

មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលឯកសារកម្ពុជា

DOCUMENTATION CENTER OF CAMBODIA

Phnom Penh, Cambodia
www.dccam.org

2009 Annual Report

The year 2009 was a busy and very productive one at the Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam). The Center continued to play a crucial role in the quest for Khmer Rouge accountability alongside the judicial process at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC). Throughout the year, the Center also focused on promoting reconciliation and contributing to the prevention of genocide in the future. To achieve those ends, DC-Cam expanded its activities in documentation, research, and above all public education. The Center developed its role as a leading hub for genocide research in Asia, producing quality publications, expanding its large archives, beginning to enhance its Internet resources, and hosting numerous scholarly visitors. In addition, 2009 saw another significant expansion in DC-Cam's role in public education. The Center worked with the Cambodian Ministry of Education to develop a crucial new genocide studies curriculum. DC-Cam also expanded upon its public outreach activities, releasing new media products and designing successful new museum exhibits.

1. THE KHMER ROUGE TRIBUNAL: ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

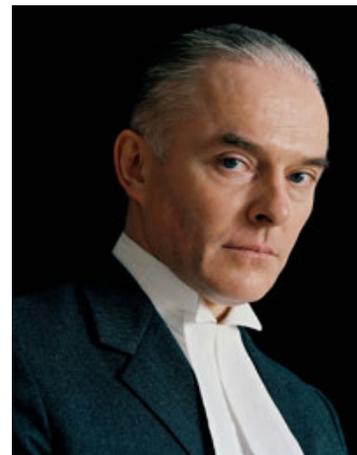
1) Major ECCC News

Four Senior Leaders Charged with Genocide and National Crimes

In mid-December, the Court announced that all four charged persons—Nuon Chea, Ieng Sary, Ieng Thirith, and Khieu Samphan—had been charged with genocide for acts committed against Vietnamese and Cham Muslims. They also have been charged with crimes under the 1956 Cambodian Criminal Code.

New International Prosecutor Appointed

On December 2 the ECCC announced that Andrew T. Cayley (United Kingdom) had been appointed the new international Co-Prosecutor, replacing Robert Petit



Andrew T. Cayley

(Canada) who resigned in August. Mr. Cayley has experience both as a senior prosecutor at the International Criminal Court and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and as defense counsel at the ICTY and the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

Closing Arguments Held in S-21 Case

From November 23-27 closing arguments were held in the S-21/Tuol Sleng case, which included an unexpected request by the national defense lawyer for acquittal and release of prison chief Duch on jurisdictional grounds. A detailed description of the arguments can be found at <http://www.cambodiatribunal.org/>.

leng Sary and leng Thirith Detention Extended for Second Time

In two separate orders issued on 10 November, the Co-Investigating Judges extended the provisional detention of leng Sary and leng Thirith for maximum of one more year. This is the final pre-trial detention extension allowed under the Court's Internal Rules.

CIJs Release Information About Scope of Investigation in Case 002

On November 5, the Co-Investigating Judges published information outlining the material facts falling within the scope of the investigation of leng Sary, Nuon Chea, Khieu Samphan, and leng Thirith. Victims who wish to participate as civil parties in Case 002 must have suffered harm that is linked to one or more of these factual situations.

ECCC Judges Summon Six High Government Officials to Testify

On October 8 it was announced that in September international Co-Investigating Judge Lemonde, acting without his Cambodian counterpart, sent letters summoning six high-level Cambodian officials to testify at the ECCC, including CPP President Chea Sim, National Assembly President Heng Samrin, Minister of Foreign Affairs Hor Namhong, Minister of Finance Keat Chhon, and CPP senators Ouk Bunchhoeun and Sim Ka. They have not yet agreed to the request.

Nuon Chea Detention Extended for Second Time

On September 16, the Co-Investigating Judges extended Nuon Chea's detention for a third year. This is the final pre-trial detention extension allowed under the Court's Internal Rules.

Acting International Co-Prosecutor Sends Submissions to CIJs

On September 7, Acting International Co-Prosecutor Bill Smith filed Second and Third Introductory Submissions with the Co-Investigating judges. In announcing the submissions, he emphasized that he has "no plans to conduct any further preliminary investigations into additional suspects at the ECCC."

Co-Prosecutor Dispute Decided

On September 2nd, the Pre-Trial Chamber announced its failure to reach a consensus on the dispute between the Co-Prosecutors over whether or not to request the judicial investigation of five more suspects. The two international

judges determined that the International Co-Prosecutor's request should move forward; however the three Cambodian judges agreed with the Cambodian Co-Prosecutor that it should not proceed. Because an affirmative vote of four judges could not be reached, pursuant to the Internal Rules, the request may proceed.

More than 20,000 Visitors Attend Duch Trial

On August 26, the ECCC announced that as of that date the number of people attending the Duch trial had exceeded 20,000, with a daily average of 311 visitors.

Pre-Trial Chamber Affirms Khieu's Detention

On July 3, the Pre-Trial Chamber affirmed the Co-Investigative Judges decision to extend Khieu Samphan's detention for one year, finding it necessary to protect the Charged Person's security to preserve public order.

International Co-Prosecutor Announces His Resignation

On June 23, International Co-Prosecutor Robert Petit announced his resignation for personal and family reasons effective September 1.

New Public Affairs Chief and Head of Victims Unit

On May 18, the ECCC announced that Reach Sambath, formerly the Court's Press Officer, replaces Helen Jarvis. Helen Jarvis replaces Keat Bophal, who resigned from her position as head of the Victims Unit after 15 months. Director Youk Chhang wrote the ECCC Director and Deputy Directors of Administration to express his concern that the Court did not appear to follow its human resources guidelines in redeploying Dr. Jarvis to the VU without first advertising the position, and also his view that her appointment does not live up to the spirit of the agreement establishing the Court and its promotion of strong Cambodian ownership of and leadership at the Court.

Co-Investigative Judges Decide Have No Jurisdiction to Investigate ECCC Corruption

On April 3, the Co-Investigating Judges responded to a request by some defense teams for investigative action regarding corruption at the ECCC and declared that they did not have the jurisdiction to investigate.

Substantive Proceedings Begin in S-21 Case: Duch Offers Apology

On March 30, the substantive phase of the S-21 trial began. At the first opportunity, *Duch* offered an apology to his victims and took full responsibility for the killings and torture at the prison. At the same time, he suggested that he was also a victim, as he was following orders from higher-ups and feared for the safety of his family if he didn't obey.



94 Victims Participate in *Duch* Case

The Victim's Unit announced that it had received 94 Civil Party applications related to Case 001/Tuol Sleng by the February 2 deadline established by the Trial Chamber. After the deadline an additional application was received by child Tuol Sleng survivor Nong Chan Phal; however, his application was not accepted.

2) Legal Response Team

Documents Provided to the ECCC.

DC-Cam's Legal Response team provided documents to the ECCC at the request of the Office of the Co-Prosecutors Office (OCP), the Office of the Co-Investigative Judges (OCIJ), the Defense Support Section (DSS), the Public Affairs section, and civil party lawyers. All together the team provided the court nearly **15,000** pages of documents. The team also assisted the Court by helping intermediary organizations find supporting documents for civil party applications. Through the year it has also devoted an increasing amount of time to working on chain of custody issues with the Office of Co-Investigating Judges.

Other Activities.

Victim Participation Team leader Terith Chy provided 6 orientations on DC-Cam's work, including its archives and programs, to over 150 ECCC interns at the Court's request.



Nong Chan Phal and family with Ho Van They and Dinh Phong

Among other organizations and persons, the team provided documents to journalists, the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and the Cambodian National Election Committee.

The Center recruited four Cambodian interns for the defense teams, and Director Youk Chhang designed new letterhead for the Nuon Chea defense team.

Response team leader Dara Vanthan and Victim Participation team leader Terith Chy traveled to Kampong Speu province to interview Nong Chan Phal, an S-21 child survivor who contacted DC-Cam after hearing about footage of him at S-21 that DC-Cam received from the Vietnamese Government last December. Deputy Director Kok-Thy Eng then worked with the Cambodian Journalist Club to organize a press conference at the Cambodiana Hotel on February 16 with Nong

Chan Phal and Ho Van They and Dinh Phong, the two Vietnamese videographers who found and filmed him at S-21 when they discovered it in January 1979. The conference was moderated by the president of the journalist club and the editor of Reaksmei Kampuchea Daily, Pen Samithi. More than 100 members of the local and international press participated. It was the first time Ho Van They and Dinh Phong had seen Norng Chan Phal in thirty years. Subsequently Promoting Accountability team leader Dany Long organized an April trip to Phnom Penh and translated for Ho Van Tay and Dinh to attend the *Duch* hearing. At that time they were interviewed by local and international press, investigators of the Office of Co Investigating Judges, and ECCC defense lawyers.

This year the Response Team worked with two clinical programs: The School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) Human Rights Clinic (UK), and the Seattle University School of Law's International Human Rights Law Clinic (USA).

- The SOAS clinic drafted a memo on the nature of the ECCC closing order, the discretion do the Co-Investigative Judges have to cut crime scenes and not include or redefine charges requested by the Prosecution, and the Trial Chamber's authority to reduce the number of the crime scenes in the indictment.
- During spring 2009, the Seattle clinic analyzed the effect of the variation of the definition of genocide in the ECCC law from the wording of the Genocide Convention and possible challenges that could be raised by the defense. They are also drafting a simple history of the Genocide Convention for the Cambodian public. In fall 2009, the clinic looked at the legal implications of political interference in judicial proceedings.

2009 Volunteer Legal Associates.

Throughout 2009, DC-Cam hosted the following legal associates, who came from universities throughout the United States and Cambodia.

Name	University	Research Project
Joanna Geneve	Harvard	Dispute between the co-prosecutors regarding the investigation of new suspects
Mary Irozuru	Columbia University School of Law	Limits appeals at the ECCC
Kalliopi Lykourgou	Santa Clara University School of Law	Judicial notice
Rehan Abeyratne	Harvard Law School	<i>Nullum crimen sine lege</i> and superior responsibility
Aileen Tsao	Seattle University School of Law	The scope of civil party's role in "assisting the prosecution" under Rule 23
Toni Holness	Temple University Beasley School of Law	Admissibility of torture confessions as evidence

Alex Lewis	Rutgers School of Law–Newark	The nature and scope of the Supreme Court Chamber's appellate powers
Charles Jackson	Northwestern University School of Law	International standards regarding mitigation of sentence for remorse
Elizabeth Nielsen	Yale Law School	Legal regime for addressing administrative and judicial corruption allegations
Spencer Cryder	Tulane Law School	Issues surrounding the advanced age of the accused
Adam Coady	Georgetown Law School	Addressing “disruptive” defense counsel
Andrew Diamond	Brooklyn School of Law	Use of evidence obtained by torture; Role of civil parties
Savada Prum	Royal University of Law and Economics	Filling ECCC documents
Dany So	Royal University of Law and Economics	Filling ECCC documents

In addition to researching and drafting memos on issues before the ECCC, these students monitored the court, and assisted DC-Cam outreach projects. They met with representatives from the Office of the Prosecutor (Co-Prosecutor Chea Leang and assistant prosecutor Anees Ahmed), the Office of the Co-Investigating Judges, the Office of Administration, Defense Support Services, the *Nuon Chea* defense team, and Judge Cartwright of the ECCC Trial Chamber.

3) Victim Participation Project

DC-Cam's Victim Participation (VPA) Project assists survivors who wish to participate in the ECCC process. In particular, the project seeks to reactivate the informal truth commission process from the 1980s when the People's Republic of Kampuchea government collected “Renakse” petitions endorsed by around 1,000,000 survivors. The team is searching for the original petitioners in order to give them the opportunity to share their stories again, this time with the ECCC.

The team traveled throughout Cambodia this year collecting victim participation forms, explaining survivor participation rights, and assisting those who wish to participate. To date, the VPA team has helped **1756** persons file victim participation forms with the Court. Of those it has assisted, **38** victims were recognized as civil parties in Case 001 and **24** have thus far been recognized in Case 002.

Assistance to Victims Unit/Civil Parties.

This year the team assisted the Victims Unit by following up with complainants and civil parties to ensure the completeness of their Victim Participation Forms. Examples of other assistance provided to the VU and civil parties this year include:

On December 1, the VPA agreed to deliver notifications of receipt from the Office of the Co-Prosecutors to complainants assisted by the project. On December 8 the OCP handed over 1300 notifications, which the project has agreed to deliver as soon as possible beginning in January 2010.

From 1-3 September, 150 civil party applicants in Case 002 whose applications were incomplete or did not have attached identity documents were invited to attend a DC-Cam genocide education tour. Of those, 43 attended. The low presence of civil party applicants was due to the fact that the tour coincided with the start of Pchum Ben ("Ancestor Day") and the rice planting season. DC-Cam staff discussed genocide teaching in schools, reparations, and forgiveness. The group also observed the *Duch* hearing, visited Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, and watched a performance of the play "Breaking the Silence" with an additional 100 civil party applicants and students from Panasastra University. During the three-day event, staff members were able to collect additional information and identity documents from all of the applicants. For a report on the Tour, please visit: <http://www.cambodiatribunal.org/blog/>.

Throughout September, the team dedicated much of its time to assisting the Civil Party lawyers from Group 1 (CPG1) in establishing the identities of DC-Cam-assisted civil parties and informing them about CPG1's motion to the ECCC regarding reparations. Spearheaded by CPG1, a consolidated motion on reparations was filed on behalf of all civil party lawyers. The motion requests the ECCC to award as "collective and moral" reparations to civil parties joined to Case 001 the dissemination of apologetic statements by Duch, free physical and psychological care, genocide education, and the erection of monuments. Staff members of the VPA Project consulted civil parties and collected their comments to assist the filing of the motion. In October, the VPA also translated CPG1's 53-page final submission and 5-page annex into Khmer for the Trial Chamber.

On August 17, the Duch defense announced its intention to challenge 25 civil parties given interim recognition by the Trial Chamber in Case 001. The challenge was based on two specific grounds, lack of evidentiary documents to prove a victim of S-21 and a family link to that victim. VPA staff members ran an extensive search in the DC-Cam and Tuol Sleng archives for documentary evidence to establish the family link of 10 DC-Cam-assisted civil parties. Documentary evidence supporting 5 applications was found and supplied to Civil Party Group 1 (CPG1). In September, Staff members were assigned to search through DC-Cam archives to locate additional information. Additional documents for six of the ten challenged applications were found and submitted to CPG1. Additionally, information regarding family links was provided to CPG1.

Major Field Trips.

In addition to its shorter provincial trips, this year the team conducted 3 major field trips to reach out to a several areas in a province at one time, inform villagers about their victim participation rights, and help them fill out ECCC victim participation forms:

- June 1-7, Svay Rieng Province
- July 20-26, Kampong Chhnang
- October 21-29 Kampong Cham, Svay Khleang village



For example, during the VPA team's October 8-day field trip to Svay Khleang village, Krauch Chmar District, Kampong Cham province, the team held a village forum in conjunction with DC-Cam's Living Document Project. Together they discussed the ECCC process and distributed DC-Cam publications including *A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)* and *Searching for the Truth* magazine. A film screening of video clips from the Duch proceedings was shown to around 500 villagers. During the discussion, VPA informed villagers of their opportunity to participate in the proceedings against former Khmer Rouge leaders. The VPA team also encouraged villagers to share their unique stories with the ECCC by filling out ECCC's Victim Information Form.

VPA chose Svay Khleang village for its unique history. In former times the village was the hub of Cham Muslim education and culture. During the Khmer Rouge time, it was severely persecuted by the authorities for its resistance to the regime in late 1975. During the course of the VPA's stay in the village, the project assisted 17 villagers in completing Victim Information Forms, 12 of which were Civil Party applications. It is the Project's expectation that these collected applications could play an important role in supporting genocide and persecution charges at the Court.

Co-Prosecutor Dispute Survey.

The VPA team, supported by all DC-Cam staff, spent a week in the provinces collecting the views of 1100 Cambodians (an equal number of "new people," "base people," and youths 20-30) as to whether they wish to see prosecutions of only the 5 Khmer Rouge Leaders currently in custody, or of 5-10 more leaders as sought by the International Co-Prosecutor. The survey sought to empower survivors of the KR regime and the younger generation by making their voices heard. **"A Thousand Voices: Questions on Additional Recommendations as Proposed by the Co-Prosecutors of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC),"** written by team leader Terith Chy and available at http://www.dccam.org/Tribunal/Analysis/pdf/A_Thousand_Voices.pdf, discusses the background to the dispute between the Co-Prosecutors, the methodology applied by DC-Cam in conducting the survey, and the survey's findings. These include that 41.4% of respondents want only the 5 in custody to be tried, 56.8% want more to be tried, and 1.7% don't have an opinion.

VPA Database.

In early June VPA staff began translating descriptions of crimes attached to Victim Participation forms into English and entering them into an internal VPA database.

4) Digitalization Project

In 2006, Director Youk Chhang received a letter from the ECCC Office of Administration indicating its desire to collaborate with DC-Cam in digitalizing nearly 1,000 reels of microfilm containing hundreds of thousands of pages of DC-Cam documents. DC-Cam has received initial funding for this project from SIDA, Norway, and USAID and is now working with a number of possible international partners, including the Hoover Institution at Stanford University (USA), which has expressed interest in serving as the locus for the digitalization.

This quarter, DC-Cam has been in regular contact with Professor David Cohen of the University of California at Berkeley, who has offered to provide technical help with the digitalization process as part of his work with the ECCC and the Hoover Institution on a "Virtual Tribunal" concept. The Center is now conferring with Professor Cohen and the relevant officials at the ECCC in order to avoid duplication and achieve synergies in moving the project forward.

The Center's priorities include:

- o Making all of the documents in DC-Cam's archives available to the public for free online;
- o Using donor resources efficiently; and
- o Ensuring that the contributions of DC-Cam and other parties are accurately reflected in the presentation of digital archives.

