



**Thailand's Deep South**

**Multicultural Dialogues  
of the Youth**

**Prince of Songkla University, Pattani Campus**

**Srisompob Jitpiromsri**

**Center for Conflict Studies and Cultural Diversity**

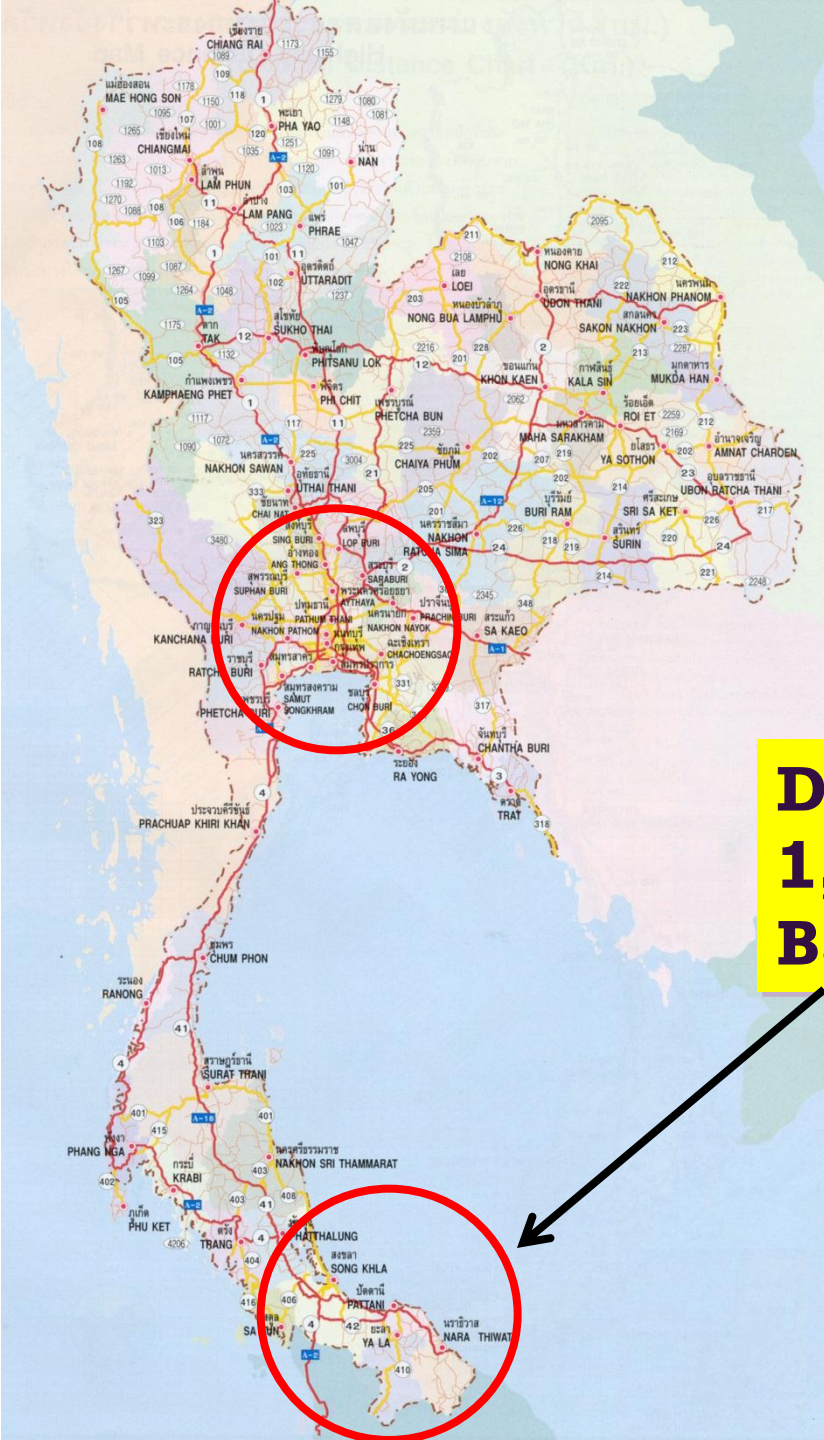
**Prince of Songkla University, Pattani, Thailand**

