



The Voice of Asia's Youth in Today's Democracy Building

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The Situation of the Asian Youth Today

- Lacks economic opportunities
- Higher educational opportunities than their parents
- Less likely to be a member of a formal group, but more likely to have access to the Internet
- Politically interested, especially in developing countries
- Still politically efficacious, but on the verge of disenchantment
- Largely excluded from crucial decision-making processes

How does this translate into political participation?

The youth tend to participate in politics when the little space they have for engagement and mobility become threatened. Let us look at the following cases:

The image shows two men in a cluttered, outdoor or semi-outdoor kitchen area. The man on the left is wearing a red and white striped polo shirt, a grey baseball cap with 'NUN' on it, and dark pants. He is crouching and using a blue grater to grate a white substance into a large white bowl. The man on the right is wearing a yellow and blue plaid shirt, a white turban, and a red and white scarf. He is also crouching and appears to be mixing or handling ingredients in the same bowl. The background is filled with various kitchen items, including pots, pans, a gas stove, and bags of flour. A large white sack with '100%' and other text is visible on the right. The overall scene suggests a busy, traditional food preparation environment.


**New Delhi
Farm Protests
(2020-2021)**



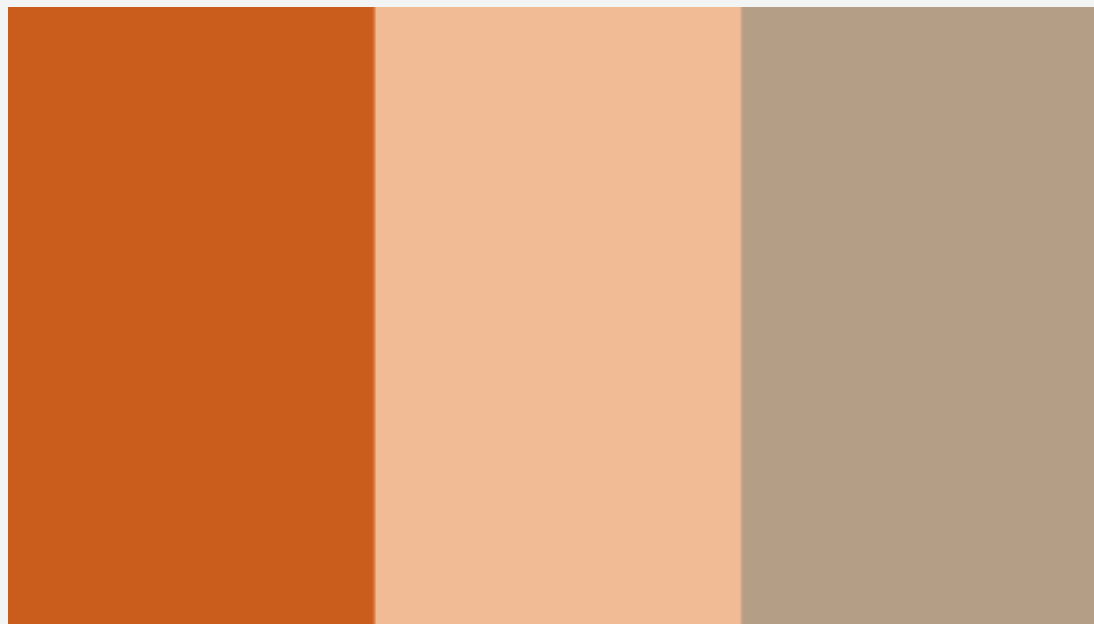
**Hong Kong
National Security
Law Protests
(2019-2020)**



**Myanmar Coup d'etat (2019-
present)**



Thai Pro-democracy Protests (2020-2021)



The Milk Tea Alliance

Recommendations

Inclusion: Provide space for the youth in formal and informal structures of the pro-democracy movement.

Representation: Enable youth to participate in governance. There are good examples in Thailand, Indonesia and Philippines regarding youth representation in government.

Visibility: Bring the youth in the forefront of advocacy formation and dissemination. Harness their talent in utilizing the digital space.

Sustainability: Create medium for exchange between old and new generations of pro-democracy movement, and conduct capacity building initiatives to hone their skills.