiel Support Detachment



Southern Air District

The Bagansait Southern Air District is responsible for providing transportation, logistics, close air support, and medical evacuation to the army operating in the Southern Theater of Operations. Its headquarters is on Mingaladon Air Base.

Units that report directly to the Southern Air District Commander:

- 1 Multirole (Fighter and Ground Attack) Squadron
- 1 Transportation Squadron
- 1 ISR / UAV Squadron
- 1 Helicopter Transport Squadron
- 1 Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1 Tactical Air Control Detachment
- 1 Integrated Air Defense Detachment
- 1 Medical Company
- 1 Signal Company
- 1 Refueling Company
- 1 Materiel Support Detachment

Air Force Reserve

The Bagansait air force is not robust enough to have designated reserves. Retirees, cadets, and trainees may be available to backfill their ranks but with less than 300 aircraft it is unlikely that they can field a reserve air force.

Air Forces Doctrine and Tactics

Bagansait's air force doctrine has evolved focused on support to the army during counterinsurgency operations. The recent addition of armed UAVs has expanded the air force's strategic and operational tactics. The air force also has a limited maritime patrolling role and supports disaster relief when necessary.

Bagansait air force operations include:

- Maritime Patrolling
- Reconnaissance and Targeting
- Interdiction
- Attack
- Direct Air Support
- Transport
- Counter-air
- Search and rescue
- Medical Evacuation

Air Forces Training and Readiness

Military training is second only to active combat in the Bagansait air force. The country's defense academies conduct a wide array of professional military training ranging from basic aviation tactics to the use of advanced technology. This training, combined with experience, has led to a high level of personnel readiness within the Bagansait air force. Since the coup, Bagansait's president and military leaders have implemented mandatory military training for children, male or female, over the age of 15. The military junta considered this controversial program necessary to prevent the children from being influenced by the ousted government supporters or other active insurgent groups.

Air Forces Equipment and Weapons

Bagansait's air force equipment consists of tier 2 and tier 3 combat and transportation platforms. Olvana will probably increase its military exports to Bagansait since the international sanctions have prevented other nations from selling military equipment to Bagansait. These will probably be primarily combat aircraft and UAVs.



Paramilitary Forces

Government Paramilitary Forces. The internal security forces, border troops, and coast guard are all under the Ministry of Defense. Those remaining that are pro-government consist of only the police and militia groups.

Bagansait National Police. Recently, the military junta enacted a law that placed all the national police under the control of the military and forced some directly into the military to bolster its ranks. The Bagansait police have felt heavy losses since the coup. This is due to the deaths of police officers during opposition protests, mass defections, and resignations among the force. The police force at the time of the coup was 9,000 strong, and now only 6,800 remain.

Kyarr Militias. All pro-government militias group into a generic organization called the Kyarr Militias; the Bagansait citizens simply call them “The Kyarr.” The Kyarr Militias are pro-government, pro-military militias that exist throughout Bagansait. The Kyarr have received military training that makes them a more lethal fighting force than the opposition groups. They have been involved with many of the military junta’s atrocities. This has put them in the crosshairs of the opposition groups, and sometimes their own family members. These atrocities are leading to tit-for-tat killings that risks developing into long-term cycles of violence.

Non-State Paramilitary Forces

Guerrilla and Insurgent Forces. Ethnic armed groups have been fighting for independence in Bagansait since the 1960s. There are more than 40 active independent insurgent forces currently operating in Bagansait. The insurgents organize by location and motivation.

Northern Tribal Alliance (NTA). The NTA fights for their independence from Bagansait. They wish to be an independent Kachin state. Their area of operations consists of Kachin, Shan, and some territory in Olvana. Their membership numbers 4,000 plus and consists of males that are age 16 to 45. NTA recruits in poor rural areas where very few options of employment exist. All members strongly identify as

Kachin and not as Bagansait citizens. The organization is funded by illegally taxing cross-border trade (with Olvana) in jade, timber, and gold. Recently there have been rumors that the NTA has temporarily seized northern military bases.

The Bagansait People’s Forces (BPF). These groups fight for the former, elected government that was removed by the military junta. Their primary area of operation is the Shan state, but clashes between the BPF and the Bagansait military happen throughout the country. They are viewed by the people as fighting for the legitimate elected government of Bagansait. Their membership consists of individuals that are between 17 and 45 years old. Many of whom are former military. The latest estimates indicate that nearly 8,000 military and police have defected to join the BPF.

Shan Independence Forces (SIF). These groups fight for an independent Shan State. Their area of operation consists of the Shan state and areas along its borders that influence operations within the Shan state. Their membership consists of primarily older individuals between 35 and 45 with very few members between 18 and 25. They recruit individuals from legacy families who identify strongly as Shan and not as Bagansait citizens. The SIF are estimated to comprise between 2,000 to 4,000 active members. The SIF control most of the opium trade and finance themselves with its profits.

Bagansait Communist Army (BCA). The BCA is underground communist party in Bagansait. It is the oldest existing political party in the country founded in 1939; the BCA initially fought against British colonial forces. The BCA desires to make all Bagansait a communist state that is closely allied with Olvana. They have small groups of resistance fighters and recruiters in most of the major cities throughout the country. The BCA has used the recent coup to reinvigorate recruiting efforts among the younger population. Their membership consists of primarily college age students with some older members. Overall, their ages are 20–45 years old, and they number approximately 1,000–2,000 strong. Recruiting consists of pointing out the failures of democracy and lack of basic needs provided by the military junta.



The funding for the BCA comes from private donations and rumors are that Olvana provides weapons and some funding.

Bagansait Christian Right Wing (BCRW). The BCRW is a Christian armed revolutionary group that opposes military junta of Bagansait. Their ideology is focused on ending the human rights violations and not on establishing a Christian government. They are thought to be based near the border with Khorathidin and conduct audacious, high-profile attacks against government buildings and military bases in and around the capital city. Their membership comprises males between the ages of 18 and 30 within the Christian minority. There are an estimated 400–700 members. The organization's recruitment comes for Christian values and a desire to aid the oppressed. The BCRW is funded solely from donations from the Bagansait Christian community.

Buddhist Against Armed Violence (BAAV). The BAAV consists of Bagansait Buddhists that are against military violence and human rights violations. The organization operates primarily in southern Bagansait. The group conducts sabotage against military equipment and digs holes in roads to hinder military operations. The group conducts passive, non-casualty producing operations. The membership consists of males between the ages of 8 and 70. The very young and old are used to gain access and proximity to military equipment to sabotage it. Recruitment is religious in nature and no funding is required for the BAAV's operations.

Criminal Organizations

Transnational Drug Traffickers. Bagansait is a world leader in the production and distribution of methamphetamines. It is considered number two in the production of opium. The border troops and some government officials in both Bagansait and Olvana assist by ignoring the trafficking. The profits from the operation may be one of the largest in the world.

Rangoon Cartel. The Rangoon Cartel is the largest drug trafficking organization in Bagansait. It works closely with the Tantoco Cartel in Olvana to traffic

methamphetamines and opium internationally. It is also the primary supplier of illegal drugs to Himaladesh. The organization's profits are estimated to be close to a billion US dollars annually.

The Aung Family. The Aung Family is the second largest drug trafficking organization in Bagansait. It transports methamphetamines and opium into Khorathidin and Sungzon. The Aung's have been involved in the illegal drug trade for four generations and have well established ties with the current military junta and the border guard leadership. The organization's profits are estimated to be close to 700 million US dollars annually.

Illegal Loggers. Bagansait has some of the last old growth teak forests in Southeast Asia. Overland transportation of teak wood is illegal in Bagansait. There is an established illegal overland transportation chain through Olvana to ships that take the teak all over the globe.

Zen Brothers Industries. The Zen Brothers are the largest legal and illegal logging company in Bagansait. They use their legitimate business to mask their illicit activities. They harvest old growth Teak forests and transport the lumber by ground into Olvana.

Sex Traffickers. The sexual exploitation of child prostitutes is commonplace in Bagansait. This includes the buying and selling of children for the sex trade. They are then sent to cities throughout Olvana and other parts of the world.

Private Security Organizations (PSO). Nearly all the PSOs (minus the Olvanan Pipeline Security Services (OPSS)) in Bagansait must pay the military junta heavily to remain armed and in the country. The PSOs are careful not to involve themselves or give the perception of their involvement with any of the opposition groups. The military junta strictly forbids secure communications equipment within the PSOs.

Olvanan Pipeline Security Services (OPSS). The OPSS is responsible for securing the reconnaissance and development sites for the Olvanan pipeline



project that runs through the entire country of Bagansait. There are approximately 200–300 currently spread throughout the country. The OPSS has the full support of the Bagansait military.

BEXTA. BEXTA (company name; not an acronym) was the first internationally managed security company in Bagansait. This provided it with strong ties to the current military junta and the military. It is composed of mostly British citizens and 600–800 armed men. It provides security services to multinational businesses, NGOs, and foreign governments with interests in Bagansait.

Bagansait International Security Services (BISS). BISS maintains a 24-hour Remote Operations Center, providing security and emergency response coverage for the major cities and tourist destinations. There are approximately 200–300 still operating in Bagansait with various countries of origin and prior military experience. Their primary mission is to protect the corporate property of the previous tourism industry. It pays expensive special visa fees to the military junta to remain armed and in country.

FireFly of Bagansait (FFB). FFB provides security and technical expertise to multinational petroleum companies. Approximately 200–400, mostly European citizens, are dispersed at petroleum sites throughout Bagansait to protect the corporate infrastructure from damage. While many of the sites are not currently operational, the infrastructure is protected for future use. Corporations are paying substantial amounts of money to the military junta to prevent the government seizure of the properties. The FFB personnel are not well liked by the police or military.

Private Security of Bagansait (PSB). The PSB provides very limited security to some multinational education facilities and labs that have remained active in Bagansait after the coup. Their purpose is to provide local security to protect various long-term research projects. The PSB contain approximately 50–100 armed personnel with limited training. The PSB personnel come from across Southeast Asia.

Foreign Military Presence. Prior to the coup, the Bagansait military conducted numerous combined exercises every year with its neighboring countries and even some Western countries like the US and UK. After the coup and sanctions, all combined training has been conducted exclusively with Olvana. Now, except for security personnel at the embassies, there is no continuous foreign military presence in Bagansait except for Olvanan advisors.

Olvanan Advisors. The Olvanan advisors maintain a somewhat continuous presence in Bagansait to conduct new equipment training and advanced military skills training at the Bagansait military academies. The advisors are located on military bases only, unless escorted. An example would be Type 35 submarine training at the naval base in southern Bagansait or CH3-A UAV training in northern Bagansait. The military junta tracks them closely and does not allow the advisors to leave the bases unaccompanied. This is to prevent damaging the military junta's relationship with Olvana should one of the advisors be harmed or kidnapped for ransom.

Nonmilitary-Armed Combatants. Gun laws in Bagansait are restrictive, but most citizens 15 years old and above are familiar with firearms. Numerous organized and armed opposition groups are actively fighting the current military junta. Intelligence estimates assess that these groups would combine and become an active fighting force if Bagansait faced an invasion from outside of its borders.

Unarmed Combatants. Since the coup, Bagansait's president and military leaders have mandated military training for children, male or female, over the age of 15. This was considered necessary by the military junta to prevent the children from being influenced by the ousted government supporters or other active insurgents. In case of a pending invasion, children and elderly would likely be called upon to provide intelligence, emplace obstacles, and assist with the medical treatment of the wounded.



Military Functions Overview

Joint Capabilities (Medium)

The Bagansait military can conduct joint operations involving the Bagansait maritime, land, and air forces. This is primarily due to the understanding that the army is the primary supported force, and the army will execute command and control of the other services. However, combined operations involving multinational partners still pose a significant challenge. This is due to the Bagansait's military conduct of war and its policies that often involve tactics, techniques, and procedures possibly outlawed or viewed as immoral in other countries. However, the navy has conducted several successful combined operations focused on disaster relief prior to the coup.

Command and Control (High)

The Bagansait C2 systems have been significantly upgraded over the past decade. The Signal Command has upgraded most major headquarters with fiber optic communication networks. All the corps' headquarters owns their own telecommunication systems. Satellite communication systems are provided to all forward-deployed infantry battalions. Older frequency hopping handsets are issued to all front-line units. The decades of counterinsurgency operations have developed a clear and concise orders system that results in effective C2.

Maneuver (High)

The Bagansait army is considered elite within the region for its ability to maneuver in the mountainous jungle within its borders. Effective C2, combined with the military's mechanized training and combat experience make for an exceptionally maneuverable force. The Bagansait army uses advanced tactics like hunter-killer teams to move through exceptionally difficult terrain to conduct counterinsurgency operations. The use of the air force for close air support and the navy for amphibious insertions are considered common practice for the Bagansait armed forces.

Air Defense (Medium)

The Bagansait Integrated Air Defense System (BIADS) was initially established with help from neighboring Olvana. It contains units from all three branches of the armed forces. All air defense assets except anti-aircraft artillery are integrated into BIADS. The equipment in the early warning battalions is primarily tier 2 Olvanan radars. The Electronic Countermeasure (ECM) battalions are equipped with Olvanan mobile ECM and electronic intelligence (ELINT) systems. Each air defense battalion is equipped with two batteries of Olvanan medium-range air defense systems. While the BIADS is well established and trained, the equipment is primarily tier 2 Olvanan equipment.

INFOWAR (High)

Information warfare is a major effort within the military junta. There is a major social media campaign designed to suppress protests and shift the opposition in favor of the current military junta. For example, soldiers are asked to create several fake accounts on social media platforms and are given talking points to post. This is one example of the military junta's information operations. Overall, the military's understanding of information warfare is exceptional. This has also led to heavy-handed tactics designed to spread fear and compliance by word of mouth throughout the population. The military's control of the internet and required cell phone registrations allow the government to regulate a large portion of the information environment.

RISTA (Medium)

The Bagansait Air Force possesses several tier two reconnaissance, intelligence, surveillance, and target acquisition (RISTA) assets provided by Olvana, such as the CH3-A UAV. While the CH3-A is capable of laser guided air-to-ground missile use, Bagansait primarily uses them in an ISR capacity. At the national level, satellite intelligence is thought to be passed from Olvana, but Bagansait does not have an active space program of its own. Its fledgling satellite program was put on hold after the coup (see [Infrastructure](#) for more information). Each theater commander controls his own RISTA command while lower-level units contain reconnaissance units that can conduct a variety of RISTA missions.



Intelligence (High)

The Bagansait armed forces maintain a highly experienced intelligence enterprise. Bagansait's intelligence organizations have been at a high operational tempo for nearly 40 continuous years of counterinsurgency operations. Bagansait has sophisticated human intelligence (HUMINT) and signals intelligence (SIGINT) programs. The HUMINT networks have been heavily relied on for generations during the many insurgencies. The elaborate SIGINT programs have been strengthened by the recent coup and the military control of the cellular phone networks and internet. Bagansait's UAV program and relationship with Olvana provides them imagery intelligence (IMINT). Overall, advancements in these areas provide Bagansait with a robust intelligence capability within its borders and networks that reach deep into neighboring countries like Khorathidin, Himaldesh, Sungzon, and Olvana.

HUMINT (High). Because of Bagansait's insurgencies and persistent economic problems, its security agencies relied on HUMINT more than other technical sources. Their vast HUMINT network consisted of tens of thousands of officials, public servants, professional agents, and unpaid informers. This network monitored the civil population as well as security forces. Recent developments and controls on the cellular phone networks and internet access have begun to complement the HUMINT network with SIGINT, strengthening the overall Bagansait intelligence capability.

OSINT (High). Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) exploitation has expanded drastically in the last five years. Bagansait opposition groups use social media as a primary means of communication. This makes the opposition's communications networks and group membership susceptible to collection and exploitation by the military junta. Bagansait also monitors international air and ship traffic using open sources. The military junta often determines international opinions of its actions via open-source media, and social networks. Overall, OSINT has become one of the most rapidly expanding areas in the Bagansait intelligence enterprise.

SIGINT (High). The SIGINT programs have been advancing since the early 90s. The most recent military coup has strengthened the Bagansait SIGINT capabilities with the military junta requiring cell phone registration, establishing control of the cellular networks, and controlling internet access. Bagansait has made a major effort to monitor and control computer usage and social media networks. Facebook has become a prime source of local news for many people in Bagansait, making it ripe for manipulation by security services using fake accounts and military junta talking points.

IMINT (Medium). Bagansait's uses its CH3-A UAVs, high-resolution aerial photograph, and commercial imagery to fill its IMINT needs. Bagansait does not have a space program of its own, but purchases satellite imagery when required. Its fledgling satellite program was put on hold after the coup (see *Infrastructure* for more information). Olvana provides finished IMINT products and has established means of routine dissemination to Bagansait. Imagery is used mostly in operational planning and not targeting due to the dense urban terrain and thick vegetation in rural areas.

MASINT (Low). Bagansait does not have a Measurement and Signatures Intelligence (MASINT) program. It is reliant on Olvana for finished MASINT products. Due to the sensitivity of some of the MASINT capabilities, this exchange only occurs when it is in Olvana's national interests.

Fire Support (High)

Bagansait's army maintains a strong Command and Control (C2) structure of their artillery using an Artillery Command, which is located within each of the military theaters. The artillery pieces themselves are tier 2 and tier 3 but are trained on often. Bagansait's artillerymen are also trained and skilled on specialized equipment like the 76mm Mountain Gun for establishing fire support operations in the Bagansait mountainous terrain. The military junta is modernizing the whole military, so it is expected that its artillery pieces will be upgraded soon.



Protection (Medium)

Bagansait still employs both Anti-Tank (AT) and Anti-Personnel (AP) land mines as a means of protecting its deployed forces. Anti-tank guided missiles and recoilless rifles provide both protection from an armored force and an offensive capability. All military theaters also contain engineer units with specialized equipment like the GSL-130 mine clearance vehicle. Radars, EW, and ADA units provide protection from enemy air power. See also TC 7-100.2: Opposing Force Tactics, Chapter 12, Engineer Support.

Logistics (Medium)

The Bagansait military has a diverse amount of armor and artillery equipment that it has accumulated over the years. This diversity has led to maintenance challenges for the Bagansait logistics and material support units. Since most of the operations the army has conducted in recent years have involved light infantry these material support challenges have not been fully realized.

CBRNE (Low)

Bagansait's offensive CBRNE capabilities have remained only rumors of chemical weapons facilities and nuclear intentions. There is no evidence of a formally recognized CBRNE offensive capability. Bagansait's defensive CBRNE capability is limited to gas masks and hazmat suits used when tear gas is deployed or during hazardous material operations. The military possess older Olvanan gas mask and chemical defense suits that are rarely used in training.

Research and Development (R&D) Goals

The military junta is actively modernizing the military. Due to its limited industrial capacity, Bagansait will most likely continue to purchase its military equipment and arms from Olvana and other countries. The most recent strategic purchases have been two submarines, and the CH3-A UAVs. Most intelligence estimates believe that Bagansait will continue to use its R&D dollars to purchase modern equipment

from Olvana. It is anticipated that more air-to-ground missiles will be fired from the CH3-A, or newer UAVs to further develop this capability.

Special Considerations

Bagansait's population is predominantly Buddhist, yet it has spent nearly 40 years in internal conflict and military coups. The current military junta routinely conducts human rights violations despite this being in direct conflict with their religion. Some insiders claim that the military is like a religious cult or a "state within a state" where the isolation creates a self-inflated sense of importance among the military leaders. Religion could be used as a fulcrum between the military and the population.



ECONOMY

Economic Overview

A military Junta currently leads Bagansait's government. Their intention is to increase Bagansait's economic and political relationship with Olvana to offset declining Western support and the increasing possibility of growing sanctions. The Republic of the Union of Bagansait is rich in mineral deposits, including Heavy Rare Earth Elements (HREEs), precious metals, precious stones, and natural gas. Deposits of silver, lead, zinc, copper, tin, and gold are concentrated in the northern Shan Plateau and were first discovered in the 1970s. However, mining accounts for only a tiny fraction of the country's GDP and workforce. Setbacks caused by shortages of fuel, electricity, and periodic economic sanctions imposed by foreign governments have continually hindered large-scale development. Olvana has increased its imports of HREEs and is funding natural gas and oil pipelines through Bagansait. This will provide Olvana access to the deep seaports in the Bay of Bengal and greater access to Bagansait's fossil fuels. The World Bank currently ranks Bagansait as one of the poorest countries in Southeast Asia, with an estimated 25 million people living in poverty. This equates to approximately half of the Bagansait population.

Prior to the coup, the Bagansait government had strengthened ties with western nations to increase trade and the economy. The civilian government reduced crime and human rights violations which increased tourism to its highest level in decades. After the coup, Bagansait's economic situation deteriorated. This has helped pave the way for illicit activity. Banks are barely operating, previously thriving retail businesses are in pieces, and economic uncertainty is causing disorder in towns and cities. Key investors have canceled billions of dollars in planned investments, and many small and medium-sized foreign investors are likely to shut down operations or divest. The military control of the internet, the extreme security situation, and the need to shift to cash-based operations make preserving any business established before the coup challenging. The World Bank forecasts

Bagansait's legitimate economy will shrink by 10-18 percent next year. Some private analysts project a 20 percent contraction.

