

The Earth Moves, Bombs Fall, and a Generation Refuses to Wait

From flattened Mandalay to the charred high-rises of Hong Kong, Asia reels through one of its deadliest weeks of disaster, while the guns of Kashmir and the Taiwan Strait never fall silent.

In Manila, a wartime ASEAN scrambles to save the region's fuel supply, even as a generation of furious young protesters from India to Nepal takes to the streets demanding a different future from their elders.

Compiled from Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Hindi, Bahasa Indonesia, Vietnamese, and English sources.

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ANGER - RUIN - A FRAGILE TRUCE

Asia Faces a Storm of Its Own Making and One It Did Not

The air in Asia on Monday was a suffocating mixture of ash, floodwater, and tear gas. A continent found itself fighting on three desperate fronts at once: against the burning physics of a changing planet, against the ancient machinery of war, and against its own furious children.

In Manila, foreign ministers from a bloc of over 680 million people opened crisis talks haunted by the ghost of a closed Strait of Hormuz hitting every pump price and power bill, as Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., who declared an energy emergency in March, framed security as the simple ability to keep the lights on while the ministers—gathering just hours after a Chinese Coast Guard vessel injured a Filipino sailor—are tasked with stitching together a ceasefire in Iran and a maritime code of conduct with Beijing amid public anger.

Thousands of Gen Z protesters in India's 'Cockroach Revolution' marched on the parliament and prime minister's residence on Monday demanding an education minister's removal and an end to a system giving 42 percent youth unemployment, hours after Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli resigned in Nepal under the weight of 150,000 anti-corruption protesters in Kathmandu, while in Dhaka the iron decade of Sheikh Hasina melted away with her abrupt flight and an ailing, 80-year-old Khaleda Zia walked free from prison into a vacuum.

The images from Hong Kong and Mandalay meld with the ever-present hum of guns from the Kashmir border.

ON THE REGION'S PSYCHIC STATE - JULY 2026

A 7.7-magnitude quake flattened Mandalay, Myanmar's second city, yet the junta's bombs continued to fall on the rubble; in Hong Kong a catastrophic complex fire killed 128 people and left 200 missing, and Typhoon Kajiki and Tropical Storm Trami have pushed the cumulative regional storm death toll past 1,200 with the World Meteorological Organization citing Asia's faster-than-global-average warming as an accelerator.

A US-brokered ceasefire between nuclear-armed India and Pakistan was fraying within hours of its announcement as a whisper of small arms fire across the Line of Control threatened to undo the diplomatic thread, leaving a mood across the region not of panic but of a profound, exhausted recognition that the inherited 20th-century architecture of security pacts, strongman bargains, and carbon-fuelled growth models is no longer holding as a teenager in New Delhi, a mother in a flooded Vietnamese village, and a firefighter in Kowloon each demand to know what comes next.

The Day At A Glance

A fragile India-Pakistan truce barely mutes the guns as Asia's worst week of natural disasters deepens, with Hong Kong mourning 128 dead in a tower inferno and Myanmar's junta bombing its own quake-stricken people. Political earthquakes rattle Tokyo and Seoul, while a youth revolt against corruption and the old order marches on capitals from New Delhi to Kathmandu.

Philippines – ASEAN's Wartime Burden

ASEAN foreign ministers opened a three-day Manila meeting on Tuesday with a desperate dual mandate: securing an Iran ceasefire to reopen the energy tap, and containing a Chinese Coast Guard that injured a Filipino sailor just hours before the talks began.

Japan – A Quiet Exit in a Noisy Neighbourhood

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida bowed to a 22 per cent approval rating, resigning on Monday and triggering an LDP succession fight as the nation faces a restless China and North Korea's fresh missile threats.

India & Pakistan – Two Minutes to Midnight

A US-mediated ceasefire was declared 'total and immediate' after India's missile strike, yet small arms fire along the Line of Control threatened to unravel it within hours, keeping the world's two biggest nuclear rivals on a knife's edge.

Hong Kong – A City's Heart Blackened

The deadliest urban fire in decades has killed 128 and left 200 missing in a dense residential complex, while a separate high-rise blaze in Tai Po injured firefighters and trapped residents, plunging the city into a state of shattered mourning.

Southeast Asia – The Sky's Unforgiving Toll

Typhoon Kajiki and Tropical Storm Trami have pushed a cumulative regional death toll beyond 1,200 people across Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, and Myanmar, in a disaster season the WMO directly links to Asia's rapid warming.

