

Systematic deforestation, land eviction, sacking of local people's resources and the poverty in Cambodia, a merciless worldwide organized crime.

Cambodian gold mine attracts Vietnamese enterprises

May 31, 2010

LookAtVietnam – Some Vietnamese companies plan to extract a recently discovered gold mine with ore reserves of 8.1 million tons in Cambodia

LookAtVietnam – Some Vietnamese companies plan to extract a recently discovered gold mine with ore reserves of 8.1 million tons in Cambodia, one of the biggest mines in Southeast Asia.

[Gold prices will make history in 2010](#)

[Many say gold prices can only weaken](#)

[Gold prices sparkle](#)

Australian OZ Minerals Limited found a gold mine with huge reserves in Monduliri in northeastern Cambodia, capturing the interest of Vietnamese gold traders.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* quoted OZ Minerals as calculating the gold content to be as much as 2.3 grams per ton, or 605,000 ounces (17.1 tons). With the current market price (one ounce sells for \$1200), the Monduliri refined gold is valued at over \$720 million.

Monduliri is located near the Vietnamese border, some 100 kilometers from Buon Me Thuot.

Agribank Jewellery Company General Director AJC Nguyen Thanh Truc, who has extensive experience in extracting, producing and trading gold and precious stones, remarked that a content of 2.3 grams per ton is low, and that developers expect above three grams.

Truc added that this gold mine may have the largest reserves in Southeast Asia. He revealed that AJC may join the gold rush in Cambodia. In fact, many Vietnamese enterprises have had plans to extract and develop gold mines in Cambodia for a long while.

Nguyen The Hung, General Director of the Vietnam Gold Investment and Trade Corporation, mentioned that the Monduliri is the first big mine that Cambodia has ever located.

"It would be a good opportunity for Vietnamese businesses to extract gold in Cambodia, though the capacity and technology of Vietnamese contractors is not high," Hung mused.

According to Hung, Cambodia does not have a good mining industry and must rely on foreign technology.

To date, Vietnamese enterprises have focused on making investments in Laos, where there are many mines and the gold extraction technology has developed. Laos does not have any mines with such big reserves like Monduliri, but still 100-200 kilograms of gold are being extracted every month.

According to *VnExpress* newspaper, Vietnam's investment capital in Cambodia has reached one billion dollars. A lot of mining enterprises have been licensed to invest in Cambodia, but no gold mining project has been submitted to the Ministry of Planning and Investment.

"Mining is a good business and the investment procedures in Cambodia are simple. However, it is still necessary to consider the extraction costs and the characteristics of the mine, as well as corporate management capability and transportation costs," observed Deputy General Director of Phu Nhuan Jewellery Company, Nguyen Tuan Quynh.

In Vietnam, Bong Mieu is the biggest gold mine, managed by Quang Nam Mineral Company and a Cambodian partner. In 2006, the joint-venture began extracting Ho Gan mine, one of three in Bong Mieu area. The ore reserves are estimated at 521,600 tons, while the average gold content is 3.85 grams per ton. The mine produces 600 kilograms a year.

Some experts believe that the 8.1 million ton Cambodian mine will not have a big impact on regional supply and demand, nor on gold prices. The ore may be carried abroad for refining and the output will not be big enough to affect the market. Currently, Cambodian gold reserves are at a low level, therefore, it is likely that Cambodia will use the gold for reserve or domestic consumption.

Source: *VnExpress*

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Made in Vietnam— Cut in Cambodia



How the garden furniture trade is destroying rainforests

A Briefing Document by Global Witness. April 1999

Produced in association with Friends of the Earth

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RECOMMENDATIONS

THE BUYING PUBLIC SHOULD:

- demand to know the origin of all garden furniture, including the source of raw materials, before purchasing any wooden garden furniture.
- not purchase Vietnamese Garden furniture unless it carries the logo of the Forest Stewardship Council [FSC] or FSC equivalent (*contact the FSC for a list of FSC accredited certification systems—see page 16 for details*).