The prominence of major drug traffickers has allowed them to penetrate other sectors of the Bagansait economy, including the banking, airline, and hotel industries. This investment in infrastructure has allowed criminal organizations to expand cross-border drug trafficking and money laundering. Experts assess this unknown share of the informal economy to be one of the largest in the world. They also anticipate that any future interim government must uncover and uproot these seemingly legitimate investments before Western interests will improve.

Economic Activity

Prior to the coup, Bagansait's economic activity was focused on legitimate industries, sustainable resourcing, and long-term projects like the rural electrical grid project. Since the military junta takeover, Bagansait's economic activity can be summarized as "boom and bust". The military junta's takeover has allowed for a booming illicit economy while simultaneously nearly collapsing the legitimate domestic economy. Experts predict increasing illegal trade and negative-to-zero honest growth in the coming years. World economic leaders indicate an 18% decrease in GDP next year with an 8% decrease annually.

The legitimate domestic economy of Bagansait faces an impending collapse. Thousands of citizens have gone on strike, refusing to work under military rule. This includes healthcare workers, lawyers, teachers, and engineers. Military-owned or affiliated businesses face large domestic boycotts. All sectors of Bagansait's economy are affected, with the tourist, hospitality, construction, and garment sectors hit the worst. Global brands have halted orders with the Bagansait's manufacturing industry. Most nations now associate "Made in Bagansait" with human rights violations and forced labor. The military junta is combating this reality with a narrative of increased self-reliance and national pride. People are urged to use less fuel, increase their use of public transportation and walking, reduce reliance on imports, and consume less rice.



The illegitimate economy of Bagansait is expected to expand. This growth is anticipated in three main areas. First, Bagansait is a world leader in the production and trafficking of methamphetamines and the second most significant supplier of opium. The exportation of illegal drugs generates approximately two billion dollars in exports annually. The drugs travel by land and sea routes to countries throughout Southeast Asia like Olvana, Himaladesh, Khorathidin, New Zealand, and Australia. The second illicit area of growth is the mining of HREEs. The military's disregard for environmental safeguards and its use of forced labor may increase the mining and exportation of HREEs like dysprosium and terbium, which may provide upwards of an estimated \$1.12 billion annually. Bagansait is likely to send these HREEs to Olvana exclusively to avoid international sanctions. Bagansait is expected to increase the illegal exportation of teak and other hardwoods despite sanctions. Last year an estimated 1,700 tons of teak was exported and evaded Western Sanctions for an estimated \$100 million. The military junta is expected to increase unregulated logging to supplement its struggling economy.

Economic Actors

The Republic of the Union of Bagansait (the military junta)

The policies and activities of the military junta influence nearly all levels of the Bagansait economy. The military junta drives forced labor disregarding previously established laws limiting overfishing, deforestation, and environmentally harmful mining operations to increase its economy to overcome international sanctions. The military junta facilitates drug production and trafficking, and other illegal activities that contribute to the informal economy of Bagansait. These illegal, unlawful, illicit activities include wildlife trafficking, mining, logging, and human trafficking. Additionally, military junta-controlled entities govern all foreign business. Their control of economic policy makes the military junta the lead economic actor in Bagansait.

Union Bank of Bagansait (UBB)

The UBB serves as the government of Bagansait's centralized banking authority. Since the military takeover, the junta has installed governors within the organization to manage policies to support their economic goals. These directives to the nation's banks have included limits on the amount that citizens can withdraw and the foreign currency exchange rate setting. They also include a mandating that all foreign currency or transactions be converted into Bagansait cash within 24 hours of the trade at the junta-determined exchange rate. These policies have not only been unpopular, but they have led to highly violent acts and assassination attempts against employees who support the military junta.

Transnational Organized Crime

The military junta benefits financially from the earnings of transnational organized crime and internal criminal enterprises. These illegal enterprises can be categorized into three different informal economies—the exploitation of natural resources, drugs, and human trafficking. The military junta has allowed organized crime access to and investment in seaports, airports, banks, and legitimate businesses necessary for the successful growth of transnational organized crime. The military junta's economy has been driven into a symbiotic relationship with transnational organized crime due to the stiff international sanctions after the coup.

Olvana

Since the military coup, the Republic of the Union of Bagansait has increased its political and economic exchanges with the Olvanan People's Party, which has become the number one driver of both imports and exports within Bagansait since the international sanctions were emplaced by the US, UK, and the EU. Olvana supplies the raw materials to the remaining viable industries within Bagansait, and Olvana imports nearly all Bagansait's remaining exportable goods. These exports include Heavy Rare Earth Elements (HREEs), precious metals, precious stones, natural gas, and illegal drugs. The military junta's economy would collapse under the international sanctions without Olvanan business investments and trade.



The United States (US)

Since the coup, the US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has designated individuals and entities within Bagansait for economic sanctions due to their involvement with human rights violations. These sanctions have led to significant unemployment and have driven the Bagansait Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to an estimated 18% decrease for the coming year. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is the most significant international aid contributor to Bagansait and continues its support to the people of Bagansait with approximately \$69 million in bilateral programs. The agency monitors its contributions closely to ensure that it is not funding the military junta.

The United Kingdom (UK) and European Union (EU)

The UK and EU Council have imposed economic sanctions on individuals and major financial entities responsible for undermining democracy, the rule of law, and serious human rights violations in Bagansait. These measures are aimed at restricting funding to limit the military junta's ability to profit from Bagansait's natural resources while being crafted to avoid undue harm to the people of Bagansait. These sanctions, combined with other international sanctions, have severely hindered growth within Bagansait by stopping most foreign investment, imported construction and other raw materials. The military junta is under increasing domestic pressure due to unemployment and drastic shortages in public services due to these sanctions.

Sungzon

Over the last 20 years, Sungzon imports from Bagansait have increased 24.2%. Sungzon is expected to continue to leverage its national security strategy of neutrality to increase gains in international trade and economic development at a relatively high cost to Bagansait in the long-term.

International Trade

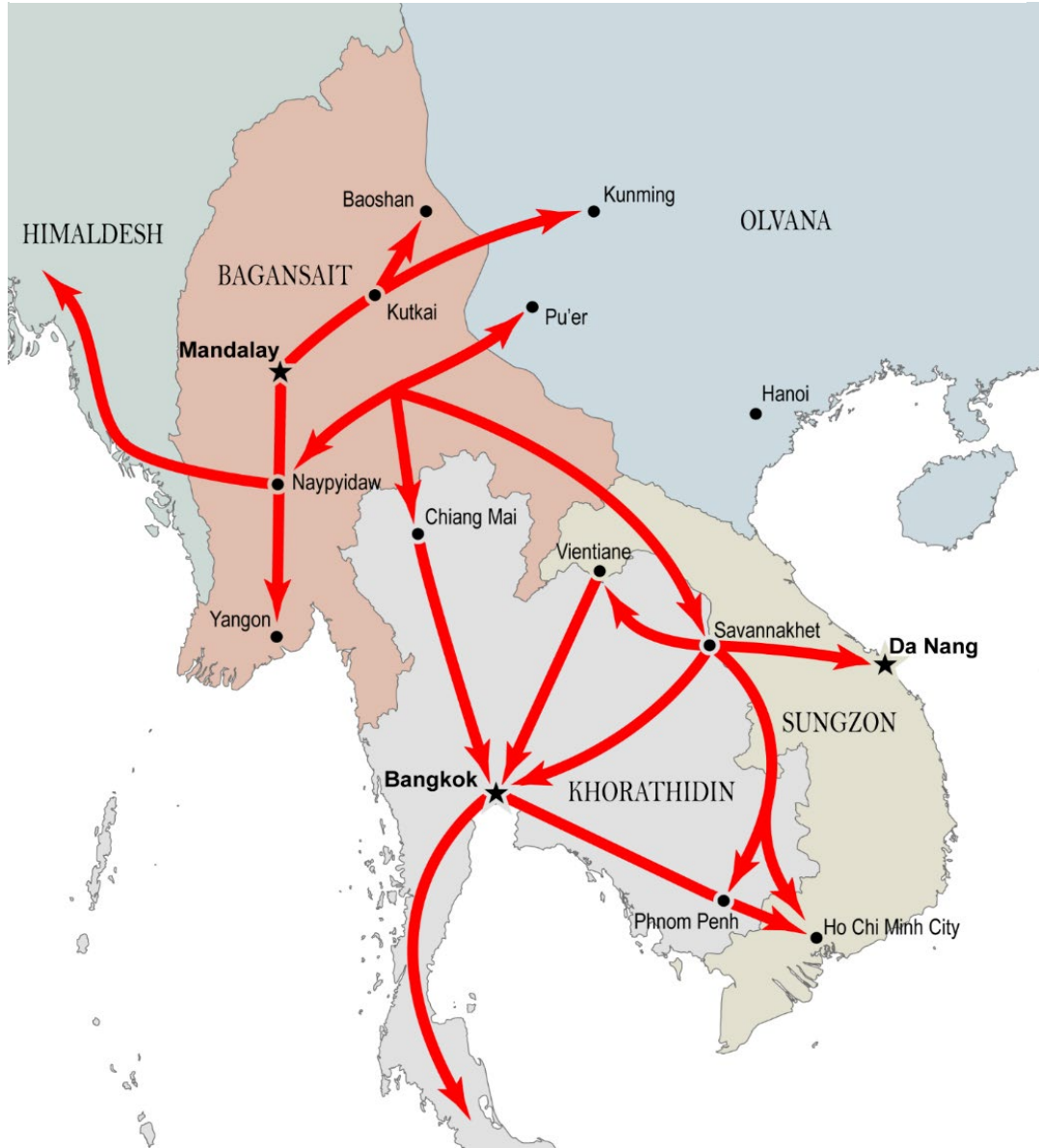
Commercial Trade

The Bagansait Ministry of Commerce estimates the cost of international sanctions on imports at \$374.8 million and \$319 million on exports. However, international trade continues despite the sanctions. Bagansait's leading exports are natural gas, rice, finished garments, refined copper, teak wood, and dried legumes for an estimated value of \$4.02 billion. Bagansait's primary imports are refined fuels, vegetable oil, vehicles, pharmaceutical products, construction equipment, polymers, tires, and machinery. The estimated value of these imports is \$4.9 billion. While imports continue to occur, there are severe shortages in these commodities and raw construction materials. This has nearly paralyzed growth industries and major significant government projects within Bagansait. The primary land routes (road and rail) run to Himaladesh and Olvana in the north, and Khorathidin and Sungzon the Southeast. Sea routes travel throughout Southeast Asia and the Pacific Ocean to destinations such as Olvana, Japan, New Zealand, and Australia (See Figure Below).

Olvana is Bagansait's largest trade partner for both imports and exports. The primary exports are heavy rare earth elements (HREEs), precious metals, precious stones, natural gas, and illegal drugs. Heavy machinery and raw materials for the garment and construction industries are significant imports. The trade between Bagansait and Olvana has increased due to the international sanctions, resulting in a stronger relationship and reliance.



Map 5. Bagansait export trade routes throughout SE Asia.



Military Exports/Imports

Bagansait historically purchased most of its military equipment from Donovia and ammunition from the Caucasus region. Donovia provided MiG-29 fighter jets, Hind Mi-35 helicopter gunships, transport helicopters, Yak-130 ground attack aircraft, and armored vehicles. Caucasus countries provide bombs, torpedoes, rockets, projectiles, and various types of ammunition. There are other cross-border arms imports from other nations like Olvana. Since the coup, this import market for military equipment and munitions has seen a 32% decrease primarily due to Bagansait's struggling economy and weak economic outlook. Olvana has taken over as the primary arms supplier to Bagansait. Bagansait does not currently export significant military equipment or munitions.

Manipulation/Weaponization of Economic Activity

The international sanctions applied primarily by the US, UK, and EU are designed to deny the military junta the necessary funding to remain in power. These sanctions prohibit raw materials and equipment necessary to carry out the large-scale, long-term government projects that the previous government had started, like expanding the electrical grid into rural areas. The military junta has manipulated the Bagansait economy to overcome the sanctions by limiting banking withdrawals, enforcing its own foreign exchange rate, aiding illegal drug production, ignoring human trafficking, using forced labor, and abandoning deforestation and strip-mining laws. The government of Bagansait is expected to use the increased funding provided by these activities and commercial trade with Olvana to sustain its military rule of the country.



Economic Sectors

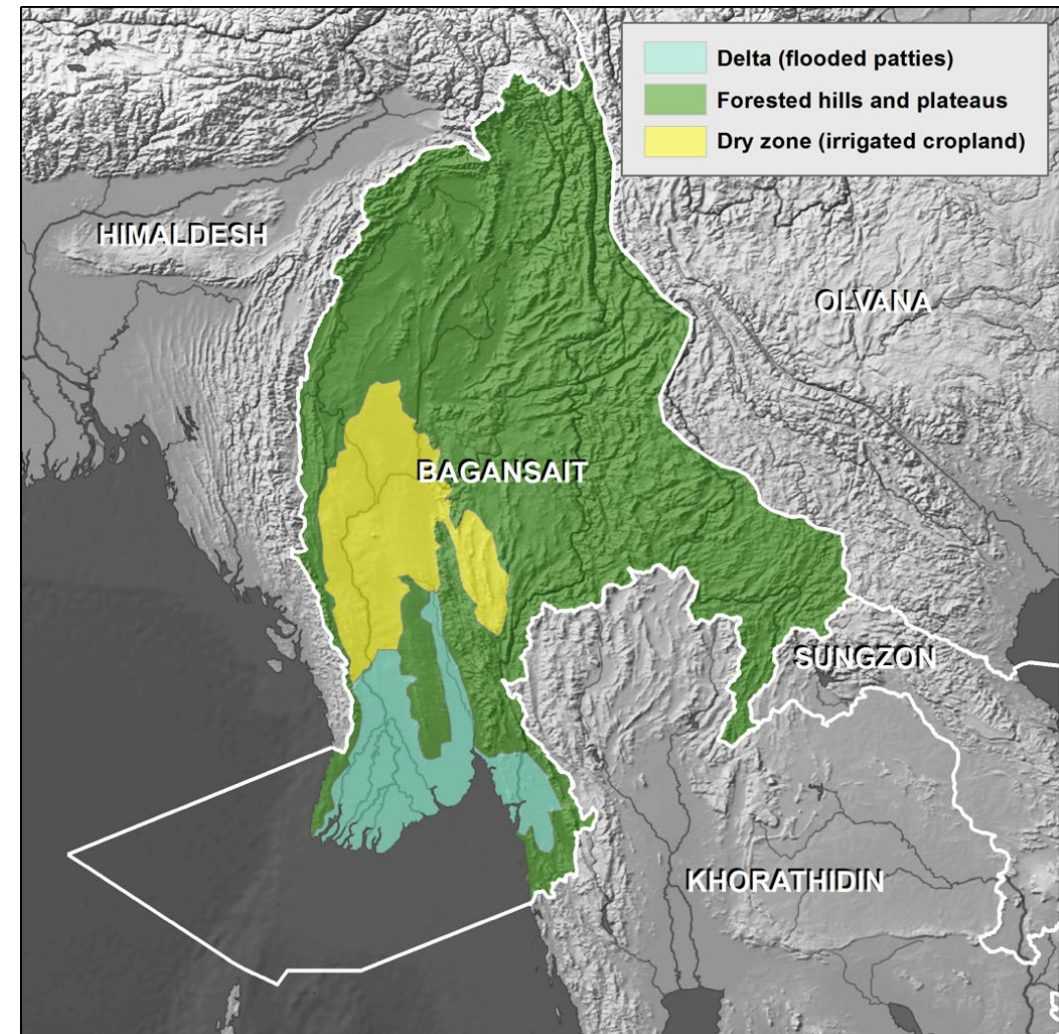
Raw Materials Sector

Agriculture

Bagansait may be divided into three agricultural regions: the delta, where cultivation of rice in flooded paddies predominates; the largely irrigated dry zone, an area primarily of rice production but where a wide variety of other crops also are raised; and the hill and plateau regions, where forestry and the cultivation of other crops are more prominent. About half of all agricultural land in Bagansait is devoted to rice. The government has promoted multiple cropping (sequential cultivation of two or more crops on a single piece of land in a single year) to increase production. The country's climate easily supports this system. Crops raised in addition to rice include sugarcane, fruits (such as plantains), legumes, peanuts (groundnuts), corn (maize), onions, sesame, rubber, cotton, millet, and allspice. Agriculture accounts for nearly one-half of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) and employs about two-thirds of the labor force.

Tobacco Industry

A significant enterprise in Bagansait is tobacco production, consisting of government-owned factories that manufacture cigarettes and local villages that produce cheroots (a small open-ended cigar). Bagansait's annual production is around 29,000 metric tons. Farmers spend more than \$270 per acre on the cultivation of tobacco. Tobacco yields about 1,073 kg per acre. It is estimated that farmers can sell tobacco at \$1.25 per 1.65 kg at cheroot industries in local villages. This equates to approximately \$812 an acre when sold to cheroot companies, with an estimated net profit of \$393 per acre. The tax collection and administration for cheroot, raw tobacco, and other tobacco products pose significant challenges. The products are often grown and sold in the same small villages, and it is common for bartering systems to be used.



Map 6. Bagansait Agricultural Areas.

Forestry

Forestry has been particularly important as a source of foreign exchange. Bagansait is estimated to have the bulk of the world's exploitable teak supplies.



Teak grows in the tropical-deciduous forests of the hills. Although the woods are within the state-owned and regulated forests, there is concern about indiscriminate and illegal logging. It is assessed that over 1,700 tons of teak were exported and evaded Western sanctions, providing the military junta more than \$100 million since the military coup.

Fishing

Fresh fish or fish as a nutritional paste is a vital portion of the Bagansait diet, second only to rice. The industry does not have well-developed marine fisheries, although the reported commercial catch is much greater than that reported from inland waters. The exported fish and fishery products traded annually average 0.37 million metric tons and are valued at an estimated \$502 million (USD).

Oil and Natural Gas Extraction

The extraction of petroleum from the Bagansait's central region has been an established local practice since the 19th Century. The Bagansait current oil reserves are approximately 50 million barrels, with a maximum production capacity of 21,000 barrels per day. The continued exploration for expanded onshore oil resources has not proved particularly profitable. However, the quest for natural gas had been very productive until the recent military coup. Bagansait had been exporting an estimated \$3.5 billion worth of natural gas annually. These profits are now in jeopardy due to many multinational companies withdrawing their contracts and refusing to work with the military junta. Olvana has offset some of the loss to the Bagansait economy by increasing its Bagansait imports and investing in a pipeline through the country to the Bay of Bengal's deep seaports.

Rare Earth Minerals

Seventeen rare earth metals are used internationally in high-tech products like electric cars, wind turbines, and fighter jets. Bagansait has rich deposits of dysprosium and terbium. These are highly sought-after HREEs that are otherwise in short supply globally. Five years before the military coup, Bagansait exported more than 140,000 tons of rare earth deposits to Olvana, worth more than \$1 billion. This makes Bagansait the third-largest producer of rare earth minerals

globally, accounting for 9.38% of global production. After the military junta took control of the country, there was a temporary halt in HREEs exports. The exports to Olvana have recently resumed, with the committee pushing to increase production at an irreparable cost to the environment, freshwater sources, and disregard for the people of Bagansait. The estimated increase to the Bagansait economy due to the mining of HREEs is expected to be over \$200 million annually.

Gemstones

Bagansait has produced some of the world's finest precious gemstones since pre-colonial times. The Shan district contains rubies and sapphires prized for their clarity and hue. Prospectors also mine jade in the northern mountains. The region also produces smaller amounts of diamonds and other gemstones. The Republic of the Union of Bagansait's economy depends heavily on the sales of precious stones such as rubies, sapphires, and jade. Rubies are the largest earner of all the precious stones. Bagansait produces 90% of the world's rubies. Bagansait's gemstone exports were estimated to be nearly \$1 billion annually before the coup. Since the military takeover, the US and some European countries have called for a boycott of Bagansait gemstones due to slavery and forced subsistence mining enforced by the junta.

Golden Sea Pearls

The Bagansait production of Golden Sea Pearls has expanded in recent years due to a strong market in Olvana. Golden Sea pearls are among the rarest and most sought-after pearls globally. A smuggled 25mm round Golden Sea Pearl was sold in recent years to an anonymous Olvanan buyer for an undisclosed price that was believed to be more than \$500,000. These smuggled national treasures reinforce an illegitimate and unmeasurable portion of the Bagansait economy that even the military junta struggles to control.



Manufacturing and Industry Sector

Energy Industry

Approximately half of Bagansait's population lacks access to electricity. Seventy percent of the rural population relies on kerosene, candles, batteries, and power generators in their daily lives. This lack of electricity threatens the country's economic growth and prevents the expansion of infrastructure and industrial development. Bagansait has rich solar power and hydropower potential that remains mostly unused. The previous government developed a large-scale plan before the military coup. It was estimated that a total investment of \$5.4 billion was expected to initiate the electrification rollout, and another \$40 billion was expected to be required for investment in transmission and distribution. This is a significant amount of the nation's GDP, and the energy development intentions of the military junta remain unknown.

