

THE CAMBODIA TRIBUNAL MONITOR Presentation at Bright Hope Institute, Kampong Chhnang province

On September 5, 2013, the Cambodia Tribunal Monitor (CTM) Project of the Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam) is conducting a workshop at Bright Hope Institute, Kampong Chhnang province. The workshop will focus on the history of Democratic Kampuchea, the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, and the resources provided by the CTM website. The workshop will be conducted from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. with the participation of 100 students. To date, the CTM team has successfully conducted the workshop at more than 30 universities, reaching almost 7,000 students.

Almost three decades after the collapse of the brutal Khmer Rouge regime (1975-1979), a hybrid tribunal known as the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) was established by the Royal Government of Cambodia and the United Nations to address the serious human rights violations and crimes committed under the DK regime. The ECCC continues to prosecute the senior leaders of the DK regime and is helping Cambodians to achieve a measure of reconciliation. Yet, judicial measures alone cannot bring justice to the victims. There is a need to update the public and especially students—who will be the future leaders of this country—on Khmer Rouge history and the legal process for prosecuting the senior leaders most responsible for the horrors committed under the regime.

Kampong Chhnang province during the Khmer Rouge regime was placed in Western Zone and administered by Chou Chet. In 1976, the Khmer Rouge and China selected Rolea Pa-ier District of Kampong Chhnang province to build an airport, envisioned by China as its future regional military base. Many Chinese experts oversaw technical and machinery work, while tens of thousands Cambodian people who were untrusted by the Khmer Rouge were forced to do heavy work causing numerous casualties. Unfortunately, this construction has never been finished due the presence of the Vietnamese forces and collapse of the Khmer Rouge regime in 1979. After almost three decades, Cambodian Prime Ministry Hun Sen announced that this airport would be reconstructed and expanded as a functioning airport by 2020. With this important site, the CTM hopes to use this workshop as a platform for disseminating information on the history of the Khmer Rouge, the trials of Khmer Rouge leaders, and research tools available for accessing these important topics. It is through this awareness and greater access to resources that the CTM Project hopes to preserve memory and enhance the access to (and understanding of) justice.

AGENDA

8:00-9:00AM Presenter: Ms. Chea Phalla

Introduction of the team

Film screening of "Tuol Sleng Prison in 1979"

Discussion of the film and the Khmer Rouge era

Q & A

9:00-9:15AM Break

9:15-9:45AM Presenter: Ms. Kim Sovanndany

Presentation of CTM's website

Q & A

9:45-10:30AM Presenter: Mr. Lim Cheytoath

On-going development at the ECCC

Q & A

10:30-11:00AM Student's reflection and closing remark

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