

Human Sciences Encounters in Phnom-Penh Past Presentations

Intertwined views on *Khmer Rouge*

By Henri LOCARD

Saturday 1th June 2013, 7pm

Henri Locard will present his own book as well as discuss about recent publications related to khmer rouge regime.

Pourquoi les Khmers rouges, (Why the Khmer Rouge), éditions Vendémiaire, Paris. Based on the vast literature written on Democratic Kampuchea and Henri 's research, this book of Henri Locard describes how the regime was the progeny of the last phase of the Cold War, Cambodian culture and a group of singularly ruthless individuals.

Itinéraire d'un Intellectuel khmer rouge by Suong Sikoeun (éditions du Cerf, Paris): the author is the first Khmer Rouge intellectual, who spent 13 years in Paris where he married Laurence Picq, to testify in full and his more than 40 years in the Revolution, from the age of sixteen. Henri encouraged him to write chapter after chapter, an introduction and a *dramatis personae* of all the Khmer Rouge intellectuals names in the book.

Au-delà du ciel (Beyond the Horizon) by Laurence Picq, translated into Khmer by Khieu Kanharith, knowing that her ex-husband, Suong Sikoeun, was about to publish his memoirs, she wrote the fascinating *Le Piège khmer rouge (The KR Snare)* that came out a month before with Buchet-Chastel, in Paris too. This is the same story (or journal à deux voix) from a French perspective and that of the psychologist she has become.

The two books form a singular duo : the Khmer Rouge revolution seen from a Cambodian and from a French viewpoint; and that tragic world from a definitely masculine perspective with Sikoeun and from a clearly feminine angle with Laurence.