

**Kingdom of Cambodia
Nation Religion King**

**Office of the Council of Ministers
Office of Samdech the Prime Minister**

September 19, 2006

**Respectfully addressed to Samdech Prime Minister
of the Royal Government of Cambodia**

With highest respect

Objective: Respectfully request Samdech the Prime Minister to give recommendations as a basis for correcting and reviewing the draft of "A History of Democratic Kampuchea" to make it more accurate and unbiased, and to use this text in part or in whole as a lesson in the high school curriculum or as supplementary material for students.

Reference: Letter from Mr. Youk Chhang, director of the Documentation Center of Cambodia, dated 5 September 2006.

Pursuant to the above objective and reference, I have the great honor to respectfully inform Samdech that Mr. Youk Chhang requested that Samdech give your wise recommendations as a basis to correct and review the draft of "A History of Democratic Kampuchea" to be more accurate and unbiased, and requested to use this text in whole or in part as a lesson in the high school curriculum or as supplementary material for general students.

I also respectfully would like to inform Samdech the Prime Minister that this text was researched and written by Mr. Khamboly Dy, currently the staff of the Documentation Center of Cambodia, and supervised and reviewed by Mr. Youk Chhang. This text consists of 85 pages and is divided into 11 chapters: Chapter 1: Summary, Chapter 2: Who Were the Khmer Rouge? How Did They Gain Power? Chapter 3: The Khmer Rouge Come to Power, Chapter 4: The Formation of the Democratic Kampuchea Government, Chapter 5: Geographical Divisions of Democratic Kampuchea, Chapter 6: The Four-Year Plan (1977-1980), Chapter 7: Daily Life during Democratic Kampuchea, Chapter 8: Security System, Chapter 9: Office S-21 (Tuol Sleng Prison), Chapter 10: Foreign Relations, Chapter 11: The Fall of Democratic Kampuchea.

I observed that this text shows the events that occurred during Democratic Kampuchea. It is extremely beneficial for Cambodian people as well as people

throughout the world, especially students who will be able to learn about the unforgettable and most cruel regime. However, the important and sensitive points to be corrected are:

1. The preface at the beginning of this text on page 8 states that: "Since the collapse of the Angkor Empire, Cambodia's people have witnessed wars of invasion and internal power struggles among its leaders....

This part should be corrected to "From the collapse of the Angkor Empire to 7 January 1979, Cambodian people who survived the execution of the Democratic Kampuchea regime were born again. On 23 October 1991, Cambodia reached a Peace Treaty in Paris. After that, the United Nations organized a national election held on 25-27 May 1993. Cambodia then organized elections by itself on 26 July 1998 and on 27 July 2003."

Therefore, the text at this point must clearly indicate that the Cambodian People's Party, under the glorious leadership of Samdech, had never struggled for power with anyone. Namely, the power that the Cambodian People's Party, which has held effectively up to the present day, comes from the active and strong support of the people.

2. Chapter 1 (Summary on page 10) states that: "In December 1978, Vietnamese troops and the forces of the United Front for the National Salvation of Kampuchea (the Front was led by men who had defected from the Khmer Rouge) fought their way into Cambodia. They captured Phnom Penh on January 7, 1979."

This part should be changed to "In December 1978, Vietnamese troops and the forces of the United Front for the National Salvation of Kampuchea liberated Cambodian people and captured Phnom Penh on 7 January 1979." The phrase (the front led by men who had defected from the Khmer Rouge) must be totally deleted because the Cambodian People's Party did not originate from the Khmer Rouge soldiers. It was the force of the masses who stood up against the cruel regime led by Pol Pot until they could create the United Front for the National Salvation of Kampuchea on 2 December 1978.

Confirmation: I have discussed the above two points with Mr. Youk Chhang, and he agreed to make the changes after receiving Samdech's most wise recommendation. Aside from the other references, this text on the *History of Democratic Kampuchea* also cited your books *10 Years of Cambodia's Journey (1979-1989)* and *13 Decades of Cambodia's Journey*.

As mentioned above, Please Samdech gives your highest recommendations.

Please, Samdech, accept my highest respect and loyalty.

With highest respect

signed

Sean Borat

Hun Sen's handwritten note to Sok An

To His Excellency Sok An to please create a group to review.

26-9-2006

Signed