5) Translation

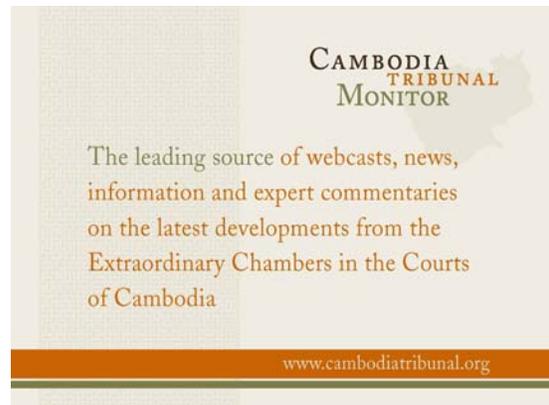
The first quarter of the year the Center was paid to translate **1170** pages for the ECCC, which was in short supply of quality translators. The Center did not renew the contract.

6) New Postings on the Cambodia Tribunal Website

Items posted by DC-Cam on the Cambodia Tribunal Monitor Website (www.cambodiatribunal.org) this year include videos of:

- hundreds of files of the Duch trial in English, Khmer, and French

- reactions to Duch's request for forgiveness of villagers attending a Kampong Speu forum and from the Cambodian Christian community.
- Khieu Samphan's hearing on translation.
- footage of the Wednesday weekly press briefings organized by ECCC with different Court offices.
- 72 video clips from the *Duch* closing arguments



Comments received from overseas viewers include:

I have been watching the trial on Cambodiatribunal.org. Duch is a demon. That his lawyers with his approval would effort to dissuade with argument his own admissions is clearly the evidence that Duch would try to evade again. If not capital punishment for the horrors he oversaw, then life in prison is the least that should apply. In solitude without contact from outside and one hour of exercise a day.

I've tried watching the trial on webcast out of Northwestern: I watched for 2 hours a day every day, until 10 days ago, and remember exactly the moment when I quit, saying out loud, "I cannot stand one moment more of this man--this weasel--", and I was done.

2. DOCUMENTATION

1) Cataloguing and Database Management

This year the team continued cataloguing and keying into the MySQL biographical database the 15,018 documents, consisting of 52,609 pages, received from the University of Lund in February 2007. They all have been scanned as .tif documents and sent to the Office of the Co-Prosecutors.

In 2009, **4650** records were edited and **2932** documents were listed from the Swedish D Collection.

Copies of all of DC-Cam's documents—scans, digital photographs, films, etc.—are sent to Rutgers University in the United States. In addition, after documents are printed, edited, and checked for spelling errors, they are cross-checked against the records in our databases in order to correct records with errors and locate lost records. Then they are re-uploaded into DC-Cam's Internet database.

2) Exhibitions

“Breaking the Silence.”

This year the Exhibition Team, together with the Student Outreach Team, cooperated with Annemarie Prins, a Dutch playwright and producer, and the Amerita Art organization, on a new play. Entitled “**Breaking the Silence,**” it is designed to help people speak more openly about their lives under the Khmer Rouge. The play has seven scenes taken from people’s real life experiences, which the Student Outreach team helped edit in Khmer. The team also contributed suggestions on how to make the play completely Khmer in character, including speaking, ideas, proverbs, and songs, so that it will resonate with its intended rural Cambodian audience. The Team further helped find suitable places for the play to be performed.



Collaboration with the Swedish Living History Forum Exhibition on Cambodia, “Dinner with Pol Pot”.



From September 6 to 16, Museum team members Sayana Ser, Kok-Thay Eng and Savina Sirik traveled to Stockholm, Sweden for the opening ceremony of the exhibition titled “Dinner with Pol Pot” organized by the Living History Forum in Sweden with assistance from and documents loaned by the Museum team. The opening was attended by approximately 200 guests, including members of the Swedish press, officials

from the ministry of culture, officials from Swedish International Development Agency, professors, students and members of the public. The team also met with LHF staff from their Educational team, Oral History project team, and several other projects to exchange work experiences.

Sweden was one of the few countries that had some diplomatic ties with Democratic Kampuchea. In August 1978, a group of Swedish delegation of people from the “Swedish-Kampuchea Friendship Association” visited Cambodia. Gunnar Bergstrom was among the four people in the group. He and the other three members were allowed to have dinner with Pol Pot on the final day of their visit. They were one of the few groups of foreigners to be invited to Democratic Kampuchea.



Gunnar Bergstrom 1978

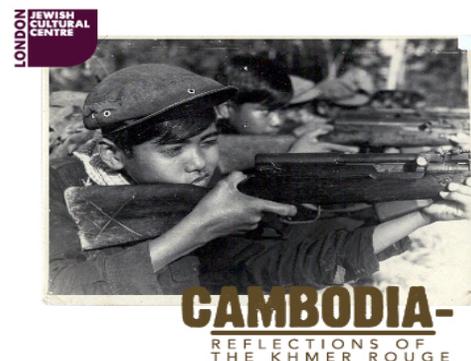
The delegation supported the Khmer Rouge revolution before they visited Cambodia and it was very difficult for them to see the truth during their visit as the Khmer Rouge prepared everything before they arrived. Not being able to see the darker side of the regime at that time, Gunnar Bergstrom has struggled ever since to come to terms with and to forgive himself for

believing in such a monstrous revolution.

"Dinner with Pol Pot" is primarily about the Swedish delegation's visit and Sweden's relations with the Khmer Rouge. Bergstrom decided in November 2008 to come to Cambodia for the first time since that haunting visit thirty years ago. For Bergstrom this was a trip for closure, to show remorse and to ask for forgiveness from the Cambodian people. Bergstrom showed photographs he took during his 1978 visit and spoke to Cambodian crowds in three seminars in Phnom Penh, Kampong Cham and Battambang. The exhibition at Living History Forum in Stockholm, Sweden, is a separate exhibition aimed directly at a Swedish audience.

In addition to DC-Cam staff members, Bou Meng and Vannak Huy also attended. Bou Meng is a survivor of S-21. Vannak Huy is a journalist from Radio Free Asia and the author of an upcoming book detailing the life experiences of Bou Meng as a survivor of S-21 prison. All five took part in many talks after the opening. Bou Meng was interviewed by Swedish Television and other members of the media. He also gave a talk about his paintings to a large Swedish audience that was coordinated by Vannak Huy and interpreted by Kok-Thay Eng of DC-Cam.

Cambodia: Reflections of the Khmer Rouge opens on 11 January 2010 at the London Jewish Cultural Centre and runs until 19 February 2010. The exhibition, presented in connection with National Holocaust Memorial Day (27th January), will be made up of photographs taken from the DC-Cam archives and is intended to raise awareness of the Democratic Kampuchea period and the ongoing need for education about genocide and remembrance. It is an abridged version of *Reflections: Democratic Kampuchea and Beyond*,



The London Jewish Cultural Centre
invites you to a private view
Monday 18th January 2010, 6.30-8.30pm

The exhibition will be opened by
LJCC President Clive M Marks OBE

Alex Bates, an eminent UN international
prosecutor who worked extensively on the Khmer
Rouge Tribunal, will introduce the exhibition

RSVP by Thursday 14th January 2010
to Sarah Gluckstein on 020 8457 5013
or by email to sarah@ljcc.org.uk

CAMBODIA-
REFLECTIONS OF THE KHMER ROUGE

Exhibition open
11th January to 19th February 2010

Opening Times
Mondays 10am-4pm
Tuesdays closed
Wednesdays 10am-4pm
Thursdays 9-5pm
Closed 27th January

London Jewish Cultural Centre, Ivy House,
94-98 North End Road,
London NW11 7XK
www.ljcc.org.uk

Getting here:
By Bus: The 268 and 210 stop outside Ivy House on North End Road.
By Underground: The nearest tube stations are Golders Green and Hampstead.
By Road: Free street parking available in neighbouring streets except between 11am and 12 midday, weekdays. Limited disabled parking is available on site.

The exhibition is running in conjunction with the Documentation Center of Cambodia, the NGO at the forefront of documenting, educating, and bringing to trial those responsible for crimes committed under the Khmer Rouge.

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Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam)
www.dccam.org
www.cambodiatribunal.org

Ongoing Ivy House Exhibit:
Portraits for Posterity
A unique photographic exhibition of Holocaust survivors living in Great Britain today will be on show in the LJCC foyer.

Special Lunchtime Lecture:
Prosecuting Mass Atrocity
Monday 25th January 2010 12:45pm
Tickets priced £5
Alex Bates, the youngest ever International Prosecutor appointed by the UN will speak about his experience working as Senior Assistant Co-Prosecutor at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, the tribunal set up to prosecute leaders of the Khmer Rouge.

DC-Cam's permanent exhibition housed at Tuol Sleng, and is being co-curated by former DC-Cam volunteer Olivia Altaras and Ilana Winterstein. The exhibition will be opened by Alex Bates, a former ECCC prosecutor, and Clive Marks, President of the London Jewish Cultural Centre.

Ugandan War Memorial Project Cooperation.

DC-Cam has been assisting the "Beyond Juba Project," a proposal by the Refugee Law Project, the Human Rights and Peace Centre and the Faculty of Law, Makerere University, Uganda, to obtain funding for a museum-like archival memorial about the ongoing war in Northern Uganda. The

Project and DC-Cam intend to collaborate in the future by sharing and mounting exhibitions about the conflicts in each other's countries. In addition, DC-Cam has put the Project in contact with Permanent Center designer David Salazar, who will be visiting the region in January to share his design ideas and discuss the possibility of having his Columbia University graduate architectural clinic develop proposals for the redesign of the memorial/archive site.

Nearly 4000 people expressed their comments in the **Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum** photo exhibition book this year.

Selected comments:

Truly shocking and saddening experience. You can still feel the pain and suffering here. I will never forget the eyes of the detainees in the photos. And yet the world still stands by and allows Rwanda, Darfur to happen.
WR, London

What saddens me most after seeing this is that atrocities are still being committed around the world and everyone is still watching!! We do not seem to learn from the past!! My heart goes out to the survivors.
Bannjee, India

This is the first time that I came here. I saw a lot of horrors movie and the cruel torture to Cambodian people. I hope that this thing not happen again in my country or in the world.
Ouk Samonn, Cambodia

Being German and having learned everything about Hitler and the Nazi regime growing up, I am shocked nobody ever mentioned not something very similar happened 30 years later-Again! How could the world let something like this happen ever and ever again? We need to open our eyes and start helping countries like Cambodia in the 70s or Sudan now, before it's too late and we can look at what's left in museums.
Gesnony, Germany

Hard to understand why this happened it is also a pity of how little people know of this genocide in the western world.
 - Nora, Finland

3. PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY

This year the PA team merged with the Victim Participation project while the team leader studied in Vietnam and then the United Kingdom.

In June, Youk Chhang, Dany Long, Rasy Pheng Pong and Kosal Phat went to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, where they met with photographers Ho Van Tay and Dinh Phong and discussed an exhibition project involving the collection of documents, photographs and other visual documents related to the KR in Vietnam. Dany Long and Youk Chhang watched 31 documentary films at the Film Research and Archive Center and examined over 200 photographs at the Ho Chi Minh Television Station. They also met with three veteran Vietnamese soldiers. In addition, they selected and copied 59 photographs in Hanoi.

In July, Dany Long and Youk Chhang brought back nine films covering three topics: a KR delegation (Khieu Samphan, Ieng Sary, Ieng Thirith) visiting top Chinese leaders in China, KR killing Vietnamese people while they fight on the border with Vietnam, and Vietnamese soldiers entering Cambodia in 1978 and 1979. In September, Dany Long traveled to Hanoi to collect 148 KR photographs from the Vietnamese News Agency.

4. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

1) Living Documents Project

This year the team brought **11** groups comprised of **1400** people to legal training sessions at DC-Cam to learn about the ECCC's jurisdiction and procedures and the biographies of persons charged by the ECCC. These groups then attended ECCC hearings and discussed what they had witnessed.

Living Documents ECCC Tours to Date			
Session Number	2009 Dates	Participants	Hearing
14	February	65 villagers from 7 provinces	First Duch trial hearing
15	February	203 students from the Royal University of Law and Economics	Pre-trial detention extension hearings of Ieng Thirith, Ieng Sary, and Khieu Samphan
16	March	50 villagers from 4 provinces	First substantive hearings in Duch trial
17	April	185 villagers from Kampong Speu province, located near former KR security office M-13	Duch trial

Living Documents ECCC Tours to Date			
Session Number	2009 Dates	Participants	Hearing
18	April	88 villagers from Kandal province	Duch trial
19	May	60 commune chiefs, villagers and Cham Muslims from Kampong Chhnang province	Duch trial
20	June	65 villagers from 2 provinces	Duch trial
21	June	65 villagers from 2 provinces	Duch trial
22	Aug	459 (including 350 Cham Muslims religious leaders, 13 Khmer Kampuchea Kroam from Pursat, 30 nuns from Kampong Speu and Phnom Penh and selected villagers from 4 provinces)	Duch trial
23	Sept	50 district chiefs and civil parties	Duch trial
24	Nov	110 (including 90 district chiefs and 20 Cham Muslims)	Duch closing arguments
Totals	2009	1400	
	2008	362	
	2007	1,209	
	2006	5,169	
	2006-2009	6850	



After observing the proceedings, some attendees believed that Duch was not being completely truthful. For example, a 55 year-old man, Lach Mao, did not believe what Duch said about torture methods at S-21. Mao was once a Khmer Rouge soldier who was later arrested and sent to a prison at Chrey Pnoeu. He described how the KR tortured him, pulled out his fingernail and shackled him with iron shackles. "If Duch's claim was true,

then the method used in the local level security office like Chrey Pnoeu was much more brutal; it's not possible."

Associated with visits to ECCC hearings, village forums are conducted by the LDP team, often to provide a platform for ECCC hearing participants to share what they learned with their community and to encourage them to share their personal experiences under the KR regime. In this way the forums are designed to encourage members of the community to take an active role in spreading information about the ECCC within their own community.

Living Documents ECCC Forums to Date			
Session Number	2009 Dates	Number of Participants	Location
7	January	65	Stung district, Kampong Thom province
8	March	86 (majority Cham Muslim)	Kampong Tralach district, Kampong Chhnang province
9	March	186	Mesang district, Prey Veng province
10	August	400	Bakan district, Pursat
11	October	100	Chhlong district, Kratie province
12	October	300	Svay Khleang commune, Kampong Cham province
Totals	2009	1137	
	2008	315	
	2008-2009	1452	

2) Student Outreach

The Student Outreach team worked with legal associate Andrew Diamond to answer 241 questions collected from youth volunteers from 2005 to 2007 and since updated. The team will complete a booklet of answers for publication in January 2010.

The team also assisted other projects, including VPA and Living Documents field trips. In addition, it participated in the distribution of thousands of copies of A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979) to high school students and in the provincial teacher training. (These activities are described in the Genocide Education project update, below.) The Project's major activities this year included the following:

Genocide Education Tour.

From March 29 to 31 the team, in partnership with United States Peace Corps volunteers, hosted a genocide education tour with 300 high school students and teachers from Battambang, Siem Reap, Kampong Cham, Kampot provinces, as well as Cham Muslim students from Phnom Penh. The group visited historical sites such as the Royal Palace, a symbol of Cambodia's venerated monarchy, and Wat Phnom, the legendary birth place



of Phnom Penh. Students visited modern sites depicting the dark chapter of Cambodia's history, including the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (a former Khmer Rouge prison) and the ECCC. They also met with DC-Cam Director Youk Chhang, the vulnerable monk Su Soeum, who gave a speech on good and bad deeds and Karma in Buddhism; Professor Sambo Mannara, who talked about a brief history of the Democratic Kampuchea; and Mrs. Um Savoeun, a KR survivor and Member of Parliament.

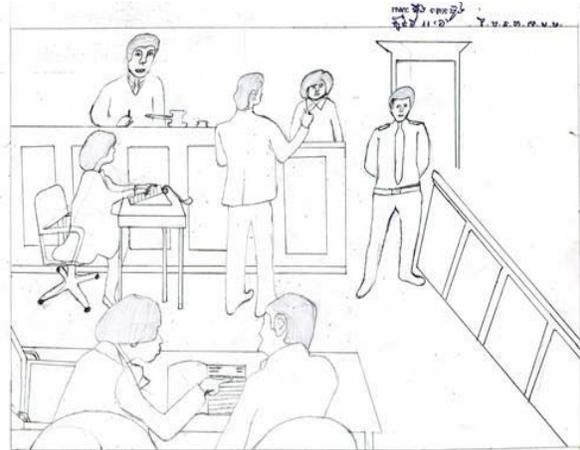


“Our Generation.”

The team worked with the U.S Peace Corps volunteers in Kampong Cham to mount a traveling exhibition called “**Our Generation**” in June and July that traveled in Kampong Cham and Phnom Penh. The exhibition included drawings, photos and slogans by students from the three high schools who joined the March genocide education tour. Student at each participating school and grade level

were asked to draw pictures or take photos that reflected their generation and how it differs from the older generation, especially those who lived during the Khmer Rouge regime. The team also contributed 11 photos from the Khmer Rouge period for the exhibition.

The objectives of the exhibit were to encourage students to reflect and share their thoughts and feelings about their country, history, and culture through art; to showcase student artwork and Khmer Rouge photographs and related documents; to encourage dialogue among the generations about KR history and the their daily differing experiences; and to promote awareness of, interest in, and appreciation of the Khmer Rouge genocide among Cambodian students.



o Number of students participating in the art project in Kampong Cham:
Tbong Khmum: 18; Memot: 30; Stung Trang: 26. Total: **74 student participants**

o Estimated number of guests visiting the exhibition in Kampong Cham: Tbong Khmum: 300; Memot: 400; Stung Trang: 250. Total: **950 exhibition guests**

Youth Festivals.

- In March the Student Outreach and the Magazine teams traveled to Battambang province to join the 7th two-day Youth Festival organized by the Youth Cambodian Council and International Republic Institute.
- In July the team leader and four DC-Cam staff traveled to Kampong Cham province to join the two-day 8th Youth Festival organized by the Youth Council of Cambodia (YCC) and International Republican Institute (IRI).

3) Cham Muslim Oral History Project (CMOHP)

Team leader Farina So continued her graduate studies at Ohio University, USA. In her absence, Student Outreach leader Sayana Ser stepped in to assist the team.



