

មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលឯកសារកម្ពុជា

ប្រវត្តិកម្ម
ឈ្មោះ : ហ៊ុន សែន ឈ្មោះ ប្រពន្ធ : ហ៊ុន ស៊ីន
កាលបរិច្ឆេទ : ១៩៧៥ កន្លែងកំណើត : ភ្នំពេញ
ចូលរួមក្នុង : កងទ័ពប្រល័យកងកម្ពុជា ឈ្មោះ : ហ៊ុន សែន
ចូល រួម ក្នុង : កងទ័ពប្រល័យកងកម្ពុជា ឈ្មោះ : ហ៊ុន សែន
ចូលរួម : កងទ័ពប្រល័យកងកម្ពុជា ឈ្មោះ : ហ៊ុន សែន
ឈ្មោះ : ហ៊ុន សែន (ស) ឈ្មោះ : ហ៊ុន សែន (ស)
ក្រុម : ក្រុមប្រឹក្សាភិបាល ឈ្មោះ : ហ៊ុន សែន
តំណ : ភ្នំពេញ

NHEM EN

A KHMER ROUGE PHOTOGRAPHER

**FORGIVENESS
& RECONCILIATION**

A Project of the Documentation Center of Cambodia
January 22, 2007

* ឈ្មោះ : ហ៊ុន សែន
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ត្រាស់ អោយ អ្នកស្រាវជ្រាវ ក្រុមប្រឹក្សាភិបាល
សុំ ទាញយក ឯកសារ ពី មុន ឬ ក្រោយ ឆ្នាំ ១៩៧៥

កិច្ចការ ទូទៅ ២០០៧
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Objective of the Museum

- Seeking forgiveness
- Reconciliation between:
 - Nhem En and his relatives
 - Nhem En and victims of S-21 prison
 - Victims and perpetrators of the genocide

Achieving the Objectives

- Photo Exhibition
- Open Dialogue
- Field Trips to Anlong Veng

DC-Cam's Involvement

- Preservation of documents
 - Restoration, scanning, database entry
- Publication
- Mounting the exhibition
 - Technical and design assistance

The Museum will Promote:

- Preservation of History
- Social Integration
 - Building mutual understanding
- Education
 - Democratic Kampuchea history
 - Accountability and redemption
 - Tolerance and forgiveness

Photographs of Nhem En's Public Apology



Cambodian and foreign reporters taking pictures of Nhem En at a press conference held at the US Embassy in Phnom Penh, January 25, 2007.

Photographs of Nhem En's Public Apology



US Ambassador Joseph Mussomeli shakes hands with former Khmer Rouge photographer, Nhem En.

Photographs of Nhem En's Public Apology



Left to Right: DC-Cam Director, Youk Chhang; US Ambassador; Nhem En; Editor of Reasmey Kampuchea Pen Samitthy; and Nhem En's Advisor.

US Ambassador's Speech at the Press Conference

"Good morning. I am delighted to welcome you all to the American Embassy to meet with Nhem En, the photographer of many of those photos that fill the rooms of Toul Sleng prison. Those photos fill the empty rooms of Toul Sleng prison with an even deeper emptiness. They overwhelm every visitor. ***The eyes of each victim stare back at us, haunt us, cry out to us even after all these decades of silence.*** No one who visits Toul Sleng ever forgets those photographs.

Whatever accusations and insinuations are made about the photographer of these photos, the photos themselves are irrefutable testimony to the terror of the Khmer Rouge regime. We all know from recent surveys that many young Cambodians do not even believe that the genocide occurred, that their parents must have exaggerated the horror, ***but these photos help remind everyone of the true enormity of that crime.*** We have almost grown accustomed to the daily atrocities we read about in our newspapers each morning, but I hope we never get accustomed to these photographs. I hope these photographs will always unsettle us and make us uncomfortable. We have all heard the old cliché that a picture is worth a thousand words. Each of these pictures is worth a thousand tears.