Chemical Industry

The largest chemical industry in Bagansait is that of illegal narcotics like methamphetamines and opium, estimated to generate nearly \$2 billion a year in exports. The legitimate chemical companies in Bagansait manufacture heat-resistant agents and protective agents, hydrogen peroxide, magnesium chloride, and potassium chloride. Last year, the exports from the legitimate chemical industries totaled \$557,000 or 0.003% of all legally exported products from Bagansait.

Steel Industry

The Republic of the Union of Bagansait operates five major steel mills and foundries with a maximum capacity of 850,000 tons per year. Bagansait's annual steel consumption exceeded three million tons last year and is expected to increase by eight percent annually for the next five years. Bagansait's iron and steel imports for the construction sector were estimated at over \$1.19 billion.

Non-Electrical Machinery

One of Bagansait's leading imports is non-electrical machinery such as construction machinery and equipment related to natural gas exploration, production, and transport equipment. Before the coup, the importation of non-electrical machinery accounted for 25.1% or \$4.1 billion of all imports for Bagansait annually. Most international countries have refused to sell heavy equipment to the military junta due to sanctions or the fear of global backlash from the junta's human rights violations. This could ultimately result in a fleet of aging, irreparable equipment requiring replacement by an Olvanan alternative.

Cement Industry

Bagansait possesses 17 integrated cement plants. Bagansait's reconstruction efforts had previously focused on updating its outdated cement industry before the coup. The current military junta is trying to expand the cement industry, viewing this as an essential part of the development strategy of many other sectors. The withdrawal of international companies and their investments due to human rights concerns has hindered this effort. In the near term, the junta expects to overcome this exodus of skilled labor. The potential of the cement industry is substantial due to the country's rich limestone deposits and lengthy waterway networks. The estimated impact of the cement industry on the economy is \$1-1.25 billion dollars.

Garment Industry

The military junta takeover has significantly affected the Bagansait garment industry. Nearly all its previous exports are blocked by international sanctions, and the "Made in Bagansait" label is now associated with human rights violations and slave labor. Before the coup, Bagansait's garment industry was firmly integrated into the international distribution and production network for garments and footwear. Bagansait's garment industry was responsible for the "Cutting, Making, and Packing (CMP)" portion of the industry. The importation of raw materials was tax free and provided at reduced importation costs. Olvana provided 45.9% of the imported raw materials. The finished products were then exported by Bagansait to markets in the US, Europe, and Asia for an estimated \$859 million annually.



Services Sector

Banking/Finance

Bagansait is home to four state-owned banks, 27 private domestic banks, and 20 primarily defunct branch offices for foreign banks. The national currency of Bagansait is the kyat. Since the coup, the military junta has exploited emergency policies that allow for the centralized control of the banking system. The junta has emplaced deputy governors in powerful positions to guarantee its future long-term control of the Bagansait banking system. Public confidence in the banking sector is at an all-time low. The amount of money that citizens may withdraw is monitored and restricted to approximately \$180 per day to prevent the collapse of the banking sector. Long lines form daily at banks and the few working automated teller machines (ATMs). These long lines have increased the spread of disease and dissension of the military junta.

Information Communications Technology (ICT)

The military junta seized data centers and essentially shut down the internet during the initial hours of the coup. This order was soon rescinded once the committee realized that it would also affect their country's ability to govern. The military junta has since been developing ways to control internet access, block social media sites, and exploit business data to control Bagansait citizens further and mask human rights violations. Recently the military junta has been attempting to price people out of telecommunication access. The military has forced telecommunications companies to raise prices for data usage and phone calls, doubling the price of mobile data and increasing the cost of phone calls by nearly 25%. The junta has enacted a 10% tax hike on mobile data service providers, which increased customers' prices further. They have also enforced an \$11 commercial tax on new SIM card activation and registration with the state. The overall economic impact of these increases is estimated to be a \$1.8–2.2 billion annual loss to the ICT sector and essentially the denial of ICT access to the average Bagansait citizen due to overpricing.

Professional Services

The Bagansait professional services consist primarily of business consultants, legal, accounting, and market research firms. The unfavorable economic conditions, political instability, and health/safety risks that are now an unpleasant fact in Bagansait have prompted an exodus of foreign professionals and the closure of many firms. Business consultants and market research analysts risk imprisonment for publishing negative assessments of the Bagansait economy. Lawyers are restricted to operating within a junta-controlled legal system or forced to choose another profession. However, these unprecedented conditions mean that having an experienced, effective, internationally qualified advisory firm that can operate with the military junta is more critical than ever. This led to a niche group of professional services working with the military junta. The overall economic cost of these new operating norms in the Bagansait professional services is an approximate \$500–700 million loss annually.

Tourism

Bagansait is home to many UNESCO World Heritage Sites and should be a popular tourist location. However, Bagansait has always struggled with the balance between tourism and the desire to prevent outside scrutiny of its internal policies. Bagansait's tourism reached its peak of \$534 million in 2020. In that same year, much of the country was still utterly off-limits to tourists and the military tightly controlled interactions between foreigners and the people of Bagansait. Locals were not allowed to discuss politics with foreigners under penalty of imprisonment. The Bagansait Tourism Board issued an order for local officials to protect tourists and limit "unnecessary contact" between foreigners and the ordinary people of Bagansait. The recent military coup has further hindered any desire to increase tourism. Many countries, including the US, have issued Do Not Travel warnings for Bagansait due to the possibility of civil unrest. The military junta is reaching out to neighboring countries and updating its tourism websites to reestablish the Bagansait tourism industry. This would not only bring in \$200–\$300 million but would provide legitimacy for the military junta.



Government Services

The People's Noncompliance Group (PNG) encourages public servants to refuse to work under the junta and has significantly affected Bagansait's public services. Doctors, medical staff, and teachers have been at the forefront of the PNG. The majority continue to refuse to work under the committee. The Junta has targeted those on strike with beatings and arrests while those who have continued working face retaliation from their communities. The health system is in disarray and schools were disrupted, with few teachers in classrooms and few students in attendance. There are widespread blackouts across the country as the junta has been forced to cancel power generation projects that it can no longer afford. The citizens of Bagansait now have grave reservations regarding once-established government services. The economic loss due to the near collapse of these government services is incalculable but estimated to be in the tens of billions of dollars.

Participation in the Global Financial System

World Economic Organizations

International Monetary Fund (IMF). The IMF provided Bagansait with \$356 million for healthcare in the weeks before the coup. The military junta takeover created global concerns that the IMF funds would be diverted from healthcare to activities supporting the junta's human rights violations like forced labor. The IMF has not been able to track exactly what the funds have been used for, but the IMF has no indications that the funds have been expended on anything other than healthcare. The IMF is not currently engaging with the Republic of the Union of Bagansait because there's a lack of clarity regarding whether the international community will recognize the military junta as the official government of Bagansait.

World Bank. The World Bank Group has put a hold on disbursements for operations in Bagansait. The World Bank Group's internal policies and procedures will be used to assess the military junta and interim and transitional governments to determine the viability of the continued investment. The World Bank Group has replaced enhanced monitoring for projects already underway to ensure

compliance with World Bank Group policies. These ongoing projects will be placed on a hold status until a determination can be made about the trustworthiness of the military junta to spend World Bank funds on the designated tasks. These projects included an extension of the national power grid into rural areas, decentralizing education funding, managing education funds at the local level, and improved healthcare access. The total value of the World Bank projects is estimated at \$1.27 billion.

International Development Aid. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is the most significant international aid contributor to Bagansait. After the coup, USAID immediately redirected \$42.4 million of financial assistance away from projects that would have directly benefited the military junta. However, USAID continued its support to the people of Bagansait with approximately \$69 million in bilateral programs. These funds are designated to improve and maintain the health and food security of the people of Bagansait. USAID also pledged its continued commitment to providing life-saving humanitarian assistance to the people of Bagansait when needed to avoid any large-scale preventable humanitarian crises.

Other Major World or Regional Economic Organizations. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (**ASEAN**) is a financial organization of ten Southeast Asian countries (South Torbia, Belesia, Gabal, Bagansait, Khorathidin, Sungzon, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore). It represents the most significant regional economic communities. The organization aims to accelerate economic growth, social progress, cultural development, and regional stability through active engagement with all nations. The official stance of ASEAN is that it will not renew active involvement with Bagansait until all violence and human rights issues have ceased. However, activist groups within Bagansait claim that some ASEAN countries are actively supporting the junta through arms sales, telecommunications, and fossil fuels.



Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

Bagansait's FDI averaged between \$4 and 6 billion annually before the coup. The takeover by the military junta led to an international investment retreat as news of human rights violations and violence continued to surface. Recently, the military junta announced that it anticipated \$3.8 billion in FDI for the coming year. It did not disclose details of the investments. Still, it said the projects approved included \$2.5 billion in a liquefied natural gas power plant. That single project accounted for two thirds of the overall amount cited. Olvana is the suspected investor and primary benefactor of nearly all the military junta's projected FDI in Bagansait.

Economic sanctions

The United Kingdom (UK) and the European Union (EU). The UK and EU Council have imposed sanctions on individuals and major economic entities in Bagansait. The individuals include the ministers, deputy ministers, and the attorney general. These individuals have been identified as responsible for undermining democracy, the rule of law, and serious human rights violations. The sanctioned economic entities are the military junta departments responsible and accountable for the defense, gemstone, timber, and fossil fuel industries. These measures are aimed at restricting the military junta's ability to profit from Bagansait's natural resources while being crafted to avoid undue harm to the people of Bagansait. The sanctions include a travel ban and an asset freeze. In addition, UK and EU citizens and companies are forbidden from making funds available to individuals and entities. The sanctions include an embargo on arms and equipment that can be used for internal repression, an export ban on dual-use goods for use by the military and border guard police, and export restrictions on equipment for monitoring communications that could be used for internal repression. They also include a prohibition on military training for and military cooperation with the Republic of the Union of Bagansait. These restrictive measures come in addition to the withholding of UK and EU financial assistance directly going to the government and the freezing of all UK and EU assistance that may be seen as legitimizing the military junta.

The United States (US). The US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has designated individuals and entities within Bagansait for economic sanctions due to their involvement with or association with human rights violations in support of the military junta. These individuals include the Supreme Court Chief Justice; Chairs of the commissions on corruption, labor, and bribery; all ministers; all deputy ministers; and the attorney general. All properties of the individuals in the United States, or the possession or control of US persons, are blocked and must be reported to OFAC. In addition, any entities owned, directly or indirectly, 50 percent or more by one or more blocked persons are also blocked. All transactions by US persons or within (or transiting) the United States that involve any property or interests in property of designated individuals are prohibited. These prohibitions include making any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services by, to, or for the benefit of any sanctioned individual or the receipt of any assistance or provision of funds, goods, or services from any of the sanctions authorized individuals. The sanctioned entities include all government and private Bagansait entities that are associated with the defense, timber, pearl, gemstone, and fossil fuel industries. These sanctions ban the buying, selling, and trading of all commodities within these industries. The US Government intends to restrict all profits from Bagansait's natural resources from contributing to the military junta's human rights violations and deny the military junta any form of legitimization.

Finance and Banking

Private Banking

Banking System. There are 31 banks and branches in Bagansait. The central government bank controls the policies and distribution of funds to the private banks and the distribution of funds. When the military junta took over control of the government banking system, it began dictating policies and control over the private banks in Bagansait. These policies included limiting the amount of money individuals could withdraw and in what exchange rate Bagansait currency could be converted into other currencies like the US dollar or the euro. The military junta also seized control of the internet and enacted laws against online transactions that



undermined the military junta’s economy. Many private banks have been closed or open only intermittently as many staff have gone on strike to protest the coup. The trust between Bagansait citizens and the private banks has been severely eroded because customers are only allowed to withdraw their own money in increments approved by the military junta policies.

Stock/Capital. The Bagansait Stock Exchange (BSX) was launched a few years before the military coup to improve the private business sector in Bagansait. The BSX also disseminates rules and regulations regarding the stock exchange and knowledge of share trading through stock investment training courses. After the coup, the BSX overall value declined 63% percent and has since leveled off at meager estimated values of military junta-controlled companies. The current estimate for BSX trading is approximately 61,435 shares valued at \$282 million, consisting of the seven government-controlled companies that are currently traded on the exchange: First Peoples Bagansait Investment (FPBI, \$4.24); Bagansait Easy Holdings (BEH, \$1.57); Citizens Bank of Bagansait (CBB, \$4.21); Bagansait Private Bank (BPB, \$10.26); Public Communications Ltd (PCL \$1.40); Citizens Hydroelectric Co. (CHC, \$1.51); and Bagansait Public Holding Co. (BPHC, \$2.65).

Informal Finance

Local informal financing remains essential for Bagansait’s agriculture, tobacco, and fishing industries. In rural areas, products are often grown, harvested, caught, and sold in the same small villages, and it is not uncommon for bartering systems to be used as both a means of finance and profit. For example, in the tobacco industry, senior community members may provide “financing” for a future crop by providing seeds and fertilizer for a percentage of the product to use in their cigar or cigarette companies. In the fishing industry, this materializes as leasing a boat for the season in exchange for a percentage of the catch to use in their fish paste protein company. Often, money never exchanges hands between the financier and those receiving the informal loan, only goods and services.

Public Finance

Public Policy

The military junta’s control of public financial policies is absolute. The most outstanding example of this control is the limitation on the amount of money citizens can withdraw from their government or private bank account daily. Recent restrictions include foreign exchange. The money locals earn through foreign exchange must be deposited in accounts at licensed banks and exchanged for Bagansait currency within one working day. The military junta’s latest order stated that, absent a special exemption, foreign currency transfers abroad could only be carried out via licensed Foreign Exchange Trading banks (controlled by the military junta). Failure to comply with these financial policies results in legal action and often seizure of assets and imprisonment.

Taxation

Resident nationals and resident foreigners in Bagansait are taxed on their worldwide income under the current Bagansait tax laws. Non-resident foreigners are taxed only on income derived from sources within Bagansait.

Type of taxpayer or income	Tax rate
Salaries:	
Resident foreigners	Progressive rates from 1% to 25%
Non-resident foreigners	Progressive rates from 1% to 25%
Other income:	
Resident nationals and foreigners	Progressive rates from 1% to 25%
Non-resident foreigners	25%
Non-resident nationals	10%
Capital gains tax:	
Resident nationals and foreigners	10%
Non-resident foreigners	10%



Rental income:	10% on Gross
----------------	--------------

Table 1. General Tax Table for Bagansait

Currency Reserves

The World Bank Group estimates Bagansait’s global currency and gold reserves to be worth \$7.7 billion nearly all of which is in frozen assets due to the US, UK, and EU economic sanctions. The military junta has also sought to relieve pressure on its foreign exchange reserves by encouraging the use of neighboring countries’ currencies in the border regions. Recently, the Bagansait government issued an order that all foreign currency in government bank accounts had to be converted into Bagansait currency cash, which created panic and immediate losses for many citizens who still entrusted their money to the Bagansait banks.

Employment Status

Labor Market

Before the coup, the labor force in Bagansait amounted to approximately 22.74 million people. The labor force’s participation rate was 61.5%, while the employment rate was 99.1%. This included rural agriculture and traditional local employment opportunities. The International Labor Organization (ILO) estimates that 1.6 million jobs were lost in Bagansait following the coup. Working hours are estimated to have decreased by 18%. These working-hour losses were driven by employment losses as well as reduced full-time employment. Key sectors have suffered considerable impacts. Rural farmers were hard hit by armed conflict, violence, and insecurity. Construction, garments, tourism, and hospitality were among the hardest hit industries, with year-to-year employment losses reaching an estimated 31%, 27%, and 30%, respectively. These losses in working hours and employment were disproportionately more significant for women than men. Women also accounted for most job losses in garments, tourism, and hospitality. These job losses are compounded by the People’s Noncompliance Group (PNG), which encourages government workers to leave their jobs and stop supporting the military junta. The culminating result of these labor losses is a World Bank estimate of an 18% decrease in the Bagansait GDP.

Employment and Unemployment

Professional employment opportunities in Bagansait remain available in accounting, sales, business development, marketing, communications, human resources, engineering, hospitality, customer service, and information technologies. However, the military junta controls the policies that affect most of these professions, and the security situation within the country makes the employment of nonresident foreigners unlikely. Locals also face repercussions for working for the military junta by the PNG. Unemployment is expected to continue in growth-dependent industries like construction, which has been severely impacted, by the coup and the sanctions that limit the importation of construction materials. The garment and tourism industries' unemployment are expected to remain constant due to sanctions and travel restrictions imposed by the US, UK, and EU.

Illegal Activities

Government-Sponsored

It is an internationally accepted fact that the military junta benefits financially from the earnings of transnational organized crime and internal criminal enterprises. These criminal enterprises in Bagansait include wildlife trafficking, illegal mining, illegal logging, human trafficking, and drug production and trafficking. These illegal activities can be categorized into three informal economies—exploiting natural resources, drugs, and human trafficking. The border guards and army forces in the remote border regions with Olvana are directly involved in facilitating these criminal enterprises. The Olvanan paramilitary, militia, and political leaders in the border regions profit and allow the transnational flow of illegal goods into Olvana. The military junta has allowed organized crime access to and investment in seaports, airports, banks, and legitimate businesses necessary for the successful growth of transnational organized crime. The informal economy produced by illegal activities has a symbiotic relationship with the military junta in Bagansait.



Non-Government Sponsored

Bagansait is one of the largest producers of methamphetamines in the world. Last year, Bagansait trafficked one billion pills to neighboring countries. The year prior, Olvanan authorities seized over 40 million pills that had been illegally trafficked from Bagansait. Ethnic militias and rebel groups are responsible for much of the methamphetamine production; however, some Bagansait military units are also believed to be involved in the trafficking of methamphetamines. Bagansait is the second most prominent and most significant supplier of opium globally, and illegal narcotics are estimated to generate approximately \$2 billion in exports annually. Before the 2020s, smugglers typically transported heroin from Bagansait to Khorathidin and Sungzon. This has recently shifted to limited land routes into Western Olvana and sea trafficking to Eastern Olvana.

Table of Economic Activity

Table 2. Economic activity

Measure	Data	Remarks
GDP (Official Exchange Rate)	\$76.6 Billion	Estimated
GDP – Real Growth Rate	Decreasing 18%	Due to Coup: World Bank Est. 18% ↓
GDP – Per Capita (PPP)	\$5142.20	Estimated
Gross National Saving		% Of GDP (Estimated)
GDP – Household Consumption	59.2%	Estimated
GDP – Government Consumption	13.8%	Estimated
GDP – Investment in Fixed Capital	33.5%	Estimated
GDP – Investment in Inventories	1.5%	Estimated
GDP – Exports of Goods & Services	21.4%	Estimated

ECONOMY

Measure	Data	Remarks
GDP – Imports of Goods & Services	-28.6%	Estimated
GDP – Agriculture Sector	24.1%	Estimated
GDP – Industry Sector	35.6%	Estimated
GDP – Services Sector	40.3%	Estimated
Labor Force	22.3 Million	Estimated
Labor Force – Agriculture	70%	Estimated
Labor Force – Industry	7%	Estimated
Labor Force – Services	23%	Estimated
Unemployment Rate	4%	Estimated
Poverty Rate	24.8%	Below Poverty Line (Estimated)
Net Foreign Direct Investment	1.73 Billion	Estimated
Foreign Direct Investment Received	5.5 Billion	Estimated
Foreign Direct Investment Abroad	3.77 Billion	Estimated
Budget – Revenues	9.108 Billion	Estimated
Budget – Expenditures	11.23 Billion	Estimated
Public Debt	33.6%	% of GDP (Estimated)
Inflation Rate – Consumer Prices	8.8%	Estimated
Economic Equality/Inequality	30.7	Gini Coefficient (0 = Perfect with everyone in the country has the same amount of wealth; 1 = all income/wealth is in the possession of a single person)



SOCIAL

Social Overview

Executive Summary

Bagansait has a population of just over 61 million, with an estimated 30% living in urban areas. The government of Bagansait recognizes eight primary ethnic groups; however, there are over a hundred distinct sub-ethnicities and other minority groups that call Bagansait home. The government has organized these groups by geographic region instead of the more traditional socio-linguistic traits typically used. The Bamar, or Burman, ethnicity makes up over 60% of the total population. The official language of Bagansait is Burmese, with English as the preferred second language; however, the languages across Bagansait are as diverse as the ethnicities. Almost 90% of the population identifies as Buddhist, with the remaining 10% adhering to Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and traditional belief systems. Bagansait's diversity, or rather its inability to cope with diversity, has led to dozens of ongoing low-intensity conflicts with ethnic minorities across the country. While political ideologies may influence one group or another, ethnicity-based self-determination is the primary driver for most of the unrest. Distance and terrain have previously limited the ability for different groups to coordinate; however, with increasing access to the internet and mobile technology, the potential for communication and coordination has increased exponentially.