The all volunteer team compiled Cham village statistics, including the names and locations of mosques. Sayana Ser collected and typed up a list of common words used in the Cham Muslim Community and translated it into Khmer and English. The team also wrote a letter for the community updating them about the work of the ECCC, which was sent in a package with *Searching for the Truth* magazine to the 395 mosques across the country. In addition, the team transcribed interviews, practiced voice recording for an upcoming radio program, and collected the

names of mosques and Cham villages so that villagers can be invited to trial hearings.

The team also assisted other projects, including VPA, the Magazine team, the Student Outreach team and the Film team. For example, from July 11-13, the Cham Muslim Oral History team joined the Genocide Education team in distributing the textbook, "A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)," to two Cham communities in Kampot province. The Cham Oral History team also organized the events. One meeting was in Tadid village, Andaung Khmer sub-district, in Kampot district with about 120 people attending. The second meeting was held in Kampong Keh village, Trapaing Sangke sub-district of Kampot district with 230 people.



On December 4, DC-Cam director Youk Chhang met with a group of Cham Muslim from Svay Khleang, Kampong Cham province. The group was led by Nor Min, the village chief of Svay Khleang, and Mei Chi Go, whose deceased father, Haji Sulaiman or Ta Bortes, built a *seun* for the community around 1834. According to local villagers, earlier residents of the village ascended to the top of the *seun* to announce prayer times and observe the moon to determine the beginning and end of Ramadan. They brought a letter of thanks to DC-Cam for providing their community the opportunity to visit the court and attend the Duch trial. They also gave him a proposal affixed with 264 thumb prints from 264 Cham Muslim families in Svay Khleang requesting DC-Cam to assist with the restoration and conservation of the *seun* tower. Mei Chi Go also asked DC-Cam for help in preserving an antique house built by her father more than 100 years ago. Sayana Ser, visiting legal associate Andy Diamond, Kunthy Seng, Fatily Sa, and Pechet Men then worked on a funding proposal for US Embassy's Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation.

4) Public Information Room (PIR)

General Activities in Cambodia. This year DC-Cam's Public Information Room in Phnom Penh received around **1300** visitors, both individuals and groups, who read documents, watched films, interviewed staff members, requested books and magazines, filmed staff members, conducted research for school, filled out ECCC complaints, toured the Center, and asked about missing family members.

Road Trips. This year the team conducted **3** road trips to the provinces during which it screened documentaries and ECCC hearing footage in order to inform the public about the work of the ECCC and to encourage Khmer Rouge survivors to speak out about what they had experienced during the Democratic Kampuchea regime.

Selected Visitors to the PIR in 2009

Students: Royal Academy, Royal University of Fine Arts, Royal University of Law and Economics, Institute of Foreign Languages, Royal University of Phnom Penh, Panhasastra University, National University of Management, Indratevi High School, Bactouk High School, Chea Sim Santhormork High School, Samdach Chuon Nat high school, Build Bright University, Preah Sisovath high school

University of Virginia, University of Hall, UK, University of Oxford, UK, University of Wisconsin, Australia Center of Education, Cornell University, Tokyo University, University of Potsdam, Stanford University, and UKM Malaysia, Norway University, University of Ottawa, University of Singapore, Northern Illinois University, Seattle University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Manchester, Universite de Strasbourg, Obirin University (Japan), Columbia University, and University of Connecticut.

NGOs: CHRAC, Amrita, Bophana Center, Theatre works (Singapore), LAC, OSJI, Human Rights Watch, Harpswell Foundation, Cambow/Cambodia Defenders Project, Khmer Krom Association, East Timorese Action Asia, Center for Peace and Conflict Studies (CPCS), Cambo Technology, Khmer Institute of Democracy (KID), Amrita Performance Art, Youth For Peace

International Organizations: ECCC, UNAKRT, UNHCR, ICRC

Media: Radio Free Asia, Kyodo News, French TV, BBC, Cambodia Daily, Reuters News, Shomen Kuvaleht, CTN, Television Program of Columbia, Radio France, Newsweek, CNN, Radio Australia, Aljazeera TV, ABC Television, Straits Times, Asia Calling, Tuor Tre (Vietnam), the Guardian, France 24, Phnom Penh Post, VOA, New York Times, GQ, New York Magazine, Foreign Affairs Magazine, Swedish Radio, Singapore TV, Agence France-Presse (AFP), Pan Pacific Films, Pop Magazine, "GLOBUS" Weekly (Croatia), Cambodge Soir

Government: US Peace Corps; US Embassy; USAID; Ministry of Commerce; Ministry of National Defense; Ministry of Interior; Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport

Activities Overseas.

In Spring 2009, the satellite office at Rutgers University hosted former DC-Cam staff member Sok-Kheang Ly, while he conducted research for his Ph.D. The Rutgers Newark Center for the Study of Genocide and Human Rights held two discussions on the Khmer Rouge and the ECCC by Elena Leslie, a Phnom Penh Post writer, and Clint Williamson, former US Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues.

5) Film Project

Shoah Foundation Internship.

In Spring 2009, the Shoah Foundation, an organization, created by Hollywood filmmaker Steven Spielberg to film the oral histories of Holocaust survivors, hosted the film team for a quarter. The team learned techniques for interviewing survivors, including drafting a pre-interview questionnaire



to use to gather specific biological information before the interview, preservation techniques, and audio and visual quality assurance during digitalization. While in California, the team has begun taping the testimonies of Cambodian survivors living in the Los Angeles and Long Beach Khmer communities. The Shoah Foundation has agreed to house and preserve the films of oral histories recorded by the team.

Film Projects.

- The team is currently completing final edits of the 30-minute **“Living Documents”** film.
- At the end of October, the team finished the 40-minute film titled **“Victim Participation,”** which documents the participation of the Khmer Rouge survivors in filing complaints regarding crimes that they witnessed or experienced during the regime. The film also shows the important work of VPA project in assisting the survivor participation in the ECCC legal process. The film captures the real stories of 17 survivors, describing their experiences of starvation, forced labor, killing and loss during the Khmer Rouge regime. Their stories were selected from 170 interviews with survivors that the film team has spent nearly two years collecting with VPA in ten Cambodian provinces. The film also includes ECCC footage of the accused Khmer Rouge leaders standing to defend themselves and their regime, as well as old film footage and some photos in the DC-Cam archive mixed with the current B-roll shootings. “Victim Participation” will be used to generate discussion in future village forums organized by DC-Cam projects.
- In late October, Fatily Sa and Ouch Pon traveled to Kampong Cham province with VPA and the Living Documents project to interview Cham people at Svay Khleang commune about their rebellion against the Khmer Rouge. In total, they interviewed 14 people. Working at the village about two weeks, they also shot some b-roll of an ancient Cham house at the village and conducted short interviews with villagers living near the house about its history. A 6-minute video clip about the house was produced and is now being used to seek preservation funds for the house.
- Research is ongoing for the proposed film **“Water/ Land/Rain.”**

Other Activities.

This year the team screened films to numerous visiting researchers; students; media; and the staff of foreign embassies, international agencies, and NGOs. It also captured footage of the Duch hearings, interviewed participants in the tours organized under the Living Documents Project about their experiences observing the *Duch* hearing, and filmed Living Documents tours, VPA fieldtrips and book distributions for the Genocide Education Project.

6) Victims of Torture Project

During the first half of the year, the VOT team visited three provinces—Kampot, Kandal and Takeo—to provide psycho-education to villagers and train community leaders on mental health issues. In each province around 15 community leaders, including commune council members, village chiefs, police, and monks participated in the training and 65 mostly middle-aged and elderly women participated in the psycho-education program. In each province the VOT team provided around 6-25 people USD12 each to pay for their transportation costs for seeking medical assistance in urban areas. The team was accompanied by Dr. Kaot Chhunly from the Russian Hospital's mental health clinic.

Dr. Daryn Reicherter, a mental health expert at Stanford University who has worked for many years with Cambodian-American patients in California, arrived in mid-April. He participated in the team's trip to Kandal province and conducted a mental health training course at the Center with members of NGOs and DC-Cam staff. The course covered 5 major topics:

1. Treating Victims of Political Torture
2. Outline of Psychiatric Assessment and Treatment Planning
3. The Role and Efficacy of Healing Practices in Treating Traumatic Disorders
4. Psychotherapy
5. Religion and Spirituality After Trauma

The VOT project was completed on May 31. The evaluation of the Victims of Torture project was conducted from November 18 to 24 in two districts: Kandal Stung and Bati. Kandal Stung district is in Kandal province. Bati district is in Takeo province. Professor Alex Hinton of Rutgers University led the evaluation field trip, with participation from project team members including Kok-Thay Eng, Leakena Ry and Sengkear Sar. During the field trip the team interviewed 14 people. The districts were selected from a list of identified PTSD patients identified during the project period. Professor Hinton looked through their case histories and determined which persons to meet during the evaluation field trip. The final report of the evaluation is now complete and is attached to DC-Cam's fourth quarterly report for 2009.

Interviews were conducted using a Harvard trauma questionnaire as well as using a follow-up questionnaire developed by Professor Devon Hinton of Stanford University. The follow-up questionnaire was made to suit local concepts of sickness in Cambodia including coining, cupping, pinching, sore neck, palpitation, cold hands and feet, dizzy upon standing, wind attack, shortness of breath, tinnitus, weak heart, think a lot, and sleep paralysis. The questionnaire also asked about the tribunal, Duch's apology and victims' capacity for forgiveness. During the evaluation field trip, the team found that the treatment provided by the Russian Hospital's mental health clinic, to which participants had been referred, had been effective among patients. They reported improvement in their mental and physical health.

VOT: The Next Phase

VOT will next conduct national research on Cambodian's mental health needs with the Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO) with the ultimate aim of building the capacity of the VOT program to assist the mental health education of the public, advocate for improved mental health resources on a national level, and the promote the training of providers of mental health services and para-professionals as well as training other providers who do not traditionally address mental health.



Sous Sarin, who is from Svay Rieng Province, was assisted by the VOT project and was a civil party in the Duch trial. Sarin is one of seven siblings, three of whom were killed during the Khmer Rouge and two of whom disappeared: Sous Sovann and Sous Mot. Sarin also has a younger sister, Sous Sovann, who was prisoner at Tuol Sleng (S-21) prison. Sarin died just a few months before the official start of trial. She never was able to see Duch tried for crimes against her sister and her relatives. Sarin's husband has been allowed to represent her in the case.

7) Family Tracing

The numerous family tracing requests the Center received this year came through a variety of routes, including ECCC tours, letters to DC-Cam's director, and the Public Information Room. A few of the requests included:

- The relatives of Chan Kim Srung identified her as the "lady with a baby" in a big picture at Tuol Sleng genocide museum and requested the Center for documents about her and her family.
- Chuop Rem, 71, lives in Samaky village, Angkor Chey sub-district, Angkor Chey district, Kampot province. She is for her daughter named Van Rum (present age: 38 years old), who she lost contact with when the Khmer Rouge took over in 1975. At that time, her daughter was sent to work salt field at Kep ruled by Koeun. Then her aunt named Vann Sien once met her near fish store at Anlong



Ung Huoy Kheng

- Tien village, Koh Andet district. After that, she disappeared.
- A woman from Australia requested DC-Cam to look for her sister named Ung Huoy Kheng who used to work for the Care organization as an orphan caretaker in Phnom Penh. In April 1975 she was evacuated to Battambang province. We found her biography in our database. She was arrested and sent to Tuol Sleng on April 10, 1976.

8) Website Development

Around 100 new items were posted on the website in 2009; many of these related to events at and surrounding the Khmer Rouge Tribunal. Due to the large number of postings on the DC-Cam website, especially photos, the server space is no longer sufficient, putting a strain both on the site and on the Center's e-mail services. The Center has been renting additional space from Khmer Hosting, and has begun the process of redesigning the site and seeking a host in New York with larger capacity.

5. RESEARCH, TRANSLATION AND PUBLICATION

1) Research

Neam Yin continued researching documents for a forthcoming Tuol Sleng history monograph. This included searching weekly reports of museum staff from 1979 to 2001, photographs of staff activities, and the museum's internal rules.

Dany Long wrote his final report on his research for the Asia Follows Award from the Asian Scholarship Foundation on "Comparative Research of Critical Ethnography of Education in Multi-Ethnic Highlands of Cambodia and Vietnam."

Kok-Thay Eng began a literature review on the relationship between moving forward and knowing the fate of lost loved ones. This literature would support an expansion of the family tracing efforts that DC-Cam has been doing in the past several years through magazine *Searching for the Truth* and the Public Information Room. It will also be used as a base for creating a family tracing book containing names and biographical information of prisoners, petitioners and other persons appearing in forced confessions.

Sok-Kheang Ly researched the social, political, traditional and religious activities grassroots efforts in Cambodia that have contributed to reconciliation.

Khamboly Dy worked on a monograph on the development of genocide education in Cambodia since the 1980s in three parts: the initial efforts in the PRK regime; the challenges of genocide education from 1993 to 2002 at which time genocide study was absent from the school curriculum; and subsequent informal

and formal efforts, including DC-Cam's work and collaboration with the Ministry of Education to conduct teacher training nationwide.

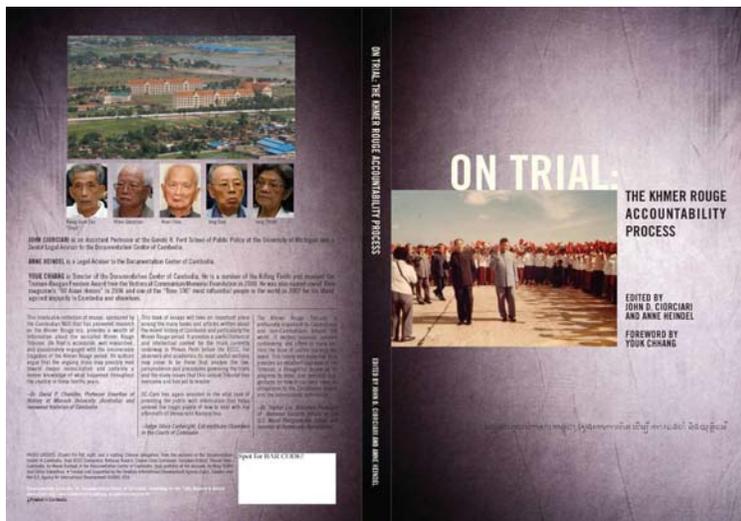
Farina So worked on a paper called "Cham Muslim Women Perspectives on the Khmer Rouge Regime," which is expected to be completed in March 2010. This paper focuses on the plight of the Cham Muslim women under the Khmer Rouge regime and examines whether their experiences are different from other women in Cambodia during that time. It also looks at how Cham women express their experiences of that time.

Socheat Nean worked on a paper called, "Patron and Client Relationship and Trust Structure in the Southwest Zone of the Democratic Kampuchea," which examines power structures in the Southwest Zone of the Democratic Kampuchea. It looks at the relationship between leaders and their followers and how trust was built and retained between these two groups.

2) Translations and Publications

Translations worked on this year include:

- Terith Chy, Getting Away with Genocide by Tom Fawthrop and Helen Jarvis.
- Socheat Nhean, Hill Tribes under the Khmer Rouge by Sara Com & Sorya Sim
- Meng Khean, Brother Number One by David Chandler (French to Khmer).
- Dara Vanthan, The Khmer Rouge Tribunal by John Ciorciari.



A new book on the ECCC, On Trial: The Khmer Rouge Accountability Process, edited by DC-Cam Senior Legal Advisor John Ciorciari and Legal Advisor Anne Heindel with a forward by Youk Chhang, was published in late September. There are six chapters by Ciorciari, Heindel, DC-Cam staff Terith Chy and Sok-Kheang Ly, former DC-Cam fellow Sarah Thomas, and John Hall of Chapman Law

School. The book takes stock of the ECCC process and offers recommendations on the third anniversary of its creation.

In September, the book Nine Lives: Making the Impossible Possible, edited by Peter Braaksma, was published by New Internationalist Publications, including a chapter by Youk Chhang. Youk Chhang was a featured life story in the newly published

book by Clare Mulvany, One Wild Life: A Journey to Discover People Who Change Our World.

DC-Cam's online books are now available at: <http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/webbin/book/search?title=Khmer&tmode=words>.

6. MAGAZINE, RADIO AND TELEVISION

1) Magazine

The Print Shop produces **7,050** copies of the Khmer edition of DC-Cam's magazine, *Searching for the Truth*, each month and **750** copies of the English edition each quarter. Team members distribute Khmer copies to embassies, libraries, ministries, the National Assembly and Senate, NGOs, and high schools. The magazine is also sent by taxi to 1537 sub-districts through 19 provisional and 2 city halls. Additionally, every month copies of the magazine are distributed to more than 200 schools around the country that are working with USAID.

Some highlights from the Khmer and English editions of the magazine this year include:

Section	Title
Editorials/Letters From Youk Chhang	DC-Cam Strategies 2009-2011; Democratic Kampuchea Regime Teaching is National Reconciliation
Documentation	Duch's Confession Related to M-13
History	People's Views About M-13 and Duch Confessions
Legal	Duch's Initial Hearing
Public Debate	The play "Breaking the Silence" Causes Cambodia to Confront Her Past; Young Nuon Chea in Bangkok (1942-1950)
Family Tracing	Wait Until Tomorrow

2) Radio

This year Radio FM 93.25 in Kampot province broadcast selections from *Searching for the Truth* magazine, Brother Enemy, History of Democratic Kampuchea, and Journey to Freedom. The broadcast is made seven days a week, two times a day, from 7 to 7:30 am and 7 to 7:30 pm.

The Voice of America has posted both the text and audio versions of A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979) on its website at <http://www.voanews.com/khmer/democratic-kampuchea.cfm%20>.

Deputy Director Dara Vanthan participated in a local call-in radio program about whether or not education about the Khmer Rouge regime is important. A majority of people who provided their views supported increased discussion of that era in

school in order to educate the younger generation and prevent reoccurrence of events of that time.

3) **Television**

The Center collaborated with Apsara TV to ensure that footage of the *Duch* trial is replayed in full after the trial proceedings and before the next trial begins.

On February 23, Deputy Director Dara Vanthan was a guest speaker on Apsara TV 11's "Women Focus" program, which addressed the *Duch* initial hearing.

7. NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

1) **Cooperation Abroad**

Awards Abroad.

