

## **THE KHMER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT:**

On June 9, 1990, at the Minnesota State Capitol, the Minnesota Lawyers International Human Rights Committee held a mock trial of the Khmer Rouge leadership for the crime of genocide. Members of Minnesota's Khmer (Cambodian) immigrant community served as witnesses in the mock trial, emotionally recounting their personal experiences in the years 1975-79, a period in which an estimated 1.7 million people were killed by the Khmer Rouge-led government of Cambodia. At the conclusion of the mock trial, a panel of Minnesota public officials serving as members of the "International Court of Justice" found Khmer Rouge leader, Pol Pot, and his agents guilty of the crime of genocide.

The 1990 mock trial led to the Khmer Oral History Project, during which members of the Khmer community were interviewed on videotape about their experiences during the years of the genocide in Cambodia, their experiences in refugee camps, and their emigration to the United States. Each interview includes a transcript, available in English and Khmer as appropriate. Copyright in the interviews is held by Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights. Permission for extensive use of the interviews may be requested from the copyright holder through the Minnesota Historical Society.