

'Quality' of justice needed at tribunal: victims Sok Khemara June 24, 2011

With pressure mounting on the UN-backed Khmer Rouge tribunal, two civil party representatives said Thursday the court will be judged on the quality of justice it provides to victims of the regime.

"When we speak about justice, we want to focus on quality," Seng Theary, a Cambodian-American lawyer who has pushed for more access of victims to court procedures, told "Hello VOA" Thursday.

Ly Monysak, who lost 21 family members to the Khmer Rouge, said he was now concerned a trial of four jailed leaders will not be completed in their lifetimes. The first hearing in that trial is scheduled for June 27.

But the fate of two more cases remains unknown. Critics have said they worry about political obstruction in those cases, 003 and 004, which together would call for five more indictments at the court.

Investigating judges have been criticized for hastily concluded Case 003, without field investigations into some sites and without interviewing the two suspects. The international prosecutor is appealing to have more investigation.

"When we don't receive information, we don't have the truth. When we don't have truth, we don't have justice. And when we don't have justice, we don't have obvious peace in our hearts."