

SLEUK RITH INSTITUTE

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DOCUMENTATION CENTER OF CAMBODIA Genocide Education in Cambodia The Teaching of "A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)"

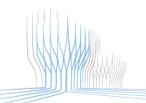
Regional Pedagogical Training Center, Kandal Province

March 29-April 2, 2016

Day 1-March 29, 2016



Group photos of trainers and trainees





Today was the first day of the Pre-Service Teacher Training at the Kandal Province Pedagogical Training Center, the first of a series of six trainings that DC-Cam in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) will host across the country this year. The Pedagogical Center is a large campus where these students are studying to be teachers and many of them will be history or Khmer literature teachers in the near future. The training started off in an assembly hall with around 100 students being welcomed and hearing an overview of the program. These students come from three provinces—Kandal, Kampong Speu and Kampong Chhnang—and most are 20-21 years old. I was surprised to see that the vast majority of these students are women, it looked like 75% to 80% of all of the trainees. These trainings are part of a national program to train the new generation of teachers in how to teach about the genocide that took place within the Democratic Kampuchea period (1975-1979). The program this morning opened with a welcome from DC-Cam Deputy Director Vanthan Peoudara who outlined the training program's goals as: promoting reconciliation, fostering discussions of memory and justice, and enabling students to talk about this history across generations. In addition, this collaboration with MoEYS aims to ensure that the Khmer Rouge history is taught in the school curriculum. He also introduced the trainers from the NIE before the students were split up into four smaller groups with whom the students will study during the training. I planned to follow each group for at least one of their class sessions throughout the training in order to observe how different classrooms were running. Each of the classes will follow the same lesson plans, but the personalities of the students and teachers can make for a different classroom experience.

Each of the classes focused on the first three chapters of the text and spent time discussing the history of DK. The first classroom I went to observe was being taught by Ly Sok-Kheang from DC-Cam and Ben Neang from Curriculum Development Department of MoEYS. The discussion started out by introducing the objectives the lesson and some background information. This session was led by Kheang, who asked the students if knew about recent events in Burma, as well as talking about other historical cases of genocide, in the Holocaust, Rwandan Genocide, and others before coming back to the Rohingya. The students seemed to be aware of the broader context in which they were going to be studying the Khmer Rouge, which is important to



understand that these are issues that can cut across societies or countries' borders. The lesson quickly turns to focus on Cambodia and the students seem pretty engaged — they offer their opinions and what they have learned before, both from school and their families. From what I had heard from others about previous trainings, these students seemed very well prepared and had more prior knowledge about the DK period than I expected. They are also asking questions and willing to challenge their peers about the material. The students were asked to name different key words that they associated with the DK period, which ranged from the more mundane to the more intense. Some mentioned regime change, or communism, while others added cruelty, destruction, and 'a prison with no walls'. I was surprised by the range of attitudes that the students showed, but they all seemed interested in learning about this history. This activity led into a more in-depth discussion of the rise of the Khmer Rouge and their origins. Toward the end of this class session, the students were asked to talk amongst themselves or even debate with each other about the meaning of April 17th, 1975 and why people referred to it as victory day. This was one of the first instances where I saw the students critically engaging with each other and the history that they had been taught — they looked at both sides and discussed how people viewed the end of the Lon Nol regime as a victory because it meant an end to civil war, corruption, and difficult life conditions; however, looking back at what then unfolded makes it difficult to understand why it was initially seen as a victory. The students maintained a high level of engagement, even after this activity. They then had a question and answer session where they acted as both student and teacher, answering each other's questions based on what they had learned. Reflecting on this first session, I was initially impressed by their willingness to engage critically, ask questions, and debate some of these issues with each other. It seems like most, if not all, of the students were born after the war ended, which might make it easier for them to detach from it and discuss it as they would any other historical events.

