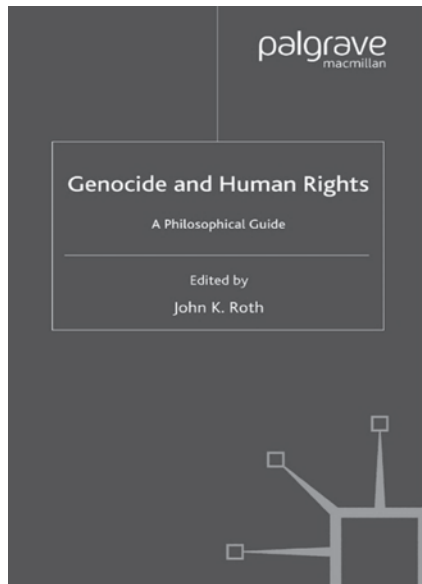


Books on Genocide Studies

John K. Roth, ed, *Genocide and Human Rights: A Philosophical Guide*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2005

Genocide is not just an event in history; it is a profound moral and philosophical challenge. Dr. K. N. has highlighted this in *Genocide and Human Rights: A Philosophical Guide*, showing how genocide calls into question our morality, conscience, and humanity itself. In this sense, genocide is not merely a political crime; it is a fundamental assault on moral structures and universal ethical principles — a “moral catastrophe.” He writes that genocide occurs when one group



refuses to see another group as human beings — when certain races, religions, cultures, or communities are considered unworthy of existence. This “catastrophe” is therefore described as a form of *moral blindness*. In this context, Dr. K. emphasizes the need for deeper reflection, where philosophy, ethics, and human values play a significant role. In his analysis, genocide is not only a legal or political issue, but also a central philosophical problem. Thus, in our view, genocide is not simply a matter of the past — it is a continuous warning, reminding us that unless we safeguard our moral foundations and human conscience, such a “moral catastrophe” may occur again.

Katharine McGregor, Jess Melvin and Annie Pohlman, ed,
The Indonesian genocide of 1965: causes, dynamics and legacies, Palgrave Studies in the History of Genocide, Cham, Switzerland, 2018

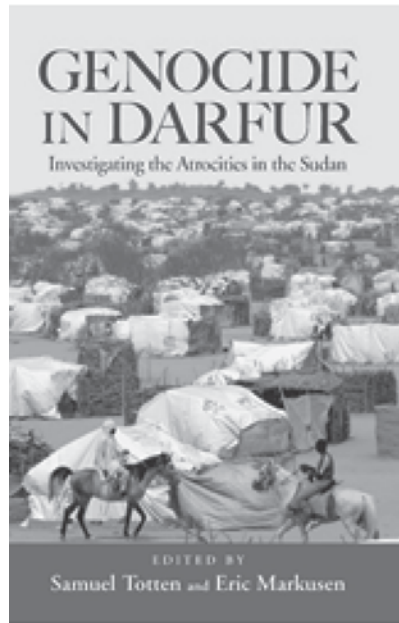
Katharine McGregor, Jess Melvin and Annie Pohlman's *The Indonesian Genocide of 1965: Causes, Dynamics and Legacies* discusses the political violence of 1965 in Indonesia through a multifaceted and analytical perspective. This book, published in the Palgrave Studies in the History of Genocide series, is not only a collection of essays but also a critical intervention that reinterprets this event from various disciplinary and thematic standpoints. In



particular, the book highlights issues of truth-seeking, memory, human rights and transitional justice. In the contemporary context, the pursuit of truth and accountability has become significant, as victims' families and human rights activists continue to demand recognition and justice. The book sheds light on how this violence was experienced at the local level, showing that the persecution targeted not only political opponents but also different social and religious groups. At the same time, it explores the dynamics of this violence, such as the role of the military, the participation of civilian groups, and the influence of international actors. The book provides a new analytical framework by combining these diverse aspects and demonstrates how political violence should be studied beyond conventional historical narratives.

Samuel Totten, Eric Markusen, ed, *Genocide in Darfur: Investigating the Atrocities in the Sudan*, Routledge, 2006