Steven Okazaki, director of the film, "The Conscience of Nhem En," wrote to thank the Center for its advice, encouragement and assistance with his project, which was nominated for a 2009 Academy Award. Mr. Nhem was the S-21 photographer who took most of the victim portraits that are seen today at the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum.

In addition, two 2008 Summer Legal Associates received awards this quarter with support from DC-Cam

- o Annie Gell was selected as a Lowenstein Fellowship, which will help her repay her law school debt at Columbia Law School and allow her to embark on a career in international human rights.
- o Randle DeFalco was awarded a Fulbright to conduct research at DC-Cam on the criminal implications of starvation under the Khmer Rouge. He returned to the Center and began work in September 2009.

Seminars Abroad.

In September Director Youk Chhang spoke at two international seminars:

- o "Collaborations for Peace," hosted by the Desmond Tutu Peace Center, Cape Town, South Africa; and
- o "Behind Peace versus Justice: Fighting Impunity in Peacebuilding Contexts" at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Hague.

On September 23, Terith Chy attended a conference entitled "Victim Participation in Transitional Justice Processes" organized by the Center for Conflict Studies (CCS) and the International Centre for the Research and Documentation of War Crimes Trials (ICWC) of the Phillips-University of Marburg, Germany, and the chair of peace and conflict studies at the University of Augsburg, Germany. Mr. Chy discussed the VPA Project in general with emphasis on DC-Cam's intention of reactivating an

informal truth commission that was begun in early 1980s with the collection of the Renakse petitions. He also spoke of the recent modification of civil party participation before the ECCC and the perceptions of victims about their participation.

From August 1-11, 2009, three of the Genocide Education project's team members (Khamboly Dy, Peng Pong-Rasy, and Keodara Prak) and two officials from the Ministry of Education (Chin Yahan and Va Vuthy) attended a seminar at Facing History and Ourselves in London. The seminar was called "Holocaust and Human Behavior." There were over 30 participants from many different countries such as South Africa, America, Mexico, Rwanda, India, England, Northern Ireland, Netherlands, Scotland and Cambodia.

From June 19-20, Student Outreach team leader Sayana Ser participated in a seminar organized by the Belgrade, Serbia, based Humanitarian Law Center and the London School of Economics on "the Role of Global Civil Society and Transitional Justice." Ms. Ser discussed "Civil Society and Transitional Justice in Cambodia."

On May 4-5 director Youk Chang participated in a Fédération Internationale des Droits de L'Homme (FIDH) and Burma Lawyers Council (BLC) seminar in Bangkok concerning the "external leverages to advance human rights and fight impunity in Burma."

On April 27-28, DC-Cam director Youk Chhang and VPA team leader Terith Chy attended a conference, "Fighting Impunity and Promoting International Justice" in the Hague. At the conference the DC-Cam director shared the Cambodian experience and the work of DC-Cam.

Selected Use Abroad of Documentary Materials.

The Center provided photos to the curator of the Queensborough Community College/City University of NY Holocaust Resource Center for a new building on campus that will contain panels devoted to 20th century genocides.

The Center received word that on Holocaust Memorial Day (25th January) in Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK, Bradley Creswick played "Oh Phnom Penh" on the violin, and Daniel Bates 10 years old spoke the testimony of Mam Phai Boun, while Olivia Smithson 10 years old spoke the testimony of Pin Ratha from [A History of Democratic Kampuchea \(1975-1979\)](#), by Khamboly Dy (DC-Cam 2007). Jane Arnfield also spoke about her research for "The Gymnast," a solo piece of theater made possible through her residency at DC-Cam in January 2007. She and John Adams also showed "Time for Change," a short film made about DC-Cam.

The play "The Gymnast," written by Jane Arnfield with assistance from DC-Cam, has been selected to play the Singapore Arts Festival in January 2010. Ms. Arnfield is now seeking funding to have the play come to Cambodia at that time.

Using DC-Cam documents and assistance, Volker Grabowsky has published, "Thirty Years after the Killing Fields: Course and Ideological Roots of the Cambodian 'Red Terror'" in *Jahrbuch für Historische Kommunismusforschung* 2009. Berlin: Aufbau-Verlag, S. 329–347, which examines the course of the Khmer Rouge revolution as well as its underlying ideological roots.

3) Cooperation in Cambodia

USC Visit.

From June 1 to 14, DC-Cam hosted the University of Southern California's first undergraduate summer research trip to Cambodia, *Problem without Passports Cambodia 2009*, a problems-based course in which ten students from the School of International Relations participated. DC-Cam provided office space, logistical support and support staff to enable these students to conduct their archival research at DC-Cam and conduct interviews with a number of survivors and perpetrators from S-21 prison; embark on field visits with DC-Cam's various outreach projects in four provinces (Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Speu, Kandal and Takeo); and visit Tuol Sleng museum, Cheung Ek genocide site/museum and ECCC hearings. The students have written 10 papers that are being edited by Summer Legal Associates for publication in *Searching for the Truth* magazine. Such collaboration would not have been possible without the growing institutional linkage between DC-Cam and the USC Shoah Foundation on visual genocide education and beyond.

Selected Research Assistance.

The Center provided research assistance to Annie Goldson of NZ, who is making a film about S-21 victim Kerry Hamill.

Other researchers assisted include:

- o Ewa Tabeau, a Demographer in the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.
- o Andrew Mertha from Cornell University, who is researching relations between Cambodia and China both pre and post the Democratic Kampuchea era. The Center is assisting him in locating documents and scanning some files.
- o Akbar Meiro from Indonesia under the Asian Fellowship Foundation. He is currently working on reconciliation in Cambodia. The Center is providing technical assistance and hosting his research.
- o Kyle Delbyck, a student from Scripps College, CA. She plans to come in the fall this year to research historical memory. The Center provided guidance for her project.

- Shay Galto from Northern Illinois University. She researched genocide in Cambodia and interviewed survivors and the younger generation.
- Tyrone Savage, a scholar from South Africa. Currently he is working in Burundi on transitional issues in that country. He visited DC-Cam in January. He plans to return to write about transitional justice in Cambodia.
- Perry Johansson from the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore enquired about files relating to Scandinavian friendship visits during the Pol Pot years.
- Thomas Forster, a Ph.D student with a grant from the Swiss National Science Foundation, will come to the Center to work on dissertation research with on the possibility of characterizing the Khmer Rouge atrocity as a genocide.
- Henri Locard, a history professor from the Royal University of Phnom Penh, enquired about materials relating to the Khmer Rouge prison system.
- Ian Harris asked for materials about Ea Si Chou and Son Ngoc Thanh.
- Elizabeth Kha Do from Stanford University followed up on her research last summer on Khmer Rouge persecution of the Vietnamese ethnics.
- Tucker McCravy, a doctoral researcher from the Center for Conflict Resolution, Department of Peace Studies, requested some materials for his research on the state of peace and genocide education in Cambodia.
- Kate Hampton, an undergraduate at American University in Washington DC, researched oral history and interviewed two Cambodian-American survivors of the Khmer Rouge regime.
- Djorn Rump, a master student in International Criminal Law at the Erasmus University of Rotterdam, the Netherlands, worked on his thesis about the application of general principles of law at the ECCC as compared to the ICTY.

Seminars in Cambodia.

In September, Director Youk Chhang spoke at "The Khmer Rouge and Legacy: Youth Together in Action for Memory Culture," hosted by Youth for Peace in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

8. STAFF DEVELOPMENT

1) Advanced Degree Training

Nine DC-Cam staff members undertook advanced degree programs abroad this year:

- Simala Pan continued her studies for a master's degree in museum studies at Wageningen University (Netherlands)
- Socheat Nean finished his master's degree studies in cultural anthropology at Northern Illinois University (US)
- Khamboly Dy continued his studies for a PhD in global affairs at Rutgers University (US).
- Sophary Noy studied for an LL.M in human rights law at Hong Kong University
- Sok-Kheang Ly conducted research for a PhD in peace and reconciliation studies at Coventry University (UK).
- Pivone Beang continued her studies for a master's degree in international museum studies at the University of Gothenburg (Sweden)
- Farina So continued her studies for a master's degree in international studies at Ohio University (US).
- Dany Long began studying for a master's degree in peace and reconciliation studies at Coventry University (UK).
- Charya Chum graduated with an LL.M. from Temple School of Law (US)



Graduation of Sochean Nean, bottom center



Charya Chum receiving a prize for work in public international and human rights law.

2) Training/Fellowships

Dany Long, team leader of the Promoting Accountability Project, successfully completed his fellowship program in Vietnam under the support Asian Scholarship Foundation, the Royal Patronage of H.R.H Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn and the Ford Foundation. He conducted research for a report on "Transcending

Citizenship: The Making of Nations Through the Experiences of Vietnamese Cambodian and Cambodian Vietnamese Living in the two countries in 1970s-1980s.”

Rasy Pheng Pong attended a short course on Peace and Conflict Studies at University of Sydney from July 13 -21, 2009. The course was led by Dr. Wendy Lambourne, a world-leading researcher in Transitional Justice. People from East Timor, Rwanda, South Africa, Cambodia and Sierra Leone participated and shared their experiences about building peace and transitional justice.

3) Awards

Farina So, team leader of the Cham Muslim Oral History Project, was awarded the **Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund Grant** on May 19, one of ten award recipients worldwide. She is the first Cambodian to receive the award, which includes a \$12,000 grant to help her with her studies. In an interview with Voice of America, she says, “It is such a great honor for me to receive this award,” and noted that it would help her pursue her goal of having a career that benefits women and children.

9. MEDIA COVERAGE

DC-Cam continued publishing a column in the Cambodian newspaper *Reasmei Kampuchea* (circulation: 50,000) that appears two days per week. The columns focus on developments at the ECCC, new data (e.g., on prisons and mass graves) and witness accounts. The column is translated into English by the local NGO Forum and is also used by the ECCC and others. DC-Cam staff also published letters in publications such as *The Cambodia Daily* and *Reaksmei Kampuchea Daily*.

Some of the articles in which the work of the Center has been featured in 2009 include:

Zsombor Peter, *Historic, Century-Old Cham House Donated to DC-Cam*, Cambodia Daily, Dec. 5-6, 2009

Guy De Launey, *Textbook Sheds Light on Khmer Rouge Era*, Nov. 10, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/8350313.stm>

Julia Wallace & Kuch Naren, *Cham Muslims Recall Khmer Rouge-Era Brutalities*, Cambodia Daily, Oct 28, 2009

Mom Kunthear, *Students Confront Kingdom's Tragic Past*, Phnom Penh Post, Oct. 21, 2009

Robbie Corey-Boulet, *New Book Assesses Tribunal*, Phnom Penh Post, Sept. 28, 2009

Youk Chhang, Letter: *The Khmer Rouge Tribunal Should Treat Victims with Respect*, Wall Street Journal, Sept. 8, 2009

Kok-Thy Eng, Letter: *Cambodian People Want Sincere Contrition from Duch*, Cambodia Daily, Aug. 13, 2009

Farina So, Letter: *Survivor Stories Grounds for Genocide Charge Against KR Leaders*, Cambodia Daily, July 22, 2009

Joel Brinkley, *Court Video Brings Back Horrors to Thousands of Cambodians*, McClatchy-Tribune News Service, July 9, 2009

Men Kimseng, *Learning to Teach About the Khmer Rouge*, VOA Khmer, 29 June 2009

Radio Australia, *Cambodia Releases First Ever Textbook on Pol Pot Era*, May 25, 2009, <http://www.radioaustralia.net.au/connectasia/stories/200905/s2579877.htm>

Sothearith Im, *Cambodian-Muslim Woman Earns Grant for US Studies*, VOA Khmer, May 25, 2009, <http://www.voanews.com/khmer/2009-05-25-voa6.cfm>

Ben Ehrenreich, *Cambodia's Wandering Dead: The Ghosts of Genocide Pay Penance for Western Guilt*, Harpers Magazine April 2009

Sim Chi Yin, *Cambodia's Youth Confront a Brutal Past*, http://www.straitstimes.com/Asia/South-east%2BAsia/Story/STISStory_356234.html, Mar. 30, 2009

Sally McGrane, *A Drama of Closure for Victims and Perpetrators of the Khmer Rouge*, International Herald Tribune, Mar. 13, 2009

Men Kimseng, *As Khmer Rouge Trials Come, Center Looks Ahead*, VOA Khmer, Mar. 10, 2009

Somanos Sar, *King Father's Bequeathal of Documents to France Shows Lack of Trust*, Phnom Penh Post, Mar. 3, 2009

Taing Sarada, *Play Aims for Khmer Rouge Reconciliation*, VOA Khmer, Feb. 23, 2009

Douglas Gillison, *Spielberg Foundation to Archive DC-Cam Films*, Cambodia Daily Jan. 30, 2009

10. BEYOND THE TRIBUNAL

1) Permanent Center

DC-Cam is preparing to establish a permanent center called the **Sleuk Rith Institute**. The name reflects DC-Cam's core objectives, as well as its Cambodian heritage. *Sleuk rith* are dried leaves that Cambodian religious leaders and scholars have used for centuries to document history, disseminate knowledge, and even preserve culture during periods of harsh rule. They represent both the beauty of knowledge and the power of human perseverance during times of peril. The Sleuk Rith Institute will embody and represent a permanent stand against genocide, in Cambodia and throughout the world. It will include a research and training institute, library, museum, and press.

Land Transfer

This year the Permanent Center Team worked with the Ministry of Education, USAID, and the law firm of Sciaroni and Associates on the details of the transfer of land from the Government to DC-Cam for the new Institute. The transfer has taken longer than anticipated due to the Ministry's recent decision to transfer a larger plot of land, but an oral agreement regarding the final terms was reached in December. The final MOU is expected to be signed in January 2010.

Brochure

The team has completed the final draft of a fundraising brochure and now working with a Cambodian American artist on a logo for the Permanent Center. The logo will honor the efforts of Cambodian women, who make up the majority of survivors and have been instrumental in revitalizing society after the Khmer Rouge period.

Museum Programming

A consultant was retained and submitted research on Museum programming for the new Permanent Center, including both technical and social functions of genocide museums around the world.

2) Genocide Education

The Genocide Education Project launched in January 2008. The project aims to use the DC-Cam-published [A History of Democratic Kampuchea \(1975-1979\)](#), authored by project team leader Khamboly Dy, as core reference for high school students and teachers throughout Cambodia. The core activities of the project include:

- Working with four departments of the Ministry of Education to train 24 national trainers, 187 provincial trainers, and over 3,000 history and morality teachers nationwide, ensuring that they have a thorough knowledge of

Khmer Rouge history and are able to teach the history to students objectively and pedagogically.

- Working with the Cambodian Ministry of Education to incorporate part of A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979) into high school social study textbook as part of the formal education on the Khmer Rouge history in Cambodian classrooms.
- Working with both international and national partners, including professors, and education and curriculum development experts, to produce two kinds of guidebooks (teacher guidebook and student workbook) for formal instruction in school.
- Translating the history book into five additional languages (French, Chinese, Japanese, Thai and Vietnamese) to educate Cambodian diasporas and people in the region and the world at large about the Khmer Rouge period, thereby contributing to the global movement on genocide prevention and genocide awareness.
- Publishing 700,000 additional copies of the history book in Khmer (to make 1,000,000 total copies published) and 50,000 copies in English to share to trainees during the trainings and students as well as interested individuals.

This year's activities included:

Collaboration with the Ministry of Education Youth and Sport.

In addition to the inclusion of the history of Democratic Kampuchea in the curriculum for secondary school students starting 2010-2011, in October 2009, DK history was formally added to the academic year 2009-2010 curriculum for all higher education institutions by the Accreditation Committee of Cambodia. With a view to a long-term collaboration between DC-Cam and the Ministry of Education Youth and Sport, Mrs. Tun Sa-im, a deputy minister of MoEYS, was assigned to work closely with the Center's Genocide Education project.

Discussion of the new curriculum has already begun to provide survivors and children of survivors the opportunity to contextualize their own experiences or those of their relatives. The Program thus promotes not only broad education and awareness of the atrocities of the Khmer Rouge, but also provides a framework for healing and reconciliation. In many ways, the project has already provided a forum for Cambodians to speak about the trauma suffered during DK rule and for others to listen, a witnessing process that legitimates and authenticates survivors' experiences.



Textbook Distribution.

Around **260,000** copies of the DK history book in Khmer were distributed to **2000** school in 2009. For example, in May the team traveled

with Director Youk Chhang and US Ambassador-at-large Clint Williamson to Ang Snuol High School, where they distributed around 2000 copies of the textbook to students from grade 9 to 12. The team also traveled to Stung Meanchey commune, Meanchey District, Phnom Penh, at the request of the French NGO "Pour un Sourir d'Enfant." There they distributed the textbook to nearly 2000 poor children who live at the Stung Meanchey dump site and receive general education and vocational training from the NGO.

At several of these events Norng Chan Phal, former S-21 survivor, and Him Huy, a former S-21 prison guard, participated. The two guests told the students about their experiences during the Khmer Rouge period and answered the students' questions.



Former S-21 head of prison guard, Him Huy (in the blue shirt), and former S-21 child survivor, Norng Chan Phal (in the white shirt, right behind Huy) who lost his parents at S-21, distributing the textbook *A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)* to students of Youkunthor High School in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. October 9, 2009. Photo by Heng Sinith. Source: DC-Cam Archives

For more details about the textbook distributions, please visit [http://www.dccam.org/Projects/Genocide/Genocide Education.htm](http://www.dccam.org/Projects/Genocide/Genocide%20Education.htm).

National Teacher Training (June 29-July 7, 2009).



