

China, genocide mastermind, to be in charge of Khmer Rouge Trial

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Chinese national Michelle Lee has been nominated as the United Nations coordinator for the Khmer Rouge Tribunal, which aims at trying long-standing Khmer Rouge leaders who are still alive and who committed genocide and crimes against humanity in Cambodia 30 years ago.

Lee's appointment as an international administrative deputy director for the Khmer Rouge Tribunal has aroused doubts and suspicion within national and international circles. Because China was the mastermind behind the Khmer Rouge genocide, if China is allowed to coordinate [the trial], how can justice be brought to the victims?

Genocide scholars, human rights activists and the public were displeased with the appointment of the Chinese national by the UN to coordinate the tribunal. Government spokesman Khieu Kanharith explained that any national working for the UN must be neutral and must not be bias towards his/her country.

However, Khieu Kanharith's explanation is simply based on the existing laws of a world body. But as a matter of fact, not one national is not bias towards their country because a person with Chinese blood will not let the court single out Chinese leaders and uncover their extreme and horrible acts.

Nowadays, the Cambodian people are suffering excruciating pain seeing those murderers living in freedom and happiness even better than the average Cambodian. In the near future, Cambodians believe the extraordinary chamber will bring these criminals before a judge to show them the evidence of their genocidal acts committed during the 1970s and will find the murderers and those behind them, clearly known as Chinese Beijing.

However, the hope seems 50 percent shattered now, after the UN appointed the Chinese official to coordinate the Khmer Rouge Tribunal, which is still not known when it will be set up.

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