In the afternoon, I went to a second classroom which was being taught by Mom Met, a trainer from MoEYS. The afternoon session focused on teaching methods and introducing the students to new ways to approach difficult material. The focus of the afternoon's activities has been on the stories that Civil Parties to the ECCC Case 002 have shared through their testimony about the forced transfers during the evacuation



of Phnom Penh. The students learned about the transfers to Tuol Po Chrey in three different ways, which was meant to demonstrate different teaching methods. First, they were asked to write about what they've learned about the evacuation and forced transfers. Second, they were split up into groups which each read the testimony of a different civil party. A representative from each group presented the story in each of these testimonies to the rest of the class. After this, the students were asked to write



Group discussion on a teaching method, Jigsaw

briefly to compare the experiences outlined in each testimony. final part of this lesson is for the students to react to and reflect on these experiences, as an effort both to understand these experiences, but also to have a space to think their through own reactions and feelings these about stories. Recognizing that these are difficult stories to process and giving students an opportunity

to process their own emotional responses, as well as work through the new material with which they have been presented, is an important part of the process of teaching or learning about genocide.

These student teachers are the first to participate in this part of the training course as this information itself is new, based on the testimony and stories of civil parties in the on-going Case 002. This exercise encourages the students to engage more critically with history, comparing across different accounts of the same historical event, but also with current discussions about the role of the civil parties and incorporate learning about the ECCC more broadly. However, some of the students found this more difficult



because it was newer material. They were presented with a new teaching method and new information at the same time. It might also be helpful for the students to have more context about the testimony that they were reading and time to reflect on what it means to be reading firsthand accounts that were given decades after the event: it could be a great opportunity for the students to discuss issues like memory that also play a role in forming these narratives.

After the students left for the day, the trainers from both DC-Cam and MoEYS had a meeting to discuss any challenges that arose during the day. Several came up across classes that seem particularly important to future trainings. First, the objectives of some of the lessons were unclear, which made it difficult for the students to follow. It seems like there could be more of a discussion with the students for these more difficult goals focusing not only on what they are trying to learn, but how they are going to approach it, and why it is an important objective. This could help disentangle some of the more difficult themes. Second, a student in the second classroom asked if it would be possible to go to Tuol Sleng, as had another student in the first classroom in the morning. Often, an image speaks louder than words can, so it seems that that would be a perfect opportunity for the students to see, and interpret, for themselves some of the remains of the DK period. In addition, it seemed clear in observing the classes that the students were becoming more critical and willing to question some of the hard and fast facts that they may have learned in the past. I think discussion and debate in particular are very important for the students to be able to interpret history for themselves. It would be very interesting to see this to even greater extent, some of the history is taught in a way that seems black and white, even though it is a complicated history where things are less clear cut. It would be challenging, but likely edifying for the students to focus on more of those areas that are not clear cut. Further, the teaching methods that they are demonstrating seem like they would be useful in general teaching settings. But, this training in particular could be an opportunity to focus on methods of teaching about genocide specifically. It could be helpful to have space for the students to reflect on the challenges of teaching about difficult material, especially because it is a sensitive topic to so many. This might enable the trainees to be even more effective teachers when faced with teaching this history to their own future classrooms.



Team: Ly Sok-Kheang (DC-Cam), Vanthan Peou Dara (DC-Cam), Nhean Socheat (DC-Cam), Pheng Pong Rasy (DC-Cam), Siv Thuon, Mom Met (MoEYS), Cheng Hong (MoEYS), Ben Neang (MoEYS), Rachel Jacobs, Min Sanas, Yan Nikola, and Taing Gechly

Organized by the Sleuk Rith Institute-A permanent Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam) in collaboration with Pedagogical Training Center, Kandal Province, of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS)

Funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID)



APPENDIX: List of Participants in the training on the DK History in Kandal

សង្ខ សាសនា ព្រះឧសាអាំ្រ សង្ខ សាសនា ព្រះឧសាអាំ្រ

មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលគរុកោសល្យតូមិតាគ ហ៊ុន សែន ខេត្តកណ្ដាល