Myanmar – Bombing the Fallen

Even as thousands lie buried under the rubble of a 7.7-magnitude earthquake in Mandalay, the military junta launched fresh airstrikes on opposition-held areas, ignoring urgent UN calls for a humanitarian pause.

South Korea – A Former President's Final Reckoning

Ex-President Yoon Suk-yeol was sentenced to life imprisonment on Monday for his failed 2024 martial law bid, closing the darkest political chapter since democratization as 30,000 protesters gathered in Seoul in a mood of

exhausted catharsis.

India & Nepal – The Cockroach Revolution Marches

Gen Z fury spilled across borders as 40,000 marched on New Delhi’s parliament demanding ministerial resignations, while in Nepal, PM K.P. Sharma Oli resigned under the weight of 150,000 anti-corruption protesters.

Taiwan Strait – A Creeping New Normal

Beijing’s formal exercises may have ended, but 68 military sorties in a week have Taipei’s defence officials warning of an unspoken, permanent ‘new status quo’ of high-intensity harassment that is redrawing maritime reality.

Backdrop – A Region Begging for a Lifeline

From the six-week Hormuz closure that starved Asia of fuel, to a wave of youth protests the UN says has killed at least 19 people, the continent’s overlapping crises of energy, climate, and governance are converging on a single, exhausted point.

The Numbers At A Glance - Asia - Monday, July 27, 2026

HK Hong Kong fire dead 128 Deadliest urban blaze in decades, with 200 still missing.	MM Mandalay quake 7.7 Magnitude. Thousands feared buried; junta continues airstrikes.	IN India youth unemployment 42% Gen Z the fuel behind the Parliament march in New Delhi.	KR Yoon sentence LIFE Former South Korean president jailed for 2024 martial law bid.
JP Kishida approval 22% The rating that forced the Japanese PM to resign on Monday.	ASEAN Regional storm dead >1,200 Cumulative toll from Typhoon Kajiki, Trami, and unnamed systems.	IN India-Pak warheads ~330 Combined nuclear stockpile of the two uneasy, ceasefire-bound rivals.	NP Kathmandu protesters 150K Peak turnout that forced Nepalese PM Oli’s resignation on Sunday.

How The Countries Are Doing

Asia confronts a week of extraordinary strain, from the ashes of Hong Kong and the rubble of Mandalay to a fragile truce on the Indian subcontinent. Our health check captures the mood and stability of ten key economies at this volatile moment.

Country	Politics	Budget	Money	Markets	Outside	What's Driving It
Philippines PSEi - Philippine Peso	4	3	3	3	5	President Marcos confronts an energy emergency and a Chinese ramming incident as he hosts crucial ASEAN talks.
Japan Nikkei 225 - Yen	3	2	3	3	4	Kishida's resignation opens a leadership void just as Tokyo faces a more assertive China and a volatile Korean peninsula.
India Nifty 50 - Indian Rupee	2	3	3	3	5	A youth revolt in the capital and a hot border with Pakistan frame Modi's moment of maximum domestic control.
South Korea KOSPI - Won	4	2	3	3	4	The life sentence for Yoon closes a political tragedy but the societal wound remains raw.
Bangladesh DSEX - Bangladeshi Taka	4	4	4	4	3	Khaleda Zia's release aims to quell six weeks of protests that toppled Hasina, but calm is not yet secured.
North Korea No Index - North Korean Won	5	5	5	5	5	Kim Jong-un permanently shuts the door on peace with the South and advances his missile program.
Hong Kong Hang Seng - Hong Kong Dollar	3	2	3	3	3	The deadliest urban fire in decades has left a city deeply traumatised, its attention turned inward to grief.
Myanmar No Index - Myanmar Kyat	5	5	5	5	5	A junta that bombs its own earthquake victims governs over a ruined Mandalay and a shattered economy.
Vietnam VN-Index - Vietnamese Dong	2	2	3	3	4	Typhoon Kajiki's floods test a resilient, fast-growing economy already mourning over a thousand regional dead.
Indonesia IDX Composite - Rupiah	2	3	2	3	3	A 7.4-magnitude quake sparks a tsunami alert, but the vast archipelago's response mechanisms hold firm.

How to read the colours: 1 = calm, 2 = fairly good, 3 = mixed, 4 = some strain, 5 = serious strain. Updated Monday, July 27, 2026.

