

25 August 2005  
Bangkok Post

Hun Sen pushing for Khmer Rouge trial

I wish to respond to the Aug 22 editorial of the Bangkok Post headlined "Khmer tribunal stalled again".

The article is full of wrong assumptions and biases, claiming that "...Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen has thrown another log in the road to justice for citizens of the region's most abused country". And "...The truth is Hun Sen has no intention of allowing any meaningful tribunal to judge the Khmer Rouge crimes of excess".

The author of the editorial shows wilful intent to discredit Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen, who in fact has been a strong proponent of bringing the Khmer Rouge to justice.

He has consistently struggled to bring the Khmer Rouge culprits to trial since soon after the regime was toppled in 1979, while some countries, including the United Nations, still supported the Khmer Rouge at the time.

In recent years, the Royal Government of Cambodia has worked very hard to reach an agreement with the United Nations to hold a tribunal for the surviving leaders of the Khmer Rouge regime.

The Royal Government of Cambodia under the leadership of Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen has done its utmost to appeal to the international community, especially the friendly countries, to help finance the trial.

As victims of the Khmer Rouge's genocidal regime, Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen as well as the Cambodian people are always committed to bringing those culprits to justice as early as possible without delay.

However, since Cambodia has no possibility of assuming the financial shortfall for the trial, the international community should provide more financial support for the Khmer Rouge tribunal, and in so doing would help expedite the tribunal process.

AMBASSADOR UNG SEAN  
Royal Government of Cambodia

© Copyright The Post Publishing Public Co., Ltd. 2005