THE EUROPEAN GARDEN FURNITURE TRADE SHOULD:

- not purchase Vietnamese sourced garden furniture, unless it is certified by the FSC. Currently, it is not possible to obtain FSC certification in Vietnam.
- not purchase garden furniture manufactured from illegally sourced timber.
- stop misleading the public through the widespread use of false labels claiming sustainability. Those companies which have used and persist in using such practices should face prosecution by trading standards authorities.

VIETNAM, CAMBODIA AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY:

- Vietnam should immediately end its imports of illegally cut Cambodian timber. This should include all log imports, whether transported directly across the frontier from Cambodia, by boat down the Mekong River, or indirectly through Laos. Vietnam should also end all imports of processed timber from illegal sources, such as the Hero Company sawmill in Ratanakiri Province.
- Cambodia should continue with its efforts to suppress illegal logging and exports to Vietnam, Laos and Thailand, consistent with its declarations at the 1999 Consultative group [CG] meeting in Tokyo. Of particular concern are March 1999 exports of logs to Laos, likely destined for Vietnam.
- The international community should work together with Cambodia and its neighbours, Vietnam, Laos and Thailand to ensure that Cambodia's forestry legislation is adhered to. With Cambodia's neighbours, bi-lateral and multi-lateral donors should consider novel approaches to this issue, including the potential for tying disbursement of assistance to performance in eliminating illegal timber imports from Cambodia. In addition, the international community should explore the potential for the imposition of punitive tariff adjustments for these countries.
- Individual states should prosecute companies involved in the import of products made from illegally obtained raw materials. Companies should also be prosecuted for false "Eco" claims on product labels. If necessary, States should amend their legislation to allow for meaningful prosecution and the imposition of punitive damages for convicted companies.



INTRODUCTION

IN THE LAST 30 years Cambodia's forest cover has declined from over 70% to around 30% of land area. The forests have suffered an almost unprecedented assault from various warring factions and political parties seeking to fund their political and military aspirations.

These illegal loggers rely on a ready market for their timber, and during the past four years a major section of this market has been the boom in the garden furniture trade. Garden Centres and other retailers throughout Europe are stocking garden furniture **MADE IN VIETNAM**. Much of this furniture originates from the illegal, uncontrolled and unsustainable plunder of Cambodia's forests.

Global Witness has been campaigning against deforestation and conflict in Cambodia since early 1995. The focus of the campaign to date has been on the role of illegal loggers, the Khmer Rouge, the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF), corrupt politicians and officials in the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) and governments of neighbouring countries, particularly Thailand, that have facilitated the illegal timber trade.

On the 26th of December 1996 the Cambodian government wrote to the governments of neighbouring countries asking for their help in the enforcement of a log export ban to take effect from the 31st

December 1996.¹ This ban is still in place but the log exports continued unabated. In early 1998 Global Witness investigators tracked down one of the largest consumers of the illegally exported Cambodian timber: the Vietnamese garden furniture industry. This report, based on Global Witness investigations in Cambodia, Vietnam and the UK, during 1998 and early 1999, sets out the links between forest destruction and conflict in Cambodia, the furniture manufacturing industry in Vietnam and the sale of this furniture in high street stores and garden centres throughout the UK and Europe.

The trade in hardwood garden furniture is big business and is getting bigger. Imports of garden furniture into Norway in 1998, for example, were ninety five times, in monetary terms, what they were in 1990; in the UK, a leading supplier has predicted that 1999 will be a boom year for garden furniture sales.^{2,3}

Until recently the market for hardwood garden furniture was dominated by teak, with those on a more restricted budget tending to buy metal or plastic sets. Over the past four to five years, however, there has been an influx of cheap hardwood garden furniture into the UK and all over Europe. Much of this is **MADE IN VIETNAM**.



