

## Prince thinks "Comrade Duch" will be only prosecution at KRT

Written by

Wednesday, 03 December 2008 06:34

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\* In an [interview in yesterday's Post](#), Prince Sisowath Thomico says "I think that spending US\$100 million just to try Duch is a big problem, because I don't think Khieu Samphan, Nuon Chea, Ieng Sary and Ieng Thirith will ever be tried." Khieu Samphan's lawyer, Jacques Verges, expressed a similar viewpoint in a [recent interview](#). This is a concern I often hear. Duch's case is by far the most straightforward, and even it is progressing more slowly than originally expected. The cases against the other defendants are far more complicated -- and, unfortunately, those defendants also happen to be older than Duch.

\* Another, heartbreaking, [article in the Post](#) tells the story of a mother who is still waiting to hear news of a son that disappeared during the Khmer Rouge period. After 30 years, she still lives in the same village, just so her son can find her.

\* The November edition of the *Court Report* is [available online](#). In the newsletter, the Office of Co-Prosecutors reports that it "has accelerated its trial preparations in (Duch's case) dealing with the S-21 Security Centre of Phnom Penh. It prepared its audiovisual and other exhibits, witness lists and summaries, and other materials to be submitted as part of the pre-trial package to the Trial Chamber."

I certainly hope all offices of the court are hustling to get this kind of preparatory work done. After the start of Duch's [trial was pushed back](#) because of an appeal by the Co-Prosecutors, court watchers are hoping proceedings begin very early in 2009. As I mentioned before, a decision on the Co-Prosecutors' appeal is due this Friday.