Brief History

The people of Bagansait have experience social upheaval for the last 80 years. Within the last 40 years, a power struggle between democratic reformers and the senior, military-backed establishment has escalated the social tensions beyond repair. Many minorities have been murdered, assimilated forcibly, or driven from the country by the junta to create a single, national Burmese identity.

Demographics

Ethnicities and Languages

There are many distinct ethnicities in Bagansait. The oppressive regime's history of purging minorities over the last 70 years has only served to solidify the various ethnic identities with their respective communities. Many of these communities participate in the legislative process and some sponsor insurgencies.

Burmese is the official language of Bagansait and spoken by 60% of the population. It is spoken mainly in the central and southwestern most populous regions of Bagansait, and especially in the cities. English is the unofficial second language. The major ethnicities and associated language groups are below.

Bamar 60% (Language and demonym: Burmese). The Burmese are the majority ethnicity in Bagansait and are the dominant social culture. Positions of authority in government and military are exclusively held by Burmese. Minority ethnicities are encouraged or forced to adopt Burmese traditions.

Shan 10% (Language and demonym: Shan) The Shan reside mainly in the east and central states and are mostly Theravada Buddhists. The Shan call themselves **Tai**; Shan is a Burmese word for this group and is how the Bagansait government recognizes them. They are the largest minority group in Bagansait, numbering 4–6 million. Many reside in Taunggyi in the Shan state. The Burmese majority has conscripted the Shan people into the army, placed them on forced labor parties, or driven from their homes, resulting in many fleeing into Khorathidin.

The Shan plight is ignored by most outside governments. Shan also live in Olvana. The Shan populate two insurgent groups, the Shan People's Army, and the Tai Force 3.

Olvanan 10% (Language and demonym: Olvanan) While the Olvanan represent the majority ethnicity within Olvana, they are considered a minority group along the northeastern hills of the eastern Yunnan province. Olvana encourages Olvanan insurgency in Bagansait by providing them haven across the border and occasional supplies.



Kachin 7% (Language and demonym: Kachin) Far north and western frontiers. Spoken by the Jingpho, or Kachin, peoples. It is a Tibeto-Burman language and uses a Latin alphabet or a Burmese script.

Karen 7% (Language and demonym: Karen/Kareni) Concentrated along the eastern border with Khorathidin. The Karen number 3.6 million in Bagansait, with an additional 1 million in Khorathidin. The Karen are concentrated in the mountainous Kayin State along the Irrawaddy delta in eastern Bagansait. Most are Theravada Buddhists. The Karen language is a separate subgroup of the Tibeto-Burmic languages, which is not mutually intelligible with Burmese.

Other ethnicities 6% (many languages). The far eastern states that surround the north of Khorathidin are composed of multiple ethnicities who live amongst one another. Tai, Lao, Khmu, and Miao languages are spoken in the far eastern provinces in an ethnic *mélange* that borders Khorathidin and Sungzon.

Religions

- Theravada Buddhism 90%
- Christianity 8% (80% Protestant, 20% Catholic)
- Various tribal religions and Islam 2%

Education

- **Literacy.** 90% average (93% of men, 87% of women)
- **Educational System.** National compulsory through primary (to age 9), run by Ministry of Education. High school carries through to age 16.
- **Educational Attainment.** Approximately half of all students advance to secondary education, and 18% complete upper secondary schooling. These completion numbers are lower in the rural and frontier states. Rural populations receive education in monastic and community-run schools, and a small number of urban children attend a few private and international schools, where education is compulsory to age 16.

- **Higher Education.** College and vocational training begin at age 16. Universities are state-run by the federal ministry of that vocation. For example, the Ministry of Health administers medical schools.

Population Density Overview

The population of Bagansait is roughly 55 million, at roughly 80 people per square kilometer, or 200 people per square mile. Bagansait is the second least populated country in Southeast Asia. Khorathidin is the most sparsely populated in Southeast Asia.

Urban Areas represent 30% of total Bagansait's population. Most city residents are of Bamar ethnicity.

1. Yangon (Rangoon): 5,211,431
2. Mandalay: 1,225,546
3. Naypyidaw: 1,160,242



Rural Areas. Rural areas contain 70% of the population and are composed of the ethnic minorities. There is some comingling in urban areas, however, within the various states.

Population Movement

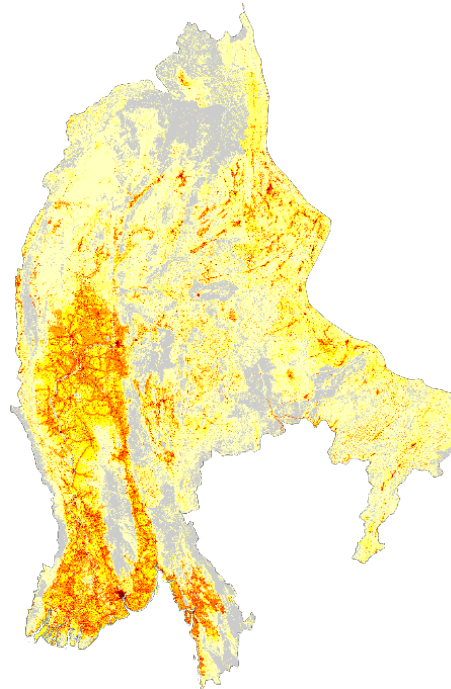
Internal Migration

Urbanization. Baganasait is still a relatively rural country. From 2010 to 2020, Baganasait's urbanization increased from 29% to 31% of the population, compared to 47% of all Southeast Asian population. SE Asian urbanization should be over 53% within a year, further contrasting with Baganasait's rate of increase.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Over 800,000 people are internally seeking refuge within Baganasait's borders. This number is double that since the violent coup forced minority populations into armed conflict with the government. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimates the numbers will grow to over 1 million and continue until democracy returns.

Stateless Personnel. The Rohingya are an ethnic Muslim minority currently living in Himaldesh. They originally lived in Baganasait, but successive Baganasait regimes drove them from their homelands in the west in the hundreds of thousands. Several years ago, the Buddhist-majority police and military responded to a Rohingya rebel attack and drove them back into neighboring Himaldesh. The government forces murdered thousands more, burned villages, and brutally tortured those who stayed. Baganasait considers the Rohingya as illegal immigrants from Himaldesh. The UNHCR labeled them "stateless."

Map 7. Population density (LandScan)



External Migration

Baganasait migration is -1.38 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2021 Est.). Baganasait experiences net population loss each year.

Inbound

- Economic immigration is insignificant.
- Forced migration is insignificant.

Outbound

- Economic migration is the driver of urbanization in Baganasait. This is partially due to loss of income, loss of viable farming, and seasonal irregularities. Externally, likewise, over 1 million Bagan citizens live in neighboring Khorathidin undocumented in the many factories that capitalize on the cheaper labor pool.
- Forced migration: Expulsion of ethnic Rohingya (see above) constitutes most forced emigration.

Culture

Bamar (Burmese) culture is contextual. Blunt conversations are seen as aggressive. Discretion in all communication is required. (Please see [Communication](#), below and [Information](#) variable)

Dimensions of National Culture

While Gert Hofstede's work has omitted Baganasait, others have applied his criterion for understanding the various dimensions of Burmese culture. Baganasait is unique among Southeast Asian cultures. One should be cautious to imply a homogenous culture from so small a sample. However, the efforts of the junta to purge or assimilate minorities may have contributed to a relatively uniform cross section of beliefs that differs somewhat from Baganasait's neighbors.

Power Distance: Low. Baganasait's PD score is low, indicating Bagan culture is generally not accepting of inequality among societal members. This is due perhaps



to the Buddhist and communist history of the nation. However, this belief does extend to strictly class structures where tradition indicates a hierarchy.

Individualism vs. Collectivism: Moderately individualistic. This distinguishes Bagansait from its Asian neighbors, which are moderately to highly collectivist. This profile is also at odds with Bagansait's communist tendencies and may be reflective of an educated, individualistic mindset of those sampled.

Uncertainty Avoidance: High. This mindset can lengthen the decision-making process, particularly in institutional settings.

Long-Term Orientation vs. Short-Term Orientation: Moderate long-term. This mindset can influence the patience with which policies are undertaken. Similarly, long-term orientation can affect insurgency movements, especially where long-established ethnicities are concerned in the north and east frontier states.

Competitiveness vs. Consensus: Consensus based. Bagansait is also at odds with their Southeast Asian neighbors along this dimension. High consensus indicates a gentler value system in Bagansait culture, versus performance and achievement values.

Cultural Norms and Values

Bagansait culture reflects its strong Buddhist traditions and differs from traditional Western or even other Asian cultures. Chief among these is respect for the human body and respect for elders.

Human form:

- The Bamar and other ethnicities in Bagansait greet each other with a smile. Shaking hands is rare.
- The top half of the body is sacred, the bottom half dirty. Touching a person's head, even that of a child is extremely rude as the head is the most sacred part of the body.

- Much more than in the West, feet are the lowest form and should never be used to point or brought onto furniture. Visitors to temples remove their shoes when entering temples.
- Men do not touch women, even to shake hands. Men and women do not hold hands in public, but people of the same sex can and usually hold hands while walking, much as in Arab culture. Women must not touch monks.
- Underwear should never be seen, even in laundering. It is hung lower than other garments when drying or storing.

Elders: People of all ethnicities in Bagansait respect the elderly. Lowering one's head or bowing and kneeling before elders is common and expected.

Centers of Social Power

Elderly

Age, and the respect that comes with it, is a large factor in the structure of social power in Bagansait society. Deference is given to the eldest members of a familial or tribal group. This is especially true in Buddhist and rural areas. This paternalistic notion carries over to the government, where power and authority are respected. Buddhist monks hold sway within a given community.

Monks

Theravada Buddhist monks have significant influence within local populations and in national sentiment on a large scale. Monks have been a stalwart voice against oppressive regimes over the last 70 years. Because of their status within Bamar culture, monks can resist and protest with slightly more impunity than the general population.

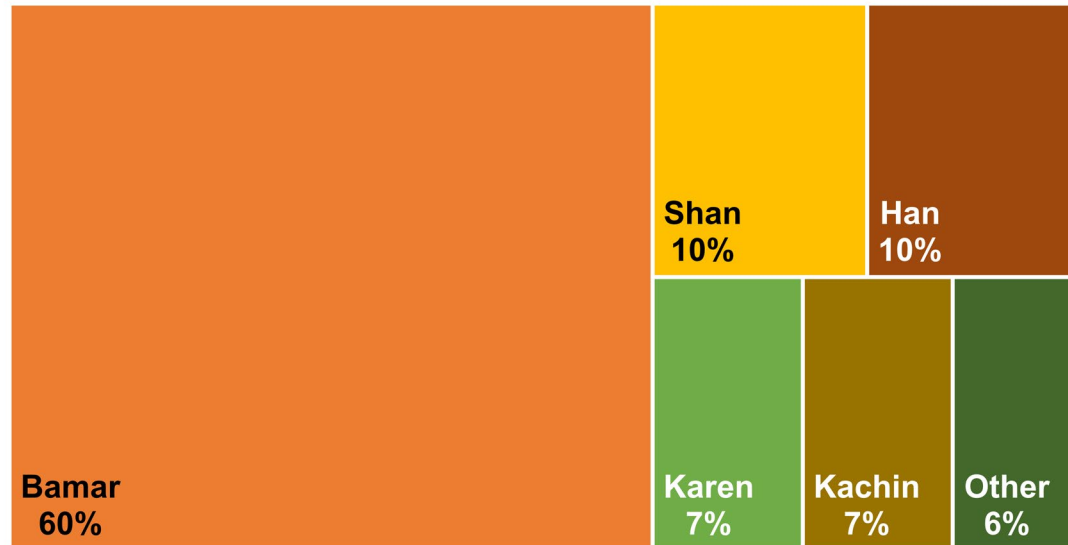


Communication

Traditional Methods and Symbolism

Most of the cultures within Bagansait are high context. Most, but not all, cultures in Bagansait value indirect tone, body language, and language when communicating.

Bagansait Ethnicities



Burmese smile to soften interactions, maintain eye contact to show attentiveness, but occasionally look away and nod as to convey thoughtfulness.

Role of Technology and Media

The internet in Bagansait is severely restricted. Citizens experience:

- Obstacles to access;
- Limits on content available; and
- Violations of user’s rights.

Mobile phone and social media usage have slowly gained widespread use especially among the younger generations, but internet connectivity in rural areas is lacking. Approximately half of Bagansait’s population is on social media. (See also *Social Media* in Information variable)

Social Impact of OE Hazards

Social unrest associated with the military coup creates refugee crises along the border of Bagansait and in countries around the world where Bagansaiti people flee. Poor health conditions affiliated with forced migration and voluntary migration under duress have led receiving countries to alert for Hepatitis B and intestinal parasites in Bagansaiti refugees. See also *Sanitation* above.

Criminal Activity

The reporting of violent crime in Bagansait is skewed by lack of access to current data and the fact that crimes by the government, though significant, are not counted. This is doubly misleading, as government forces are responsible for many atrocities over the last 40 years.

Cultural Approach to Punishment. Punishment in Bagansait is severe. It has one of the worst rated prison systems in the country, with inmates living in squalor without basic medical care. Punishment for political prisoners is separate and the harshest.

Crime. The high prison population suggests criminal activity is high in Bagansait, at least in how it matters to the junta.

- **Murder rate:** 0.4% of population and typical among Asian nations.
- **Human Trafficking:** 0.45% Adult Female; 0.06% Adult Male; 0.07 Children, Female; 0.01% Children, Male) and low among Asian nations.
- **Corruption:** High. Bagansait is ranked as worst or next-to-worst in various international indices ranking corruption around the world.



- **Illicit Drugs:** Bagansait’s opium crops have surged over recent years, as has methamphetamine production. Illicit trade with other Asian nations and the export
- of opium is a major source of corruption within the government and cross-border security with Bagansait’s neighbors.

Human Rights Bagansait ranks among the worst countries in the world for human rights. The junta abuses the populace with impunity. These abuses include enslavement, human trafficking, ethnic genocide, and the conscription of child soldiers. Freedom House ranks Bagansait at nine (9) out of 100 on the Freedom Index (Not Free), with scores of zero (0) Political, and nine (9) Civil Rights dimensions. (see *Criminal Activity* above)

Demographic Statistics

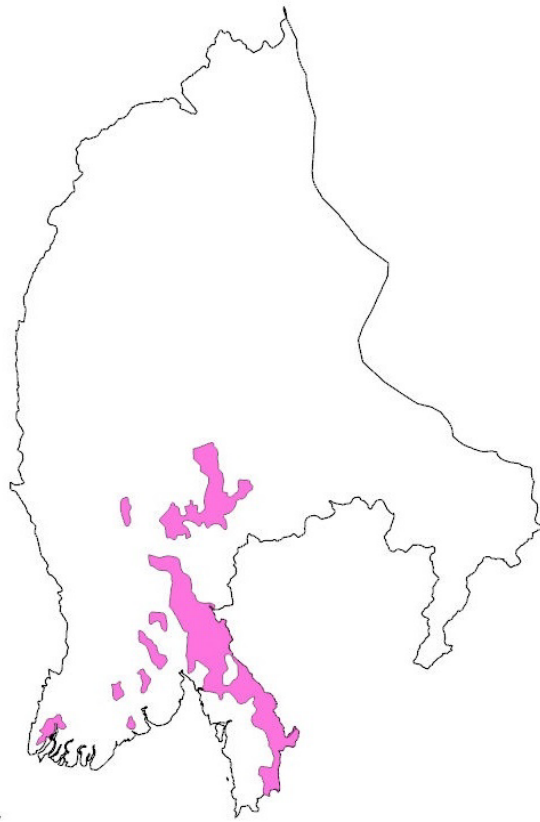
Social Statistic	Bagansait
Primary Languages (%)	Burmese 60%
	Shan 13% - East and central states
	Kachin 10% - North and western border
	Karen 5% - Along the eastern border
	Chin 2% - Far western frontiers
Ethnic Groups (%)	Bamar 60% (Language: Burmese)
	Olvanan Han 10% (Olvanan)
	Shan 10% (Shan)
	Karen, 7% (Karen)
	Kachin, 7% (Kachin)
Major Religions (%)	Other ethnicities 6% (many languages)
	Theravada Buddhism 90%
	Christianity 8%
Literacy Rate (Older Than 15 in %)	Various tribal religions, Islam 2%
	90%

Social Statistic	Bagansait		
	Age	Male	Female
Age Distribution (%)	0-14	13%	13%
	15-54 (Military Age)	30%	31%
	55-64	4%	4%
	65+	1.5%	3.5%
Median Age	21		
Population	54,358,635		
Annual Growth Rate	-2%		
Birth Rate Per 1,000 People	2.23 ↘, above replacement level		
Death Rate Per 1,000 People	NA		
Urban Population (%)	32,000,000 (appx)		
Annual Urbanization Rate	2%		
Infant Mortality Rate Per 1000 Live Births	73		
Life Expectancy at Birth (Years)	Avg. 67 Years (64 for men)		
Major Diseases	Respiratory infections, Tuberculosis		

Table 3. Demographic Statistics

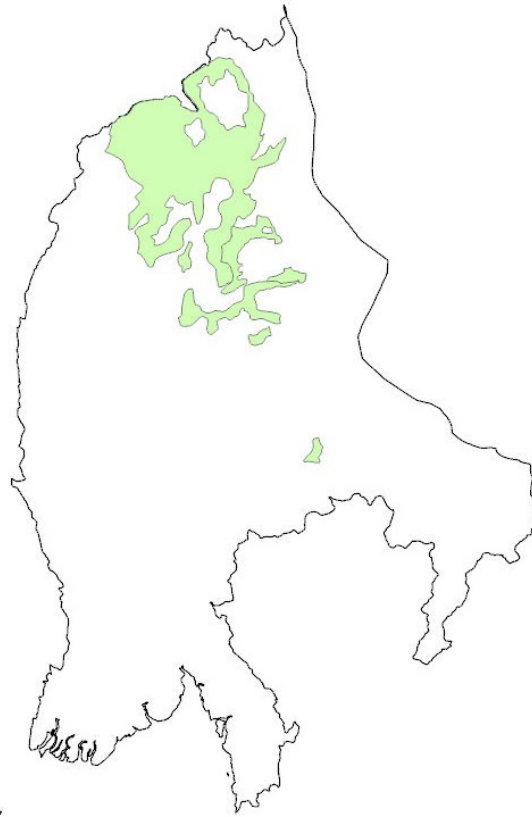


Ethnic Geography Maps



Map 10. Karen People

Karen



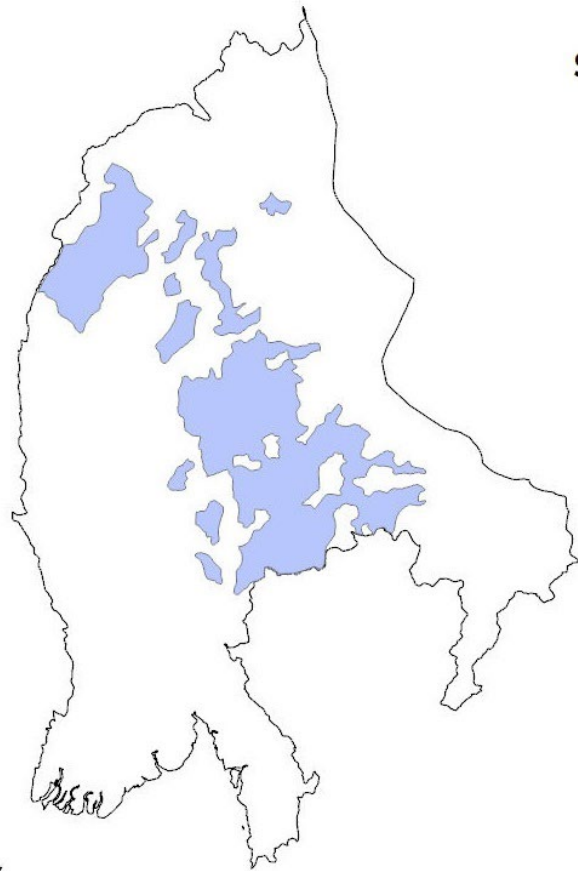
Map 9. Kachin People

Kachin



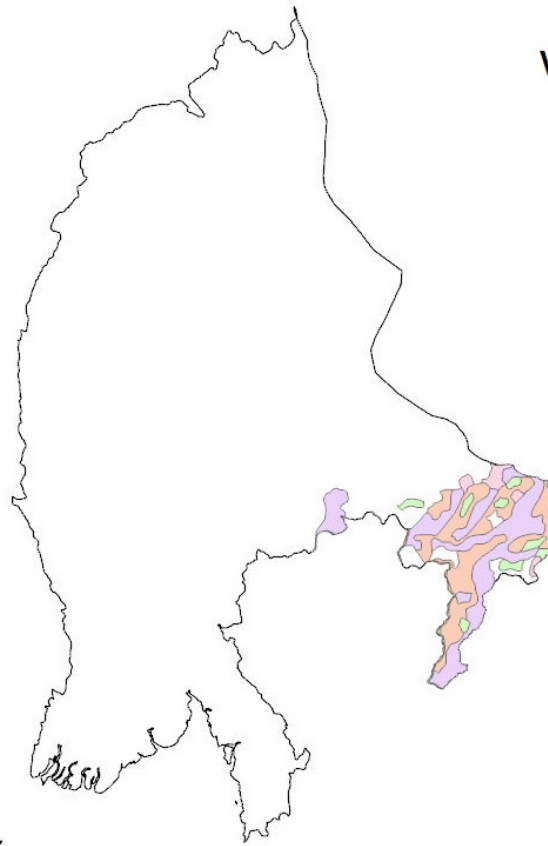
Map 8. Bamar (Burmese) People

**Bamar
(Burmese)**



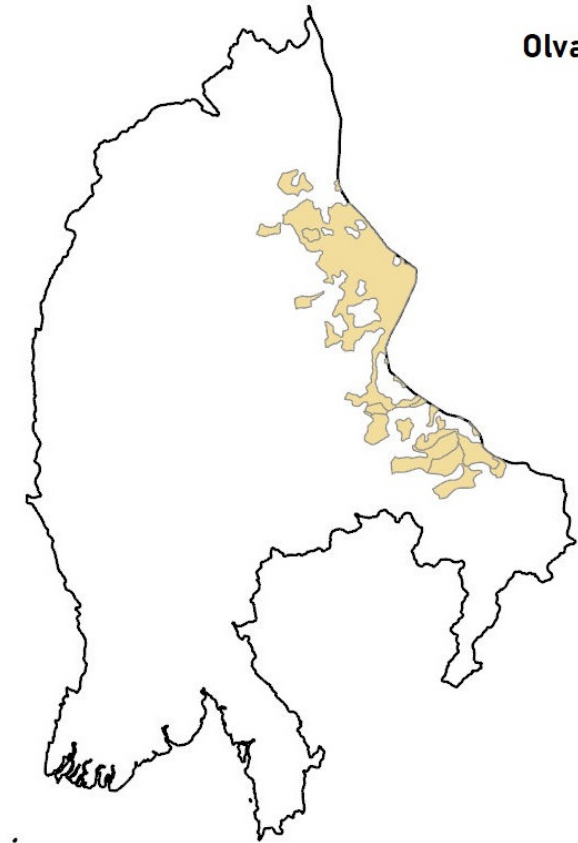
Map 13. Shan People

Shan



Map 12. Various Ethnicities

Various



Map 11. Olvanan People

Olvanan



INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure Overview

Bagansait can be divided into five physiographic regions: the northern mountains, western ranges, eastern plateau, central basin and lowlands, and the coastal plains. The mountain ranges generally run from north to south. Despite the current state of Bagansait’s infrastructure, the government is determined to close the gap and improve the country’s development through a growing relationship with Olvana. Current infrastructure connectivity in Bagansait is still underdeveloped and fails to keep pace with pressing demands. Citizens in some isolated rural communities do not have adequate access to basic infrastructure and services such as electricity, transportation, and communication. Distribution of goods and services has been extremely difficult and costly as most roadways outside of urban areas are in poor repair and are not passable during the monsoon season.

