

LETTER OF GRATITUDE

Respected Director and staff of the Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam),

My name is Hav Sophea, a civil party in the proceedings before the Khmer Rouge Tribunal. I am delighted to respectfully express my gratitude to Mr. Director and staff of the Documentation Center of Cambodia. It has been more than three years since I got to know your DC-Cam. In my opinion, your Center is a light brighten up my path on which I have long walked to extraordinarily historic justice. Despite the fading of the dark period from the memory of the people, it is not the case for my family because the loss is still living with us today. Today, I am an orphan without any skill. I live hopelessly. As for my mother, only her body is living today. Her soul already died together with my father's. My mother suffers severe mental health problems. She used to tell me that she lives only for me; otherwise, she would have become a [Buddhist] nun already.

My mother never learnt of the fate of my father. She remembers that he left the family on 15 January 1976. My mother waited for my father everyday hopelessly.

My father's fate was finally revealed by DC-Cam. As soon as I was made known, I was distressed. Subsequently, I filed a civil party application via DC-Cam. Your DC-Cam plays a significant role [in assisting] victims of the Khmer Rouge both at home and abroad. Your Center has made me happy, smiling, and, to a certain degree, more courageous. I can integrate with people in the community and I am no longer weak.

DC-Cam has opened the door for me towards seeking justice for my father and relatives who had lost their lives to the regime. DC-Cam has carried out its works with high respects for victims, regardless of their colors and either from urban or remote area. I will always remember the good memory with DC-Cam and share it with the people in my community.

In conclusion, I would like to express my gratitude again and wish Mr. Director and your staff a success, good health, longevity and happiness.

Respectfully,

Hav Sophea
Kampong Thom, 26 August 2011