ល.រ	រល្ប <u>ា</u> ះ				b (2) 00 W	-		~
		ខ្មែរ	ទ្បាតាំង	- នេទ	ថ្ងៃខែឆ្នាំកំណើត	មកពីខេត្ត	លេខទូរសព្ទ	សេចក្តីផ្សេងៗ
1	ពៅ	សំបូ	POV SAMBO	ប	12/08/1993	កណ្ដាល	096 5753954	
2	គង់	ពិសិដ្ឋ	KONG PISETH	ប	07/10/1994	កណ្ដាល	097 4978081	
3	ឃីម	សុនីដា	KHIM SONIDA	ស	13/04/1996	កណ្ដាល	078 533200	
4	នុន	រដ្ឋា	CHHON RATHA	ស	02/05/1996	កណ្ដាល	081 241598	
5	ឈុន	សៀងអ៊ី	CHHUN SEANGIY	ស	29/07/1996	កណ្ដាល	016 567117	
6	ឌីង	ប៉ិចបញ្ញា	DING PICHPANHA	ប	14/02/1996	កណ្ដាល	093 401490	
7	ម៉េង	ប៊ុនហេង	MENG BUNHENG	ប	15/04/1994	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	088 9679167	
8	សួង	ស៊ុនលី	SOUNG SUNLY	ប	13/05/1991	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	096 2062612	
9	យូ	សុចិន្តា	YOU SOCHENDA	ប	18/06/1994	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	016 871445	
10	លី	កញ្ញា	LY KANHA	ស	21/09/1993	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	070 363268	
11	សាព	សុឃុត	SAT SOKUT	ស	15/03/1994	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	092 768797	
12	ស៊ឹម	សូលីដា	SOEM SOLIDA	ស	16/01/1997	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	098 827792	
13	ហៀង	ស្រីនាង	HEANG SREYNEANG	ស	12/05/1997	កំពង់ស្ពឺ	085 619726	
14	អន	ភារម្យ	ON PHEAROM	ប	06/08/1996	កំពង់ស្ពឺ	096 3347995	

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ណ្ឌម សាសខា ព្រះឧសាអាវិធ ស្រះឯសាលាឧធ្រមគំលា

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មញ្ជីវាយនាមករុសិស្សកម្រិតមូលដ្ឋាន ១២ + ២ ខំនាន់២៦ ឆ្នាំនី២ ទ្វាត់ ៖ តាសាខ្មែរ - សិលមន៍ - ពលរដ្ឋចិត្សា

ល.រ	រា <u>ឃ្</u> លាះ				\$14. 00. A			
		ខ្មែរ	ឡាតាំង	តែទ	ថ្ងៃខែឆ្នាំកំណើត	មកពីខេត្ត	លេខទូរសព្ទ	សេចក្តីផ្សេងៗ
1	ថន	លឹមហេង	THORN LOEMHENG	ប	10/08/1993	កណ្ដាល	096 4094906	
2	ឆឹយ	ស្រីនិច	CHHEUY SREYNICH	ស	12/01/1997	កណ្ដាល	096 2818186	
3	ដន	ស្រីលក្ខណ៍	DAN SREYLAK	ស	15/09/1996	កណ្ដាល	096 5499642	
4	দ্যো	វិច្ឆិកា	MAO VICHHEKA	ប	27/11/1996	កណ្ដាល	096 4322436	
5	ស	សុភ័ក្រ	SOR SOPHEAK	ប	07/01/1995	កណ្ដាល	096 2993247	
6	សួន	រិទ្ធា	SOUN RITHEA	ប	18/04/1996	កណ្ដាល	093 898776	
7	សៅ	ស្រីម៉ុត	SAO SREYMOT	ស	19/04/1995	កណ្ដាល	096 6489687	
8	អឿន	លីដា	OEURN LIDA	ប	12/06/1993	កណ្តាល	097 6862754	
9	ម៉េង	សាវុធ	MENG SAVUT	ស	10/04/1991	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	088 4416164	
10	យឹម	ស្រីមុំ	YIM SREYMOM	ស	20/01/1995	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	098 385789	
11	នុត	សារិទ្ធិ	NUT SARITH	ស	03/03/1992	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	096 4012819	
12	ស៊ុត	ចាន់ធា	SUT CHANTHEA	ស	10/12/1996	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	096 4068891	
13	កែវ	វល័ក្ខ	KEO VURLEAK	ស	23/03/1997	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	096 5816484	
14	ជន់	សុភា	CHUN SOPHEA	ប	10/05/1994	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	096 2478182	
15	ឈុន	សំអាត	CHHUN SOM ATH	ស	06/02/1996	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	010 607314	
16	ថុល	សុវណ្ណដាវីន	THOL SOVANDAVIN	ស	21/12/1995	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	096 2285650	
17	ų	ទិត្យនី	BO TITNY	ស	10/06/1996	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	071 9112054	
18	វង្ស	វាសនា	VONG VEASNA	ប	20/01/1995	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	077 872823	
19	ខឹម	សុខស្រីមាន	KHEM SOKSREYMEAN	ស	02/12/1994	កំពង់ស៊ី	016 571284	
20	ជឿន	ស្រីនាង	CHOEURN SREYNEANG	ស	01/07/1993	កំពង់ស្លី	095 224828	