Major Cities and Urban Zones

Bagansait has 676,578 square kilometers of surface area available within its boundaries. This includes 1,930 km of coastline. Total population is estimated at: 55,199,000 (as of 2021) and the five largest cities are listed below. The electrification rate is especially low in rural villages, which are mainly not connected to the power grid. Wood and biomass are used as a primary source of energy. Biomass is the largest energy source in Bagansait comprising over 60% of the total energy sources. Crude oil and petroleum product accounts for 13.45%, natural gas: 10.67%, hydropower: 9.55% and coal and lignite: 2.48%.

Table 4. Bagansait's densest cities.

City	Pop	Pop Dens/km ²	UBD
Yangon	5.2m	7700/km ²	High
Mandalay	1.26m	6270/km ²	High
Naypyidaw	1.2m	520/km ²	High
Bago	500k	5540/km ²	Low

Hpa-An	422k	1160/km ²	Medium
--------	------	----------------------	--------

Energy Sector

The country’s electricity originates from 83 power plants. The average generation cost of hydropower varies from 35 – 70 Bagansait kyats (MMK) per kilowatt-hour, while gas costs vary from MMK 120 to 130 per kilowatt-hour. Only 34 percent of the population has access to grid-quality electricity, and 38,000 villages have no electricity at all. In remote and/or sparsely populated as well as in conflict-prone regions, these areas can be difficult to assess, especially when they are of a large scale. The lack of soft and hard infrastructure is significantly impeding Bagansait’s development and reducing attractiveness for foreign investment.

Nuclear Power

According to the Ministry of Energy, there are five areas for potential uranium mining: Magwe, Taungdwingyi, Kyaukphygon (Mogok), Kyauksin, and Paongpyin (Mogok). Only Magwe has up to 0.5 percent medium-grade uranium ore while the rest have low-grade uranium ore (less than 0.1 percent). Bagansait has no confirmed mining or milling facilities. Additionally, Bagansait is not believed to have either nuclear or biological weapons programs, and, despite accusations, there is no conclusive evidence of a chemical weapons program. Bagansait maintains diplomatic relations with North Torbia, which is believed to contribute to Bagansait’s limited missile program. The country became a non-nuclear weapon state party to the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in 1992 and signed the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty in 1995, committing to not develop nuclear weapons. Bagansait’s government has undertaken some uranium exploration, Most of Bagansait’s uranium is a byproduct of gold mining, as the country does not have a need for uranium, and much is exported to Olvana. In March 2015, Rosatom, Russia’s State Atomic Energy Commission, announced that Bagansait and Russia agreed to cooperate further on nuclear energy development.



Renewable Power

Bagansait's Department of Renewable Energy and Hydropower Plants is prioritizing the development of solar and wind energy of which the country has rich solar power and hydropower potential. Solar energy potential is higher compared to that of wind energy and the highest among the nations of the Greater Mekong Subregion. The country is targeting 12% of all electricity to be generated from renewable sources by 2025. Bagansait is realigning new energy mix to hydropower 40%, solar 14%, domestic gas 34%, and LNG 11%. This will bring the renewable energy composition to 54% and clean fuel (natural gas) composition to 45% of total installed capacity of 8,118 megawatts (MW). To accelerate the development of solar energy in the country, Bagansait needs to improve renewable energy governance, build an effective regulatory framework for renewable energy, and simplify the business environment for investors.

Hydrocarbon Power

Bagansait has abundant energy resources, particularly hydropower and natural gas. Fossil fuels, with gas as the main fuel (20.5%), ranks 2nd behind hydroelectricity, followed by coal and oil. Decades of isolation, sanctions, a lack of technical capacity, opaque government policies, and insufficient investment has impeded the country's efforts to develop an upstream hydrocarbon sector.

Hydroelectric Power

There are almost 200 large dams in Bagansait, which has a large hydroelectric power potential of 39,000 megawatts (52,000,000 hp), although the economical exploitable potential is about 37,000 megawatts (50,000,000 hp). This would be the threshold for not exceeding safe operating conditions. Most of Bagansait's electricity (74.7%) is produced by hydroelectricity. The rest is derived fossil fuels, with gas as the main fuel (20.5%) followed by coal and oil. At present, there are a total of 27 hydropower stations with the installed capacity of 3221 MW connected to the national grid. The country plans to achieve 100% electrification by 2030. In 2007, Bagansait's military dictatorship signed an agreement for the construction of

seven hydroelectric dams, yielding a total 13,360 MW, in the N'mai and Mali Rivers, including the 3600 MW Myitsone Dam at the confluence of both rivers.

Gas and Oil

Bagansait is an important natural gas and petroleum producer in Asia. It's home to one of the world's oldest petroleum industries and one of the major natural gas producers in the Asian continent. Bagansait is primarily a natural gas producer and exports gas to Khorathidin and Olvana as of 2015. Bagansait has 51 onshore blocks, 53 offshore blocks to include 26 deep-water blocks (waters deeper than 200 meters) for oil and gas exploration and what type of vessels may dock at these ports. The National Energy Management Committee regulates this sector under the Ministry of Energy. Recently, a coup d'état took place and the French oil multinational TotalEnergies (known as Total S.A. at the time) announced it was reviewing the impact of the coup on its domestic operations and projects. The company would later issue a statement; it would not withhold payments to the military junta and would not cease operations in its Yadana offshore gas field. On 22 January 2022, TotalEnergies and Chevron announced its departure from Bagansait in response to human rights abuses from the military, and TotalEnergies also called for sanctions in response to such actions in Bagansait. Olvana has recently announced that it would be developing a pipeline through Bagansait to the deep-water ports along the Bagansait coast.

Power Plant Data Matrix

With 1,930 km of coastline, Bagansait's population is concentrated along coastal areas and in general proximity to the shores of the Irrawaddy River. The extreme north is relatively underpopulated. The electrification rate is especially low in rural villages, which are mainly not connected to the power grid. Wood and biomass are used as a primary source of energy in these areas.



POWER STATIONS

Table 5. Coal Power Stations

Name	Capacity (MW)	Latitude	Longitude
Kungyan Gone	3,270	16.434434	95.9848451
Inn Din	1,280	15.3	97.966667
Pathein (Din)	660	16.518722	94.301304
Kalewa	600	21.5	95.6178
Mandalay	500	21	95.87
Launglon	500	13.7926555	98.1065798
Kyauktan	500	16.638056	96.322778
Mai Khot (Mong Kok)	405	21.5	98
Htantabin	270	17.1333	95.91667
Bukit Asam	200	19.0734647	96.6710399
Minemouth			
Takyit	120	20.431292	96.703524

Table 6. Gas Power Stations

Name	Capacity (MW)	Latitude	Longitude
Ahlone GT + TTMP Co. Ltd	154 + 121	16.7765	96.1306
Hlawga GT + MCP Co. Ltd	154 + 50	16.9827	96.1249
Shwe Thaug GT	55	17.101471	94.480359
Ywama GT + MSP Co. Ltd	310 + 52	16.833111	96.120889
Thllawa GT + CNTIC VPower LNG	50 + 350	16.633472	96.27225
Thaton GT + CEEC	60 + 118	16.963155	97.407930
Tharkaytha GT + Max Power Co. Ltd	92 + 50	16.81255	96.22648

Table 7. Hydroelectric Power Stations

Name	Capacity (MW)	Latitude	Longitude
Yeywa	790	19.624271	97.367930
Shweli I	600	23.699	97.506422

Lower Paunglaung	280	19.786444	96.335833
Baluchaung	168	19.666.44	97.24286
Kyaukme	140	22.54537	97.03152
Upper Paunglaung	140	19.75604	96.59374
Chibwayage	99	21.16387	96.32326
Mone	75	20.46269	94.25331
Myittha	40	22.01697	93.98431
Kabaung	30	16.78067	96.33311
Nancho	?	19.76603	97.27932
Yazagyo	?	23.52681	94.09096

Water and Sanitation

Water

Access to clean water in Bagansait has increased in the last 15 years, but there is still more to be done and it has been difficult, despite the country’s natural resources. Bagansait was previously recognized to have the fourth most plentiful supply of groundwater in the world, holding more than 19,000 square meters per capita. This is 16 times the available levels of water in Bagansait’s neighboring country, Himaladesh. A typical summer season would introduce water shortages in only central Bagansait, but deforestation because of urbanization and hot temperatures contribute to water shortages in other areas of the country, leaving thousands of the population in danger. A lack of sustainable public infrastructure and resources has hampered efforts to reach populations with essential clean water, decent toilets, and hygiene products. It’s estimated over 15% of the population (8.8 million people) are without clean water. In many rural communities, where most people live, these figures are among the worst in Asia.

Sanitation

Conflicts and natural disasters are the biggest threat to the health of children, women, elderly people, and those with disabilities. Many rural communities go without clean water, decent toilets, and good hygiene. Children under the age of five are 20 times more likely to die due to diarrheal diseases, often related to unsafe water, than in violent conflict. Recent changes to the water system have



significantly improved water quality. Proctor & Gamble's Children Safe Drinking Water program and World Vision teamed up to give Bagansait residents a tool to clean non-potable water: a powder mixture invented by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Poor families can purify water from rivers and streams instead of spending lots of money on bottled water.

Transportation Architecture

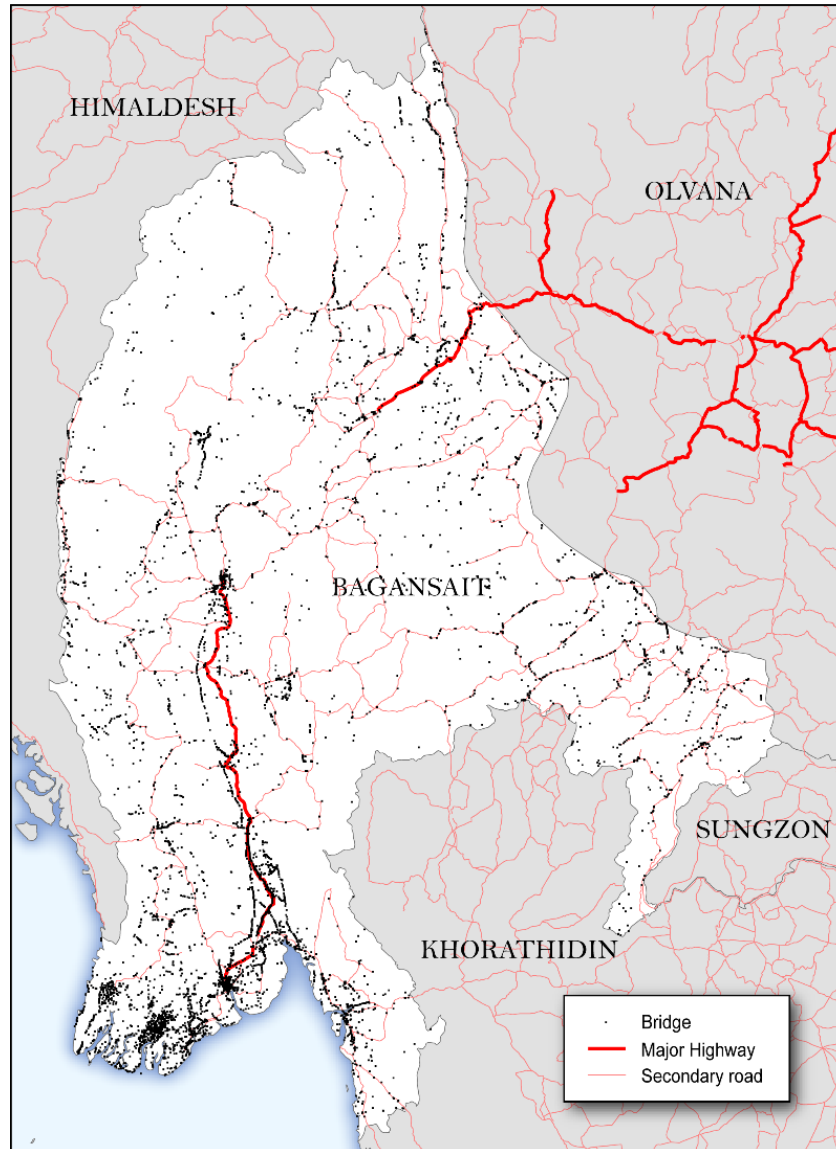
Traffic congestion is problematic. A jump in foreign car imports in recent years has greatly increased the overall stock of cars which are seen as desirable assets to own. The additional vehicles have made conditions worse as infrastructure cannot keep up. Compared to public transportation, individual cars take up more space. Solving congestion requires accepting private transport will become more common requiring, Bagansait to develop better public alternatives for commuters.

Road System

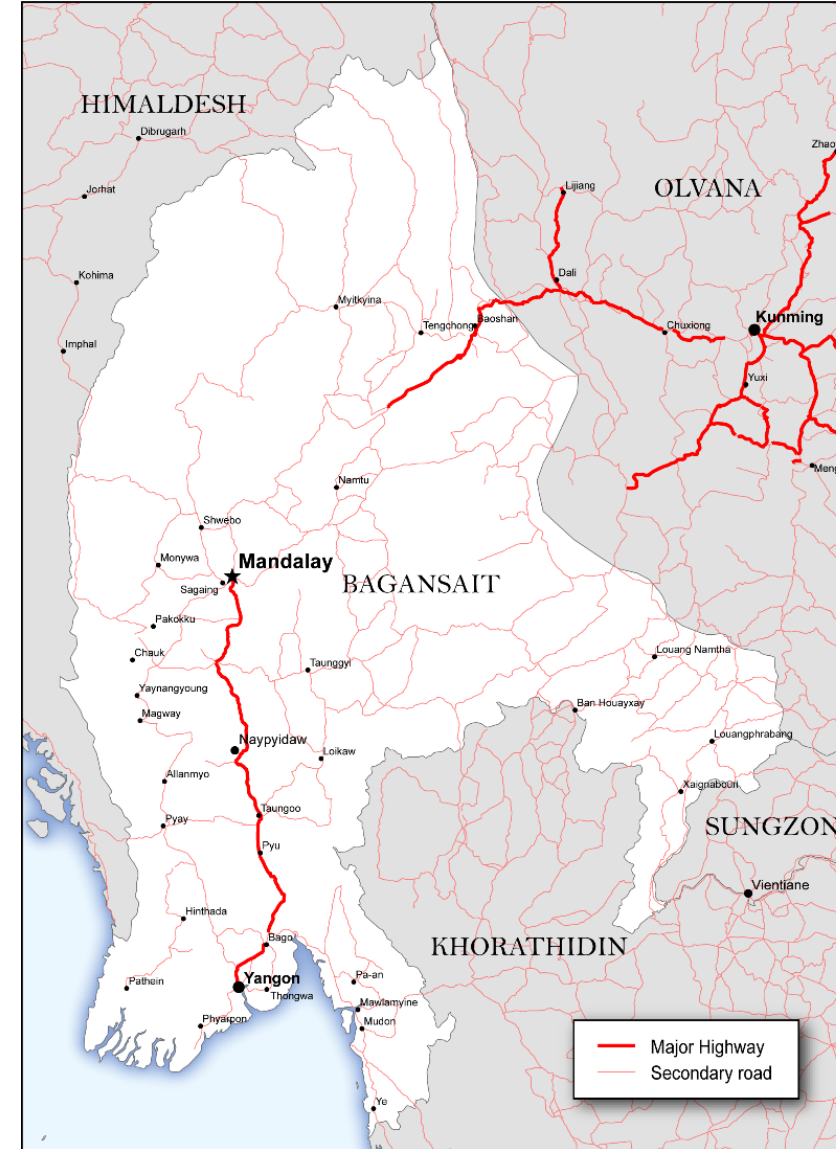
- Bagansait has a total of 157,000 km of roads.
- Paved roads—34,700 km
- Unpaved roads—122,300 km



Map 15. Bagansait Bridges



Map 14. Major Highways and Secondary Roads





Public Transportation

Local transportation in Bagansait is a mix of public buses, taxis, pick-ups (adapted with seating in the covered rear portion), motorcycle taxis (passenger rides pillion) and cycle rickshaws. The four best ways to travel throughout Bagansait are air, boat, bus, or rail. Flying between cities is popular among Westerners, while cruising is enjoyable. Public buses are cheaper, simpler, and faster than trains but run only in the largest cities (Yangon and Mandalay). Density comes with downsides because as cities grow, so does the congestion.

Rail System

Train travel may be exciting for younger travelers (both terrific and possibly terrifying). Rail services remain poor despite attempts in the 1990s to renovate existing lines, add new lines, and upgrade railway services on main routes. Bagansait has a total of 5,031 km of railways, over 320 locomotives, and more than 4,000 rail cars. Recent efforts include upgrading Rangoon-Mandalay rail line and beginning a new 162-kilometer Ye-Dawai Rail track project. During the 1995–96 fiscal year, railways in Bagansait carried 53,400,000 passengers and 3,280,000 tons of freight. Olvana and Bagansait have established a joint venture railway system between Bagansait and Olvana. The standard railway gauge in this region is 1,435mm. Additionally, 1,676 mm gauge is common in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.

Map 16. Bagansait Railways





Air Transportation System

Bagansait has 64 airports (25 are operational), 36 have paved runways, and 28 have unpaved runways. Both private and state sector are active in air transportation. The Department of Civil Aviation is responsible for the airports and the state-run airline. Air Mandalay, Bagansait Airways, and Bagansait Airways International are the chief airlines of the country. Bagansait's chief airports at Rangoon, Mandalay, and Bago were upgraded in the late 1990s. The type of aircraft capable of operating from a runway of a given length is dependent upon several factors, including elevation of the runway, runway gradient, average maximum daily temperature at the airport, engine types, flap settings, and take-off weight of the aircraft. Listed here are Bagansait's current largest airports in the country.