# Southeast Asia:

## Country: Thailand

## Capital City: Bangkok

**Deep South Provinces**  
**1,075 kilometers from**  
**Bangkok**

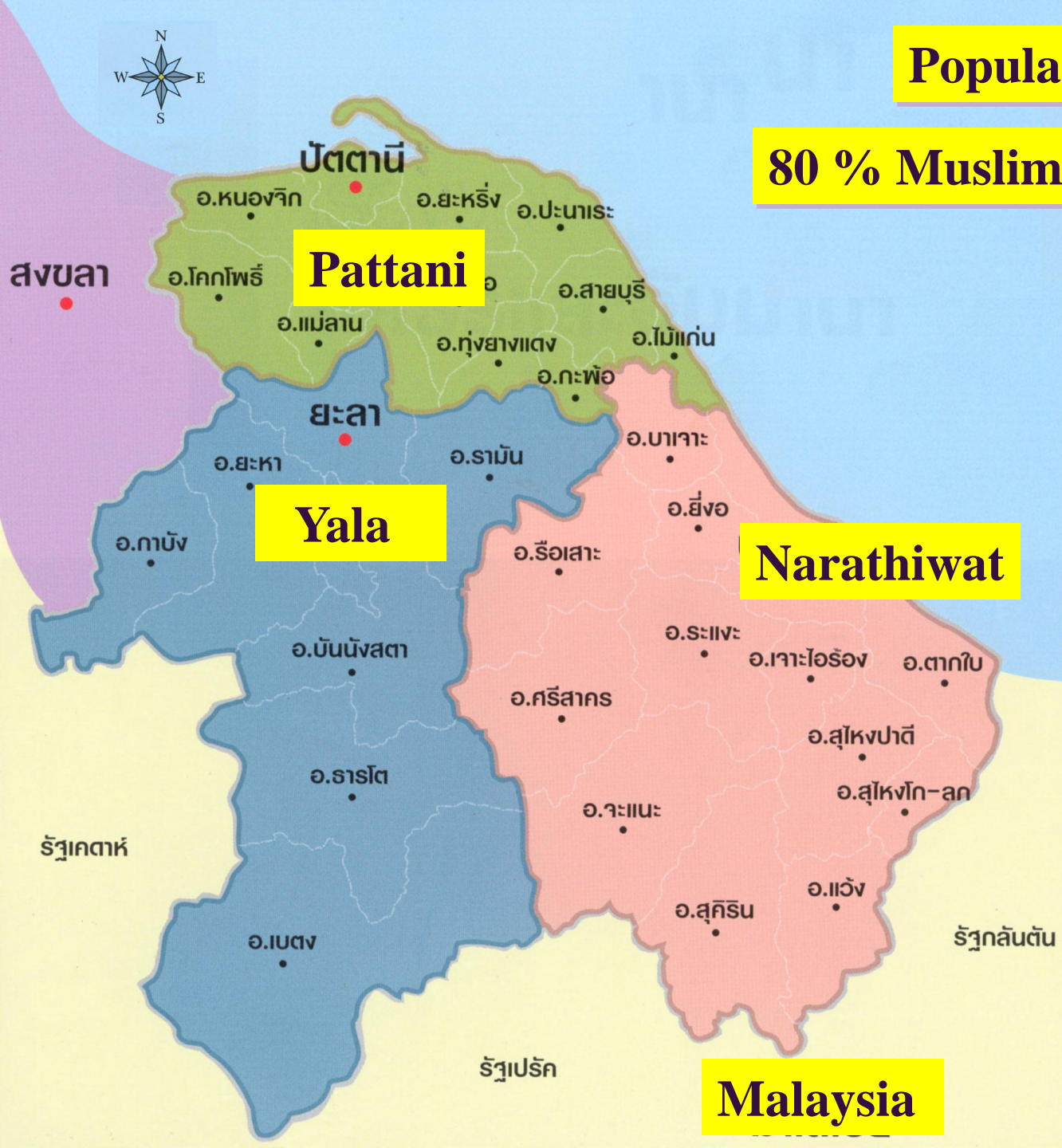




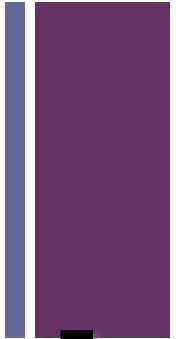


Population of 1.8 millions