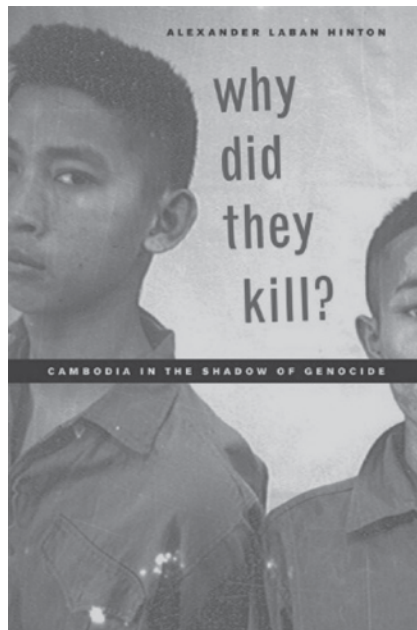
Samuel Totten and Eric Markusen's *Genocide in Darfur: Investigating the Atrocities in the Sudan* presents a comprehensive historical, political, and humanitarian analysis of the genocide. This book highlights the findings of the Atrocities Documentation Project, which conducted in-depth investigations into the atrocities. According to the book, interviews with more than 1,200 survivors and victims reveal shocking accounts of the Sudanese



government's systematic violence. The testimonies illustrate how state-sponsored attacks, mass killings, rapes, destruction of villages, forced displacement, and starvation were deliberately carried out as part of a broader genocidal strategy. Importantly, the study provides convincing evidence that the violence in Darfur was not simply random conflict or civil war but bore the marks of an organized and intentional campaign of extermination. The book carefully examines whether these atrocities meet the criteria of genocide as outlined in the UN Genocide Convention. The findings suggest that Sudan's actions indeed align with the definition of genocide — a planned destruction of an ethnic group. Ultimately, the work emphasizes that the situation in Darfur was not a spontaneous outbreak of violence but a deliberate state-led genocidal policy designed to eliminate specific communities.

Alexander Laban Hinton, *Why Did They Kill?: Cambodia in the Shadow of Genocide*, University of California Press, 2005

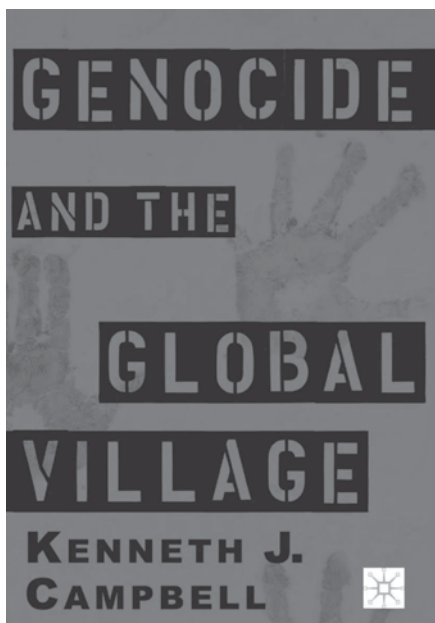
Alexander Laban Hinton's *Why Did They Kill?: Cambodia in the Shadow of Genocide* is not simply a descriptive narration of the Cambodian genocide; rather, it is an anthropological, sociological, and psychological analysis. While many researchers have portrayed this genocide as a political phenomenon, Hinton explains it through the concepts of "othering," "moral purification," and "state terror." The book



shows how, between 1975 and 1979, the Khmer Rouge regime carried out the mass killing of nearly two million Cambodians in the name of building a "pure" society. Hinton identifies how ideology, culture, economy, politics, and social hierarchy together created a destructive structure that made such genocide possible. In addition, the book sheds light on the larger social and global factors behind the genocide, highlighting the need to move beyond a purely political explanation. Through a combination of ethnographic, historical, and theoretical perspectives, Hinton demonstrates that this genocide was not the outcome of one single cause, but rather the product of many interwoven elements. Ultimately, this book is a significant contribution to genocide studies, offering a profound understanding of how ordinary people, under certain circumstances, can become agents of extraordinary violence.

Kenneth J. Campbell, *Genocide and the Global Village*, Palgrave, 2001

Kenneth J. Campbell, in *Genocide and the Global Village*, examines the role of media in representing genocide. He investigates how international mass media, through commercial logic, selective presentation, and political constraints, portray—or fail to portray—the horrific realities of genocide and mass violence. Campbell argues that the media often treat genocide as merely another “news event,” meaning some



genocides receive coverage while others are ignored, depending on political interests and commercial priorities. He shows that selective coverage, framing, and political influence not only distort global understanding of genocide but also hinder humanitarian awareness and mobilization. The book highlights that genocide coverage is not simply the product of global compassion or moral responsibility—it is shaped by commercial, political, and ideological factors. Campbell further explains that while modern communication technologies make it possible to witness genocide from afar, structural constraints often reduce global audiences to passive spectators rather than active responders. In this work, genocide is analyzed as part of a system of representation, where political, economic, and cultural forces shape the perception and response to mass atrocities. Campbell’s perspective combines critical media studies with genocide scholarship, offering a valuable framework for scholars,

students, and activists. *Genocide and the Global Village* concludes that global media is not a neutral window to reality; rather, it is an arena where power struggles over meaning, representation, and responsibility are constantly negotiated.

Rokonuzzaman Babul



Mother crying, blubber 1971, Drawing : Farida Zaman