



Dear Friends,

Genocide indelibly marked the twentieth century, with tens of millions suffering the fate meted out to them by maniacal leaders instituting social engineering projects of their own demonic creation. The conflicts and killings that defined the genocides of the last century have since ceased, but the wounds these genocides inflicted on individuals and countries continue to fester.

Whether or not they are firsthand survivors of the Khmer Rouge genocide, all Cambodians, no matter where they live, are scarred psycho-emotionally, physically, and economically by Cambodia's tumultuous history as well as by the current social chaos and culture of impunity in their homeland.

The Applied Social Research Institute of Cambodia (ASRIC) is working to reverse the effects of the Khmer Rouge genocide by helping Cambodians overcome the pervasive "hopeless and helpless" mindset that is a widespread and crippling aftereffect of the Khmer Rouge era. ASRIC is a not-for-profit organization founded by Dr. Leakhena Nou, a medical sociologist on the faculty of California State University, Long Beach (CSULB). ASRIC is devoted to advancing Cambodian cultural identity in the midst of injustices and to restoring, distributing, and implementing procedural justice for victims and survivors of the Khmer Rouge by using the legal system to improve human conditions and achieve justice.

Working in cooperation with the Open Society Justice Initiative, the Golden West Humanitarian Foundation, and the CSULB College of Liberal Arts, Sociology Department, Sociology Student Association, and Sociology Honor Society (Alpha Kappa Delta), on March 29, 2008 ASRIC will pilot a unique initiative that will go a long way toward bringing the justice, change, and hope that Cambodians around the globe long for. The *Shared Suffering, Shared Resilience Forum* will focus on the Cambodian people's shared suffering at the hands of the Khmer Rouge and on their shared resilience in facing and living with the tragic legacy of the genocide. The Forum will serve as an occasion for the Cambodian diaspora to achieve catharsis and begin constructively thinking about its own future and that of the nation of Cambodia. The Forum will be an open dialogue that will chronicle survivors' testimonies of their experiences during the Khmer Rouge era. It is our belief that the testimonials given will not only benefit participants' mental health in the immediate and long term, but also help to provide critical evidence to be used in prosecuting Khmer Rouge leaders in captivity.

**To register for this event, learn more about us, make a donation to ASRIC, or share your own genocide-related stories and images, please contact us at [ContactASRIC@gmail.com](mailto:ContactASRIC@gmail.com).**

I hope you will join us at this exciting and important event.

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**Shared Suffering, Shared Resilience:  
A Critical Dialogue Forum and Film Screening  
Saturday, March 29, 2008  
University Theater, California State University, Long Beach  
Map: <http://daf.csulb.edu/maps/campus/south.html>  
Free and Open to the Public**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 8:30 – 9:30 am Set-up
- 9:30 – 10:00 am Special performance by the Cambodian Culture and Art Association; guests are welcomed and seated
- 10:00 – 10:15 am Opening remarks and acknowledgments
- 10:15 – 10:45 am Introduction of all panelists

*Note:* Different elements of the legacies of the Khmer Rouge will be discussed by expert panelists from a variety of disciplines. These presentations will cover visible and invisible psycho-emotional and physical scars, politics, economics, environment, mental and physical healthcare services, and globalization, as they relate to the impending Khmer Rouge Tribunal. Information from the proceedings, including the presentations of both panels, including the testimony of victims and survivors of the Khmer Rouge, will be recorded as part of our data collection and will be used for research and policy-making purposes.

- 10:45 am – 12:45 pm Presentations by Expert Panelists
- 12:45 – 2:00 pm Lunch (to save time, we recommend bringing a picnic lunch)
- 2:00 – 3:30 pm Presentations of Youth Panelists
- 3:30 – 3:50 pm Break (coffee and water provided)
- 3:50 – 5:00 pm Q & A with Expert and Youth Panelists
- 5:00 – 5:30 pm Khmer Arts Academy Presentation
- 5:30 – 5:45 pm Break (film screening set-up)
- 5:45 – 6:45 pm Introduction and Screening of “Bombhunters”  
*Note:* “Bombhunters” reflects the depravity of contemporary Cambodia. Historically, explosive mines were randomly placed in the fields of Cambodia; the mines were never removed. This affects the health and mental health of Cambodians farmers, as they cannot farm their own lands safely.
- 6:45 – 8:00 pm Film Q & A, closing remarks