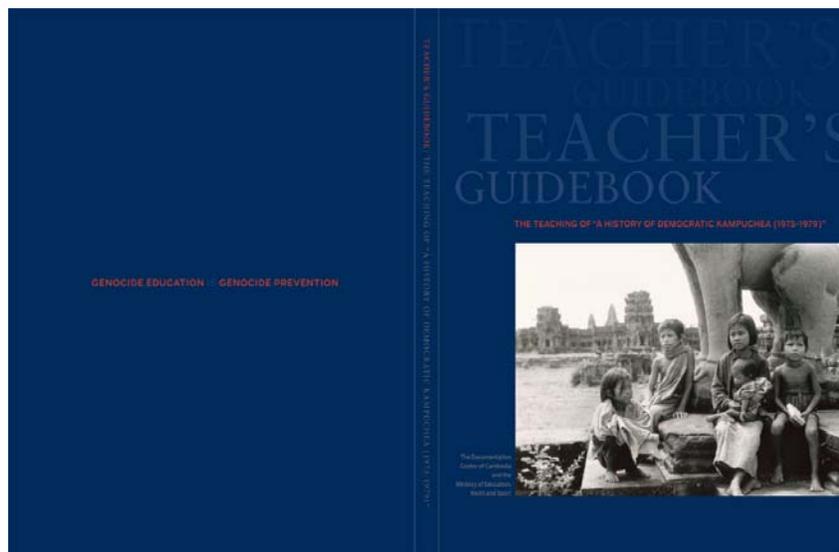
In July DC-Cam collaborated with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to conduct training sessions for 24 Cambodians officials from the Pedagogical Research Department, National Institute for Education, General High School Education Department and Teacher Training Department of the Ministry of Education as

well as 14 staff members from DC-Cam. The participants met at the Senate Library in Phnom Penh, Cambodia from June 29 to July 7, 2009 to attend a seven-day training seminar designed to offer pedagogy instruction on ways to teach Democratic Kampuchea history in Cambodian high schools.

During the training workshop, Khamboly Dy and expert David Chandler went over all chapters in the DK textbook while Christopher Dearing and Phala Chea presented the teacher's guidebook that accompanies the text. Films, songs, field trips, and guest lectures were also incorporated into the training. Additional experts acting as guest speakers included Sambo Manara, Ros Chantraboth, Miriam Morgenstern, George Chigas, Frank Chalk, John D. Ciorciari, Phala Chea and Laura Summers.

Guidebook Development and Publication.

The teacher's guidebook to the teaching of A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979) was finalized in October, translated into Khmer, and published in both English and Khmer in November.



Provincial Teacher Training (November 23-December 4, 2009).

In November DC-Cam, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport, completed a twelve-day training workshop for 187 history, geography, literature, morality, and philosophy teachers from all 24 provinces and cities of Cambodia. The training afforded Cambodian provincial level teachers an overview of the history of Democratic Kampuchea (DK) as well as effective teaching methodologies so that the teachers may disseminate this knowledge effectively into Cambodian high schools. Additionally, the training



H.E. IM Sethy, Minister of Education, with the Genocide Education Project team

provided provincial teachers with the skills necessary to train an additional 3000 Cambodian teachers during methodology instruction workshops that will take place in 2010.

The Provincial Training workshop is the second step in a tripartite process to train teachers throughout Cambodia in the instruction of DK history. 48 National Trainers received a similar training last quarter, as discussed above. The National Trainers then served as “core leaders” in the provincial level workshops and were responsible for disseminating history, modeling lessons, and facilitating small groups.

The Provincial Trainees and National Trainers spent three days in Phnom Penh for large group sessions where they listened to international and domestic scholars speak about topics related to DK history. They also heard heartfelt testimony from both Khmer Rouge cadres and survivors, attended textbook distributions to high school students, went on field trips to Tuol Sleng and the Choeung Ek killing fields, saw the play *Breaking the Silence*, and met the Minister of Education, Youth, and Sport.



After these orientation activities, the teachers separated into six regional groups and traveled to Kandal, Takeo, Prey Veng, Battambang, Kampong Cham, and Phnom Penh. During each day of the training, the Provincial Trainees met at their respective regional training schools to review historical details, take part in pedagogy training, and conduct the mock lessons presented in the guidebook. The morning sessions generally consisted of National Trainers modeling chapters from *A History of Democratic Kampuchea*

(1975-1979) while the afternoon sessions consisted of provincial trainees dividing into small groups to practice lessons from the teacher guidebook. Films, songs, games, and guest speakers were also incorporated into the training. A detailed outline of each region's program can be found at http://www.dccam.org/Projects/Genocide/Genocide_Education.htm.

Looking Ahead to 2010.

In 2010 the Genocide Education Project will undertake the following activities to fulfill its objectives and goals:

- Revise the teacher guidebook;
- Revise and publish the student workbook;
- Post three slogan banners encouraging KR education at all 1,321 secondary schools in the country as part of an informal education on the DK regime;

- Conduct a local teacher training of 3000 teachers in 24 provinces;
- Publish additional 700,000 copies of DK history book; and
- Distribute 700,000 copies of DK history book to 1,321 public schools around Cambodia.

THIS REPORT WAS PREPARED BY ANNE HEINDEL,
A LEGAL ADVISOR OF THE DOCUMENTATION CENTER OF CAMBODIA

Report: DC-Cam's Annual Staff Meeting 2009 Siem Reap, December 13 2009

Kok-Thay Eng, DC-Cam Deputy Director and Director of Research



This year the annual staff meeting of the Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam) was conducted in Siem Reap province, following a long-standing DC-Cam practice of holding annual meetings outside the Center's main office in Phnom Penh. As in previous years, the purpose of the meeting was to review and assess work done to date, to learn from best practices, and to plan DC-Cam's work for the coming year and the medium term.

Choosing a Site for the Meeting

The annual meeting took place during a staff trip to Siem Reap and Banteay Meanchey provinces. During the trip, DC-Cam staff gathered for the Center's annual meeting and conducted public outreach as part of the Genocide Education Project.

DC-Cam selected Chi Krong district as the location where 13,000 copies of the DC-Cam textbook *A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)* were distributed to all secondary schools and high schools in Siem Reap province. Representatives of districts were present to collect the book. Kampong Kdei village, Chi Krong district, Siem Reap province was birthplace and home village of a few DC-Cam staff members including Kok-Thay Eng and Kosal Path. Chi Krong district was a site of a rebellion against the Khmer Rouge in April 1977. The district was overrun by the Khmer Rouge in around 1989 leading to up the Paris Peace Agreements in 1991, which sent many villagers into refuge to neighboring provinces. Kok-Thay Eng's parents fled to Siem Reap provincial town in late 1989.

DC-Cam also selected a site in Banteay Meanchey province to distribute the textbook because of the site's rich history relating to the Khmer Rouge regime and the importance of the site to DC-Cam staff members. In this province, DC-Cam chose Preah Neth Preah (Eyes of Buddha) pagoda as a site where copies of the book were distributed to lower secondary and upper secondary schools in the province. 11,600 copies of the textbook were distributed at the pagoda, which is 45 minutes drive from Siem Reap town. Preah Neth Preah district was the place to which DC-Cam Director Youk Chhang was evacuated during the Khmer Rouge regime. DC-Cam staff member Em Chart was evacuated to Preah Neth Preah district along with her extended family members in late 1975. About 15 of them perished in the district. History Professor Sambo Manara was also



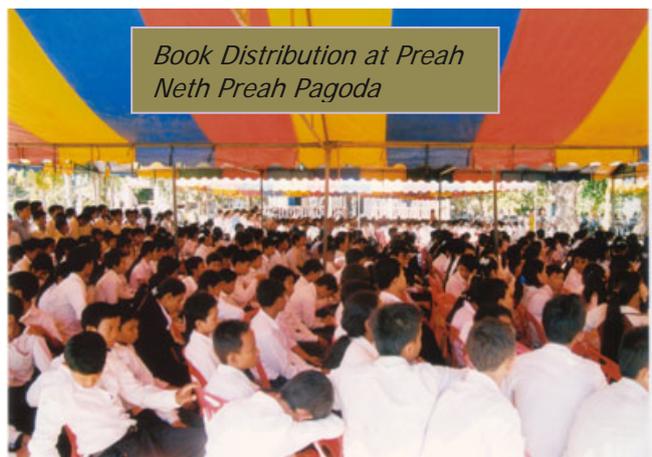
evacuated to Preah Neth Preah district. Professor Manara lost 20 members of his immediate and extended families to the Khmer Rouge regime. Professor Manara, Em Chart and Youk Chhang witnessed a public execution of two lovers, accused of violating Khmer Rouge marriage principle, in front of Preah Neth Preah pagoda. The killer of the couple named Phan is still alive and living around the area today.



Trapeang Thmar Irrigation Site

In the nearby district of Phnom Srok (Khmer Rouge's zone 5), the Khmer Rouge initiated a huge irrigation project (the biggest dam in Cambodia during the Khmer Rouge time). Staff members also visited the site during the book distribution trip. The irrigation project included the construction of a huge water reservoir of 12 kilometer long and 10 kilometer wide with a 10-meter dike on the sides, irrigation canals and water gates to control and distribute water during the dry and rainy seasons. It is estimated that the construction of this

irrigation project which began in 1976 and ended in 1978 needed about 10,000 people. These people were transported by train from all areas in the country, but they were mainly Phnom Penh city dwellers. Many thousands of workers were starved and killed at this site. Banteay Meanchey located in the Northwest zone of Democratic Kampuchea, under the leadership of zone secretary, female comrade Im Chem, who is still alive today. This area was considered a major rice production area by the Khmer Rouge. It also has the most open rice fields in the country. The Khmer Rouge's four-year plan demanding a production of three metric tons per hectare was most vigorously enforced in this location. Suffering and repression against both new and old people was widespread in this area.



Book Distribution at Preah Neth Preah Pagoda

During the distribution trip, Director Youk Chhang had a chance to meet with some elderly villagers who housed him during his evacuation into the district. Preah Neth Preah commune chief (Huy) was also an old friend of Youk Chhang who shared the bitterness of the Khmer Rouge experience together. Youk Chhang lost his relatives in a village in the district just off the national road 6. Preah Neth Preah pagoda in the village requested a restoration of a stretch of road north of the pagoda. Youk Chhang, on behalf of his mother who is still alive and suffered severely by the Khmer Rouge while living in the this village during the Khmer Rouge time, responded positively to the request and promised to build the road and two street signs to the pagoda and the village. In this village thousands of people died during the Khmer Rouge period. Delegates from the ministry of education, particularly Mrs. Tun Sa-Im, under secretary of state of the ministry, also participated in the book distribution trip.

It was in this context of personal history relating to the Khmer Rouge, overall Khmer Rouge history, and distribution of the Khmer Rouge history book that the annual staff meeting was conducted in Siem Reap province. The concept of DC-Cam to have an annual staff meeting at a location outside of DC-Cam was to build a friendly, cheerful and productive atmosphere needed for the staff to think through the work completed in the existing year as

well as to propose work objectives and goals for the coming year. The meeting was conducted at a location along the Siem Reap River. It was a full day meeting where all team leaders, and whenever possible their project members, DC-Cam's management team and Director Youk Chhang spoke about their project activities and overall DC-Cam work and responsibilities. The meeting began at 8:00 am on December 13.

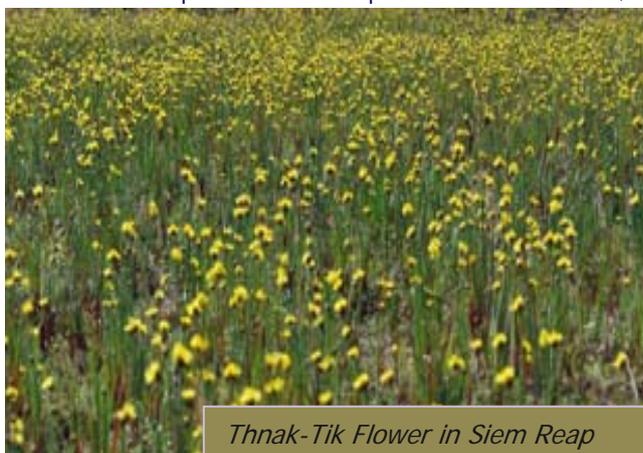
Opening Remarks:



Director Youk Chhang gave welcome remarks to staff members. He praised their achievements and hard work during the year. DC-Cam staff members had been unusually hard working in the last quarter of year 2009 to meet the challenges of the events happening at the Khmer Rouge Tribunal (officially known as Extraordinary Chambers in the Court of Cambodia -- ECCC) as well as DC-Cam's own projects. In the last quarter, the ECCC finalized the proceeding relating to Case 001, the Duch case. It completed all discussions by late November. The verdict is expected to be given in three months time. The unexpected turn of event with the ECCC, that caused some discussions among scholars, researchers, DC-Cam staff members and villagers, was the proposed sentence of Duch by the co-prosecutors, who proposed Duch to be imprisoned for 40 years out of two main reasons. The first was Duch's cooperation with the court. The second was the non-legal detention of Duch in the military prison for almost ten years. However, the defendant, Duch, did not see this

as a short sentence for the crimes he was accused of, in which approximately 14,000 people died horrible death in the infamous S-21 prison between 1975 and 1979. Duch requested the court to release him at the end of the proceeding. As a result, DC-Cam asked district chiefs, Cham villagers and high school teachers for their opinions about this request by Duch.

Another event that DC-Cam staff worked hard to achieve was the training of 186 provincial teachers in Phnom Penh as well as in the six educational regions in Cambodia including Kampong Cham, Kandal, Battambang, Takeo, Prey Veng and Phnom Penh. Teachers were invited to Phnom Penh for the opening of the training with the opening by the minister of education, Im Sethy. The teachers also had a chance to meet and talk with historians who are the authority in the Khmer Rouge history including Professors David Chandler, Laura Summers and Sambo Manara. The training was also attended by 24 national teacher trainers who DC-Cam had trained four months earlier with participation from historians and genocide education experts. The 186 provincial teachers, 24 national trainers as well as DC-Cam were



then divided into six teams and traveled to their allocated educational regions in Cambodia. The training of the 186 teachers on genocide education was conducted in the provinces. It was a one-week training completed with distribution of *A History of Democratic Kampuchea: (1975-1979)* at the end.

Having noted these recent activities at DC-Cam, Youk Chhang praised the staff and encouraged them to continue with their hard work for the coming New Year. Chhang spoke about the importance of

the works the staff and DC-Cam have done and are doing and showed them that these works are all related to the development of Cambodia as a country recovering slowly and gradually from the genocide and protracted civil war. The work at DC-Cam is not only important for Cambodia, it is also important for young DC-Cam staff who seek to improve their working skills relating to project management, improve their knowledge about the Khmer Rouge history and build their experience working in a functional organization such as DC-Cam. Chhang also talked about the future plans of DC-Cam, which seeks to move a step from its current status as a relatively small NGO to become a permanent local as well as internationally recognized research and educational permanent institution in Cambodia. It also wants to spearhead the development of a new era of Cambodia's academic society.

In addition, Youk Chhang also talked about staff development and oversea training that staff members of DC-Cam can take advantage of in improving their education. In fact, DC-Cam has so far sent more than 20 staff members to study in the United States, United Kingdom and other countries for degree programs. Many of these the graduates from master's degree programs are now leading projects at DC-Cam. Many other staff members were sent to join non-degree, short-term courses in other countries as well. Staff training forms one



of the main motivations for staff and volunteers working at DC-Cam, along with other motivations including the satisfaction of working on the dark history of Cambodia to uncover the truth and seek justice for the victims under the Khmer Rouge regime. Staff members of DC-Cam also has an abundant opportunity to speak to and learn from researchers and visiting scholars who frequently come to DC-Cam to complete their Khmer Rouge and genocide related researches, or take part with the ECCC processes.

Youk Chhang also pointed to the fact that the majority of DC-Cam staff are younger people who were born after the Khmer Rouge regime. Several of DC-Cam's staff members were old enough when the Khmer Rouge took power to have experienced the full force of the killing fields. However, for the younger staff, DC-Cam can be a good place for them to build a future career that would be enriched by doing important social works such as the works of documentation, truth seeking and justice seeking for the Khmer Rouge victims, rather than joining in the system corruption that is widespread in Cambodia today. In fact, many DC-Cam staff members have now moved out and worked professionally at the ECCC. Their knowledge about the Khmer Rouge and working experience gained at DC-Cam have made them important personnel doing the works that the ECCC is trying to accomplish. After the opening remarks director Youk Chhang left the meeting. DC-Cam management team coordinated the meeting in his stead.



General Administrative Issues by Dara Vanthan

DC-Cam Deputy Director Dara Vanthan talked about the overall administrative issues, internal rules and regulations which are measures created to ensure staff discipline, commitment, organizational transparency and strong internal controls that make DC-Cam a rule-based organization. In that regard, Dara Vanthan talked about personal leaves, sick leaves, monthly, quarterly and activities reports that needed to be done on time. He also encouraged staff to give

attention to caring for DC-Cam's properties including computers, printers, vehicles, photocopy machines as well as other supplies. In trying to keep the cost of operation of DC-Cam at a low level, staff were instructed to make sure that their computers, air conditioners and fans are turned off at the end of the day.

Following the labor law, DC-Cam provided personal leave and sick leave to staff members as well as providing a reasonable health insurance to staff members who are sick due to causes relating to work. Each staff member has personal annual leave of ten days a year. This leave can be taken at any time during the calendar year for any personal reasons including holiday. However, DC-Cam would prefer staff members to not take leave at many different times during the year, and would prefer staff members to take all leaves during one holiday. Doing this would cause little interruption to the project activities. By taking long-leave which are planned well ahead of the actual leave, DC-Cam can take appropriate measure to make sure that no delays would be created in the project. Taking leave at many different times is not preferred at DC-Cam because this would give an image of lack of commitment. In addition staff members can take sick leaves at any time during the year. All leaves including personal and sick leaves should be approved by DC-Cam's deputy directors. In the event of an unexpected sick leave, staff members can take the leave first and submit a leave form afterward, along with a letter of certification from the doctor. Dara Vanthan also talked about a timely report submission as well as the punching of the time card. Submission of reports of projects have been timely, but Vanthan wanted to encourage the staff to continue the good works and highlighted the possibility in which reports can be submitted later than desired.

Implementation of Work Plan and Evaluation of Performance by Kok-Thay Eng



DC-Cam Deputy Director Kok-Thay Eng touched on a number of issues that can be categorized into macro and micro concerns. Regarding the implementation of work plan and projects, he pointed particularly to the team leaders of projects including Chy Terith, Savina Sirik, Sayana Ser, Khamboly Dy, Ratanak Leng, Sovandany Kim and Serey Kith. Eng first thanked the team leaders and their supporting team members for working very hard in the year as well as in the past few months to complete the goals of the projects. With hard working and discipline, he said, the management team has been able to relax control on the implementation of internal regulations. In terms of implementation of project activities, in the future, DC-Cam would like to see more control and autonomy from the team leaders on their respective projects. The autonomy includes being able to

create the concept of the project, write the project proposal, put together a project team, submit and acquire funding from the donors, implement the project and write the final report of the project. Eng would like to see more professionalism and discipline from the team leaders.