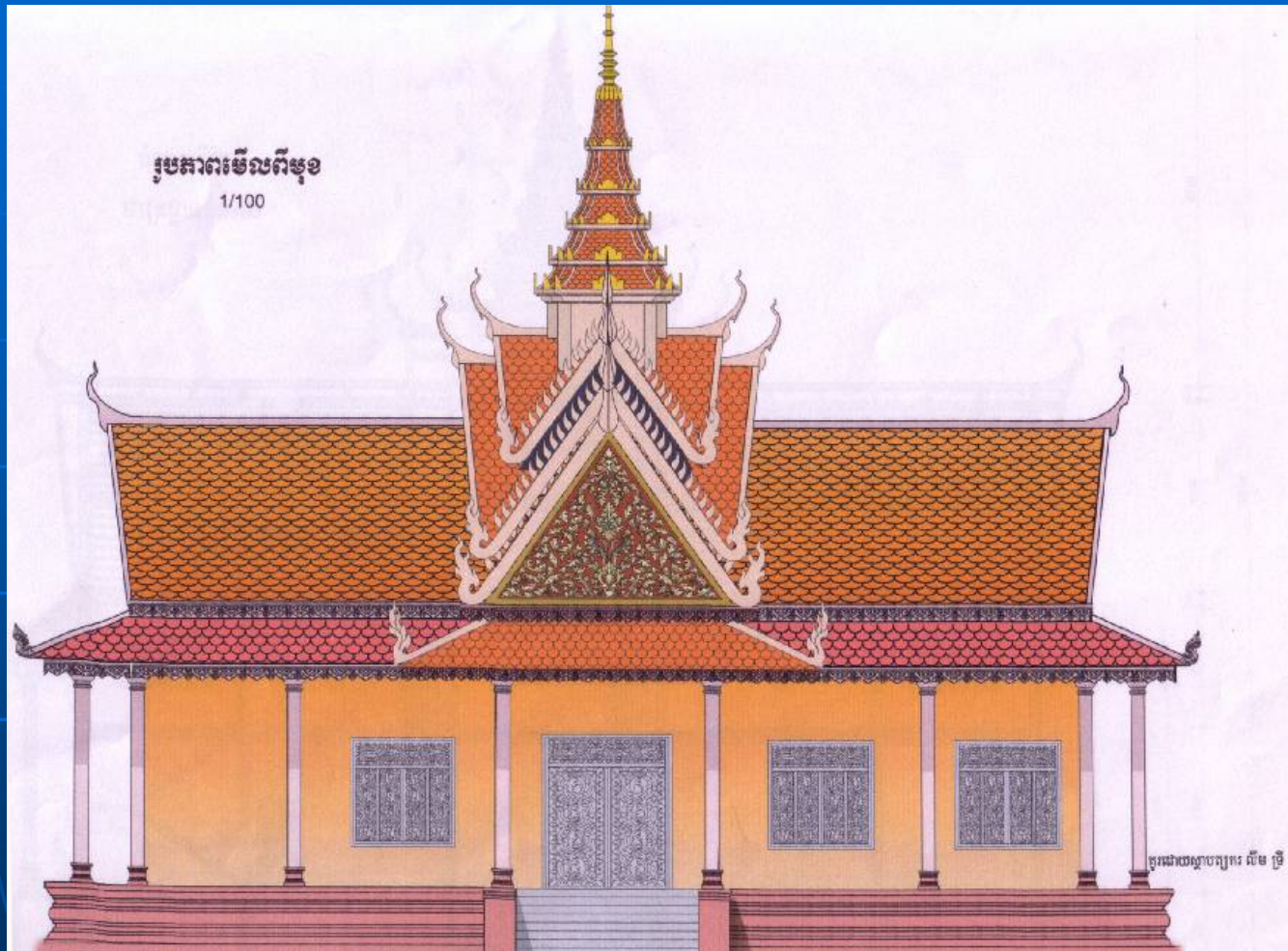
While these photographs are an important contribution to preserving the record of the Khmer Rouge atrocities, ***I think Mr. Nhem has set a good example by apologizing for his part in those atrocities.*** Contrast what he has done with the fact that no Khmer Rouge leader has ever stepped forward to admit guilt or accept blame for the regime's brutal crimes. If there is ever to be genuine national reconciliation in Cambodia, those who helped commit these atrocities will need to come forward and stop denying their crimes.

The opening of this museum will not, of course, resolve this matter. This museum will not ensure national reconciliation or compensate for the suffering the victims endured. It is a small step. But it is an important step nonetheless.

We are also happy to have with us today our friends and colleagues from DC-CAM, especially Youk Chhang. The US government has been working closely with DC-CAM and helping to fund its activities for a decade now. We are very proud of our joint efforts to preserve the past and to bring the guilty to justice."

[illegible]

Museum Design



Estimated budget: USD\$60,000.

- Private donations
- Government sponsorship, national and international
- Contributions from villagers in Anlong Veng

Thank you.

For more information,
please contact:

Nhem En

Tel: 012-628-124