80 % Muslims and 20 Buddhists



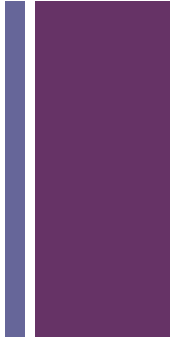




## **Historical Dimension**

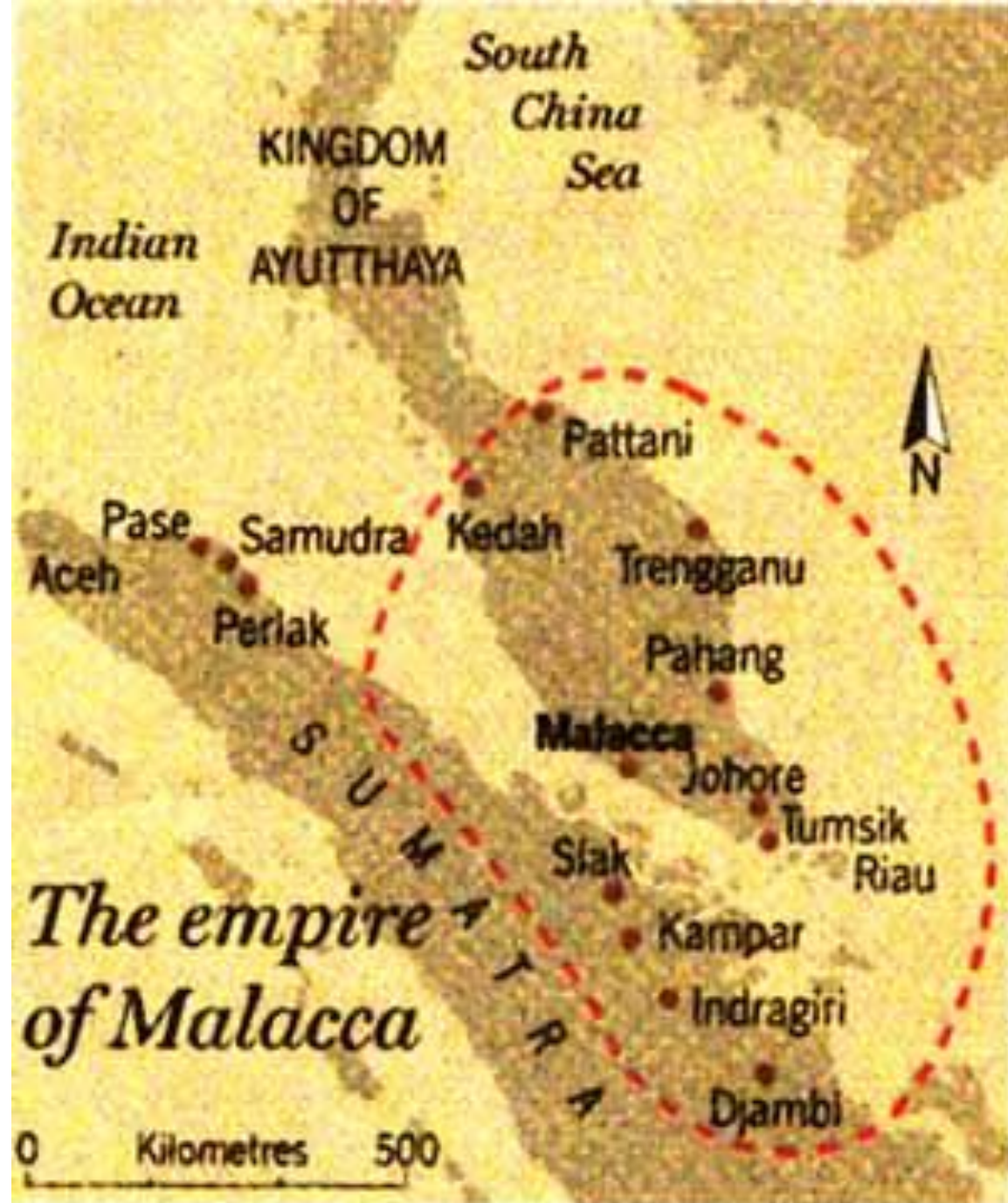
- **Patani has its historical role as “a center of Islam in Southeast Asia.”**





