Thesis Title	Community-based Disaster Resilience in Vulnerable Areas: A Case Study of Mon State, Republic of The Union of Myanmar
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ABSTRACT

This thesis examines the challenges and dynamics of disaster management in Mon State, Myanmar, emphasizing the integration of human security within local disaster resilience frameworks. By utilizing a qualitative research approach, including in-depth interviews across ten townships, the study uncovers significant disparities in disaster preparedness and the varying effectiveness of institutional frameworks. The Disaster Management Law of 2013 and subsequent policies are scrutinized for their emergency response focus, with critiques highlighting a lack of proactive risk reduction and inadequate engagement with vulnerable demographics and Civil Society Organizations. The analysis reveals a notable reliance on local and informal networks, which, despite governmental shortcomings, facilitate community mobilization and grassroots disaster response efforts. These local networks underscore the community's resilience, particularly in compensating for the gaps left by formal mechanisms amid ongoing military conflicts and political instability. The empirical findings advocate for a polycentric approach to disaster management, aligning with the Sendai Framework to enhance community-based resilience strategies. This approach is supported by the theoretical discourse, which transitions from a state-centric view of security to a more inclusive framework that considers the interdependencies of various security

dimensions, including economic, environmental, and personal security. The thesis concludes with recommendations for a more integrative and adaptive disaster management framework that leverages local insights, prioritizes human security, and fosters comprehensive resilience-building, aiming to bridge the gap between high-level policy formulations and effective grassroots implementation.