



# **Soft Power vs Hard Power in the Thai Monarchy**



**guest lecture by**

**Professor Charnvit Kaset Siri  
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**The role of kingship and calls for the reform of the monarchy have been at the center of the current ongoing struggles between authoritarianism and democracy that have kept Thailand in constant turmoil since the 2014 military coup. Traditionally, the power (amnat) of the monarchy has been understood as flowing from the meritorious virtue (barami) of the monarch. Professor Charnvit will explore the historical roots of this conception, how it has shaped Thailand's development, and what it means for an uncertain future.**

**Tuesday, August 30  
4:00 PM  
Farmer Hall room 210**