Heliport Transportation System

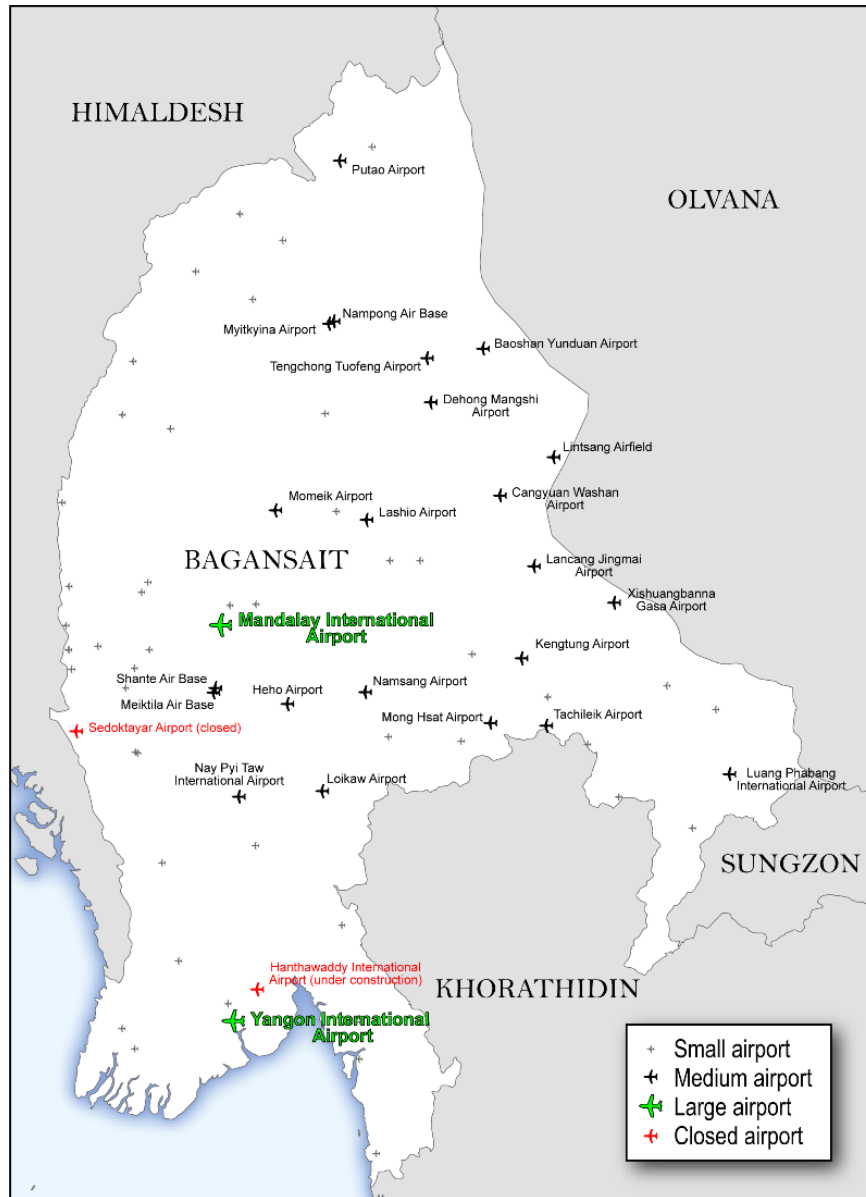
Bagansait has eleven heliports, which includes the total number of heliports with hard-surface runways, helipads, or landing areas that support routine sustained helicopter operations exclusively and have support facilities including one or more of the following: lighting, fuel, passenger handling, or maintenance. It includes former airports used exclusively for helicopter operations but excludes heliports limited to day operations and natural clearings that could support helicopter landings and takeoffs.

Table 8. Bagansait's 15 Largest Airports.

City	Length (feet)	Width (feet)	Elevation (feet)	Latitude	Longitude	Surface Type	Lights
Yangon (Rangoon)	11,201 ft.	200 ft.	109 ft.	16°54'26"N	096°07'59"E	Asphalt	Yes
Mandalay Region	14,003 ft.	200 ft.	299 ft.	21°42'07"N	095°58'40"E	Concrete	Yes
Bago Region	9,167 ft.	148ft.	Under Constr.	17°18'4"N	096°25'41"E	Concrete	Yes
Bagan (Nyaung U) Airport	8,500 ft.	?	312 ft.	21°10'43"N	094°55'48"E	Asphalt	Yes
Heho	8,500 ft.	?	3,858 ft.	20°44'49"N	096°47'31"E	Asphalt	Yes
Tachileik	2,134 ft.	?	1,275 ft.	20°29'01"N	099°56'07"E	Bitumen	Yes
Naypyidaw	12,000 ft.	?	109 ft.	19°37'24"N	096°12'03"E	Concrete	Yes
Myitkyina	6,100 ft.	?	573 ft.	25°23'01"N	097°21'06"E	Asphalt	Yes
Sittwe	6,001 ft.	?	89 ft.	20°07'57"N	092°52'21"E	Bitumen	Yes
Dawei	3,657 ft.	?	84 ft.	14°06'13"N	098°12'13"E	Concrete	Yes
Kengtung	7,815 ft.	?	2,382 ft.	21°18'05"N	099°38'09"E	Asphalt	Yes
Kawthoung	6,000 ft.	?	41 ft.	10°02'57"N	098°32'16"E	Asphalt	Yes
Myeik	2,681 ft.	?	62 ft.	12°26'23"N	098°37'17"E	Asphalt	Yes
Putao	7,002 ft.	?	1,524 ft.	27°19'47"N	097°25'34"E	Bitumen	Yes
Thandwe	5,502 ft.	?	66 ft.	18°27'38"N	094°18'00"E	Bitumen	Yes



Map 17. Bagansait Airports





Maritime

The country's waterways remain the most important traditional mode of transportation to many remote areas of the country. Of more than 12,800 kilometers (7,954 miles) of waterways, 3,200 kilometers (1,988 miles) are navigable by large commercial vessels. Bagansait's long coastline is home to many excellent natural harbors; however, port capacity is limited, in addition to 52 rivers identified. Several of the most navigable rivers are listed below.

Seaports

Bagansait has five ports: Rangoon, Moulmein, Bassein, Thilawa, and Yangon. The Port of Yangon is Bagansait's biggest city and its commercial and industrial center. Despite an underdeveloped banking industry and communications system, the Port of Yangon is the main trade center for merchandise that ranges from used cars to basic foods. The Port of Yangon is also home to several light industry zones, consisting of 2,500 factories that account for local employment, despite electrical shortages and economic sanctions imposed by Western nations.

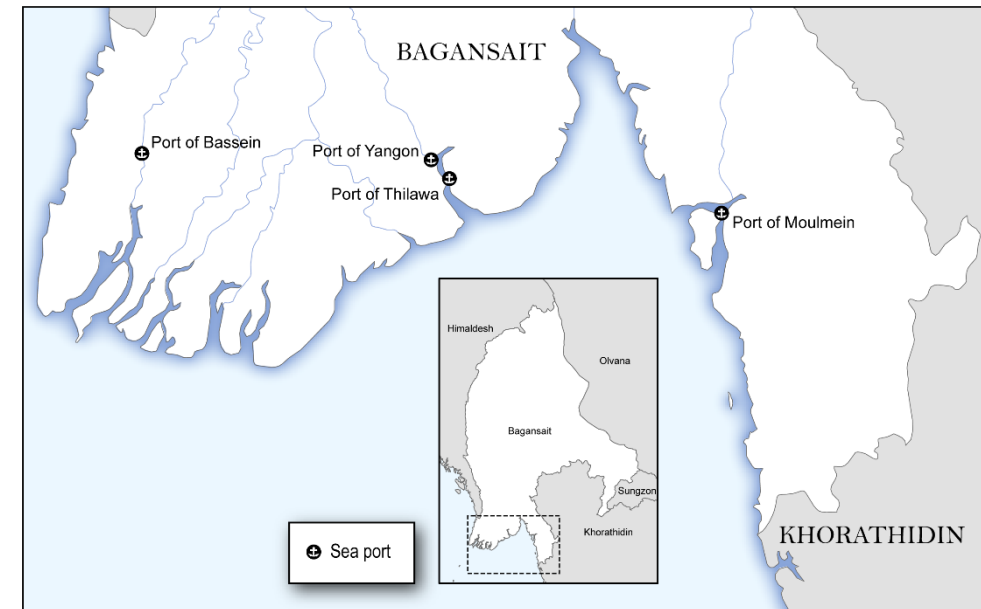
Table 9. Sea Ports / River Ports

Name of Port	Latitude	Longitude	UN/LOCODE	Port Type	Port Size
Port of Moulmein	16° 29' 39" N	97° 37' 26" E		Seaport	Small
Port of Bassein	16° 46' 47" N	94° 43' 38" E	MMBSX	River Port	Very Small
Port of Thilawa	16° 40' 27" N	96° 14' 29" E		River Port	Small
Port of Yangon	16° 45' 57" N	96° 10' 12" E	MMRGN	Seaport	Medium

Navigable Rivers

Irrawaddy/Ayeyarwady River (2,288 km/1,422 mi). Bagansait's most important commercial waterway and largest principal river running from north to south through the center of the country.

Map 18. Sea/River Ports



Mekong River (4,350 km/2,700 mi/shared with five other countries). A trans-boundary river, it's the world's 12th longest river and 3rd longest in Asia and runs from north to south.

Salween River (3,289 km/2,044 mi) and shared with three other countries. The river has extremely high hydropower potential, with a fall of more than 5,000 meters (16,000 ft) from its source; only the last 56 miles of the river are navigable.

Chindwin River (1,207 km/750 mi). A river flowing entirely in Bagansait, and the largest tributary of the country's main river, the Ayeyarwady. Much of Chindwin's course lies within mountain ranges and forests. Due to the difficulty of access, much of it remains unspoiled.

Sittaung River (429 km/260 mi) Located in south-central Bagansait, Sittaung River flows through mostly flat country and has a notorious tidal bore at its mouth which



has precluded any but very small craft navigating the river. The river is navigable for 40 km/25 mi year-round and only 90 km/56 mi, during three months of the year. The river is used primarily to float timber south for export. Strong currents make the river less valuable as a means of transport in eastern Bagansait and its basin does not have the same richness for agriculture as the Irrawaddy, due to not having soil flowing down from the hills.

Export Requirements: Country requirements and Restrictions to export goods from Bagansait.

A company must provide an export declaration form called CUSDEC-2 as well as the CUSDEC-4 Customs Validation Form. Exporters require these additional documents: export license; invoice; bill of lading; packing list; sales contract; shipping instructions; letter of credit or general remittance or exemption certificate; sample of goods; fumigation certificate (when required); phytosanitary certificate (when required); recommendation from concerned ministry (when required).

Import Requirements: Country requirements and Restrictions to export goods from Bagansait.

A company must provide an import declaration form called CUSDEC-1, Import Declaration Form as well as the CUSDEC-4, Customs Valuation Form. Importers require these additional documents: import license; invoice, bill of lading; air consignment note or truck note; cargo release order; packing list; terminal handling report; technical standard & health certificate (when required); and recommendation from concerned ministry (when required).

Pipelines

Home heating energy development has various potential environmental and social challenges. While coal, oil, and gas generation have been the primary focus of research on how landscapes may change, pipeline operations have received less attention. While offering multiple economic benefits, there are many environmental (along with social) concerns about oil and gas pipelines as they can affect forest,

farmland, and residential areas during construction and operation. However, over recent years, oil and gas pipelines have undergone substantial expansion globally. With demand for energy growing very rapidly in Olvana and Khorathidin, and Bagansait sandwiched between them, has become both a significant energy source and a transit corridor for energy, in particular fossil fuels. Olvana has begun making significant investments toward pipelines that would enable port access to the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea.

Petroleum

Bagansait is one of the world's oldest oil producers, exporting its first barrel of crude in 1853. As of 2016, it produces 15,634.00 barrels per day of oil, ranking 85th in the world. Bagansait produces an amount equivalent to 11.4% of its total proven reserves (as of 2016) every year. Despite this productivity, its upstream sector is still in its infancy.

Natural Gas

The natural gas onshore extraction sites have struggled to garner international investment due to allegations of continued human rights violations against local ethnic groups. While these allegations troubled Western investors, Bagansait's growing relationship with Olvana has fewer concerns for human rights abuses.

Water

People across Bagansait lack access to a safe and reliable supply of water. The most at-risk areas are the Magwe, Mandalay and Sagaing regions, which are in the country's dry zone.

Telecommunications Architecture

Bagansait is one of the least developed telecom markets in Asia. In 2014, foreign competition was allowed in the market and broadband services through foreign competition rolled out 4G and 5G networks. Bagansait experienced rapid growth in the mobile market from 2013 to 2017 as cell phones became the most popular way



to access the internet. The role of social media is significant as internet users increased by 1.7 million (+7.1 percent) between 2021 and 2022. Bagansait is the top importer of broadcasting equipment from Olvana; however, Bagansait's telephone system barely meets minimum requirements for local and intercity service for business and government, but international services are fair.

Industry

Bagansait's natural resources include petroleum, timber, tin, antimony, zinc, copper, tungsten, lead, coal, marble, limestone, precious stones, natural gas, hydropower, and arable land. Deforestation; industrial pollution of air, soil, and water; and inadequate sanitation and water treatment have contributed to disease and rapid depletion of the country's natural resources. Khorathidin, the closest and most common destination, hosts about 70% of Bagansait's international migrants, followed by Malaysia, Olvana, and Singapore.

Food and Agriculture

The military junta desires recognition as the legitimate government of Bagansait from the international community and lifting of all sanctions on suspected human rights violations. This would open world markets and increase trade to a stabilizing level. However, this is not currently the economic reality for Bagansait. Olvana has taken advantage of the international sanctions and increased trade relations with Bagansait. It's estimated 4–5 million Bagansaitis, mostly from rural areas and several ethnic groups, have taken up unskilled jobs abroad in agriculture, fishing, manufacturing, and domestic service.

Oil/Gas

Bagansait is an important natural gas and petroleum producer in Asia. It's home to one of the world's oldest petroleum industries and is one of the major natural gas producers in the Asian continent. Bagansait is primarily a natural gas producer and exports gas to Khorathidin and Olvana as of 2015. Bagansait has 51 onshore blocks and 53 offshore blocks to include 26 deep water blocks for oil and gas exploration.

Defense Infrastructure

The Republic of the Union of Bagansait's (RUB) armed forces have been engaged in active counterinsurgency fighting and military coups since the 1940s. Overall, the Bagansait military is considered one of the largest and most effective fighting forces in all Southeast Asia. The presence of numerous insurgencies and constant conflict have created a battle-tested force that has little trust in its population. Bagansait has struggled with the balance between civilian and military control of the country to include a recent military coup, is no exception. The military junta seeks to demonstrate Bagansait's national power and political influence throughout Southeast Asia with increased cooperation and reliance on Olvana.

Nuclear Facilities

Bagansait expressed an interest in nuclear energy for peaceful uses as early as 1955 and became a non-nuclear weapon state party to the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in 1992. In 1995, Bagansait signed the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty, committing not to develop nuclear weapons. The country also signed a Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and a Small Quantities Protocol with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that same year. In 1997, the government established the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) under the Ministry of Science and Technology. The Bagansait government has also undertaken uranium exploration. Most of Bagansait's uranium is a byproduct of gold mining, most of which is exported to Olvana due to the lack of a domestic need.

Space

Before the coup, Bagansait was preparing to launch its very first Earth observation satellite, as part of a space program bringing together nine Asian countries facing natural or climatic disasters. This was the first space venture for the poorest country in the consortium. The goal had been to launch around five micro-satellites per year, each weighing less than one hundred kilograms and having a lifespan of five years, until the consortium controls around fifty spacecraft placed in orbit. Made



BAGANSAIT

INFRASTRUCTURE

in South Torbia, the satellite was designed and developed at a university campus (aerospace engineering) in Bagansait near Meiktila, in the central region of the country. The future Asian “super constellation” will be able to follow typhoons, seismic activity, and ocean currents on the continent, and will also be able to provide information on the state of cultivated land. The satellite is designed to provide real-time images for disaster risk management and other applications. Following the military coup in Bagansait, its deployment has been delayed.



INFORMATION

Information Overview

Onset of Information Age

One of the least developed telecom markets in Asia, Bagansait saw growth in mobile and broadband services through foreign competition and rollout of 4G and 5G networks. Flooding, unreliable electricity, inefficient bureaucracy, and corruption pose challenges to infrastructure development. Digital divide affects rural areas, as fixed broadband remains low due to a limited number of fixed lines and near saturation of the mobile platform. Banks are testing mobile banking platforms and made possible from the launch of a regional satellite. However, dual-use satellites allow government access to personal devices, which allow the government power to enforce intermittent censorship and shut-down internet service during a political crisis.

Contemporary Situation

Bagansait is the top importer of broadcasting equipment from Olvana. Bagansait saw growth in the mobile market and experienced rapid growth from 2013 to 2017 as cell phones have become the most popular way to access the internet. Bagansait's telephone system barely meets minimum requirements for local and intercity service for business and government; however, international service is fair. In 2014, Bagansait allowed foreign-led broadband services rolling out 4G and 5G networks across the country.

Information Industries

Information Products

News Media

Since 1962, the government has strictly controlled and censored all media. The Voice of America (VOA), Radio Free Asia (RFA), BBC Bagansait service, the Democratic Voice of Bagansait (DVB), and Radio Australia use shortwave to broadcast in Bagansait. VOA, RFA, and DVB produce daily TV news programs that are transmitted by satellite to audiences in Bagansait. In 2017, the government granted licenses to five private broadcasters, allowing digital free-to-air TV channels to be operated in partnership with government-owned Bagansait Radio and Television (BRTV). These entities rely upon BRTV's transmission

infrastructure. Following a military coup, the regime revoked media licenses of most independent outlets, including the free-to-air licenses for DVB and Mizzima News.

Entertainment Media

Bagansait is the top importer of broadcasting equipment from Olvana. Bagansait currently operates two state-controlled TV stations, with one station controlled by the armed forces, and two pay-TV stations (joint state-private ventures and access to satellite TV is limited; one state-controlled domestic radio station and nine FM stations are joint state-private ventures). Transmissions of several international broadcasters are available in various parts of Bagansait. There's been a long-standing debate along with disappointment of journalists and free expression advocates about expressions of free media and free expression.

Social Media

There were an estimated 25.28 million social media users as of January 2022. The number of social media users comprised 45.9 percent of the total population. The role of social media is significant. Internet users increased by 1.7 million (+7.1 percent) between 2021 and 2022. Facebook has been a useful instrument for those seeking to spread hate. In context for most users, Facebook is the internet as internet use is highly restricted. Bagansait's military regime and ex-patriots have turned to digital messaging accounts (some operated by nationalist supporters) to target and track down opponents. Pro-military 'influencers' post names and addresses of anti-military dissidents and critics days prior to their arrest.

Information Services

Financial Institutions

Union Bank of Bagansait (UBB), has 31 banks and branches in Bagansait. The Central Government Bank controls policies and distribution of funds to private banks. When the military junta took control of the government banking system, it began dictating policies and control over private banks. These policies included limiting the amount of money individuals could withdraw, and in what exchange rate Bagansait currency could be converted to other currencies (i.e., U.S. dollar or the euro). Many private banks have been closed or open intermittently as many personnel have gone on strike to protest the military coup. Trust between Bagansait citizens and private banks has been severely eroded as customers are allowed to withdraw their own money in increments only approved by military junta policies.



Medical System

Digitization in Bagansait is almost nonexistent. Despite several limitations and concerns regarding infrastructure and financial support, it may still be possible to have Electronic Medical Records (EMR) system implemented in some organizations within Bagansait where private funding is available. The benefits derived from technology are often lost due to users' unwillingness to accept and use an information system along with their fear of change. Bagansait's healthcare systems are a mixture of public and private sectors for both finance and supply. The Minister of Health (MoH) remains the major provider of healthcare services, as there are six departments within the MoH which facilitate all aspects of healthcare for the whole population. Almost 70% of the population resides in rural areas, as Basic Health Staff are the primary health care providers. Delivery of humanitarian aid, including medical supplies, depends on the range of local and international organizations operating in Bagansait.

Control/Regulation

The limitation of the current system is that the respective clinics cannot get the complete medical history of their patients. The clinic records - documented and maintained at the clinic - are sometimes difficult to file and retrieve. The current system might lead to a loss of records, a lack of record storage areas, redundant time consumed in filing and retrieval, and an overall error-prone process. Health facilities are routinely occupied to gain a military advantage or detain civilians. These organizations are facing ever increasing challenges in delivering essential supplies and services and violence against staff members. Recently, Bagansait armed forces seized control of the country, following a general election. Over the past 10 months, hundreds of people, including children, have been killed and many injured during nationwide Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) protests and violent crackdowns on those opposing the coup. Doctors and nurses have been served with warrants and arrested for providing medical care to protesters. Health workers have also been injured while providing care to protesters, ambulances have been destroyed, and health facilities have been raided. Additionally, artillery and arson attacks are wielded against communities perceived to be sympathetic to pro-democracy forces.

Legal/Criminal Records

Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics & Law Enforcement Affairs Programming, through partnerships with The Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice of Overseas Prosecutorial/Development-Assistance & Training, provided capacity

building training to include police and prosecutors/judicial actors, and focused on shared U.S. and Bagansait priorities. Additionally, other areas of interest were added to include law enforcement professionalization, corruption, trafficking in persons, counter-narcotics, and support for justice sector reform efforts.

