



# Yale News

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## **Yale Center for International and Area Studies Receives Major Grant to Study Khmer Rouge Regime of Cambodia**

New Haven, CT, January 18:-- The Yale Center for International and Area Studies (YCIAS) has received a major grant from the U.S. Department of State to research and document the killing of more than one million Cambodian people under the Pol Pot Khmer Rouge regime, officially known as "Democratic Kampuchea," which ruled Cambodia from April, 1975 to January, 1979.

The almost \$500,000 grant will establish the Cambodian Genocide Program at Yale, which will be directed by Ben Kiernan, Associate Professor of History and a member of the Council on Southeast Asia Studies at YCIAS, who is a world-renowned authority on modern Cambodia.

The goal of the Cambodian Genocide Program is threefold: to establish an international database of documentation on the Pol Pot regime; to ~~bring~~ commission new research on various aspects of the period; and to train Cambodian scholars, legal officers, and human rights workers to study the historical and legal evidence on the subject. The Yale program was established last month and will continue through December, 1996. It will be housed in YCIAS' new home, Henry Luce Hall, at 34 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven.

The State Department funding of \$499,283 was provided through the Office of Cambodian Genocide Investigations, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, and under the auspices of the Cambodian Genocide Justice Act, passed by the U.S. Congress in early 1994 at the initiative of Sen. Charles Robb (D-VA).

Professor Kiernan, a native of Melbourne, Australia, is the leading historian of Cambodia in the United States. He is the author of How Pol Pot Came to Power (London, 1985), and The Pol Pot Regime: Race, Power and Genocide in Cambodia under the Khmer Rouge, 1975-1979, to be published in 1995 by Yale University Press.

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Professor Kiernan has also written two monographs and over thirty scholarly articles on Southeast Asia. Most recently, he edited and wrote the introduction to a multi-disciplinary volume, Genocide and Democracy in Cambodia: The Khmer Rouge, the United Nations, and the International Community, published jointly by the Council on Southeast Asia Studies and the Orville H. Schell, Jr. Center for International Human Rights at Yale Law School. Translations of Mr. Kiernan's work have appeared in nine languages, including Khmer, Thai, and Japanese.

The Schell Center for International Human Rights will prepare education manuals for summer training courses staffed by its Schell Fellows. Dr. Craig Etcheson, author of The Rise and Demise of Democratic Kampuchea (Boulder, 1984), has been appointed Program Manager and YCIAS Associate Research Scholar in International Studies. Mr. Youk Chhang, formerly of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, is Program Officer. Dr. Helen Jarvis, Senior Lecturer at the University of New South Wales and Director of Bibliographical and Information Services in Asia and the Pacific, is Program consultant on the documentation project.

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