

Controversial defense lawyer says he lost 50 relatives to Khmer Rouge

Written by

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I'm pleased that the *Post* took time to [interview defense lawyer Sa Sovan](#) , who was at the center of a verbal dispute that broke out last month after Khieu Samphan's hearing. Much has been written about Khieu's foreign co-lawyer, Jacques Verges, but it was Sa who stole the spotlight Dec. 4 when he entered into [a heated exchange](#) with Khmer Rouge victims at the court. A short video I recorded of the outburst is available on [YouTube](#)

The scene left me -- and, I'm sure, others -- wanting more information about Sa's background. In his interview with the *Post*, Sa explains his reasons for defending Khieu, even though he lost dozens of family members during the Khmer Rouge period. It's worth reading.

* *Pictured: Sa Sovan, at right, argues with Khmer Rouge survivors.*

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