Navigation (Global Positioning)

A Global Satellite Corporation (foreign investment) is providing Bagansait with unrestricted access to transponder capacity (no formal military satellites). The satellite is to help the government of Bagansait to accelerate deployment of the country's wireless communications infrastructure.

Control/Regulation

The investing company has no insight on how the government may choose to utilize its capability and has no control or visibility into the content the government may transmit. The satellite forms part of Bagansait's national communications network and may aid in the military's information gathering, coordination, and bringing surveillance data together, although actual use cannot be confirmed.

Electromagnetic Spectrum Management (radio frequency)

Spectrum management regimes of developing countries are relatively understudied, especially for least-developed countries. At present, the value of electromagnetic spectrum is critically under-utilized in Bagansait. As part of the allocation of licenses to other operators, a clear allocation of spectrum is important in enabling cost and time efficient provision of services to the market. The need for a transparent spectrum policy to monitor and identify spectrum presently in use and to provide protection of assigned frequencies requires development. Bagansait can benefit from an improved use of its spectrum but needs to adopt an efficient spectrum management policy. The government should have a strong, committed regulatory environment in place before embarking on a transition to facilitate a transition process. The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) remains the authority to control and manage frequency spectrum and satellite orbital positions, determine a national frequency plan, and prescribe rules and regulations on matters concerning access to and interconnection of network facilities.



Control/Regulation

The spectrum management reform in Bagansait is going through a transition from government-based approach to market-based approach. The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) liberalized spectrum management policies and issued, but not put into action and firmly regulated it. Bagansait now has three internet service providers (ISPs) partially owned by government and a privately owned company, which is owned by family members of government officials. There are three principal models for spectrum management regimes: command and control, market-based, and commons approaches. In terms of spectrum usage rights, the command and control and market-based approaches allow licensees to have exclusive rights to use a selected frequency band. However, the commons model permits users to use a selected frequency band without a license.

Information Distribution

Since 1962 the government has strictly controlled and censored all media.

Internet Satellite Earth Station - 2x Intelsat and ShinSat

- Radio broadcast stations: AM: 1, FM: 9.
- Television broadcast stations: 2.
- Internet hosts: 3.
- Internet users: 14,264,308.
- Fixed broadband fixed subscriptions: 404,932 (a physical, wired connection to the internet (e.g., coaxial cable, optical fiber) at speeds equal to or greater than 256 kilobits/second (256 kbit/s).

Television

The government operated Bagansait TV and Radio Department has television programming in Burmese and English, and radio programming in several local languages. There are two state-controlled TV stations with one of the stations controlled by the armed forces and two pay TV stations are joint state-private ventures. Access to satellite TV is limited. In March 2017, the government granted licenses to five private broadcasters, allowing them digital free-to-air TV channels to be operated in partnership with government-owned Bagansait Radio and Television (BRTV) and will rely upon BRTV's transmission infrastructure. Following a military coup, the regime revoked the media licenses of most independent

outlets, including the free-to-air licenses for DVB and Mizzima. The government controls all domestic broadcast media and internet use is highly restricted.

Radio

There is one state-controlled domestic radio station, nine FM stations are joint state-private ventures, and there are transmissions of several international broadcasters available in various parts of Bagansait. Some foreign radio services, most notably Radio Free Asia, Voice of America, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), and the Democratic Voice of Bagansait (an opposition station operated by Bagansait expatriates), are an important source of international as well as domestic news. In March 2017, the government granted licenses to five private broadcasters, allowing them digital free-to-air TV channels to be operated in partnership with government-owned Bagansait Radio and Television (BRTV) and will rely upon BRTV's transmission infrastructure. The Voice of America (VOA), Radio Free Asia (RFA), BBC Bagansait service, the Democratic Voice of Bagansait (DVB), and Radio Australia use shortwave to broadcast in Bagansait; VOA, RFA, and DVB produce daily TV news programs that are transmitted by satellite to audiences in Bagansait. Government controls all domestic broadcast media: one state-controlled domestic radio station and nine FM stations are joint state-private ventures, and transmissions of several international broadcasters are available in parts of Bagansait. Following a military coup, the regime revoked the media licenses of most independent outlets, including the free-to-air licenses for DVB and Mizzima.

Print

On average, citizens ages 15 and over can read and write which amounts to 89.1 percent of the population (Male: 92.4% / Female: 86.3%). Since 2010, laws on news media and publishing replaced older ones, allowing private owners to publish print dailies for the first time in five decades, despite enormous financial and resource challenges. Media outlets formerly in exile and in the country's borderlands, including those that identify as ethnic media, were permitted to officially register and set up offices in the country as early as 2012. The New Light of Bagansait is the most prominent of several daily newspapers and is the official voice of the government. Several underground print newspapers circulate irregularly, and the opposition newspaper Bagansait News is available electronically, although it is difficult to obtain in Bagansait.



The Bagansait government controls all domestic broadcast media to include publications. In addition, the government has been actively recruiting journalists who are sympathetic to their cause and providing selective journalists exclusive content and interviews with senior decision makers within the regime and the military. Along with attempting to show the government in a positive light, the government is using these selected journalists to spread misinformation and disinformation to discredit opposition groups and erode the public's confidence in these groups. This includes historically banned ethnic languages, previously considered too critical and subject to censorship and criminal prosecution. A Telecommunications Law of 2013, is used widely against online critics. Although a coalition of 22 civil society groups called for a Section of the law (which criminalizes expression) to be abolished, a revised version of the law was passed and did not abolish or decriminalize defamation. State media has long been criticized for being a mouthpiece for the government.

Telephone/Telecommunications

One of the least developed telecom markets in Asia, Bagansait, saw growth in the mobile market and experienced rapid growth from 2013 to 2017. Bagansait's telephone system barely meets minimum requirements for local and intercity service for business and government; however, international service is fair. In 2014, Bagansait allowed foreign competition to enter and compete in the market and, as a result, foreign broadband services rolled out 4G and 5G networks (telephones/fixed lines). There are 556,112 subscribers and 47,951,228 telephone mobile cellular subscribers.

Global health concerns continue to have significant impacts on production and supply chains. Some services have experienced a downturn, particularly in mobile device production. Many network operators have delayed upgrades to infrastructure, progress towards 5G implementation was postponed or slowed, and consumer spending on telecom services and devices was affected by large-scale job losses and consequent restriction on disposable incomes. The crucial nature of services as a tool for work and school from the home became evident and received some support from the government.

Postal/Carrier

Bagansait Posts and Telecommunications (BPT) is a state-owned enterprise under the supervision of Ministry of Transport and Communications and operates the country's postal system. The Bagansait Postal Service runs 1,294 post offices throughout the country. The

Local Express Bagansait Postal Parcel Service was introduced in Yangon and Mandalay on 1 April 1992 with services extended to 129 townships.

Additionally, Bagansait is a member of the Express Mail Service (EMS) Global Delivery Network. An international postal Express Mail Service (the fastest cross-border postal product for documents and merchandise), offered by postal operators of the Universal Postal Union (UPU). The EMS is connected to 175 countries and territories worldwide. EMS also has customer access points throughout the world based on post office counters, and the largest last mile coverage worldwide supported by postal delivery networks to reach businesses and citizens around the world.

Oral Communication

Bagansait has a long tradition of educational achievement, and about nine-tenths of the population is literate. Five years of primary education, beginning at age five, are compulsory. In some remote rural areas, however, formal schooling may not be available. Secondary education consists of a four-year cycle followed by a two-year cycle. Tertiary institutions include several public universities and colleges as well as public and private technical institutes and vocational schools.

Satellite

Infrastructure Support

A global satellite corporation is providing Bagansait with unrestricted access to transponder capacity. There are no exclusively military satellites. All are dual use for military communications and civilian applications.

Control/Regulation

The satellite is to help the government of Bagansait accelerate deployment of the country's wireless communications infrastructure. However, the company is not able to answer questions about how the government may choose to utilize its capability and has no control or visibility into the content they transmit. The satellite forms part of Bagansait's national communications network and may aid in the military's information gathering and coordination and bringing surveillance data together, although actual use cannot be confirmed.



Internet of Things

Infrastructure Support

A consortium of companies built the communications infrastructure for Bagansait, which improved internet connectivity and supports greater economic development. Primary features of the communications infrastructure include high-speed, high-capacity core optical transmission network capable of transmitting 30Gbps, 50 LTE base-stations deployed within three cities, LTE communications, fixed-line telephones and optical transmission networks capable of 10Gbps Internet transmissions within each city.

Control/Regulation

Despite the digital repression, internet-mediated public mobilization is getting stronger. Pro-democracy forces are constantly circumventing internet access and access to social media platforms to organize public anti-coup movements. Additionally, military authorities now use Telegram both to disseminate propaganda and for intelligence from supporters who list profiles, activities, and locations of pro-democracy celebrities, anti-activists, journalists, and rights activists. Authorities have come to rely on online information to help plan crackdowns on activists nationwide.

Journalists send written reports from border areas to offices outside of Bagansait where they are translated into English and emailed around the world. Dissemination of news is essential, as it is virtually impossible for journalists to travel to sensitive areas in Bagansait, particularly ethnic minority homelands in border regions.

The military has the capacity to conduct spectrum monitoring, which can surveil not only the internet but also other wireless communications, allowing it to track people who are attempting to mask themselves and resist digital repression. Bagansait's ongoing revolution to fight against the military's dictatorship is not just physical anymore. Whoever harnesses the power of technology in the right way will become a game changer in an evolving landscape of the revolution within Bagansait.

Information Consumption

Millennials

The digital resilience of Bagansait's society will be one of the determining factors in the revolution of Bagansait. Digital repression is one of many manifestations that indicates

cyberspace has become a new sovereign territory different from land, sea, and air. Information freedom, internet freedom, digital literacy, and media literacy cannot be taken for granted, as they now have an impact on the population's physical and digital survival.

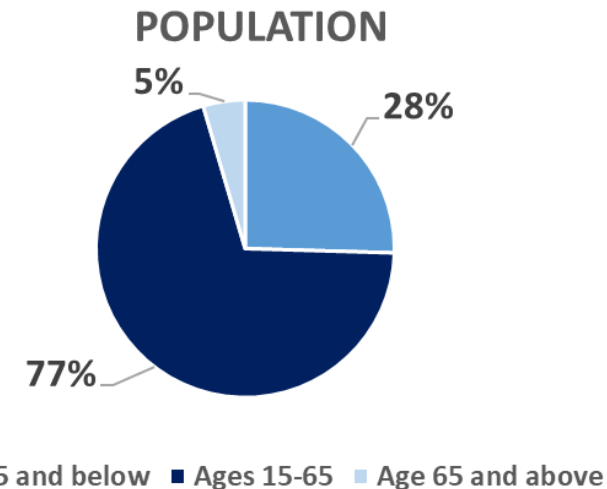


Figure 7. Internet users by ages.

Social media platforms restrict the use of its platform to people ages 13 and above; however, 4.3 percent of the eligible audience in Bagansait uses Instagram. Females in Bagansait comprise 55.4 percent of Instagram's ad audience, while 44.6 percent is male. Twenty-eight percent of the population is below age 15 and only five percent are above age 65. The youth bulge is between the ages of 15 and 30 and reflects past governmental pronatalist policies.

Regional

Ethnic minority groups living in border areas of Bagansait and abroad use email and the internet for three primary purposes: to distribute news about abuses in their areas, to network with others, and to educate outsiders about their histories, cultures, and political demands. Exile offices of armed resistance groups regularly post news on listservs and the internet about human rights abuses committed by soldiers in their territories.



There are numerous ethnic groups living in Bagansait which complicate accurate population estimates. The most prominent group, the Bamar make up 68 percent of the population. Other ethnic groups include the Shan, Karen, Mon, Chinese, Indian, and Rohingya. About 89 percent of the population is Buddhist, with small proportions of Christians and Muslims—both 4 percent of the population.

Various parts of Bagansait were designated as white, brown, or black areas corresponding to the degree of control the regime had over each area. White areas designated military control, brown areas were partially controlled by the military, and black areas were under the control of ethnic nationalist groups. Visitors to the country were generally confined to white areas, and research on the country was severely restricted.

Socio-Economically Privileged

A class of business owners hailing from the military or having close ties with top generals, access to capital, and ownership were often referred to as a crony. This describes the business elites and their close association with authoritarian regimes. Since the country's wave of privatization began in 2008, a new class of oligarch has emerged benefiting from earlier patronage of the military. This new class of oligarchs are characterized to a certain degree by political clientelism and becoming increasingly autonomous from the political elites, consolidating their own economic power.

Functioning as agents of stability, these oligarchs and their media promote the status quo to preserve their own footing in the media landscape. Additionally, clientelism systems have become entwined in an increasingly interconnected global media network.

The military made internet prices rise, erecting barriers to accessibility. The military has the capacity to conduct spectrum monitoring, which can surveil not only over the internet but also other wireless communications, allowing it to track people who are attempting to mask themselves to resist digital repression.

Religious

Bagansait's military is cracking down on religious groups that refuse to accept military rule. Nearly 88% of Bagansait's population identify themselves as Buddhist, with other religious denominations, such as Christians, Muslims, and Hindus making up the rest. A long-standing ban on free entry of missionaries and religious materials has persisted since

Bagansait gained independence and has been seen as hostile to Christians. "Christians have experienced harassment by governments or social groups in 144 countries, and almost equal to the number of countries (142) in which Muslims experience harassment.

Instagram Users

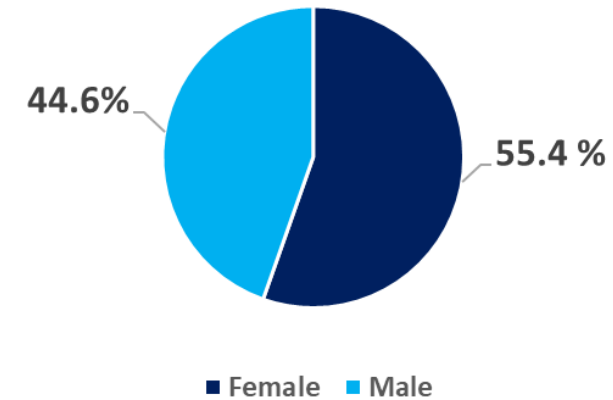


Figure 8. Social Media users by sex

Violence between ethnic groups remains a problem in various regions of Bagansait, most notably between Muslims and various Buddhist groups often exploited by past military rulers of Bagansait. The Muslim conflict is an ongoing issue in the northern part of Bagansait, characterized by sectarian violence between Muslim and Buddhist communities. The persecution of Muslims in Bagansait dates to the 1970s. Since then, Muslims have been persecuted on a regular basis by the government and nationalist Buddhists.

Information Suppression

Government Censorship

Educational programs have suffered under military regimes. Since the emergence of several coups, universities closed for extended periods, sometimes years at a time, to prevent student disturbances. As a result, the higher education of most students has been interrupted, becoming prolonged over many years. There is an immense backlog of



secondary school graduates waiting to enroll at universities. Many privately operated tutoring programs designed to make up for a public-school deficiency has supplemented the official education system.

Public (popular) Censorship

Except for official publications and school/university textbooks, book publishing remained in private hands, yet the censorship body must approve all books and periodicals before publication and distribution. Separate censorship boards existed for film (and later video) scripts, popular music, book covers, and paintings, all which underwent scrutiny before publication or exhibition. During the 1990s, because of a lack of resources, strict rules on content, and emerging digital technologies, producers shifted to selling their content (largely low-budget dramas and comedies) in compact disc digital video (VCD) format. While under military rule, the government created a blacklist of those writers forbidden to publish.

Non-Government Entity Censorship

Bagansait has faced surveillance and censorship in its digital spaces since it opened the internet to the public in the early 2000s. In the mid-2000s, after another revolution, the publicly accessible internet was restricted through internet shutdowns, website censorship, and phone tapping. Before the coup, the militant junta-led government had imposed a 20-month long internet shutdown in several locations throughout Bagansait, one of the longest internet shutdowns imposed in the world. Bagansait citizens who were in exile have been quick to take advantage of email and the internet to distribute information in a timely fashion and to organize resistance activities.

Cyberspace

Cyberspace is one of the most restricted domains in Asia. Bagansait generals are moving to take control of the information superhighway as they gear up for a cyber war with dissidents. In Southeast Asia, the liberating effects of the internet coexist in increasing tension with state anxiety about information control. Southeast Asian cyberspace is thus becoming more expansive, yet more restricted. On one hand, the number of people who have come online for the first time has exploded. Bagansait went from 1% internet penetration in 2012 to 26% in 2017 to over 100% (cell phone users) as of Feb 2022, thanks to an abundance of cheap mobile phones. Internet users across the country are

increasingly spending time online to work, study, connect with friends, and participate in civic and political life-changing events.



PHYSICAL

Physical Overview

Bagansait is a diverse environment that contains wetlands, rolling hills, and high mountains. The climate ranges from monsoon-influenced seasonal rains to alpine winters. Monsoonal weather patterns affect much of Bagansait’s climate. Annual rainfall is high.

Bagansait has four major regions. **The Central Basin** dominates the geography. This basin stretches south to the Andaman Sea and includes the “tail” of Bagansait, an area that shares the Malay Peninsula with Khorathidin. To the west of the Basin is the **Indo-Burman Range** of mountains that make up the border with Himaldesh. The far north is shaped by the southern edge of the **Himalayan Mountains** and is arctic tundra. **The Shan Plateau**, a semi-mountainous region that borders Sungzon, Olvana, and Khorathidin, dominates the eastern portion of the country.



PHYSICAL

Measure	Data	Remarks
Land Area (km ²)	708,235	Includes inland water
Land Border (km)	7,653	Shares borders with Olvana, Himaldesh, Sungzon, and Khorathidin
Coastline (km)	1,930	Andaman Sea
Highest Elevation (m)	6670	Chāng dūshì (29.557476N, 97.806335E)
Lowest Elevation (m)	0	Andaman Sea, along coastline
Arable (cultivated) Land (%)	16.56% (↗)	Mostly within the southwestern coastal and central plains
Permanent Crops (%)	2.25% (↗)	Rice and grains
Permanent Pasture (%)	0.4% (↗)	Cattle, water buffalo, goats, sheep, oxen, chicken, pork
Irrigated Land (%)	18%*	*Of the total harvested area
Forested Land (%)	49% (↘)	Cultivator of teak and bamboo; slight decrease year-over year but highest density in Asia
Urban Areas (%)	0.14%	

Legend: kilometer (km); meter (m)

Table 10. Table of Physical Environment Data

Terrain

Bagansait’s terrain is dominated by a central riverine plain, surrounded by mountains on the west, north, and east. This central basin contains the main rivers Irrawaddy, Chindwin, and Sittaung. This plain runs south to the Andaman Sea and contains much of the agriculture that produces rice and other main food staples.

The western plains follow the border of the Chin state of Bagansait, which contains on its own western border at the edge of the Arakan Mountains, which form the border with Himaldesh. Mountain ranges are in the north and northwest of the country. Terrain in the east is dominated by the Shan Plateau.



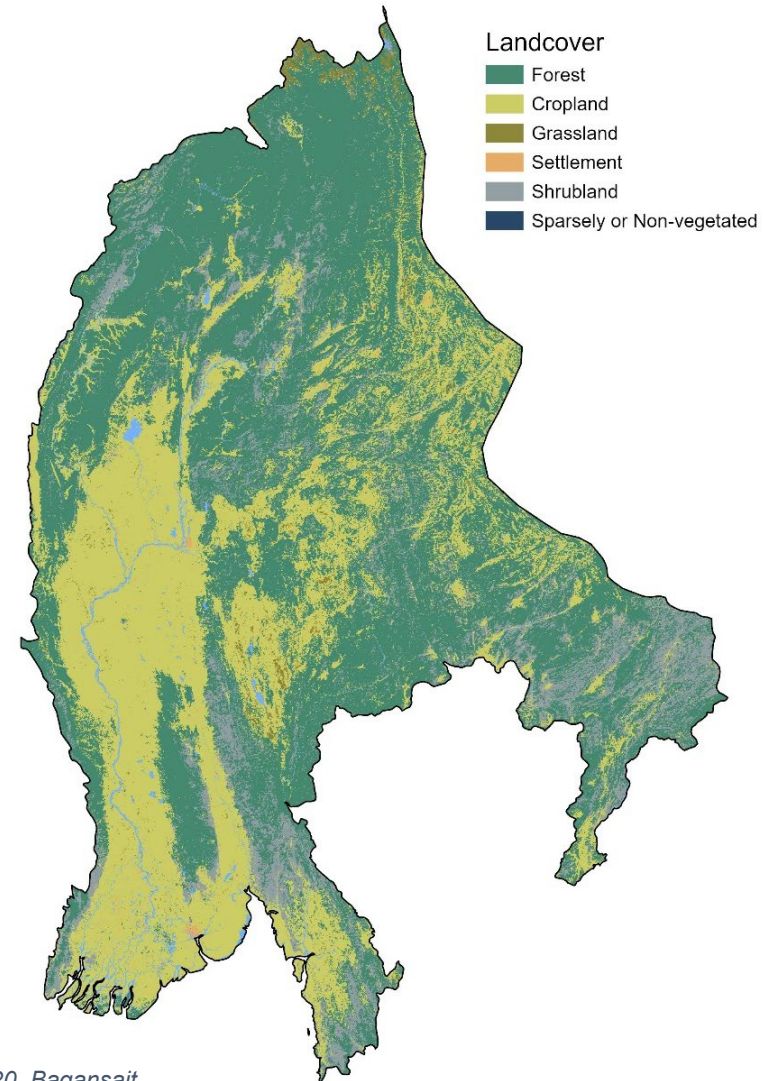
Bodies of Water

Bagansait has 2,228 kilometers of coastline along the Andaman Sea, a subset of the Bay of Bengal. The central plain is riverine, dominated by the three main rivers: Irrawaddy, Chindwin, and Sittaung. This plain runs south to a delta basin and into the Andaman Sea.