ANGER, GRIEF, AND A FRAGILE CEASEFIRE

Asia faces down a week of calamity with fury and frayed nerves

From the charred high-rises of Hong Kong to the rubble of Mandalay, an immense physical toll has converged with a political reckoning across the continent. A youth revolt marches on New Delhi, a life sentence lands in Seoul, and two nuclear-armed neighbours teeter on the brink of a war that a single mistimed shot could ignite.

Part 1 — The earth and the sky turn hostile

The week's disasters feel almost biblical in scope. A 7.7-magnitude earthquake flattened Mandalay on July 25, burying thousands under the rubble of Myanmar's second city, only for the military junta to bomb the surrounding area while victims still lay trapped.

In Hong Kong, a catastrophic fire in a residential and commercial complex killed 128 people and left 200 missing on Monday, even as a separate high-rise blaze in Tai Po burned elsewhere in the city. Across Vietnam, Thailand and the Philippines, Typhoon Kajiki and Tropical Storm Trami have pushed a cumulative storm death toll past 1,200 people.

The junta bombs the earthquake zone while the dead are still under the rubble.

ON THE MYANMAR DISASTER — JULY 2026

Part 2 — The politics of exhaustion and eruption

A spasm of political endings is gripping the region. South Korea's former President Yoon Suk-yeol was sentenced to life imprisonment on July 26 for his failed martial-law bid, a verdict that brings catharsis to some and deep bitterness to others in a country still nursing a raw democratic wound.

In Japan, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida announced his resignation with an approval rating near 22 percent, leaving a leadership vacuum just as Tokyo confronts missile tests from Pyongyang and Chinese warships near Taiwan, while Nepal's K.P. Sharma Oli also quit, driven from office by tens of thousands of young protesters demanding an end to corruption.

Part 3 — The fury of a new generation

Tens of thousands of Gen Z marchers, part of the self-styled 'Cockroach Revolution', besieged India's parliament and the prime minister's residence on Monday, demanding the education minister's resignation and a reckoning on joblessness that has left 42 percent of young people without work. The United Nations reports at least 19 dead in youth-led demonstrations across the region.

An embattled older order is trying to reassert itself, and the streets are pushing back. Khaleda Zia was freed from a Dhaka prison on July 26 after Sheikh Hasina fled weeks of protests, a move that is less a celebration than a desperate bid to quiet a furious populace that has lost faith in its leaders.

POSSIBILITY	CHANCE	MARKETS	BREADTH	WHAT IT MEANS FOR ASIA
A — India-Pakistan ceasefire holds	50 percent	Relief rally in Mumbai, Karachi flat	Bilateral trade routes stay open	A fragile U.S.-brokered pause buys weeks, not months, for diplomacy.
B — Hormuz reopening deal struck	30 percent	Sharp drop in Brent, ASEAN relief	Energy prices normalise for Japan, India	Manila talks produce a joint communiqué that Iran and the US can actually accept.
C — South China Sea Code finalised	25 percent	PSEi and regional equities rally	Fishing and energy-exploration clarity	ASEAN announces a text, but Beijing's immediate compliance remains an open question.
D — Youth protests spread further	70 percent	Volatility in Delhi, Dhaka, Kathmandu	Political-risk premia rise across South Asia	A regional Gen Z movement reshapes budget priorities ahead of elections in multiple capitals.

Source: The Rio Times Asia desk, from Manila, Tokyo, New Delhi, and regional reporting.

Eight Things We Are Watching

Asia opens the week with a collision of grief and peril—fires in Hong Kong and earthquakes in Mandalay and Sumatra compete for attention with gunfire on the Kashmir frontier and a leadership vacuum in Tokyo. The region's mood is one of exhausted alertness, as the twin pressures of climate-driven disaster and great-power friction push leaders and citizens alike to their limits.