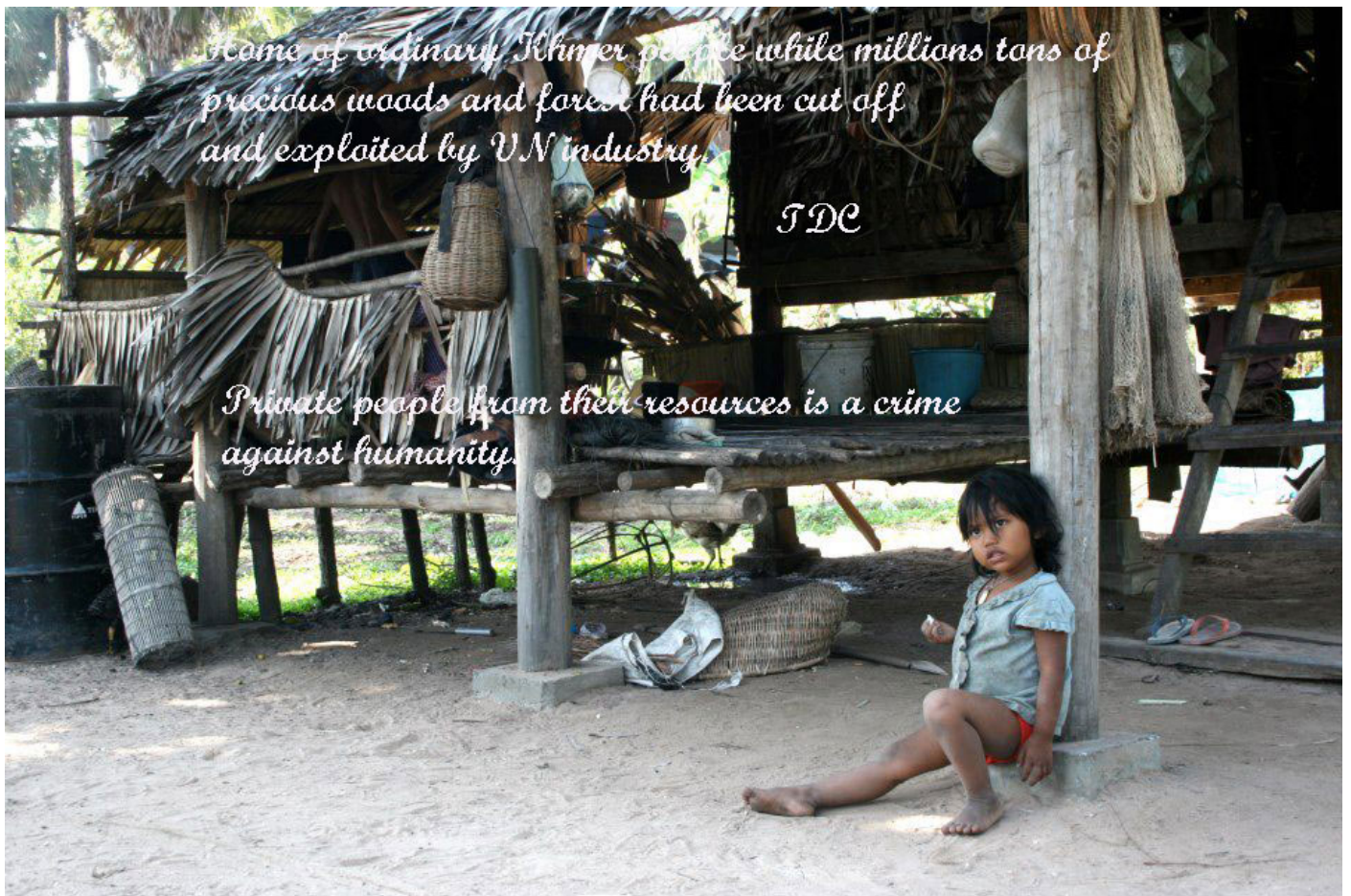


Illegal sawmill in Pheapimex Kompong Thom logging concession, May 2004

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Cambodian 8,1 tone gold are actually exploit by China and Vietnamese company while majority of Cambodians are starving of hunger



Home of ordinary Khmer people while millions tons of precious woods and forest had been cut off and exploited by VN industry.