បានបញ្ឈប់បញ្ជីត្រឹមចំនួន ២០ នាក់ ក្នុងនោះ ស្រី ១៣ នាក់ ។

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ព្រះពេលលោចគ្រក់ម្ដុំ ខាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សគ្រ

មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលគរុកោសល្យតូមិតាគ ហ៊ុន សែន ខេត្តកណ្ដាល

W.1	ឈ្មោះ				b (2' 00 W	-		
		ខ្មែរ	ឡាតាំង	្រ តែទ	ថ្ងៃខែឆ្នាំកំណើត	មកពីខេត្ត	លេខទូរសព្ទ	សេចក្តីផ្សេងៗ
1	សុំ	សុខគីម	SOM SOKKIM	ស	08/09/1992	កណ្ដាល	096 9378371	
2	បឿ	សុផល	BOEUR SOPHAL	ស	07/09/1997	កណ្ដាល	096 5695531	
3	ព្រំ	សៀកលឹ	PROM SIEKLOEU	ស	22/07/1996	កណ្ដាល	096 3040207	
4	អឿន	សេរីរៀម	OEURN SEREYREAM	ស	07/04/1995	កណ្ដាល	098 300932	
5	រុិព	ចណ្ណារិន	RETH CHANNARIN	ប	17/11/1989	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	095 785062	គ.៣.
6	ផ្លូច	សារី	PHLOCH SAVY	ស	13/04/1994	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	071 9488600	
7	តាំង	គារ៉ាឌី	TANG KEARADY	ស	11/10/1994	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	069 843173	
8	ស៊ុន	ថាវី	SUN THAVY	ស	13/05/1996	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	086 845536	
9	តាត	ឌុចឌី	TAT DOUCHDY	ស	20/03/1993	កំពង់ស្ពឺ	069 401490	
10	ធឿង	ស្រីនួន	THOEURNG SREYNUON	ស	02/01/1993	កំពង់ស្ពឺ	096 4700767	

បានបញ្ឈប់បញ្ជីត្រឹមចំនួន ១០ នាក់ ក្នុងនោះ ស្រី ០៩ នាក់ ។

កណ្ដាលថ្ងៃទី០១ ខែ ទីកា ឆ្នាំ២០១.៩

នេត្តិ_សុខម៉េច







សង្ឃ សមស លេះឧសាមាំង ស្រះមាន្ត្រាស្ត្រ

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छान्न	:	អច់គ្លេស-	ສາຄາເຂາ	65	