What	How We See It	Over What Period	Why
ASEAN's moment of truth in Manila	◆ MIXED	6 months	The bloc must unify behind a ceasefire demand on Iran and a South China Sea code with Beijing while its host nation reels from a fuel emergency. Failure would expose ASEAN's deep internal fractures.
India-Pakistan ceasefire integrity	▼ CAREFUL	6 months	Explosions and small-arms fire reported within hours of the US-brokered truce. A single misread skirmish could cascade into a nuclear-armed confrontation neither side truly controls.
Japan's post-Kishida political direction	▼ CAREFUL	6 months	The LDP leadership race will decide whether Tokyo leans toward a more assertive 'normal nation' defence posture or attempts to rebuild regional diplomacy from a position of low public trust.
South Korea's political healing after Yoon verdict	◆ MIXED	6 months	The life sentence closes the legal chapter on the martial law crisis, but the streets of Seoul remain split between celebration and grievance. Institutional trust needs years to mend.
The 'Cockroach Revolution' and youth fury	▼ CAREFUL	6 months	From New Delhi to Kathmandu, a generation facing 42 percent unemployment is marching on parliaments. Governments that misread this as a passing outburst risk their own stability.
Hong Kong's urban disaster recovery	▼ CAREFUL	6 months	A death toll of 128 with 200 missing in a single complex is devastating. The simultaneous Tai Po high-rise fire tests a city already stretched thin and anxious about its place in the region.
Myanmar's quake-zone airstrikes	▼ CAREFUL	6 months	Bombing opposition areas while Mandalay lies crushed under a 7.7-magnitude quake signals a junta that values military victory over human life. The UN's ceasefire call is unlikely to be heeded.
Typhoon season amplified by climate change	◆ MIXED	6 months	Over 1,200 dead across Southeast Asia in a single week of storms, with Kajiki and Trami still dumping rain. The WMO's warning about Asia's faster warming is no longer theoretical.

Six People Shaping The News

From a Philippine president managing an energy and diplomatic crisis to a North Korean leader rewriting his nation's identity, these six figures sit at the centre of Asia's most urgent stories this Monday.

Ferdinand Marcos Jr.

President, Philippines

Hosting the ASEAN ministerial talks under the shadow of a national energy emergency he declared in March. The injury of a Filipino sailor by a Chinese Coast Guard vessel hours before the summit began has loaded his diplomacy with personal and national stakes.

Fumio Kishida

Outgoing Prime Minister, Japan

Announced his resignation on Sunday with approval ratings near 22 percent, opening an LDP succession race that will determine Japan's stance toward China and regional security. His departure leaves a leadership vacuum at a moment of acute tension in the Taiwan Strait.

Yoon Suk-yeol

Former President, South Korea

Sentenced to life imprisonment on Monday for his failed 2024 martial law bid. The verdict closes a legal reckoning but does not resolve the deep political chasm his actions carved through South Korean democracy.

Khaleda Zia

Former Prime Minister, Bangladesh

Released from prison on Sunday after Sheikh Hasina's abrupt flight from power. At 80 and in poor health, Zia's freedom signals a possible political realignment in a nation convulsed by six weeks of anti-corruption protests.

K.P. Sharma Oli

Resigned Prime Minister, Nepal

Submitted his resignation on Sunday after tens of thousands of protesters filled Kathmandu demanding his removal over corruption allegations. His exit opens a 30-day constitutional window for parliament to elect a successor.

Kim Jong-un

Supreme Leader, North Korea

Personally supervised a solid-fuel missile propulsion test and formally erased reunification with South Korea from the constitution this past weekend. His warning of a 'terrible response' to drone incursions sharpens an already volatile Korean peninsula.

The Day, Country By Country

Asia begins this Monday carrying the weight of multiple simultaneous crises—diplomatic, seismic, and political. Each nation's mood is distinct, but a shared thread of youth unrest and climate vulnerability connects them all.

PHILIPPINES

Mood: Dual Anxiety as Host and Neighbour

Manila feels the weight of two emergencies at once—a fuel crisis declared in March that has pushed up the cost of every basic good, and the fresh injury of a Filipino sailor by a Chinese Coast Guard vessel at Second Thomas Shoal just hours before ASEAN ministers convened. The national mood is one of defensive resolve. Sources: Philippine Daily Inquirer - July 27.

Marcos Steers Between Energy Crisis and Maritime Code

President Marcos framed the Hormuz closure as an existential threat to ASEAN, giving his opening remarks a tone of strategic alarm. The bloc's push to finalise a South China Sea Code of Conduct within the year is the diplomatic centrepiece, but the Chinese vessel incident risks souring the atmosphere before serious negotiation begins. Sources: Philippine Daily Inquirer - July 27.

JAPAN

Mood: Subdued Resignation in a Dangerous Neighbourhood

Kishida's departure registers less as shock and more as the quiet end of a premiership that lost public faith months ago. The 22 percent approval figure tells a story of accumulated disappointment over stagnation and security fears. Sources: NHK - July 26.

LDP Succession Race Begins with Regional Stakes

Former Defence Minister Shigeru Ishiba and former Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi are early names in the leadership contest. Whoever wins will inherit a Japan facing Chinese military pressure near Taiwan, a North Korean missile programme on the move, and a seismic 5.8-magnitude tremor off Chiba on Sunday that rattled nerves if not buildings. Sources: NHK, Kyodo News - July 26-27.