JDC

Private people from their resources is a crime against humanity.



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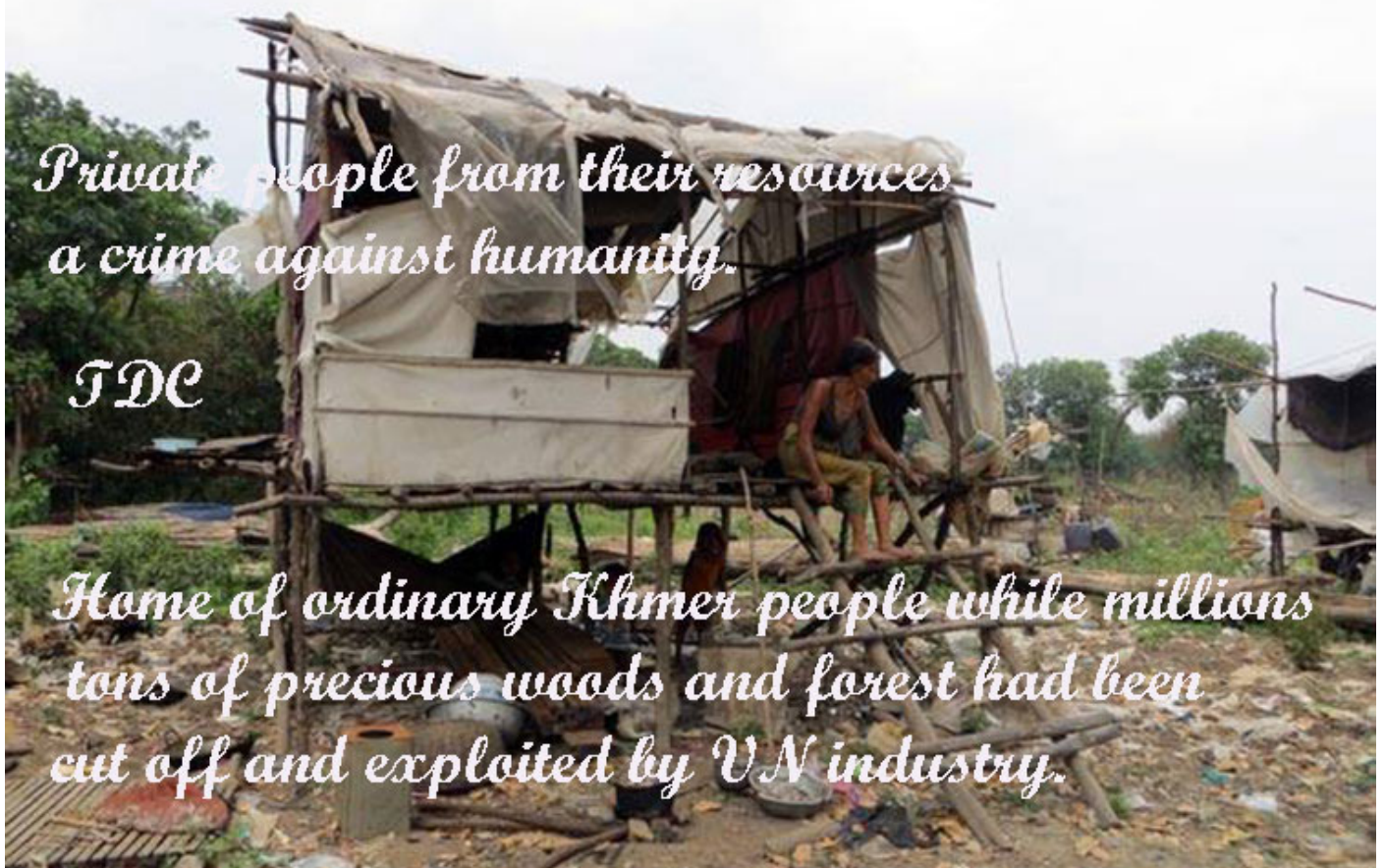
