



The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma

By Thant Myint-U

Download now

Read Online →

The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma By Thant Myint-U

What do we really know about Burma and its history? And what can Burma's past tell us about its present and even its future? For nearly two decades Western governments and a growing activist community have been frustrated in their attempts to bring about a freer and more democratic Burma?through sanctions and tourist boycotts?only to see an apparent slide toward even harsher dictatorship.

Now Thant Myint-U tells the story of modern Burma, and the story of his own family, in an interwoven narrative that is by turns lyrical, dramatic, and deeply affecting. Through his prominent family's stories and those of others, he portrays Burma's rise and decline in the modern world, from the time of Portuguese pirates and renegade Mughal princes through a sixty-year civil war that continues today?the longest-running war anywhere in the world.

The River of Lost Footsteps is a work at once personal and global, a "brisk, vivid history" (Philip Delves Broughton, *The Wall Street Journal*) that makes Burma accessible and enthralling.

↓ [Download The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of ...pdf](#)

📄 [Read Online The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History ...pdf](#)

The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma

By Thant Myint-U

The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma By Thant Myint-U

What do we really know about Burma and its history? And what can Burma's past tell us about its present and even its future? For nearly two decades Western governments and a growing activist community have been frustrated in their attempts to bring about a freer and more democratic Burma?through sanctions and tourist boycotts?only to see an apparent slide toward even harsher dictatorship.

Now Thant Myint-U tells the story of modern Burma, and the story of his own family, in an interwoven narrative that is by turns lyrical, dramatic, and deeply affecting. Through his prominent family's stories and those of others, he portrays Burma's rise and decline in the modern world, from the time of Portuguese pirates and renegade Mughal princes through a sixty-year civil war that continues today?the longest-running war anywhere in the world.

The River of Lost Footsteps is a work at once personal and global, a "brisk, vivid history" (Philip Delves Broughton, *The Wall Street Journal*) that makes Burma accessible and enthralling.

The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma By Thant Myint-U Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #88664 in Books
- Brand: Myint-U, Thant
- Published on: 2008-01-08
- Released on: 2008-01-08
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.18" h x .4" w x 6.09" l, .50 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 400 pages

 [Download The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online *The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma* By Thant Myint-U

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. Analysis of Burma has been "singularly ahistorical," Thant Myint-U (*The Making of Modern Burma*), a senior officer at the U.N., observes. With an eye to what the past might say about Burma's present status as a country in crisis, Thant Myint-U examines the legacy of imperialism, war and invasion. Recounting in a well-crafted narrative the colorful histories of Burmese dynastic empires from ancient times to the 18th century, Thant Myint-U then focuses on how, during the 19th century, the Burmese kingdom of Ava fought and lost a series of border wars with the British East India Company, culminating in a treaty that marked the beginning of Burma's loss of independence. Considering the country's longstanding global isolation in the context of its geographic and cultural singularity, Thant Myint-U interweaves his own family's history, writing extensively about his maternal grandfather, U Thant, who rose from humble origins to become secretary-general of the U.N. in the 1960s. Profiling 20th-century Burmese leaders such as Aung San, U Nu and Nobel Peace Prize-winning activist Aung San Suu Kyi, Thant Myint-U beautifully captures the complex identity of a little-understood country, concluding with a trenchant analysis of Burma's current predicament under an oppressive regime. (*Dec.*)

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Booklist](#)

An international pariah for the past four decades, Burma has seen its profile, though not its military government's reputation, rise higher in recent years because of the saga of Aung San Suu Kyi, 1991 Nobel Peace Prize recipient. Thant contributes welcome context to her plight under house arrest, as well as to Burma's, writ large with this history. It reaches into ancient mists, establishing the origins of Burmese national traditions (in terms of revered places, admired kings, and Buddhism), and commences concretely with three wars that culminated in Britain's colonization of the country in 1885. Administratively part of British India, Burma regained some autonomy in the 1930s, but its nationalists, according to Thant, were inclined toward ideological extremism, with baleful effects: the founder of the military regime, Ne Win, sided with the Japanese invaders in World War II and in 1962 imposed a form of nationalistic socialism that suffocated the economy and isolated the country from the world community. This readable, reflective history will support revived interest in Burma. *Gilbert Taylor*

Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Review

"[B]rilliant . . . *The River of Lost Footsteps* is a balanced, thorough, and serious history, but it is also a polemic, firm in its view that the current international campaign--pursuing 'this policy of isolating one of the most isolated countries in the world'--is moving in the wrong direction." ?*New Yorker*

"Mr. Thant eloquently and mournfully recites the dismal history of the last half century and, in analyzing the country's nascent democracy movement, holds out only the slimmest of hopes for a better future. It will not come through economic and diplomatic sanctions, of that he is convinced. Trade and more engagement, especially more tourism, might let in badly needed light and air. But trying to topple the regime by isolating it would, he argues, be disastrous." ?*William Grimes, The New York Times*

"Thant Myint-U's narrative is full of rich details and colorful characters like Bayinnaung, a 16th-century king who led a mighty elephant corps into battle, defeating neighboring Siam . . . If it could somehow be set on a

different course, Thant Myint-U suggests, Burma could once again become an important player in Asia.”
?Joshua Kurlantzick, *The Washington Monthly*

“Fascinating . . . [Thant] gives us both the savory details and the cruelties of colonialism, as well as a rare for feel for palace intrigue. In the process, he suggests that isolation is in fact just what the military regime feeds on. It's in its blood.” ?Pico Iyer, *Time*

“Vivid and well-told history.... With wide interest in Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi and others opposing the ruling generals, this warrants attention.” ?Kirkus Reviews

“Profiling 20th-century Burmese leaders such as Aung San, U Nu and Nobel Peace Prize-winning activist Aung San Suu Kyi, Thant Myint-U beautifully captures the complex identity of a little-understood country, concluding with a trenchant analysis of Burma's current predicament under an oppressive regime.”
?Publishers Weekly

“The best introduction yet available to the modern history of Burma. Sad and poignant, intelligent and thought-provoking.” ?William Dalrymple

“A balanced, fascinating, sometimes humorous account of nation-building.” ?Rory Stewart, author of *The Places in Between* and *The Prince of the Marshes*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Malcolm Lee:

Do you have favorite book? In case you have, what is your favorite's book? Guide is very important thing for us to learn everything in the world. Each reserve has different aim as well as goal; it means that publication has different type. Some people feel enjoy to spend their a chance to read a book. They are reading whatever they consider because their hobby is usually reading a book. Think about the person who don't like looking at a book? Sometime, man feel need book when they found difficult problem as well as exercise. Well, probably you will need this *The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma*.

Cleveland Wheeler:

In this particular era which is the greater man or who has ability in doing something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time little but quite enough to experience a look at some books. Among the books in the top record in your reading list is actually *The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma*. This book that is qualified as *The Hungry Mountains* can get you closer in turning into precious person. By looking upwards and review this e-book you can get many advantages.

Ted Bryant:

Do you like reading a reserve? Confuse to looking for your favorite book? Or your book ended up being rare? Why so many issue for the book? But just about any people feel that they enjoy with regard to reading.

Some people like looking at, not only science books and also novels and *The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma* or maybe other sources were given understanding for you. After you know how truly great a book is, you feel you want to read more and more. Science books were created for teachers as well as students especially. Those books are helping them to add their knowledge. In some other case, besides science guides, any other book like *The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma* to make your spare time much more colorful. Many types of books like this.

Jack Bell:

As a university student, I exactly feel bored for you to read. If their teacher expected them to go to the library or even make a summary for some reserve, they are complained. Just minor students that have reading's internal or real their passion. They just do what the teacher wants, like asked to go to the library. They go to right now there but nothing reading critically. Any students feel that reading through is not important, boring and can't see colorful photographs on there. Yeah, it is being complicated. Books are very important for you. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever we wish. Likewise words say, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore, this *The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma* can make you really feel more interested to read.

Download and Read Online *The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma* By Thant Myint-U #AT6DIYFCU9X

Read The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma By Thant Myint-U for online ebook

The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma By Thant Myint-U Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma By Thant Myint-U books to read online.

Online The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma By Thant Myint-U ebook PDF download

The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma By Thant Myint-U Doc

The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma By Thant Myint-U Mobipocket

The River of Lost Footsteps: A Personal History of Burma By Thant Myint-U EPub