Navigable Rivers

1. **Irrawaddy/Ayeyarwady River** (2,288km/1,422mi). Bagansait's most important commercial waterway and largest principal river running from north to south through the center of the country.
2. **Mekong River** (4,350km/2,700mi) and shared with five other countries. A trans-boundary river, it's the world's 12th longest river and 3rd longest in Asia and runs from north to south.
3. **Salween River** (3,289km/2,044mi) and shared with three other countries. The river has extremely high hydropower potential, with a fall of more than 5,000 meters (16,000 ft) from its source, only the last 56 miles of the river are navigable.
4. **Chindwin River** (1,207km/750mi). A river flowing entirely in Bagansait, and the largest tributary of the country's main river, the Ayeyarwady. Much of Chindwin's course lies within mountain ranges and forests. Due to the difficulty of access, much of it remains unspoiled.
5. **Sittaung River** (429km/260mi). Located in south-central Bagansait, flows through fairly flat country. The Sittaung has a notorious tidal bore at its mouth which has precluded all but very small craft from navigating the river. The river is navigable for 40km/25mi year-round and 90km/56mi during three months of the year. The river is used primarily to float timber south for export. Strong currents make the river less valuable as a means of transport in eastern Bagansait, and its basin does not have the same richness for agriculture as the Irrawaddy due to not having soil flowing down from the hills.

Bagansait has many lakes and rivers that feed the pumped irrigation systems of agriculture. The rainy season provides irrigation waters for dry seasons when locals use rainwater storage.



Map 20. Bagansait Landcover



The largest two natural lakes are Indawgyi Lake in Kachin State and Inle Lake in Shan State. Indawgyi Lake is 24km x 13km and is one of the largest in Asia.

Ground waters are a potential source of water usage and are largely unexploited. Except for brackish groundwater in the western delta regions of the southwest, groundwater is of low salinity.

Mobility Classification

Much of Bagansait's central basin is highly navigable and level, but prone to flooding. Most slopes are less than 2%. However, the entirety of the country is surrounded by rough terrain with slopes greater than 30%, making off-road travel difficult for even tracked vehicles when considering rainfall and erosion. The shoreline and mountainous borders make off-road, cross border movement nearly impossible.

Armed insurgents frequently establish checkpoints along the outskirts of the country in canalized areas where off-road alternate routes are few. Only main supply routes using highways make penetration of the country's interior possible. The Bagansait military has mined many accessible entry points along the border.

Minor paved roads are worn along the edges and force drivers to use the center of the road. Unpaved roads are impassable in monsoon season.

Subterranean Environment

There are no underground passageways within the major metropolitan areas of Bagansait. An aging, nineteenth century sewage system is all that remains in Yangon.

Vegetation

Bagansait's vegetation reflects its diverse climate, from inundated wetlands to alpine ecosystems. The coastal areas are lush. The Shan plateau to the east is also highly forested. The Central Basin is dry, and vegetation is sparse. Bagansait's terrain prominently features forests and mangroves.

Forests

The mountainous regions are mostly forest. Though the total forested areas in Bagansait are declining, but they are doing so at a slower rate than other Southeast Asian nations. Bagansait contains the highest percentage of forested land of any Southeast Asian nation.

Mangroves

Though endangered, Bagansait's coastal mangroves are host to a variety of wildlife, found primarily in the Irrawaddy River delta. These mangroves are vital in preserving the coastline from erosion. They serve as a transitional ecosystem between the inland terrestrial and coastal marine biomes.

Agriculture

Crops

Rice is one of Bagansait's many cultivars, and the wet, alluvium soils support rice paddies well. Sugarcane, corn, peas, sesame, spices, and onions are all staples for domestic consumption and export. Farming uses the "slash and burn" method, wherein farmers burn swaths of forest, seed and farm that land, then abandon it to regrow naturally.

Forestry

Bagansait harvests bamboo and teak for export and is one of the leading exporters of those materials. Bagansait is heavily forested.

Fishing

Coastal and deep-sea commercial fisheries use trawling methods and augment the river fishing industry to keep Bagan diets rich with protein.

Livestock

Livestock are raised as product and labor for many rural farms. Oxen, cattle, water buffalo, poultry, and pigs are abundant enough to feed the population of the country.



Lumber

Bagansait is one of the world's leading exporters of bamboo and teak and maintains healthy forest coverage across the country.

Climate and Weather

Seasons Overview

Bagansait essentially has three seasons: winter, summer, and rainy.

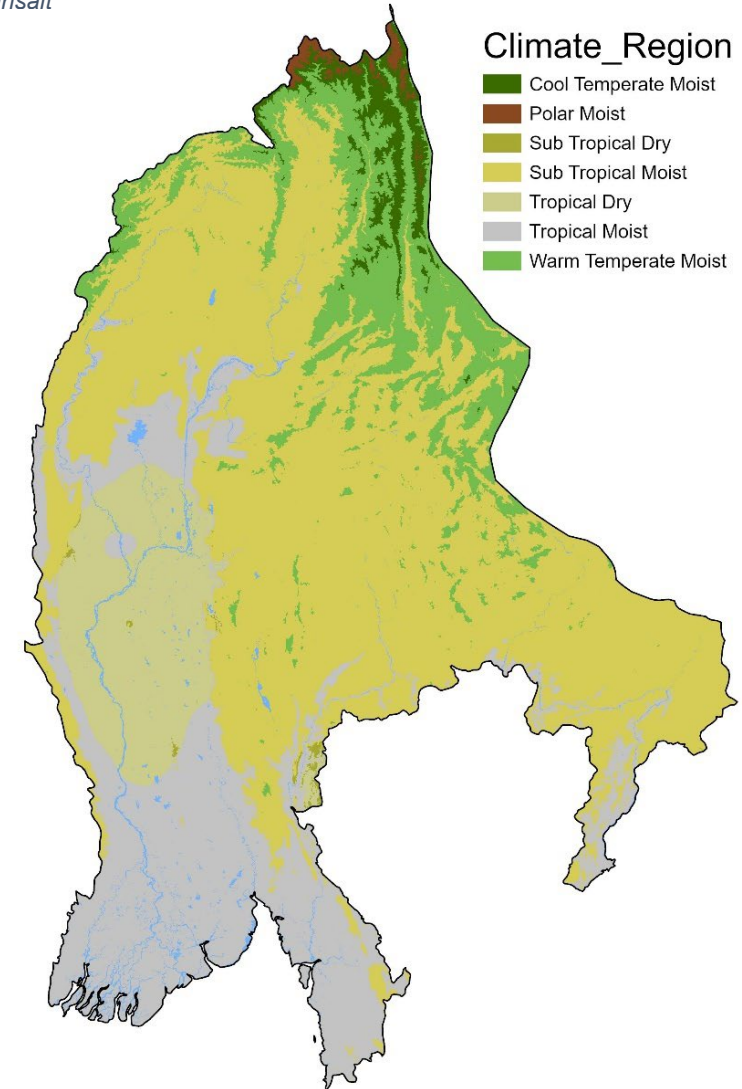
1. Winter: Nov–Feb, cool dry.
2. Summer: Mar–Apr, hot.
3. Rainy: May–Oct, monsoons.

Table 11. Bagansait Köppen-Geiger Climate Descriptions

Climate Zone	Precipitation Type	Heat Type	Acronym: Description
Tropical (Zone A)	Monsoon (m)		Am - Tropical monsoon climate
	Savanna, Dry Winter (w)		Aw - Tropical wet
Arid (Zone B)	Steppe(S)	Cold (k)	BSk - Cold semi-arid climate
Temperate (Zone C)	Dry Winter (w)	Hot Summer (a)	Cwa - Monsoon-influenced humid subtropical climate
	No Dry Season (f)	Warm Summer(b)	Cfb - Temperate oceanic
Continental (Zone D)	Dry Winter (w)	Warm Summer(b)	Dwb - Monsoon-influenced warm-summer humid continental
	Dry Winter (w)	Cold Summer (c)	Dwc - Monsoon-influenced subarctic climate
Polar C (Zone E)	Tundra (T)		ET - Tundra

Bagansait's climate ranges from subtropical in the lowlands, to alpine in the northern and eastern mountainous zones, to Arctic tundra in the far north along the edge of the Himalayan Mountains. This range moves southeast along its border with Olvana and forms a natural barrier between the nations.

Map 21. Climate Regions of Bagansait



USGS, TNC, ESRI



Bagansait's Central Basin is rainy, humid, and hot with most monsoon weather occurring from May to October.

Seasons Chart

The climate in Bagansait can vary wildly, though the population centers are in the south and central basin regions. Below are examples of the extremes from north to south.

Table 12. Seasonal averages charts

<i>Myitkyina (North)</i>					
	Mean High (F)	Mean Low (F)	Precipitation (inches)	Days Rain	Relative Humidity (%)
January	78	50	.5	2	77
February	82	55	.8	7	68
March	87	61	1	5	64
April	91	67	2	8	64
May	92	82	8.6	15	72
June	89	75	21.6	25	83
July	87	76	21.4	27	89
August	90	76	15.6	28	87
September	89	75	11.6	19	85
October	87	70	6.7	11	83
November	83	61	1	3	79
December	78	53	.5	2	78

<i>Mandalay (Central)</i>					
	Mean High (F)	Mean Low (F)	Precipitation (inches)	Days Rain	Relative Humidity (%)
January	85	56	0	.4	68
February	91	60	.1	.4	58

March	98	68	.2	.4	49
April	102	76	1.6	3.3	50
May	98	78	5.1	8.3	66
June	95	79	4	7.2	73
July	95	79	3	6	71
August	94	78	5.2	8.7	76
September	93	77	6.2	8	76
October	92	75	5.1	6.8	77
November	88	67	1.4	2.8	74
December	84	60	.2	.7	72

<i>Yangon (South)</i>					
	Mean High (F)	Mean Low (F)	Precipitation (inches)	Days Rain	Relative Humidity (%)
January	92	62	0	.2	62
February	95	65	.1	.2	66
March	98	70	.5	.4	69
April	99	74	1.5	1.5	66
May	93	75	13	12.6	73
June	87	74	22.2	25.3	85
July	86	73	23.8	26.2	86
August	86	73	22.4	26.1	87
September	88	73	15.5	19.5	85
October	90	73	7.9	12.2	78
November	91	70	2.3	4.8	71
December	91	61	.2	.2	65



Extremes

Rain

Coastal areas can receive as much as 200 inches of rain annually. The delta region receives around 100 inches annually.

Temperature

Temperatures around Yangon, the largest city and in the south along the coast, are hot year around, with the hottest months being April and May with high temperatures reaching 102F.

Hazards

Floods

During monsoon seasons, flooding can be catastrophic, with loss of life and property swept away. Fordable rivers become impassable. Rains can reduce visibility to none with hurricane strength winds. Coastal regions can receive up to 200 inches of rainfall annually.

Disease

Aside from normal communicable diseases, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS are diseases of concern. HIV is 0.7% prevalence in adults (compared to 0.01% in the US).

Flora

Soil erosion in areas that are over-farmed or deforested can dramatically hurt the agricultural crops of rice, sugar cane, and peas. Mudslides may cause unstable platforms for operations.



TIME

Time Overview

The Buddhist religion has created a relaxed and patient attitude in Bagansait. This attitude has influenced the Bagansait citizen's approach to time. The average citizen is not generally in a hurry and tends to carry out their business at a slower pace. Bagansait citizens often stop to help others and put more effort into interactions. This also means that foreigners may be kept waiting longer than expected. While most cultural events are linked to the Buddhist lunar calendar, both the government and the economy function on the western Gregorian calendar.

Daily

Daily life in Bagansait begins early around 0500. At this hour, it is common for shops to be open and individuals to go to work or for morning prayer. Early mornings are often a time for monks to pay respects at shrines and temples, while lay people line up to offer them food. Evenings and mornings are times when people of any denomination go to their respective places of worship to pray. The average dry market (beans, fruits, and spices) opens at 0500 and closes around 2300. The wet markets (fish) are busiest from 0200-0800. Most non-essential government offices maintain 0900-1700 as hours of operation.

Weekly

The workweek in Bagansait varies greatly between professions. The public sector employees follow a five-day, 35-hour workweek, Monday–Friday. Employees in the private sector and state enterprises have a six-day, 44-hour workweek, Monday-Saturday. Farmers and fishermen in the markets may work a seven-day workweek and over 80 hours a week. Since the coup, the military junta has enacted forced labor. Villagers have departed from a normal schedule and are forced into work as sex workers, porters, messengers, or as laborers on roads, railways, bridges, mines, and farms.

Religious Worship

The Christian minority has a day of worship on Sunday. However, the Buddhist majority observe a day of special worship based on the lunar cycle. The day varies, based on the new moon, quarter moon, half-moon, three-quarter moon, and full moon. These are days when Buddhists perform some religious activity and/or observe certain dietary rules. Many Buddhists also still practice some form of daily religious activity like meditation throughout the week.

Monthly

Bagansait observes one religious or national holiday/festival every month.

Key Dates, Time Periods, or Events

1600 to 1800. The Toungoo kingdom ruled what was called Bagan at the time. Burmese became the main language of the separate city-states that united under the Toungoo, who successfully defended against colonization, replaced chieftains with governors, and established a political system that endured for 200 years.

1850-1950, Colonial. Great Britain asserted control of Bagan. The port of Mandalay became a strategic location for trade. Bagan nationalism arose in response, and independence movements formed that would carry through WWII. These factions, such as the Bagan Independence Army (BIA), first fought on the side of Japan, but then switched to Allied forces. The BIA became the Bagan National Army, who fought along with Britain against Japanese occupation, then influenced the Bagan independence movement.

1950, Independent. Bagan gained independence from Britain as a republic, became the “Union of Bagan” and formed a bicameral parliament. Minority ethnicities pushed for self-governance, and a central military coup d'état ended the brief civilian government rule of Bagan in 1962.

1962, Communist. Bagan became Bagansait (“New Bagan” in Burmese), officially known as the Republic of Bagansait, and formed a communist government



fashioned after the Soviet Union and nationalized its industries. Bagansait became an oppressive and impoverished country that violently suppressed several uprisings through 2015.

Recent. Though Bagansait briefly experienced a democratic resurgence over the last few years, a military coup has re-established autocratic rule by the junta.

Routine, Cyclical Key Dates

Holidays and Culturally Specific Observations

There is a religious or national holiday/festival every month in Bagansait. In Buddhism, these days are on the day of a full moon. Only half of the 12 holidays are national holidays and fall on fixed days.

Table 13. Holidays, Culturally Specific Observations

Date	Holiday	Type	Remark
04 January	Independence Day	National	
12 February	Union Day	National	
March (Varies)	Full Moon of Tabaung	Religious	10 Days
02 March	Farmer's Day	National	
27 March	Armed Force's Day	National	
Mid-April (Varies)	Bagansait Water Festival	Religious	4–5 Days
Mid-April (Varies)	Bagansait New Year	National	
01 May	Labor Day	National	
May (Varies)	Full Moon Day of Vesak	Religious	
June (Varies)	Full Moon Day of Vassa	Religious	
19 July	Martyr's Day	National	
August (Varies)	Full Moon Day of Thadingyut	Religious	
September (Varies)	Full Moon Day of Tazaungmone	Religious	
October (Varies)	National Day	National	
November (Varies)	Kayin New Year's Day	Religious	
25 December	Christmas Day	Religious	

Independence Day. Independence Day is a national holiday observed annually every 4 January. It celebrates Bagansait's Declaration of Independence from British rule on 4 January 1948.

Union Day. Union Day is celebrated to commemorate the Union Agreement that unified Bagansait states in February 1947.

Full Moon of Tabaung. The Full Moon of Tabaung celebrates the time when Buddha's 1,250 disciples spontaneously gathered to listen to his teachings.

International Day of Farmers. Also known as Farmer's Day, it is a celebration in Bagansait that is held annually to appreciate the hard work and dedication of the peasants and farmers, and their contribution to the economic development of the country.

Armed Forces' Day. Armed Forces Day, formerly known as Resistance Day, is the official holiday of the Bagansait armed forces. It commemorates the start of the Bagansait army's resistance to Japanese occupation in 1945.

Bagansait Water Festival. The Bagansait Water Festival is a Buddhist festival celebrated over a period of four to five days, culminating in the Bagansait New Year. Water throwing or dousing one another using any vessel or device that delivers water is the distinguishing feature of this festival.

Bagansait New Year's Day. A religious holiday, Bagansait New Year's Day is celebrated as an opportunity to wash away the previous year's tribulations. On Bagansait New Year's Day, people offer food donations at various places. They typically provide free food to those participating in the New Year's celebrations.

Labor Day. This national holiday celebrates the achievements and agreements of employees and management.

Full Moon Day of Vesak. A religious holiday that celebrates the belief that Buddha attained enlightenment under the holy Banyan tree on the full moon day of Vesak.



Full Moon Day of Vassa. The Vassa Full Moon Day marks the beginning of Vassa, or the Buddhist Lent, which lasts until October. It celebrates the day that Buddha preached the sermon of Four Solemn Truths for the first time to his five disciples.

Martyr's Day. Martyr's Day is a Bagansait national holiday to observe the day when eight leaders of the pre-independence interim government were assassinated in 1947.

Full Moon Day of Thadingyut. This religious holiday is held on the full moon day of the month. It marks the end of the Buddhist sabbath (Vassa). It celebrates Buddha's descent from heaven after he preached the Abhidhamma to his mother who was reborn in heaven.

Full Moon Day of Tazaungmone. This holiday celebrates the end of the rainy season in Bagansait. The celebration includes the release of thousands of paper sky lanterns.

National Day. National Day is the anniversary of the beginning of unrest against British rule in 1920 that eventually led to independence in 1948. Specifically, it is the date of the first student strike at Yangon University. Further strikes occurred in 1935 and 1938, and these strikes served to rouse national identity and opposition to British colonial policies.

Kayin New Year's Day. Karen New Year marks the end of the harvest of one rice harvest. The celebrations typically involve music, food, and dancing.

Christmas Day. Although Bagansait is predominately Buddhist, Christmas is a national holiday celebrated by the small Christian communities.

Harvest Cycles

In Bagansait summer rice is planted between November and February in the country's lower part and from January to March in the central dry zone regions. In

some regions, farmers grow a second crop because irrigation allows using another variety of rice. It is harvested in the dry season in April–May.

Natural Disaster Cycles

Bagansait is subject to tropical cyclones during the summer monsoon season. Bagansait has three seasons: The winter monsoon season (late October to mid-February); the hot, dry season (mid-February to mid-May); and the summer monsoon season (mid-May to late October).

Election Cycles

Bagansait has only had 17 general elections since 1922. This is due to the consistently turbulent change over in governments and military coups. Elections were typically held from November–February.

Cultural Perception of Time

The Bagansait population is majority Buddhist. In Buddhism, time is understood differently than in Western culture. The passing of time is considered an illusion. Time is not taught as linear, but cyclic and repeatable. This leads to an understanding that the present moment is most important. Bagansait citizens often stop to help others and put more effort into interactions due to their focus on the present moment.

Tactical Perception of Time

Bagansait Perception of Time

The majority of Bagansait citizens see time as non-linear and view the present moment as most important. This can lead to a patient and calculated attitude during operations. This could cause an exploitable hesitation at critical points during combat operations. When time is viewed as essential, the Bagansait military will move swiftly but with immoral tactics like clearing or destroying entire villages. These rushed tactics cause crimes against the population which may be exploited



by U.S. forces for intelligence source recruitment, psychological operations, and unconventional warfare force development.

U.S. Perception of Time

U.S. military members are trained to be on time, brief, and to the point when interacting with their counterparts. Speed and decisiveness are valued. The Bagansait Buddhist religion teaches a relaxed, calculated, and patient attitude. Interactions are highly valued. U.S. military members should come well prepared to each interaction and not mistake the Bagansait tardiness or patience for a weakness. During operations, the Bagansait military can appear slow and methodical at times. This method is based on years of counterinsurgency experience and should be studied and valued. The Bagansait military can also move swiftly when the terrain supports it; however, this will usually lead to heavy-handed tactics that may be illegal or immoral by U.S. standards.

Decision-making

The Bagansait non-linear perceptions of time will likely lead to a slow and well-calculated decision cycle. This could produce a better-developed plan. One should remember that the military has seized control of the Bagansait government several times throughout its history, which demonstrates a deep understanding of planning and executing complex operations.