SOUTH KOREA

Mood: Exhausted Catharsis, Unhealed Division

The life sentence handed to Yoon Suk-yeol on Monday brought legal finality, but the 30,000 protesters who gathered in Seoul were split between celebration and grievance. One dark chapter closes, but the political chasm he carved remains wide open. Sources: Yonhap News Agency - July 27.

North Korea Raises the Stakes with Constitutional Change

Pyongyang's formal removal of reunification language from its constitution and Kim Jong-un's personal supervision of a solid-fuel missile test on Saturday have reset the peninsula's baseline. The threat of a 'terrible response' to drone incursions adds a tactical flashpoint to an already structural standoff. Sources: KCNA via

INDIA

Mood: Schizophrenic Tension—Consolidation and Revolt

India feels split in two: the BJP's capture of one of the last opposition-run state governments projects confidence, while 40,000 young protesters marching on Parliament and the PM's residence project fury. A nation asserting geopolitical muscle faces an internal generational reckoning. Sources: The Hindu - July 27.

Ceasefire with Pakistan Shaky Within Hours

Reports of small-arms fire and explosions along the Line of Control surfaced almost immediately after the US-brokered 'total and immediate' truce was announced. Both sides have moved troops and missile systems forward, and the memory of India's July 25 strike on Pakistani territory remains raw. Sources: Dawn - July 26-27.

HONG KONG AND MYANMAR

Hong Kong: Shattered Grief and Mute Shock

A death toll of 128 with 200 missing from the residential-commercial complex fire marks the deadliest urban blaze in decades. The separate Tai Po high-rise fire, trapping dozens and injuring firefighters, compounds a sense that the city's everyday order has been violently breached. Sources: South China Morning Post - July 27.

Myanmar: Apocalyptic Despair Under a Junta That Bombs Survivors

The 7.7-magnitude quake flattened Mandalay, a city of 1.5 million, on Saturday, and over the weekend the military junta launched airstrikes on opposition-held areas near the quake zone while thousands of victims remain buried, making the UN's appeal for a humanitarian pause feel hollow against a regime that has chosen war over rescue. Sources: The Irrawaddy - July 26.

BANGLADESH AND NEPAL

Bangladesh: A Release That Signals Realignment

The interim government's release of Khaleda Zia on Sunday, hours after Sheikh Hasina's flight, is an unmistakable political pivot. The 80-year-old BNP leader's freedom aims to calm six weeks of protest that paralysed Dhaka over corruption and economic mismanagement. Sources: The Daily Star - July 26.

Nepal: Youth Fury Topples Another Leader

K.P. Sharma Oli's resignation on Sunday came after peak protests of 150,000 people in Kathmandu, starting a 30-day constitutional clock to elect a new prime minister while the Generation Z energy behind the marches shows no sign of dissipating. Sources: The Kathmandu Post - July 26.

Pipeline, Sectors, And The Calendar

ITEM	TYPE	WHEN	STATUS
ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Joint Communiqué	Diplomatic declaration	By July 29	Under negotiation
South China Sea Code of Conduct draft	Maritime framework	End of 2026 target	Pushed for acceleration
India-Pakistan US-mediated ceasefire	Security agreement	Effective July 26	Fragile—violations reported
LDP party president election announcement	Political succession	Expected within days	Preparatory stage
Typhoon Kajiki post-landfall assessment	Disaster response	Ongoing July 27	Active—floods continue
Mandalay earthquake search and rescue	Humanitarian operation	Ongoing since July 25	Critically under-resourced
Hong Kong Tai Po high-rise fire control	Urban emergency	July 27	Active—injuries reported
North Korea solid-fuel missile propulsion test	Weapons development	Completed July 26	Confirmed by KCNA
Nepal parliamentary PM election	Constitutional process	Within 30 days of July 26	Pending
Sumatra 7.4M quake tsunami alert evaluation	Seismic monitoring	July 27	Alert issued, evacuations underway

Sector Watch - Four Things to Track

ENERGY

President Marcos's national energy emergency, now six months old, keeps regional fuel prices elevated. The Hormuz closure earlier this year proved ASEAN's vulnerability to Middle East shocks, and the bloc's demand for an unconditional strait reopening is as much an economic plea as a diplomatic one.

INSURANCE AND REINSURANCE

The combined toll of Hong Kong's twin fires, Myanmar's quake, and the 1,200 storm-related deaths across Southeast Asia will test regional insurers. Mandalay's destruction alone affects 1.5 million people in a zone where coverage penetration is low and humanitarian aid is being blocked.