DC-Cam team leaders have been able to complete well regarding their projects. With a master's degree education from an accredited educational institution overseas, the team leaders have been able to understand project details and some of its wider implication to Cambodian society. However, we would like to see more independence from them in completing the project. Many of the projects receive supports from the management team, the director and international participants. Team leaders should be able to work through the project from start to finish.

In addition, in terms of creating work plan and writing project proposals the team leaders and staff members should try to be as accurate as possible. The work plan should reflect as

much as possible the implementation of the project in the future. So far work plans and proposals that staff members and team leaders created have set clear road maps for project implementation and for achieving of main goals we envisioned. The management team would like to see more accuracy in term of planning. To form a more accurate planning, the team leaders need to understand well the issues they are working on as well as the context in which the issues are being discussed.

Another factor that Eng noted was that team leaders should try better to observe impact and implication of the projects on the target population. We have been achieving projects that produce satisfactory results both relating to the target population and the public at large. For example, the implementation of the victims of torture projects have had impacts on the populations. Subsequent evaluation reveals that many of the people identified as having PTSD have renewed hope of being taken care of by DC-Cam and would like to see more referral, training and treatment from DC-Cam. Villages in Takeo, Kampot and Kandal where the projects were implemented have had some shift in the view of local people about mental illness. Interview transcripts, research findings and project reports are all archived at DC-Cam. Many local and international researchers interested on psychological impacts of the Khmer Rouge genocide on Cambodian people have found our documents to be very useful for their research. Eng wanted to stress that finding of one project should form the basis of a new project.

In addition, Eng spoke about DC-Cam's relations with major donors to DC-Cam including USAID and Sida who have been DC-Cam's core donors. Some donors would like DC-Cam to give more focus to gender balance among the staff, create internal policy that do not discriminate genders, ethnic balance, relations with government institutions and other non-governmental organizations. DC-Cam has been able to achieve some of the goals of gender balance within its work place. For example, almost half of its staff members are female. Many staff members of DC-Cam has come from many different provinces of Cambodia. Dara Vanthan is from Stung Treng. Khamboly Dy is from Kratie. Kok-Thay Eng, as mentioned earlier, is from Siem Reap. Bunthorn Som, magazine team member, is from Prey Veng. Dany Long, the promoting accountability team leader, is from Kampong Cham. Sokchamroeun Ly, accountant, is from Banteay Meanchey. DC-Cam has also given some priorities to members of the minority groups. DC-Cam has so far been employing almost 20 Cham Muslims. For example, Sayana Ser and Farina So are Chams.

Finally, Eng thanked specifically to Lim Ky for her part-time work in creating document listing which has been highly valuable for international researchers trying to locate DC-Cam files through the internet. Eng also thanked Lakana Ry for her assistance completing the project called Assisting Victims of Torture. She has been helpful to Professor Alex Hinton from Rutgers University who had come to Cambodia in late November to write the project evaluation. Lakana had also completed transcriptions of many interviews made during the project. Eng also encouraged staff members whose English are not yet proficient to work harder to improve their language skill. English language is very important for them to complete their work, improve their knowledge relating to their working through accessing English-written materials and improve career prospects. He noted that English language proficiency is a skill that can be acquired through the right learning techniques for people who do not have language talent.

Accounting Manual, Receipts and Other Issues by Sophorn Huy

Ms. Sophorn Huy began by saying that the auditing reports that were produced by Price Water House Coopers and other auditors on DC-Cam's financial management and other issues have generally been positive. She thanked staff members for cooperating with the finance team in achieving financial transparency, but she encouraged them to continue doing the good works. She also reminded them about filling in the car log book whenever they use DC-Cam's vehicles to complete their works, submitting trip receipts quickly and on

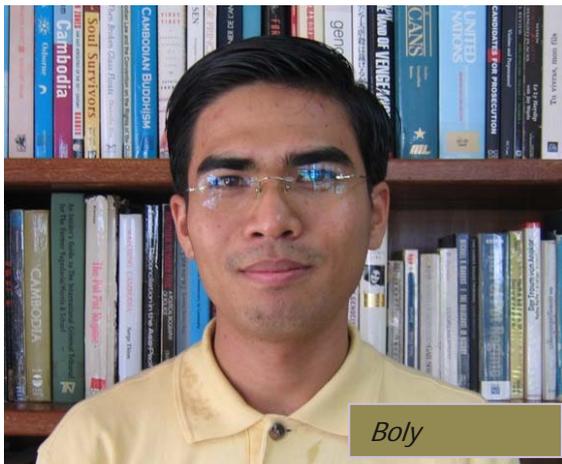


Sophorn

time to give the accounting team enough time to liquidate and clear all receipts. Huy also reminded the staff about being economical in using electricity and car gasoline in order to save operating costs. Fly America Act was also mentioned. Huy noted that during the genocide education training, three participants did not follow this requirement to use US-flag air carriers when purchasing flight tickets using USAID funding. As a result they were not reimbursed with USAID funding. It is very difficult take into consideration cost saving, convenience and following the requirement. In many cases, travelers should consult DC-Cam before deciding to buy a flight ticket.

Huy also reminded the staff about the upcoming the auditing with Price Water House in late December about the overall financial management of DC-Cam that usually happens at the end of every year. In early next year, there would also be another auditing process on the use of USAID funds on DC-Cam’s core operations. Huy also noted a number of new funding relating to a few new projects including a film project called Land/Water/Rain which is funded by MacArthur Foundations, Observing the ECCC, Student Outreach project which is refunded by Danida for another two years. The project Land/Water/Rain is a project that aims to focus on the impact of globalization, global warming and changes on highland community in Cambodia as well fishing community around the Tonle Sap lake. It is a 90-minute film.

Genocide Education Project by Khamboly Dy and Pong-Rasy Pheng



Boly

Pong-Rasy Pheng spoke about this project. As mentioned above, the team members of the Genocide Education Project have been busy in the last few months, especially with distribution of the DK history book as well as training 186 provincial teachers. The training of 186 provincial teachers happened in five educational zones throughout Cambodia. These provincial teachers were trained by 24 national trainers who DC-Cam had trained in July this year. These 24 national teachers traveled to the five educational zones with

between two to four DC-Cam staff members, accompanied by one or more international participants.¹

Pheng also mentioned about future training to 3000 local teachers that would be done in the first semester of next year. All 186 provincial teachers would meet again in Siem Reap province. Pheng said that according to a rough survey among the teachers, up to 80% of the provincial teachers never traveled to Siem Reap to see Angkor Wat. Therefore Siem Reap was chose as the next meeting venue of all the provincial teachers before they would then be separated



Rasy

¹ By December 2009, DC-Cam distributed 300,000 DK history textbook and 2000 copies of teacher guide book to 1,321 lower and upper secondary schools and some private institutions and non-governmental organizations across Cambodia. DC-Cam also trained a total of 200 teachers.

into provincial groups to train local teachers. Seven or eight provincial teachers would travel to each province, along with one national teacher and one DC-Cam staff, to conduct training to local teachers in the provinces. The national teacher in the team would be the observer of the quality of the training, and the DC-Cam staff member would be the coordinator of the overall training.

Khamboly Dy also mentioned that teacher training is the third step in the genocide education project. In the first step, DC-Cam published the DK history textbook "A History of Democratic Kampuchea: 1975-1979." This step was accomplished in 2007. The book was read on radios, including Voice of America in Khmer, and part of the book was presented to schools around Cambodia. Other NGOs particularly Youth for Peace has republished parts of the book in their magazine as well. In the second step, DC-Cam distributed the copies of the book to secondary schools in Cambodia. To date, we distributed up to 300,000 copies. Youk Chhang envisioned a distribution of up to one million copies in total, so that the majority of high school students would be able to obtain a copy of the book.

In the third step, DC-Cam trains teachers on how to teach genocide history, particularly the history of the Democratic Kampuchea. We have been doing this in smaller phases including producing a teacher's guidebook. This book was published in November 2009. The training itself as mentioned above is to be done in multiple steps. In the fourth step, DC-Cam would observe the actual teaching in classrooms around the country. DC-Cam was delighted when the high school graduation examination asked five questions about Democratic Kampuchea. This inclusion would encourage students to read the DK history textbook and ask more questions about the Khmer Rouge genocide. We expect that in the near future many students would have a good foundational knowledge about the history of Democratic Kampuchea.

Victim Participation Project by Terith Chy

Terith Chy thanked his staff members including Pechet Men, Suyheang Kry, Sotheany Hin, Visal Kimsroy, Kunthy Seng and volunteers in the project for their contribution to the project. So far the team has collected 1,725 victim information forms. This is a good achievement for the project that has been running for two consecutive years. Chy added that DC-Cam's victim participation project has helped more people to file complaints to the ECCC more than any other institutions doing the same activity. The focus of DC-Cam's Victim Participation project is to assist Cambodians, in particular the 1982-83 Renakse petitioners in filing victim participation forms with the ECCC.

Chy also mentioned about plans for 2010. In the new year, the team has two main tasks. The first task is to interview people who filed the petitions in 1982-1983. The team aims to interview between 700 to 800 people. This is an ambitious plan, but with cooperation and clear guideline to team members and volunteers, that target can be achieved. The second task for the team is to give notification to complainants in provinces in Cambodia. This notification was issued by the Office of Co-Prosecutors as a formal recognition that their complaints had been received and their cases are being seriously investigated. The team aimed to send out this notification as part of their assistance to the court by the first semester of 2010.

Chy also added that in 2010, his team would not only work on their project activities but they would also work on another a legal education program to be conducted with the Royal University of Law and Economics. In this program, as part of DC-Cam's long-term



commitment to public education, DC-Cam's legal experts would conduct a series of seminar at the school with the students. The seminar would inform students about the progress at the ECCC, discuss with them about legal matters relating to the ECCC and if possible recruit more participants to take part in DC-Cam's ECCC related projects.

Another task that Chy's team would also be working on is the project called observing the ECCC that DC-Cam has recently been funded. Another project that is also under consideration at DC-Cam is about the accountability of the Khmer Rouge lower rank and files. While a few senior Khmer Rouge leaders are being prosecuted at the ECCC, many local leaders who are well known to have participated in crimes during the Khmer Rouge era are living freely in their locality. Therefore DC-Cam is currently seeking the best way to resurrect the issues without abandoning the long-term goal of reconciliation between victims and former Khmer Rouge members.

Living Documents Project by Savina Sirik



Savina Sirik thanked those who helped her project. This project has smaller team members. Therefore throughout its implementation, Sirik usually requested the help from members of other teams to help arrange logistical matters of the people's visits to the ECCC. Living Document project is a project which brings villagers and community leaders to visit the ECCC, solicit opinion about the court and its proceeding, inform them about the process of the court and tell them about the brought history of the Khmer Rouge. This year approximately 2,000 villagers and community leaders were invited. In November up to 100 district chiefs and 20 Cham villagers from Svay Kleang village (the village was the site of a Cham rebellion in late 1975 under the Khmer Rouge) were invited to Phnom Penh to attend the final days of Duch's hearing.

Sirik cited a number of challenges that the project is facing. One challenge is the lack of adequate staff members dedicated to the project. The one challenge is the lack of time needed to conduct road trips for the Public Information Room project. However, from next year Chhunly Chhay who has been traveling with Sirik to provinces to do such road trips with people for many months would be taking care of this activity, leaving Sirik more time to devote to Living Documents project. The other challenge was trying to stick to the plans that were put in the proposal. This was difficult to achieve, because the ECCC changed its hearing schedule many times in 2009. These changes meant that funds that were allocated for ECCC visits from villagers and community leaders were not used effectively.

Sirik added that Living Document project was funded for two years. This funding period would end in July 2010. However because there would be no hearings at the ECCC in 2010, the project needs to change its activity to the circumstances. Alternative activities include inviting people to meet with court officials on the ongoing investigation relating to Case 002, in particular the case of Ieng Sary, Nuon Chea, Khieu Samphan and Ieng Thirith and invite people to attend meetings, performance and forums that might be organized by DC-Cam.

In addition, Sirik mentioned that in 2010 the number of invitees would be increase by two folds so that the coverage of the project would be wider and the impact would be broader to make sure that the people's knowledge about the ECCC is good enough for them to make a critical judgment of the situation. The ECCC was created in Cambodia so that Cambodian people would be able to take part actively in the court process, as opposed to the ICTR and ICTY whose proceeding happened in countries outside of the victims' country.

Concerning Public Information Room road trips, the team plan to travel to the villages twice a month to talk to them about the ECCC, discuss with them about local crimes of the Khmer Rouge and many other issues relating to memorial construction and compensation. Sirik suggested that the PIR road trips and Living Document trips should be combined to save cost. In around July and August 2010 a final evaluation report would be due. DC-Cam's former intern Norman Pentelovich would come to Cambodia to view the files and complete this report.

Student Outreach and Cham Oral History by Sayana Ser



Sayana

Sayana Ser spoke about Student Outreach as well as Cham Oral history project. Sayana is also working on a number of other smaller activities including museum exhibition in Belgium, help organizing, designing and writing "Breaking the Silence" performance. She is also working on the cultural tourism for Svay Kleang village, an old Cham village in Kampong Cham province.

However Sayana's main project is Student Outreach. In this project Sayana worked with high school students by visiting their schools, teaching them about the history of Democratic Kampuchea and helping them to explore their local surroundings for clues of genocide in their villages. In subsequent part of the project, Sayana invited students to come to the ECCC, visit Tuol Sleng genocide museum and Cheung Ek killing fields. The students were also given the opportunity to watch the play called Breaking the Silence that tells stories of ordinary Cambodian people trying to cope with the genocide past and reconcile among themselves. During the trip the students were also informed about the process of the ECCC, how are being charged and why. At the end of the trip the students were asked to write about the experiences of their parents, aunts or uncles who went through the Khmer Rouge regime and then submit the stories to DC-Cam for selection. The stories are published in DC-Cam's *Searching for the Truth* magazine. Sayana Ser has been trying to give response to the students who sent in the stories.

The Cham Oral History project was originally led by another Cham staff named Farina So. Because Farina is currently pursuing a master's degree in Southeast Asian studies at Ohio University, Sayana Ser, is taking charge of this project. This project has interviewed a few hundred Cham women, Tuon and Hakem. Currently all these interviews are being transcribed by student and Cham volunteers. Ser said 250 interviews have been completed so far and approximately 101 interviews more are still not complete. Each interview is about two hours. Ser said currently the Cham Oral History project has two main components to be completed, which Ser is currently working on. The first component is the publication of a Cham magazine discussing and writing about Cham stories under the Khmer Rouge and ECCC legal process relating them. This Cham magazine would be distributed mainly to the Cham communities in Cambodia. However the magazine would also be available in other parts of Cambodia as well. The second component of the project involves creating a website which tells stories of the Chams under the Khmer Rouge. This website would also be a place where Cham people express their opinion about the ECCC and how justice should be best provided.

Currently Ser is working to develop Svay Kleang village into a historical and cultural tourism site. Svay Kleang village has a number of old structures wooden and brick, dating back to late 19th century or during the reign of King Norodom. During this time a few prominent Cham upper class lived in this village. Their houses still remain intact. A brick structure called Seun which was originally used for announce prayers and to observe the moon is also standing.

According to the village chief and other elders in the village, the Seun was built in around 1834. It is located about 100 meter from the Mekong River. Due to land erosion currently it is only 50 meter from the river. The structure has since fallen into disrepair and due to structural weakness, it is no longer possible to ascend to the top of the tower, rendering it unusable. It is therefore vital to buttress the structural support of the Seun in the short-term while also undertaking conservation efforts on the tower itself.

Magazine: Searching for the Truth by Bunthorn Som



Because the team leader of the magazine project was in Northern Illinois, pursuing his master's degree in anthropology, Bunthorn Som the magazine staff writer presented the project during the meeting. The magazine currently publishes 8,000 copies a month and distributes them free of charge to rural areas in the province. The team also publishes 750 copies every quarter in English. In the first half of the year, the magazine team experienced some delay in the publication of the magazine due to a number of issues including lack of articles, lack of translators and printing delay. However in the second half the year, the printing was done on time.

Bunthorn Som also noted that during visits to villages to write feature stories for the magazine, the team received praise and encouragement from villagers, who viewed the magazine as an important source of learning about the Khmer Rouge history and the latest development at the ECCC. Bunthorn also noted a new DC-Cam plan to improve writing and journalism skills for the magazine writers through training from journalists from major newspaper, including the *New York Times* if possible. *Searching for the Truth* has also been a platform for family tracing of the villagers who are still looking and wanting to know the fate of their loved ones, separated since the Khmer Rouge regime. In January next year the team plans to publish an issue that focuses completely on Duch's hearing, proposed sentence against Duch of 40 years imprisonment, Duch's request for acquittal and the people's reaction to Duch's proposal.

The Printing House by Sopheak Sim

Sopheak Sim thanked his team members for their hard work in printing magazine *Searching for the Truth*. Although it has been slow, the printing process is being improved and speeded up. The printing team decided to subcontract a few printing works in the production line including binding and cutting papers. Because the subcontractors can work on these tasks faster and at a low cost, it is economical and less time-consuming to subcontract. Sopheak Sim also noted that starting from January 2010, the team would try to complete the printing all 8000 copies of the magazine with ten days, after the final file of the magazine is completed by the 15th of the month. This means the printing of the magazine would be completed by around the 25th of each month, which would give five days for distribution.



Dara Vanthan added that the main purpose of the having a printing house at DC-Cam is not also to save costs, but to develop a team that understands the printing process and knows the printing machine. The knowledge of this team would be useful in the future in the permanent center of DC-Cam which intends to expand the printing work. The permanent

center might also include publication of a newspaper and other research findings in books and journal formats.

