

Phnom Penh. Khmer Rouge. Killing Fields. Cambodia's bloody past before the ECCC despite all political obstacles. New terms, a different methodology and the influence of the Asian way of thinking provide fresh food for thought. The ECCC demonstrates that there is not only The Hague's understanding of our new currency, namely vigorously applied international criminal law. Apparently, distance and (not only) legal culture may also make a difference in such a hybrid court.

The editors' systematic approach grants genuine access to the history of this extraordinary court and its achievements in developing further substantive and procedural international criminal law. Impressive contributors reflect the role and in part changing opinion of judges and counsel working in this different environment. Apparently the broader the research and its legal basis the more tangible becomes the tension between the identification of customary international law since Nuremberg and adherence to fundamental principles of criminal law (e.g. *nullum crimen sine lege*).

This book is a must for all open-minded practitioners, scholars and young professionals in ICL.

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For almost a decade, the Extraordinary Chambers of the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) have been investigating and trying crimes of a scale not seen since the Nuremberg Tribunal. An estimated 1.7 million Cambodians lost their lives during the Khmer Rouge regime of 1975-79. When justice was finally promised, many doubted it could be delivered, particularly as it was born of a UN-Cambodia compromise under which national authorities would have the greater power. This volume of essays shows how the ECCC has struggled with the challenges and in varying measure has succeeded in creating a jurisprudence of global significance, a new model for adjudication of mass crimes under a civil-law and victim-participating procedure, and an evidentiary record, tested by courtroom confrontation, that for Cambodians may be its most important legacy.

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