

What's The [Hell] PM Selection Today?

On September 5th, 2025, the Thai House of Representatives elected Anutin Charnvirakul, leader of the Bhumjaithai Party, as the country's new prime minister. This event was politically significant, not only because it resolved an immediate leadership vacuum but also because it revealed deeper dynamics within Thailand's parliamentary system. In this reflection, I will share the most impressive and most disappointing moments for me during this selection process, along with my outlook on Thai politics in the coming months.

The most impressive moment, in my view, was the People's Party's decision to support Anutin despite their ideological differences. This choice reflected a rare moment of political compromise aimed at stabilizing the country. In an environment marked by division and mistrust, the alliance signaled that cooperation across party lines is still possible when the stakes are high. To me, this was a hopeful gesture toward reform and inclusiveness, showing that Thai politics can occasionally prioritize the broader democratic process over narrow partisan gains.

By contrast, the most disappointing moment was realizing that all of the prime ministerial candidates felt uninspiring and inadequate. None of them, in my opinion, embodied the kind of forward-looking, visionary leadership that Thailand urgently needs. Instead of offering a sense of renewal or direction, the available choices felt like settling for the "least bad" option. This not only left me underwhelmed but also raised doubts about whether meaningful political renewal can truly happen under the current structures.

Looking forward, I expect Thai politics over the next few months to remain turbulent but also potentially transformative. If the pledge to hold new elections within four months is fulfilled, the public may have an opportunity to reshape parliament and push for leaders who command greater trust and inspire more confidence. The promise of constitutional reform, if taken seriously, could mark a turning point in addressing systemic issues. Yet, much will depend on whether these commitments are carried out. If uninspiring leadership continues to dominate, growing dissatisfaction among citizens may fuel pressure for reform movements outside of parliament.

In conclusion, today's selection process left me with mixed feelings: impressed by the rare display of compromise, but disappointed by the lack of truly strong candidates. The future of Thai politics, therefore, seems caught between the possibility of reform and the risk of stagnation.