ល.វ	ឈ្មោះ			វេត្តទ	742-32-5-			
		ខ្មែរ	ឡាតាំង	1310	ថ្ងៃខែឆ្នាំកំណើត	មកពីខេត្ត	លេខទូរសព្ទ	សេចក្តីផ្សេង
1	ពេជ	ស្រីនឿន	PICH SREYNOEUN	ស	07/06/1992	កណ្ដាល	093 650678	
2	ជីន	79	VEN RITHY	ប	03/09/1990	កណ្ដាល	010 295868	
3	វណ្ណថា	សុខតួ	VANNTHA SOKTUO	ប	24/05/1993	កណ្ដាល	096 2442344	a.m.
4	វ៉ា	សុទ្ធ	VA SOTHY	ស	10/10/1991	កណ្ដាល	096 4571194	
5	ឡេង	តិចប៊ុន	LENG TECHBUN	ប	10/03/1992	កណ្ដាល	015 932864	
6	គន្វឿន	តារារស្មី	KUNTHEOUN DARARAKSMEY	ប	06/04/1993	កណ្ដាល	096 2812471	
7	ទឹម	វិចិត្រ	TIM VICHET	ប	06/10/1992	កណ្ដាល	015 657062	
8	សេន	លីនីន	SEN LININ	ស	16/10/1992	កណ្តាល	096 4900258	
9	អឿន	ចន្ទី	OEUN CHANTY	ស	02/02/1992	កណ្ដាល	078 554355	
10	ឈឹម	សិរីវត្ន័	CHHEM SEREYROTH	บ	06/08/1994	កណ្តាល	098 586996	
11	ផង	ស្រីតូច	PHONG SREYTOCH	ស	10/09/1994	កណ្ដាល	096 2503485	
12	ពេញ	សង្វា	PENH SONGVA	ស	27/06/1994	កណ្ដាល	096 4640610	
13	ពៅ	ពិសី	POV PISEY	ស	07/08/1991	កណ្តាល	093 655688	
14	សឿន	វ៉ាន់	SOEURN RAN	ស	07/08/1982	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	069 414882	គ.៣.
15	ជា	គុនរ័ក្ន	PHA KUNRATH	ស	07/08/1992	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	096 9324296	គ.៣.
16	ជាន	ស៊ីណូត	YUN SINOT	ល	15/03/1993	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	092 995395	
17	អន	សុគន្ធា	UN SOKUNTHEA	ស	20/04/1993	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	086 490284	
18	ចែម	សុភាព	CHEM SOPHEAP	ប	26/04/1992	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	010 443326	
19	រោជ	គា	PECH KEA	ប	20/05/1993	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	096 5613123	
20	យន់	ប៊ុនណា	YUN BUNNA	ប	10/05/1993	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	096 6918008	
21	សាយ	សុភា	SAY SOPHEA	ស	04/05/1992	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	096 8767749	
22	សែម	ស្រីលាក់	SEM SREY LAK	ស	19/02/1994	កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	096 9599680	
23	ជួប	សាវុធ	CHOUB SAVUTH	ប	20/12/1991	កំពង់ស្ពឺ	096 4081688	
24	សឿង	តាប់	SOEURNG TAB	ប	05/02/1990	កំពង់ស្ពឺ	098 202476	
25	ឌិន	សម្ភស្ស	DIN SAMPHORS	ស	13/06/1992	កំពង់ស្ពឺ	015 492283	
26	ប៉ក់	សុម៉ារីនាថ	PORK SOMARYNEATH	ស	01/01/1994	កំពង់ស្ពី	069 612024	
200	ਪ ੍ਹੰ	បូណា	MO BONA	ប	07/01/1993	កំពង់ស្ពឺ	086 357327	
28	វី ន	សុជាតិ	VEN SOCHEAT	ช	30/12/1993	កំពង់ស្ពឺ	070 707642	

បានបញ្ឈប់បញ្ជីត្រឹមចំនួន ២៨ នាក់ ក្នុងនោះ ស្រី ១៥ នាក់ ។

Cocodia (C. S. s. Cossilumuna)

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