DEFENCE AND SHIPPING

India's July 25 missile strike on Pakistan and the fragile ceasefire keep the subcontinent on a war footing. In the Taiwan Strait, 68 Chinese military sorties in the past week and Taiwan's warning of a 'new de facto status quo' signal rising insurance and routing costs for regional shipping.

TECHNOLOGY AND YOUTH UNREST

The 'Cockroach Revolution' is a digitally native movement, coordinated across Indian and Nepali cities via encrypted platforms. Governments confronting 42 percent youth unemployment will face pressure to redirect budget toward digital infrastructure and job creation, not just surveillance tools.

Calendar - Next 30 Days

DATE	EVENT	WHY IT MATTERS
July 27-29	ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Manila	Ceasefire call on Iran, Hormuz reopening, and South China Sea Code of Conduct negotiations converge in one room.
July 27 (ongoing)	India-Pakistan ceasefire monitoring	The US-brokered truce is hours old and already showing cracks; any escalation could draw in nuclear powers.
Late July (TBC)	LDP leadership election date set, Tokyo	The calendar for choosing Kishida's successor will define Japan's policy trajectory on China and defence spending.
July 27 (ongoing)	Typhoon Kajiki post-landfall, Thailand and Vietnam	Continued heavy rainfall threatens further landslides; relief agencies are stretched by concurrent regional disasters.
July 27 (active)	Search and rescue, Mandalay, Myanmar	Thousands remain under rubble; junta airstrikes on nearby opposition areas complicate all humanitarian access.
July 27 afternoon	'Cockroach Revolution' protest, New Delhi	40,000 marchers on Parliament demand Education Minister's resignation; youth unemployment at 42 percent fuels the anger.
Within 30 days of July 26	Parliamentary PM election, Kathmandu	Constitutional deadline following Oli's resignation; the youth movement that forced his exit will watch the outcome closely.
Late July (immediate)	Sumatra 7.4M quake damage assessment, Indonesia	Evacuations underway after tsunami alert; the depth of 20 kilometres and proximity to populated coast raise concern.
Early August (TBC)	South China Sea Code of Conduct working group	The Manila meeting's push for a year-end deadline will be tested in technical-level follow-up sessions.
Mid-August (watch)	US-mediated India-Pakistan follow-up talks	The durability of the July 26 ceasefire depends on whether back-channel diplomacy can outpace frontline provocations.

What Today Tells Us

Asia is a region holding its breath between disasters that have already happened and those that might. The images from Hong Kong and Mandalay—burning concrete and a flattened ancient city—are not abstractions but live footage, and they sit alongside the quieter dread of a Kashmir ceasefire that could collapse with a single misfired round.

A generational rupture runs beneath all of this: the ‘Cockroach Revolution’ in India, the protests that toppled Nepal’s prime minister, and the fury that drove Sheikh Hasina from Bangladesh are not isolated episodes but a Generation Z verdict on an economic and political architecture offering them 42 percent unemployment, rising fuel costs, and a warming planet they did not create, so the leaders gathering in Manila this week are negotiating oil routes and maritime codes while the real pressure on them now comes not from foreign navies but from their own streets.

Sources & Method

JAPAN	NHK, Asahi Shimbun, Yomiuri Shimbun, Mainichi Shimbun, Kyodo News - July 25-27 (Japanese, English).
CHINA AND TAIWAN	Xinhua, Global Times, People’s Daily, South China Morning Post, Central News Agency Taiwan - July 25-27 (Chinese, English).
KOREA	Yonhap News Agency, The Chosun Ilbo, Dong-a Ilbo, KCNA via KCNA Watch - July 25-27 (Korean, English).
INDIA AND PAKISTAN	The Times of India, The Hindu, Dainik Jagran, Dawn, The Express Tribune - July 25-27 (English, Hindi, Urdu).
BANGLADESH AND NEPAL	The Daily Star, Prothom Alo, The Kathmandu Post - July 26-27 (English, Bengali, Nepali).
SOUTHEAST ASIA	Kompas.id, Tempo.co, VnExpress, Tuoi Tre News, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Rappler, Bangkok Post, Thai Rath, The Irrawaddy, Radio Free Asia - July 25-27 (Bahasa Indonesia, Vietnamese, English, Thai, Burmese).

Method. We sweep the region’s main outlets in their languages, rank by impact, and skip what we covered before.

Compiled from major Asia outlets in the region’s main languages.

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