Documentation and Database by Serey Kith



This year the Documentation team keyed 7,865 records, edited 2,484 records, listed 4,872 records and catalogued 689 records from the large collection (41,856 documents) received from Sweden in 2007, thus making them available to researchers — including Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC, known as the Khmer Rouge tribunal) and NGO staff whose work relates to the Court — through the Center's internet-accessible databases. Due to staffing and budgetary shortfalls at Rutgers University stemming from the financial crisis in late 2008, the Digitalization Project was not completed in 2009. The Center is now in discussions with the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. The Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and UNESCO have also expressed their intent to join the

project. An MOU is under discussion to address the first phase of the project: making digital images of the 1,001 microfilm reels.

Apart from documentation works, Serey Kith also works on maintaining DC-Cam website and email system. Kith regularly receives files from the Director and other teams to be posted on DC-Cam's website. Members of the database team also take part in other projects including the Living Documents, Student Outreach, Victims Participation and the Magazine teams. They also helped processing requests on family tracing from the villagers and Cambodians overseas.

In 2010 the database and documentation teams would be working with Deputy Director, Kok-Thay Eng, to compile and write a family tracing book listing names of casualties, prisoner names, names in petitions and other names. This book intends to help people find their loved ones and determine whether they are dead or alive. It would be distributed to 1621 communes in Cambodia.



Cambodian Tribunal Monitor by Sovanndany Kim

DC-Cam, in collaboration with Northwestern University (USA), posts complete and timely information about ECCC proceedings — including expert opinion and video clips of hearings and public interviews — on the Cambodia Tribunal Monitor website (www.cambodiatribunal.org). This project is led by Sovanndany Kim. Sovanndany noted that we have only posted ECCC hearings in Khmer and English. These postings have been the same day or the next day after the hearing. We have not posted any hearings in French language. Therefore in 2010 the team would try to include videos of the hearings in French language as well. In 2010 also the team would try to collect the reaction of the people about the court and post them in the website as well. The team also plans to

increase the popularity and impact of the website by launching seminars at universities in Cambodia so that the students having access to the internet would take more advantage of the materials available on the website relating to the hearings and the ECCC proceedings.

Audio Visual Archives -- Film by Ratanak Leng



The main responsibilities of the film team include filming activities of the Victims Participation field trips, getting reaction of the people about Duch's hearing by video interviews, cataloguing and preserving media materials at DC-Cam, producing documentary films and providing media assistance to media groups such as CNN, HBO and CNBC who came to Cambodia to create documentary films relating to Cambodian genocide and the tribunal. The reaction from the people that the team collected would be posted on the CTM website. Ratanak Leng noted that to date the film team has made 170 interviews during their combined trips with the Victims Participation team. These interviews make about 350 hours. The film team would condense these interviews into a 40 minute documentary about people's participation in the ECCC. A first draft of the film has been completed. As noted above, the film

team is currently working with Kalyanee Mam, a former DC-Cam and is now also a freelance filmmaker, to produce a film called Land, Water and Rain. This is to be done also in 2010 and mid-2011. This is a 90-minute film documenting the impact of globalization, global warming and other changes in Cambodia on the livelihood of the rural community whose lives depend upon the nature and surrounding environment.

Research and Publication by Kok-Thay Eng

Kok-Thay Eng completed the project presentation by team leaders by presenting the progress and planning for the research and publication project. Eng noted that the research and publication team published two books in FY 2009. In November 2008, DC-Cam published "Living Hell: Democratic Kampuchea, August 1978," which focuses on the 1978 trip to Cambodia by Gunnar Bergstrom of the left-wing Swedish-Kampuchean Friendship Association. The book features never-before-seen photographs that Bergstrom took during this trip, his thoughts at the time, and his reflections now. In mid-September 2009, DC-Cam published "On Trial: The Khmer Rouge Accountability Process." This book discusses the forces that drove the tribunal's creation, analyzes its basic legal and institutional features, assesses its progress in a variety of areas, recommends improvements, and discusses its potential to contribute to reconciliation in Cambodia.

In June, DC-Cam completed a proposal for a family tracing book listing the biographical information of Khmer Rouge victims of at least one million names. Funding for the research and publication of this book has not yet been secured; however we expect it to be secured in 2010. The completion the family tracing book (the Khmer Rouge book of record) would be done within 16 months starting from next year. Documentation and data entry teams would help in data collection for the book. Kok-Thay Eng would complete compiling, writing and finalizing the book. In early 2010 we also expect to publish a monograph detailing the personal experiences of Bou Meng as a survivor of S-21 prison. The delay of this publication was due in large part to legal complications as Bou Meng was accepted as a civil party at the ECCC and testified before the Court. The translation of "Getting away with Genocide" is nearly complete. There are two more chapters to complete for "Hill Tribes under the Khmer Rouge."

Concluding Remarks by Youk Chhang

DC-Cam's director Youk Chhang closed the meeting at 5 p.m. He closed the meeting with several points that he wished for the staff to consider. Chhang asked the staff to be conscious of timely delivery of project results and implementation. He also asked team leaders to actively seek resources to support the continuation of their projects. He also encourage all teams to have regular meeting so



that team members can learn and understand the larger goals of the projects. This way they would have a sense of purpose in doing their jobs. Chhang also encourage more writing from staff members, particularly the magazine staff. Finally, Chhang talked about the construction of the permanent center.

DC-Cam's Annual Staff Meeting 2009
Siem Reap, 13 December 2009

Agenda:

8:00-8:30	Welcome Speech by Director Youk Chhang
8:30-9:00	General issues by Dara Vanthan
9:00-9:30	Implementation of work plan and evaluation of performance by Kok-Thay Eng
9:30-10:00	Accounting manual and receipts and electricity saving.
10:00-10:15	Break
10:15-10:35	Genocide Education by Khamboly Dy and Pong-Rasy Pheng
10:35-11:55	VPA by Terith Chy
11:55-1:30	Lunch
1:30-1:50	Living Documents by Savina Sirik
1:50-2:10	Student Outreach by Sayana Ser
2:10-2:30	Magazine by Bunthorn Som
2:30-2:50	Printing House by Sopheak Sim
2:50-3:00	Break
3:00-3:20	Documentation by Serey Kith
3:20-3:40	CTM by Sovanndany Kim
3:40-4:00	Film Team by Ratanak Leng
4:00-4:20	Research and Publication by Kok-Thay Eng
4:20-4:40	Closing Remarks by Youk Chhang
5:00	End.

A Story of Chi Kreng Pagoda

By Kok-Thay Eng



Chi Kreng pagoda is a compound with the size of 127,908 square meters. It locates seven kilometers from Kampong Kdei, Chi Kreng district town. The pagoda has been a religious center of Buddhists from the surrounding communes, especially Sino-Khmer community in Kampong Kdei whose relatives are buried there. According to pagoda committee members, this pagoda was probably built in the mid-19th century by Buddhist faithfuls including monks and villagers who cultivate the rice field in the seasonally inundated area in the north of Tonle Sap lake and areas along the Chi Kreng river.

The pagoda locates in Chi Kreng village, Chi Kreng commune and Chi Kreng district. It is one of the four pagodas in Chi Kreng commune and one of thirty in Chi Kreng district. In June 2008, Prime Minister Hun Sen visited the pagoda to inaugurate the opening of a paved road leading to the pagoda from national road 6 and the deconstruction of the old pagoda and building of a new one. Today the old pagoda was demolished and a new one is being built on its footprint. The old pagoda was built in 1910 through the efforts of Patriach Ta Khlor.

The pagoda is currently headed by the one hundred and first Patriach named Tin Seun. It has 33 monks, 5 pagoda boys, six nuns, 1 elderly and one person who overlooks the construction and non-religious matters of the pagoda. The construction of the pagoda was initiated by the CPP representative of Siem Reap province named Sieng Nam and the president of Siem Reap Chamber of Commerce Pheng Kong. Local villagers and Siem Reap business people have helped contributed various parts of the buildings. According to Um Oeun, the pagoda committee chief, the reconstruction of the pagoda was made for two reasons. The wall of the old pagoda had a long crack from the beam down to the floor. Engineers believed that this crack was caused by old age, as well as shifting ground which protrudes into a nearby pond immediately to the East. The new pagoda is made larger and thus the pond was filled. A new pond would be dug East of the new pagoda. Second, the wooden columns of the

old pagoda were eaten away by termites and were gradually decaying. The monks were afraid that the pagoda might crash down on praying Buddhists and villagers.

Today there is trend in building and creating glimmering and colorful pagodas, rather than renovating an old structure. Change seems to be the preference after a long period of wars, the Khmer Rouge genocide and the increase of the people's livelihood due to economic growth in the past ten years. Keeping the old pagoda structure would show a lack of progress. It also shows that the monks at the pagoda are probably not good at performing rites to eliminate bad lucks and other ritual ceremonies that can attract people. A time-forgotten, undeveloped pagoda seems to attract less visitors and contributions from Buddhists, who the pagoda relies upon for its operation. For those who consider the pagoda as a the place of their worship for their community, a rundown pagoda is a sign of their poverty. They generally would like to have a colorful and new pagoda in their community, rather than a weathered pagoda.

The demolished, old pagoda was built in 1910 on the place of a previous pagoda, which was built from brick in around mid-19th century. This brick pagoda was built on the site of an ancient temple. According to a monk at the pagoda, the temple was called Chi Kreng temple. The temple was itself built of brick, decorated with sandstone frames on the door(s) and carvings. Its foundation was built of laterite which was found when workers dug up foundation for the construction of the present pagoda. The foundation of this old temple is a five-meter square. The temple was estimated to be about seven meters in height. It was surrounded by a square moat with 100 meter wide. Today only one portion of this moat still remains. Much of it was buried many years ago, so that wooden structures to house the monks and other members of the pagoda could be built.



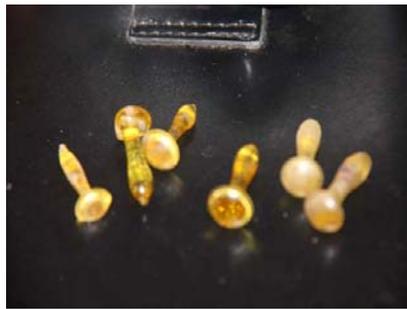
The region of Chi Kreng pagoda is at the peripheral of old capitals and temples clusters northeast of Tonle Sap lake. There are a few other small temples a few kilometers away from Chi Kreng pagoda. About 150 kilometer to the east of Chi Kreng pagoda is the old temple area of Sambo Prei Kuk. About 45 kilometer to the west lies a pre-Angkorean capital of Hariharalaya, present day Roluos commune. 15 km further to the west is the Angkor temples. Linking these old capitals and temple locations were an extensive road networks. One can



identify these roads by looking at the various laterite

bridges along national road 6. In fact the national road 6 was built on these bridges. It was only ten years ago that the government decided to divert the road away from the bridges. However one can still see the bridges when traveling from Kampong Thom to Siem Reap province. The largest of all the bridges is the Kampong Kdei bridge, which is one hundred meters long and about twenty meters high. Its many archs and columns were built of laterite, while the top the bridge was decorated with sandstone seven-headed serpents. The serpents are a sacred site of worship today.

During the demolition of the old pagoda, monks discovered up to three hundred items of artifacts of about 100 kinds. Those artifacts included Buddhist statues, swords, mugs, rings, necklaces, pots, kettles, coins, four guns, rice bag, dishes, even gold items, etc. These items



were put in 1910 when the old pagoda was built. Villagers and monks deposited personal and religious valuables which were made during or much before that time. The items were deposited in a pit, called Anlong Seima, with 1.5 meter deep and 1.5 meter in diameter. Its cross section is circular. After the items were carefully arranged in the pit, it was closed by a stone lit. Monks then put a thick layer of earth over this lit before they began constructing the pagoda.



Treasure at Chi Kreng's Pagoda

During the Khmer Rouge regime, monks from the pagoda were disrobed and put to work in cooperatives near the Tonle Sap lake. Wooden structures in the pagoda compound was pulled down. Their woods were used to built mess halls and to serve other purposes of the Khmer Rouge. The pagoda was never used as a granary or prison. The compound of the pagoda was never used to bury victims. The surrounding rice field was also not used as a killing field. During the Khmer Rouge regime, Chi Kreng was the site of a three-day rebellion against the Khmer Rouge. The rebellion occurred in mid-April 1977. The rebellion started in Chi Kreng commune along Chi Kreng river just south of Kampong Kdei, the district town. It then spread to northern communes. According to some survivors the rebellion was agitated by Sok and his close associates. Sok was the new district chief arriving from Southwest zone in February 1977. Sok and his associates told people that they were ruled unfairly by Mith Soth (Koy Thuon's deputy) and Ta Sun (former district chief of Chi Kreng, predecessor of Sok), who deprived people of food and forced them to work too hard. The target of the demonstration was chasing and killing remaining cooperative leaders having connection with Ta Sun. The rebellion happened for two and a half days. On the fourth day armed soldiers arrived in the

district, arrested and killed many demonstrators accused of treason. The demonstrators were killed at a pagoda called Wat Kork Thlok Leu, in a commune north of Chi Kreng pagoda.



Treasure at Chi Kreng's Pagoda

Like many religious centers throughout Cambodia, Chi Kreng pagoda is shrouded with myths and legends. Records of its history, the great monks and other members of the pagoda were lost many years ago due to negligence. Today the pagoda housed two small, but sacred, Buddhist bronze statues which the monks believe to be casted during the Bapoun Temple period, around 10th century. There is a story of how the two statues arrived at the pagoda. The two statues were originally found in a temple in the Angkor temple area, along with its sister bronze statue named Silsok Reachea. The two bronze statues in the pagoda are called Preah Ang Spean and Preah Ang Neak. A devoted Buddhist named Sek Sok brought the Preah Ang Spean and Neak to Chi Kreng in around late 19th century. Trying to escape the French and local authority supporting the French, who had already



acquired Silsok Reacha, Sek Sok brought the two remaining statues to Chi Kreng by boat via Tonle Sap lake. He sailed southward about 50 kilometers. During the trip, however, a fierce storm sank the boat. The two statues were later found floating on a trunk of a Bodhi tree along the bank of Chi Kreng river, from which place the two statues were brought to the safety of the pagoda. The two statues are revered and considered the most valuable items in the pagoda.

Sayana Ser's Proposal to Conserve the Seun (Medara) and old Wooden Houses in Svay Kleang Village:

The Cham Muslim Seun (tower) is the only one of its kind in all of Cambodia. It is located in Svay Kleang village, Kampong Cham province. Svay Kleang has long been the heart of Cambodia's minority Muslim population. During the early 19th Century, a Svay Kleang villager named Sulaiman (also known as Ta Borates), who was a close friend of King Monivong, was named the royal representative for the Cham throughout Cambodia. Later, during the Sangkum Reastr Niyum period (1955-1970), one of Cambodia's most respected authorities on Islam came to live in Svay Kleang, Toun Ly Musa. He ran an Islamic school in the village known by his own name and it became the most prestigious institution in Cambodia for the study of Muslim teachings, attracting young Muslim scholars from all across Cambodia to the village of Svay Kleang.



It was Ta Borates, the close friend of the King, who commissioned the building of the seun in 1834 for use by the Cham community. According to local villagers, earlier residents of Svay Kleang would ascend to the top of the seun five times a day to announce the call to prayer. It was also used to observe the moon to determine the beginning and end of Ramadan, the holiest Muslim holiday.

After the Khmer Rouge took over control of the village and surrounding areas in 1970, the freedom of the Cham

community to practice their religion came under systematic attack: praying was forbidden, they were forced to eat pork and women were forced to cut and uncover their hair. All are grave transgressions against the Cham Islamic religion. As a result of this brutal oppression, including the disappearance and killing of many local Muslim leaders, the Cham people rose up against the Khmer Rouge as early as 1975, one of the few open rebellions during the period of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979). The village of Svay Kleang was the site of one of the largest rebellions; however, the uprising failed and the retaliation by the Khmer Rouge was devastating. Upon the fall of the Khmer Rouge in January 1979, there were only about 100 Cham families (600 people) remaining in Svay Kleang, from about 2,000 Cham families (6,200 people) before the Khmer Rouge.

The significance of the seun's preservation is clearly appreciated by the local Cham community. Over 250 Cham families from Svay Kleang have signed a petition requesting DC-Cam's assistance in preserving the seun. Thus, the support and active engagement of the local Cham community can be expected.

Momm Meth:
National Teacher of A History of Democratic Kampuchea
By Som Bunthorn
Translated by Farina So and Dacil Q. Keo

Momm Meth is a national teacher [1] of Democratic Kampuchea history. Momm Meth has been a teacher since 1969. Her husband and younger sister were killed without being charged of a crime. [After her husband's death] Meth remained a widow and has five children. She narrates [her story] as tears fall.



I am 64 years old. I was born in Kok Trab village, Kok Trab commune, Kandal Stung district, Kandal province. I have three siblings. My father is Mom Men, a farmer. My mother is Oung Mi, a weaver who works at home. Although my parents earned little to support our daily living, they encouraged me to go to school. At the age of six, I entered Kok Kak Elementary School and I always received good grades every month. I was good at math. However, other girls around my age were not friendly to me when we met during festivals held at the pagoda. They

always got up and avoided me when I tried to approach them because they thought that I was a student.[2] Despite this discriminatory behavior, I persevered in my studies until grade seven and passed my entry exam into Sangkum Reastr Niyum High School (currently known as Kandal Pedagogy School). Due to the long distance from my home village to school, I moved to live with my older sister, a nurse whose house was located south of Lanka Pagoda. Every morning, I had to ride a bicycle more than ten kilometers from Phnom Penh to the school in Takmao. Despite the exhaustion, I studied very hard until I became an excellent math student in my class.

In 1965, I passed the diploma certificate [exam] and moved to study at Sisowath High School in Phnom Penh.[3] In 1967, after I passed my Baccalaureate Exam I (middle education certificate part I), I did not choose math as my major for two reasons. First, I was afraid of failing and having to study again. Furthermore, my parents would have had to spend money to buy additional study materials for me. Thus, I decided to choose science subjects such as chemistry, physics, biology, geography, history, morality, and a foreign language for my middle education certificate (part II) in 1968.

