



Genocide in Cambodia

By: Luke, Nathan, Chance



Khmer Rouge Genocide in Cambodia

In 1975-1979 a revolution occurred in Cambodia. Pol Pot, the leader of the Communist guerilla movement Khmer Rouge took power and began to completely reform and de-westernize Cambodia. Anyone who tried to hang on to their Western Culture were either arrested or killed. During Pol Pot's 4 year reign of terror, approximately 2,000,000 people were massacred.



Where is Cambodia?

Cambodia is located in Southeast Asia. Its surrounding countries are Thailand, Vietnam, Laos. It is mostly a farming nation, with Rice being the top crop.

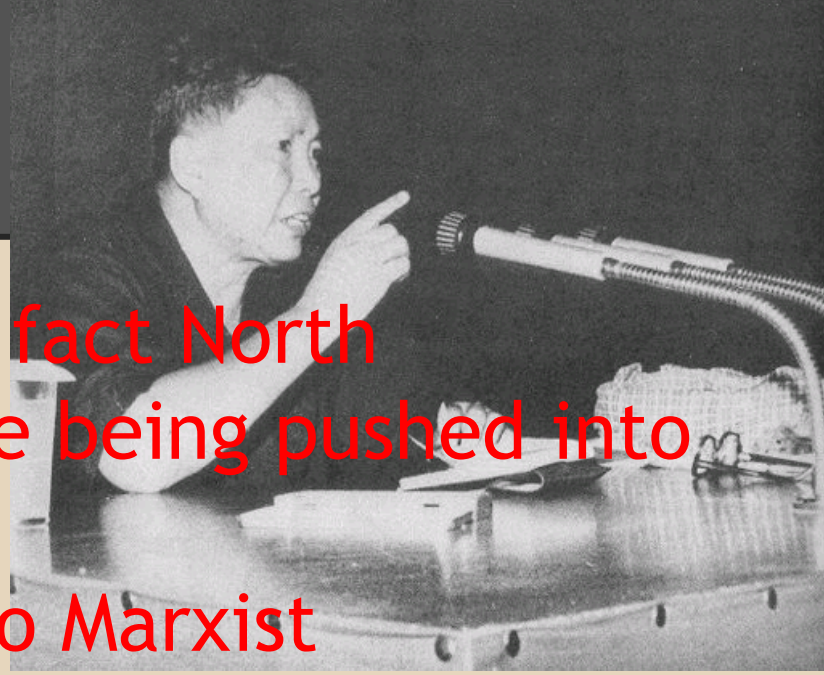


Classification

You were a communist and believed in the equal utopian society or you were the “enemy” and were “impure and unclean” in Western Civilization.

Why did this happen?

- Pol Pot was angry at the fact North Vietnamese fighters were being pushed into Cambodia.
- Pol Pot was introduced to Marxist Communism while studying in Europe.
- When Pol Pot returned to Cambodia, he joined the Communist rebel movement.



Prejudice and De-Humanization

They saw the Western civilization below their traditional Cambodian Culture. Things slowly began to change like, forced arranged marriages, Cambodian religion forced upon people, and then they ultimately began to de-humanize the Cambodian people.



De-Humanization Continued

Everyday life became harder when Pol Pot took away almost all of their freedoms. All foreigners were expelled, embassies were shut down, medical assistance was taken away. Newspapers, televisions and radios were confiscated, bikes and cars were banned, businesses were shut down, money was taken and became worthless.



Organization

Pol Pot began to make a communist army, mostly of young untrained teenagers, they were told to take away Possessions of the Cambodian people and those who resisted would be beat or worse, killed.



Polarization

They began to separate the people, into different society's. If you joined the Militia or believed in the Cambodian Communism and stayed out of Pol Pot's way, your life was spared, if not...you were killed or put in a secret Khmer Rouge prison.



Extermination

At Night deadly purges were conducted to eliminate the “Western Culture”. The soldiers were ordered to murder, all Men, Women and Children that were enemies of the Khmer Rouge and didn’t want to convert to communism. This was much like Hitler’s “Final Solution”.



Extermination continued...

They not only murdered 2,000,000 innocent people, but they brutally murdered them. People would be hung, burned alive, beaten with rocks and the most popular taken to killing fields and shot.



Denial

Pol Pot died before he was able to be tried for his “crimes against humanity” in 1975-1979. They burned bodies or fed the corpses to their animals to try to cover up the evidence of the genocide.

