

មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលឯកសារកម្ពុជា

Genocide Education in Cambodia

The Teaching of "A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)"
**Inauguration of Genocide Education Memorial and
Khmer Rouge Textbook Distribution Ceremony**

**Hun Sen Ang Chork High School, Chum Kiri District, Kampot Province
December 9, 2014**

The Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam), in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, is pleased to announce the commemoration of a genocide education memorial and Khmer Rouge Textbook Distribution Ceremony in the compound of Hun Sen Ang Chork High School, Chum Kiri district, Kampot province. The event will be held on December 9, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. Her Excellency Ton Sa Im, Undersecretary of State of the Ministry of Education Youth and Sport; and Mr. Tak Hab, Head of Kampot Provincial Education Office will be the guests of honor for this ceremony.

The commemoration is part of DC-Cam's multi-stage Genocide Education Project which aims to bridge the gap in teaching the history of the Cambodian genocide and community awareness on the Khmer Rouge (KR) atrocities between April 1975 and January 1979. The memorial features two statements that call attention to the horrors of the period and the importance of remembrance, education, and peace:

1. Talking about experiences during the Khmer Rouge regime is to promote reconciliation and to educate children about forgiveness and tolerance.
2. Learning about the history of Democratic Kampuchea is to prevent genocide.

The statements are inscribed on iron, and they are displayed in a prominent location for students, educators, and the community's attention. The purpose of the statements is not only to remind, but also to inspire. Genocide education is as much a project in remembering the past as it is a struggle to re-create a better future that is based on genocide prevention, national reconciliation, tolerance, and forgiveness.

Chum Kiri is one of seven districts of Kampot. It was in the Southwest Zone under the control of Ta Mok during the Khmer Rouge period. During this period the Rumlich dam was expanded from its original size of about 10 meters in width to the biggest dam in Chum Kiri. Hundreds of people died at the site due to forced labor, starvation and disease. Presently, the dam is still used as a place to store water from the surrounding mountains. People use the water from the dam rice field irrigation.

The memorial is being constructed with contribution from teachers and students of Hun Sen Ang Chork High School. To date, the school is the eighteenth location to hold a memorial inauguration ceremony for secondary schools throughout the country.

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