

United Nations, Rutgers University and the Documentation Center of Cambodia Discuss Justice for Victims of Khmer Rouge

The United Nations Department of Public Information will partner with Rutgers University Center for the Study of Genocide, Conflict Resolution, and Human Rights and the Documentation Center of Cambodia to examine the issues that led to mass murder during the Pol Pot regime in Cambodia and current efforts underway towards reconciliation in the country. Organised by The Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme, the roundtable discussion will take place on Thursday, 11 October 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Engelhard Hall, Room 100, at Rutgers University-Newark. Open to the public, guests must register online at <http://bit.ly/SRIBm2>.

From 1975-1979, Cambodia was ruled by communist ideologist Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot, whose reign of terror resulted in the deaths of almost two million Cambodians. The trial of the only Khmer Rouge official to be prosecuted for his crimes to date -- Kaing Guek Eav (Duch), head of the infamous Tuol Sleng (S-21) prison -- is the subject of the Emmy-nominated United Nations documentary *Cambodia: A Quest for Justice*, which will open the event.

The panel will also discuss the role of the United Nations in Cambodia, the impact of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), and the efforts of the Documentation Center of Cambodia to preserve memory and seek justice. Participants will gain insight into common characteristics of the tragedy in Cambodia and other genocides, including the Holocaust.

Kimberly Mann, Manager of the Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme, will open the event. Professor Alex Hinton, Executive Director of the Center for the Study of Genocide, Conflict Resolution, and Human Rights will moderate the discussion. Speakers include: Andi Gitow, Co-producer of the film; Benny Widnyono, Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in Cambodia (1994-1997); Stephen Mathias, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs; and Huy Samphors, Representative of the Documentation Center of Cambodia at Rutgers University-Newark.

About Rutgers University Center for the Study of Genocide, Conflict Resolution, and Human Rights

The Center for the Study of Genocide, Conflict Resolution, and Human Rights (CGHR) seeks to enhance understanding of and find solutions to the most pressing 21st century challenges. To this end, the Center promotes cutting-edge research and scholarship on related issues such as genocide, conflict resolution, environmental change, sustainable development, transitional justice, and human rights abuses. Please visit <http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/cghr>.

About the Documentation Center of Cambodia

Established in 1995, the Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam) is an independent Cambodian research institute whose purpose is to heal the wounds of the past by documenting, researching and sharing the history of the Khmer Rouge period through outreach activities. DC-Cam has worked with CGHR to establish at Rutgers-Newark's Dana Library a major archive of documentation, photographs, films and DC-Cam publications related to these events. DC-Cam and CGHR have also worked together to establish internships and sponsors student exchanges, exhibitions and lectures. Please visit <http://dccam.org/>.

The Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme

The Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme was established by General Assembly resolution 60/7 in 2006 to further education about and remembrance of the Holocaust to help prevent future acts of genocide. Its multifaceted programme includes online and print educational products, seminars, exhibitions, a film series and the annual worldwide observance of the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust each 27 January. Please visit: <http://www.un.org/en/holocaustremembrance>.

Media Contacts

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