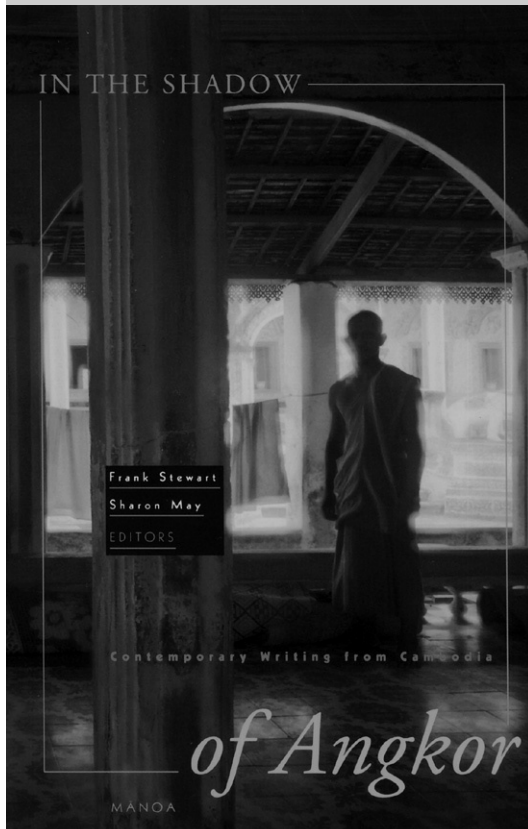


Announcing a significant new publication
of Southeast Asian literature

In the Shadow of Angkor

An Anthology of Contemporary
Literature of Cambodia ©

Edited by
Frank Stewart & Sharon May



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Anthology of Contemporary Cambodian Writing Marks 25th Anniversary of Fall of Khmer Rouge

Just released, *In the Shadow of Angkor* is the first collection of contemporary literature of Cambodia to appear since the 1979 defeat of the Khmer Rouge regime. The genocidal regime attempted to destroy the country's literary heritage, murder its authors, and make the population illiterate. With determination and resilience, however, Cambodians have succeeded in recovering the work of a generation of lost writers and continuing a vibrant literary tradition.

Says Dith Pran, president of The Dith Pran Holocaust Awareness Project, and compiler of *Children of Cambodia's Killing Fields: Memoirs by Survivors*, "*In the Shadow of Angkor* does a commendable service to Cambodia's people. It reminds the world of the strength of character that has enabled Cambodians to courageously bear witness to intolerable suffering—and now, aided by the renewal of the country's arts and literature, to begin a nationwide healing based on experience, wisdom, and compassion."

The collection presents not only fiction, poetry, personal essays, and memoirs, but also lyrics by the young Cambodian American rap artist Prach, a modern spiritual fable by Nobel Prize nominee Maha Ghosananda, and the shooting script of *Bophana: A Cambodian Tragedy*, by award-winning documentary filmmaker Rithy Panh. Also included are interviews with Cambodian and Cambodian American authors and a portfolio of photographs of Angkor Wat by Northern California artist Richard Murai.

In the Shadow of Angkor is the latest volume in the *Mānoa* series of new writing from Asia, the Pacific, and the Americas. Edited by Frank Stewart and Sharon May, the book is published by the University of Hawai'i Press and may be ordered by calling the Press toll free at 1-800-650-7811 or visiting *Mānoa's* site at <http://manoajournal.hawaii.edu>.

Advance Praise for *In the Shadow of Angkor*

In the Shadow of Angkor exposes us to the vibrant, multi-faceted written culture that flourishes in Cambodia today. The poets and storytellers collected here are justly proud of Cambodia's distant past. Many of them are also shadowed by its devastating recent history. Yet they all display the spirited resilience with which Cambodians so often face the world, using the rich resources—seen here in lively translation—of their ancient, expressive language.

—**David Chandler**, author of *A History of Cambodia* and *Brother Number One: A Political Biography of Pol Pot*

In the Shadow of Angkor does a commendable service to Cambodia's people. It reminds the world of the strength of character that has enabled Cambodians to courageously bear witness to intolerable suffering—and now, aided by the renewal of the country's arts and literature, to begin a nationwide healing based on experience, wisdom, and compassion. Genocide is not the problem of the people to whom it happened, it is everyone's problem. Only when we recognize our responsibility in ending this recurring tragedy, will there be hope of it never happening again. This wonderfully inspiring book will increase the reader's awareness of the responsibility we have towards one another.

—**Dith Pran**, Founder and President of The Dith Pran Holocaust Awareness Project, compiler of *Children of Cambodia's Killing Fields: Memoirs by Survivors*

A beautiful tribute to the Cambodian spirit, this remarkable collection reveals the heart-breaking tragedy and the heart-healing hope that fall within the recent Cambodian experience.

—**Carol Wagner**, author of *Soul Survivors: Stories of Women and Children in Cambodia*

I feel excited and hopeful after reading *In The Shadow of Angkor* that Cambodian literature will have a chance of a bright future. Cambodians students or readers from my generation who survived the genocide, feel lost in finding good Khmer material for reading for ourselves and our children. I am hoping for more books like this in both languages, Khmer and English. *In the Shadow of Angkor* is extremely important and must be read by Khmer children outside Cambodia for pride of being a Cambodian and better understanding of their roots. This book will open the door to Westerners who are interested in Cambodia, to better understanding of the Cambodian culture and thinking. *In the Shadow of Angkor* will encourage Khmer like myself to write, to contribute and rebuild our literary lost for our next generation.

—**Teeda Butt Mam**, co-author of *To Destroy You Is No Loss: The Odyssey of a Cambodian Family*

This book shows that the light of literature has not been extinguished in Cambodia, and is growing brighter.

—**Loung Ung**, author of *First They Killed My Father*