Delve Deeper into **Enemies of the People**
A film by Rob Lemkin & Thet Sambath

This resource list, compiled by Paul A. Bareño of the San Diego Public Library, includes books, films and other materials related to the issues presented in the film *Enemies of the People*.

The Khmer Rouge slaughtered nearly two million people in the late 1970s. Yet the Killing Fields of Cambodia remain largely unexplained. Until now. Enter Thet Sambath, an unassuming, yet cunning, investigative journalist who lost his family in the conflict and spends a decade gaining the trust of the men and women who perpetrated the massacres. From the foot soldiers who slit throats to Pol Pot’s right-hand man, the notorious Brother Number Two, Sambath and co-director Rob Lemkin record shocking testimony never before seen or heard, in *Enemies of the People*.

**ADULT NONFICTION**

**Pol Pot, Nuon Chea & The Khmer Rouge Regime**


Chandler, David P. *Voices from S-21: Terror and History in Pol Pot’s Secret Prison*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999. S-21 was the Khmer Rouge secret prison housed at a former high school in Phnom Penh. Chandler studied the records discovered there and interviewed survivors of the camp.


Dunlop, Nic. *The Lost Executioner: A Journey to the Heart of the Killing Fields*. New York: Walker & Co., 2006. A photojournalist long based in Southeast Asia, the author seeks to answer how Comrade Duch’s life evolved to that of prison commandant of the Khmer Rouge’s prison S-21 where an estimated 20,000 political prisoners were executed.


**Roots of the Cambodia-Vietnam Conflict**


Tully, John A. *A Short History of Cambodia: From Empire to Survival*. Crows Nest, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 2005. This book is a great resource for students as well as general readers, and provides a further reading section to delve deeper into the history of Cambodia.

**Understanding Genocide in the 21st Century**


Kiernan, Ben. *Blood and Soil: A World History of Genocide and Extermination from Sparta to Darfur*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2007. Ben Kiernan has been involved in the study of genocide and crimes against humanity for over thirty years and is professor of History and founding director of the Genocide Studies Program at Yale University. In this book, Kiernan delves into the historical records of genocide and mass outbreaks of violence, from the Armenian genocide, to the Holocaust, Stalin’s mass murders, and the Cambodian and Rwandan genocides.


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Cambodia Today: Remorse, Reconciliation & Forgiveness

Brady, Brendan. “History is Sensitive Subject at Schools in Former Khmer Rouge Stronghold.” Los Angeles Times, 10 December 2010, p. A.9. The northwest border region of Cambodia remained under control of Khmer Rouge leaders and militias for two decades after 1979. As a result, teachers there today struggle to teach students about Khmer Rouge atrocities.

Brinkley, Joel. Cambodia’s Curse: the Modern History of a Troubled Land. New York: PublicAffairs, 2011. The author won a Pulitzer Prize for his reporting in Cambodia on the fall of the Khmer Rouge Regime. These are his observations and opinions of present-day Cambodia.

About Enemies of the People


Roasa, Dustin. “Cambodians’ Own Hard Look; Two New Movies in the Nation’s Inaugural Film Fest Deal with the Khmer Rouge Horror.” Los Angeles Times, 28 November 2010, p. D.10. The inaugural Cambodia International Film Festival features two films that focus on the Khmer Rouge Regime of 1975-1979: the documentary, Enemies of the People, and Lost Loves, a story about the experiences of one family. Both directors are self-taught and were boys during the trauma of the Khmer Rouge.

ADULT FICTION

Echlin, Kim. The Disappeared. New York: Black Cat, 29 Dec. 2009. Anne Greves is a 16 year old student living in Montreal when she meets Serey, a Cambodian refugee, and falls deeply in love. When Serey disappears and is still missing after 11 years, Anne decides to go to Phnom Penh to find him. In her search she confronts the horrors of the Khmer Rouge and the hardships of a country struggling to recover from genocide.

Partridge, Larry. The Kindred Spirits: Dying to Live. CreateSpace, 8 Jan. 2010. In the midst of the Khmer Rouge Regime, an American pilot flying a relief mission to the orphans in Cambodia chooses to deliberately crash his plane to avoid killing. The pilot then meets Apsara, a Buddhist guardian angel who offers him an unexpected gift for his sacrifice.


NON-FICTION FOR YOUNG READERS


Lord, Michelle. A Song for Cambodia. Lee & Low Books, 30 Mar. 2008. This is the incredible true story of Arn Chorn-Pond who was just nine-years old when the Khmer Rouge invaded his village in 1975 and took him to a children’s work camp. Arn learns to survive by entertaining the guards with the khim, a traditional Cambodian musical instrument.

FICTION FOR YOUNG READERS

Smith, Icy. Half Spoon of Rice. East West Discovery Press, 1 Jan. 2010. Based on accounts from survivors, nine-year old Nat narrates the story of he and his family’s struggle for survival during the Cambodian Genocide. Nat is eventually separated from his family and forced to labor in the fields. Along the way he makes friends with a young girl names Malis and together they search for their families.

Chai, May-Lee. Dragon Chica. GemmaMedia, 27 Oct. 2010. This is a coming-of-age novel about 11-year-old Nea, who survived the Khmer Rouge with her mother, older sister, and younger siblings. Though they have made a home in Texas, the family is now leaving to go to Nebraska and work in the Chinese restaurant owned by Nea’s auntie and uncle. Set in the 1980s, Nea, who is both Cambodian and Chinese must face the realities of poverty and racism.


FILMS/DOCUMENTARIES


Investigative Reports: Return to the Killing Fields. DVD. Produced by Kurtis Productions and A&E Television Network, 26 Sept. 2000. Part of the A&E Investigative Report Series, Bill Kurtis delves into the Cambodian conflict from 1975-1979, examining its roots, causes, and who is responsible. Kurtis travels to modern-day Cambodia to retell the devastating crimes that took place during the genocide, with interviews from witnesses and survivors.

Small Voices: The Stories of Cambodia’s Children. DVD. Produced and Directed by Heather E. Connell. Displaced Yankee Productions. 2008. This film follows five children growing up in the aftermath left by the Khmer Rouge Regime, even decades later. The film explores the reality of their day-to-day lives as they struggle to survive extreme poverty and work to achieve their dream of getting an education