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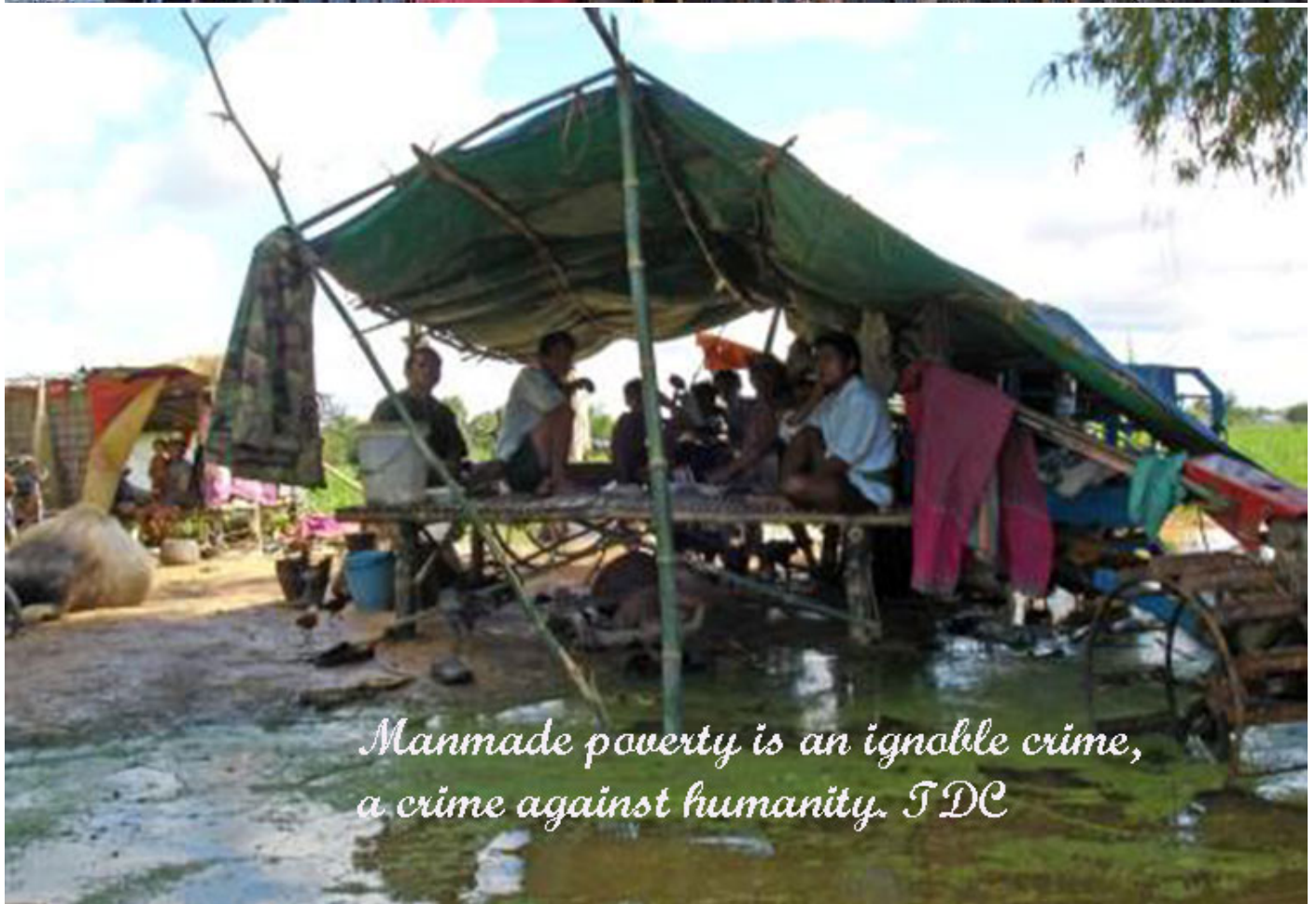
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*Manmade poverty is an ignoble crime,
a crime against humanity. JDC*