- **Patani Darusalam (Patani Kingdom) has been independent state in Malay peninsular over 1,000 years as the Malay state, Malay Kerajaan, before being invaded by the Siamese kingdom 200 years ago.**









**■ Violence and conflict in Thailand's deep south have unfolded from different factors.**

**■ Central to these factors is identity politics, which is the claim to power of a particular identity, be it national, clan, religious or linguistic.**



# Identity Politics

- **Ethnicity, consciousness of local history, and religious faith**

**Malayu+Patani+Islam**



- In this violent conflict situation, one or many armed resistant movements had turned to apply violence in the attempt to win the contesting political authority and replace the lack of state legitimacy with self-rule governance





# **+ Legitimacy deficit' of the Thai government in the region**

- it is impossible to get people to accept legitimacy of state through violence or military force.
- The only way Thailand can address these complex political problems is to win people over, making them feel that they are participating effectively in what is going on through building the political space



- Major characteristics of the Deep South conflict are pertinent to the defined subnational conflict, armed conflict over control of a subnational territory.





# Multiculturalism for Peace




# • Multiculturalism

- ▶ the acceptance or promotion of multiple ethnic cultures, applied to the demographic make-up of a specific place.

## • + Multiculturalism

- In this context, multiculturalists advocate extending equitable status to distinct ethnic and religious groups without promoting any specific ethnic, religious, and/or cultural community values as central. The policy of multiculturalism is often contrasted with the concepts assimilationism and social integration.

- 
- Prince of Songkla University (PSU Pattani) has seen participation as instrument for peacebuilding in the region.
  - PSU has supported student activities that engage them to multicultural society and peace.
  - The activities is directed to learning of multicultural learning, within and without of the Deep South.



**Project on Student Camp for Multicultural Relations  
of the Students from Different Regional Universities  
(1) At PSU Pattani and Kuala Lumpur, 2008**

**Project on Student Camp for Multicultural Relations  
of the Students from Different Regional Universities  
(2) Ubonratchatani University, 2009**

**Project on Student Camp for Multicultural Relations  
of the Students from Different Regional Universities  
(3) Chiangmai University, 2010**

**Project on Student Camp for Multicultural Relations  
of the Students from Different Regional Universities  
(3) Suan Dusit University, Bangkok, 2011**



โครงการสานสัมพันธ์พหุวัฒนธรรม

MULTICULTURAL DIALOGUE  
FOR

STUDENTS IN NEIGHBOURING STATES















Project on Train Trip for Peace (1)  
Pattani to Prae Province in the North

Project on Train Trip for Peace (2)  
Pattani to Khon Kaen Province in the  
Northeast

Project on Train Trip for Peace (3)  
Pattani to Chiangmai Province in the  
North











14 03 2014