After I passed my middle education certificate exam [part II], I married my husband, a middle school teacher who was teaching in Kroch Chhmar High School, [4] in Kroch Chhmar district, Kampong Cham province. At that time because I also wanted to be a teacher, I applied for enrolment in pedagogy school. But I failed the entrance exam. Later, however, I passed an exam in another pedagogy school in Tonle Bati. After I finished my elementary teacher education course in 1969, I went to teach at Suong elementary school and my husband moved from Kroch Chhmar High School to Suong High School due to difficult long distance commute. We rented a house located near the elementary school. We did not teach regularly after Lon Nol overthrew Sihanouk because the situation in Suong was unstable. The new (Lon Nol) government ordered us to remove portraits of Norodom Sihanouk from every classroom including my classroom.

Soon after, there was a people's propaganda [movement] to mobilize loyal and pro-Sihanouk forces. The forces were armed with machetes and axes and joined a [existing] violent demonstration. The demonstrators were marching to Kampong Cham provincial town demanding Sihanouk's return to power. However, the demonstrators were dispersed and shot at by Lon Nol forces. Despite this crackdown, the group of demonstrators checked for Sihanouk's portraits from house to house and school to school. The head of the school or house owner would be punished if the portrait was missing.

Later, the region Suong became intensely unstable. I stopped teaching due to the invasion of Viet Cong and Khmer Rouge soldiers in my village, and left my child with my mother in Kandal Stung district so that she could help take care of my child. As for my husband, he was assigned to guard the Suong district hall every night. In May 1970, Khmer Rouge and Viet Cong soldiers bombed Lon Nol's ammunition warehouse and captured Tbaung Khmmum district hall located in Suong commune. Having witnessed this while I was pregnant with my second child, I fled to live with my landlord.

On the same night when Lon Nol soldiers lost the battle, I was told by a villager that my husband was killed in battle. I was very shocked after I received this news. Then I took a Mobilete motorcycle and drove to search for my husband at the district hall. Worrying about my safety, the landlord asked her son-in-law to escort me by riding behind my motorcycle. When I almost reached Suong Market, a youth dressed in black pajamas and with a *krama* [5] wrapped around his neck was calling me, "Teacher, teacher!" I stopped the motorcycle and told him that I was going to find my husband at the district hall. That youth told me, "Don't go teacher, the man who is dead is not your husband. The villagers were mistaken." So I continued riding to get some clothes from my rented house and went back to Chub.

While the son-in-law of the landlord was gathering his belongings in the house, he saw a Viet Cong soldier fixing his bicycle in front of the house. He politely questioned the Viet Cong, but was suddenly accused of being a spy and arrested. Later, he was released based on the testimonies of villagers and those who knew him. However, he was threatened and forced to bring his whole family back to live in the house because the Khmer Rouge had taken over Chub, Chihe and other areas east of the river.

My landlord and I moved to live in the house in Suong commune. Due to my husband's absence of several days, I asked permission from Viet Cong soldiers to find my husband at a detention center located in Tuol Trea Elementary School, Tbaung Khmmum district. There at Tbaung Khmmum district, I saw many Lon Nol soldiers that had been detained, but I could not find my husband. I decided to look for him at the Kilo 62 detention center on the Chub plantation and at another detention in Maung Riev. Then, Viet Cong soldiers told me that the all teachers had been released. Two days later, my friend's husband came to my rented house and told me that he met my husband in Daun Mao near Tonle Bit and that he even borrowed some of his money to buy food. I was glad to hear that he was doing fine and asked the villagers living opposite my house to help me to search for my husband. I had to cross Viet Cong front lines in various places along the mouth of the river until Daun Mao. But I still could not find him because he had been floating [along the river] using banana trunks (that he cut by himself) to Prek Daem Chan.

He was accused of being a Khmer Rouge soldier and was arrested (by Lon Nol soldiers). Then, a man who knew my husband went to inform my mother-in-law living in Veal Sbov, Kampong Siem district about this news. Soon after receiving the news, my brother-in-law, my mother-in-law, and a teacher management official in Kampong Cham province came to bail him out and took him back to Veal Sbov. I returned to my rented house that night, crossing the Peam Cheang rubber plantation. I heard a lot of bullets explode which shocked and terrified me.

I arrived in Suong in the morning and asked two of my husband's friends to come to the Lon Nol area in Prey Chhor district because their wives lived in houses in Prey Totoeng. After they agreed, we prepared our clothes for departure the next morning. While I rode a motorcycle with one of them, the other, a deputy principal of Suong High School, took a motorcycle alone with some items packed at the rear [of the motorcycle]. We didn't know the road very well, so we had to travel along the Peam Cheang rubber plantation.

At the Kampong Cham provincial town center, Viet Cong and Khmer Rouge soldiers set up their [military] base at Kampong Cham University at night (currently Kampong Cham Pedagogy School in the province and region) and attacked the Lon Nol Sup fort located north of Preah Sihanouk High School. However, Lon Nol soldiers retaliated. Terrified by this fighting, some teachers and students left their vehicles (bicycles and motorcycles) to hide at Preah Sihanouk High School. In the morning, Viet Cong and Khmer Rouge soldiers withdrew from the university while the Kampong Cham governor, In Tam, made a phone call to South Vietnamese forces for help. Then at noon, while the students were taking their bicycles and study materials back home, I saw a plane (directed by Yuon [6] soldiers) from afar bombarding the university. Consequently, many people died.

After witnessing this bombardment, we continued our journey to Chi He and met two men. They both guided us down the river. A while later, we encountered five Viet Cong soldiers equipped with T-O, pistols, guns, and three motorcycles who were safeguarding the area. We were fortunate because our companion could speak Vietnamese, so the soldiers asked us to accompany them until they crossed Tonle Touch at Ambeng Ches Pagoda. However, we were not allowed to drive our motorcycles too far from them. As I was 8 months pregnant, I was afraid that I would deliver my child along the way. Therefore, I decided to ask permission from the Viet Cong soldiers to look for a house in the village. I crossed the river and stayed with a teacher's wife for one night in Prey Totoeng and continued to look for my husband in Veal Sbov, Kampong Cham province. There was a check point in front of Phnom Srey-Bros which prohibited anyone whose native village was not located in Kampong Cham provincial town, from entering the province, so I decided to go back to Phnom Penh in order to present myself at the teacher management office and show that we were still alive. At that time, I met one of the teachers who had taught at Suong High School with my husband. Two days later, he went back to Kampong Cham province and informed my husband about me.

Ten days later, I met my husband while he was fleeing the village, which was at the front line of Lon Nol and Khmer Rouge soldiers in Phnom Penh. We stayed with my mother for two months in Phnom Penh until the situation calmed. Then, we returned to Kampong Cham to teach. I taught at Dei Doh Elementary School and my husband taught at a special high school which accommodated students who escaped from Kroch Chhmar, Stung Trang, Chi He, all of which were controlled by the Khmer Rouge. I taught there for one year and then moved to my husband's high school. There, I taught for two years until 1973 when we moved to Phnom Penh because of the constant instability in Kampong Cham. I became a proctor at Neary High School (currently Norodom High School) and my husband was a teacher at Sisowath High School.

On April 17, 1975, I was staying at Sangkat 6, south of Lanka Pagoda, Phnom Penh with my husband, four children, parents, two older sisters, two younger sisters, one younger brother and grandmother when Khmer Rouge soldiers marched into Phnom Penh at around 9 a.m.. My family and I hung a white piece of cloth in front of our house as other city dwellers did. I heard bullets fired east of the Independence Monument for awhile and then the situation returned to normal. My neighbors and I were very happy because we thought that the war was over. I watched Khmer Rouge marching in front of my house and waved my hands in the air to congratulate them.

Unfortunately, at 11 a.m. bullets exploded in Tan Kimhourn's (Chairman of National Assembly) house located not far from my house. And in front of my house, Khmer Rouge soldiers ordered us to leave at gun point at once. Panicked by the situation, my younger sisters and brother lifted my grandmother onto a motorcycle and drove along Norodom Boulevard to meet my uncle in Psar Daem Thkov. As for me, I gathered some clothes, *pha-ok*,^[7] *prahok*,^[8] salt, rice grains, that I prepared when the U.S. had abandoned their embassy in Phnom Penh. I placed these items in a small motor-cart and also put my four children in the cart. I left home traveling along Trasak Pha-Em, Boeng Keng Kang, and when we arrived at Ith Suong fort (now the Embassy of the Republic of Vietnam), a KR soldier holding a bomb demanded the motor-cart from my husband. When we handed the motor-cart over to him, he said, "I am just borrowing this for a while." My husband and I continued our journey and at noon and arrived at my uncle's house in Psar Daem Thkov. However, my older sister who was brining my grandmother had not arrived yet.

The next morning, my family and uncle's family ended up leaving home without waiting for my grandmother because of the Khmer Rouge forced evacuation. My family passed a glass factory along the way and rested for several nights before reaching the Kandal-Takeo border. We saw corpses covered with tree leaves and smelled the stench of [Lon Nol] soldiers' corpses. There were pregnant women who stopped along the way to deliver their baby. I had many family members [with me], but we had only one bicycle and one motor-cart to transport our belongings and small children. I tied a *krama* around my body and placed my baby, who was just born in 1974, in the *krama* to carry the child along. When we arrived at Phnom Chachak pagoda, we stayed there for a week because we wanted to return to our hometown in Ko Trab village. The temple's Buddhist monks were defrocked by the Khmer Rouge.

Later, the Khmer Rouge allowed me to live in my village (Kandal Stung). Unfortunately, some people died from landmines upon their arrival because my village was one of the front lines in Phnom Penh where many mines were used. My family stayed temporarily in a small visitor's waiting hall where the village committee had built a hut for us. Two weeks later, wooden huts made of materials from my old house were built and the Khmer Rouge gave each a hut to stay in. We were surprised to see many brand 79 bullets under our bed in the visitor's hall when we were about to leave the place.

The hut that Angkar gave to us was built on a plot of land that all the husbands had died, leaving only wives and daughters. Even though people had died there, I was not frightened by this news. However, three to four days later my three-year old child, who often played in the verandah, suddenly could not move his body because his legs were in pain. Given this, I asked my village chief to let us move to settle in my native plot of land. He let us move, but he did not help us build a hut. We had to search for *sangke* trees ^[9], bamboo shots for columns, and palm leaves for our roof.

I invited a *kru Khmer* ^[10] to treat to my child who was terribly ill and about a month later, he stopped treating him saying that he could not help him anymore. One moth later, the child of a militia man had a similar illness as my child and he invited a *kru Khmer* to Tonle Bati to cure him. Upon seeing this, I also did the same thing. The *kru Khmer* used traditional methods, *sdoh*, *phlum*, and *splashing water*, to cure my child. My child got better gradually from week to week. Three months after curing my child, the *kru Khmer* disappeared.

In my village, my older sister and I were seamstresses and we sewed for Khmer Rouge cadres. My father wove cattle whip. During the rainy season, villagers were immersed in work in the rice paddies from morning till night. I encountered some difficulties because I had two children and needed to go to transplant the rice on time. When I was late, I had to finish transplanting the area of rice paddy that they assigned me and they warned others not to help me.

Actually, I did try my best to work, but the chief of my group was never satisfied with my results and blamed me everyday. As for rations, I received one can of rice per day and sometimes I was given some corn instead. As a peasant, after work my husband went into the forest to dig up yams, catch crabs, or pick edible leaves for our food.

In September 1975, my family was evacuated from our village along with my cousin's family and other families. We were asked to wait for a truck in Siem Reap market located in Siem Reap commune, Kandal Stung district. When I arrived at the market, the truck was fully occupied with evacuees, so we had to wait along National Road 2 for four days. During our wait, I met one of my classmates (a student leader of the Khmer Literature group at a University) and he asked the district committee to let my family and my cousin's family stay in our native village. He also took my younger cousin, Kuy Tro, to Phnom Penh with him. Later, he disappeared.

My family was able to return to our village. However, the village chief asked the villagers not to speak to my entire family including my cousin's. The next day, my family was assigned to work on specific tasks with other new people in the village. The new people just looked at us and did not say anything.

When the transplanting season was over, I was assigned to dehusk the rice grains [11] from morning until 2 p.m. when I stopped to cook rice for lunch. After lunch, I continued working until 10 p.m. As for husband, he watered the vegetable garden and did not have time to rest at all. My children collected cattle excrement and chopped *tuntreang khet* [12] to make fertilizer. After yams were collected, the Khmer Rouge distributed yam rations to each family based on the number of family members, yet my family received no yam but only its vines. When the harvest season arrived, we worked very hard to collect the rice yield all day and night. We transported rice stalks until 10 p.m. and then returned home.

In mid-1976, we began communal eating in my village and the KR collected all of our utensils (plates, pots, and pans) and I was asked to transplant rice seedlings in a rice paddy located 4-5 kilometers away from my village and carried rice seedlings myself. At night, I had to make rice. My two children, one five years old and the other seven, were sent to live near the village chief's house and they had to build dikes for the rice field without any rest. The men who were assigned to work far from the village never returned. My younger siblings, nieces, and nephews were drafted to the youth mobile unit to build dikes located 5-6 kilometers from the village.

In April 1977, I was pregnant with my fifth child and did not have sour soup to eat and I was also very hungry for chicken and meat, but I dared not steal *Angkar's* food. One night I smelled porridge with fried garlic from the communal dining hall and I wanted to ask them for some. However, my husband begged me not to go because he was afraid of being killed. In May 1977, I heard that my younger sister was sent to Tonle Bati prison. She was accused of stealing someone's property while she was asking them for palm leaves to weave *bangki* (baskets) for people.

Seven months later after transplanting the rice, the village chief and commune chief called for 50 healthy men who were able to carry soil and rakes (*neangkoa*) to help people in Tonle Bati transplant rice because they had not finished transplanting yet. My husband was on the list. I wanted to go with him too because they weren't hopeful that they would return to the village. I committed to dying with my husband. However, my husband asked me not to come with him because I was pregnant and he explained to me that, "It is better if I die alone rather than both of us die." He went on to say, "This kind of regime will not last long, one day this country will be liberated, so if you are still alive our children will have a good future." I followed his words, but I cried in my house secretly. I asked him to put on two layers of pajamas and wrap a *krama* around his neck so that he would feel warm. I did not accompany him. When he left, all of us shed tears without letting others see. However, when

the chief of my group learned that my eyes turned red from crying, she scolded me and simply said, "You should not have thought too much, your husband just went to help people in Tonle Bati transplant the rice." However, one day, a child of the village chief told my child that my husband was sent to be killed. After I received this sad news, I was in great pain and immensely pitied my husband.

In February 1978 before I delivered my child, I received porridge only twice each day. I delivered my child in a hospital, but there was no midwife to help with my delivery. I had to make a fire to warm my body by myself. The next morning, I asked someone to send this news to my mother. Then she asked for permission from the commune chief to visit me but was refused. However, she didn't listen and came to visit me and brought my two children along. I told her to go back because I was afraid that *Angkar* would punish her and asked her to leave my two children to take care of me. My children made a fire and washed the dirty baby cloth for my new born child. I could not feel full with only three ladles of rice, so I asked for more rice from a physician at the hospital. The physician gave me more rice. Five days later, I asked the physician to leave the hospital and walked about five kilometers back home. One week later, I had a big lesion on my waist. I decided to go to hospital again because it felt very painful and I did not have any medicine to treat it. However, the Khmer Rouge physician did not have any special means to treat my lesion. Rather, they applied chewed *pongro* (a type of herbal tree) leaves on it.

Three weeks later, the village chief asked me to take care of infants and weave 40 sets of palm leaves a day. This heavy task made me ill. Later I was assigned to remove 40 trees from one place and grow them in another place in a day. After two days of working, I had diarrhea and vomited. The village chief gave me some herbal tree [medicine] and let me rest for a while. After I recovered from my illness, I had to do light work such as weaving palm leaves and making palm mats as assigned by the village chief.

In April 1978, the commune chief forgave all people in public, [13] but we still needed to work and could not return home at noon. At night, *Angkar* mobilized all villagers to dig a big pond. One evening, when I was measuring the hectares of rice fields harvested to report back to a high-level Khmer Rouge cadre, I saw people running eastward on top of a canal. The commune chief and village chief had disappeared from the village. When I arrived home, my mother gathered all my children and all my siblings as well as my nieces and nephews in one place. My mother had brought one cooking pot to cook rice, but we did not leave the village yet.

At the end of January, 1979, the commune chief and village chief armed with machetes forcibly asked us to leave the village. My family traveled southeast and met many Khmer Rouge soldiers who were running from Takmao. The soldiers recruited some people, except my family because my father and daughter had a fever, with them. We stayed overnight in Veal Boeng. In the morning, we walked toward National Road 2 toward Phnom Penh. I lived in Psar Daem Thkov High School and became an elementary school teacher. I received a small ration of rice from the state, the People's Republic of Kampuchea, to feed my children. I worked very hard and continued my studies and obtained a high school teacher certification. Later on, I was promoted to a high school teacher inspector and a national teacher as in present day.

Having worked as a teacher for more than 40 years has made it even harder for me to forget my experiences during the Khmer Rouge regime. I shed tears every time I recall my story; that I struggled for my life. I have turned my anger and suffering from losing my husband and younger sister into strength and perseverance to accomplish my career and raise all of my five children until they are educated. I teach the younger generation to understand Khmer Rouge history, to not be vengeful, and to strive for solidarity among each other.

[1] A "national teacher" is a former teacher who works in the Ministry of Education, Sport, and Youth as a teacher trainer. As such, Momm Meth was selected to participate in DC-Cam's national teacher training workshop on June 2009.

[2] Presumably, the other girls were not students so avoided Meth because she was different from them.

[3] Meth spent two years at her first high school from grade seven to nine, and then began another high school. In Cambodia, it is common for "high schools" to only consist of 2 or 3 grades, generally starting from grade seven up to grade twelve.

[4] In Cambodia, most high schools contain a middle school within their facility and the middle school is considered a part of the high school.

[5] Traditional scarf.

[6] Khmer term for Vietnamese.

[7] Fermented fish used in Cambodian dishes.

[8] Another type of fermented fish used in Cambodian dishes.

[9] A tree in Cambodia used for building homes, among many other uses.

[10] A traditional Khmer healer.

[11] This was done by stepping on a large device that pounded the rice.

[12] A tree used as a natural fertilizer.

[13] The reason for the commune chief's actions is unclear.