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a crime against humanity. I DC*



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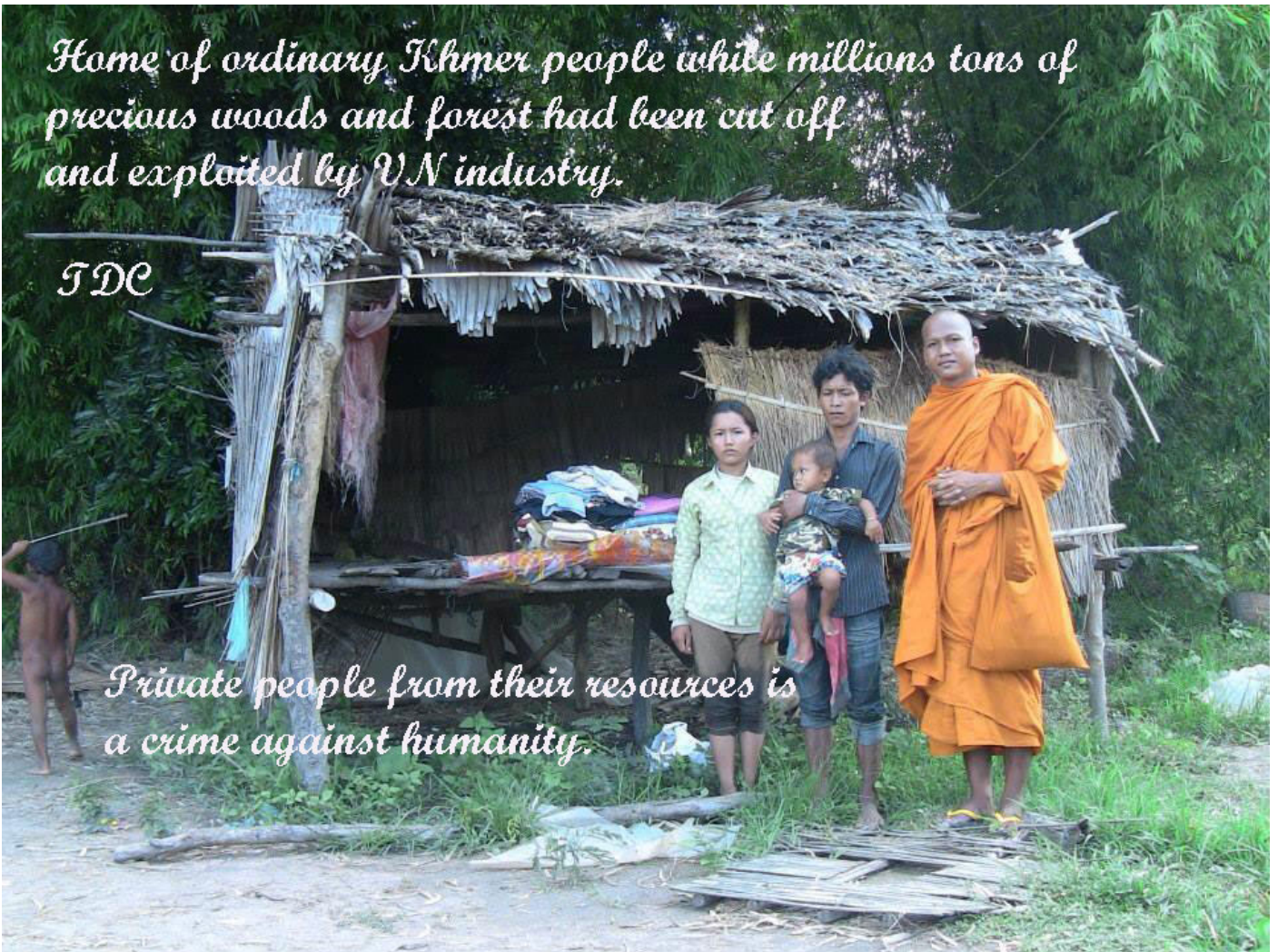
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TDC

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