

# មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលឯកសារកម្ពុជា

## KAMPONG CHHNANG PROVINCE

District	Site Name/ Visit Date	Site Type	Est. Victim	Witness	File #/ID Code	Latitude	Longitude
Baribo	Wat Samdech Muny/ 23 June 1998	Prison Memorial 100 pits	32,000	Sun Ngann ស៊ុន ង៉ាន់	R 062304C/ 040101	N 12°26'2418"	E 104°28'2330"
Baribo	Prey Po Ta Va/ 23 June 1998	1 mass grave	8,000	Mann Sarin ម៉ាន់ សារិន	R 062307A/ 040102	N 12°26'5803"	E 104°28'1968"
Baribo	Prey Po Ta Cha/ 23 June 1998	1 mass grave	8,000	Mann Sarin ម៉ាន់ សារិន	R 062307B/ 040103	N 12°27'0715"	E 104°28'3824"
Baribo	Tnaot Cho Village/ 23 June 1998	1 mass grave	4,000	Mann Sarin ម៉ាន់ សារិន	R 062307C/ 040104	N 12°26'3738"	E 104°28'2327"
Kampong Leng	Veal Sre Veng/ 24 June 1998	3 big pits and 1 pond	unknown	Kan Koeun កង កៀន	R 062403A/ 040401	N 12°23'4624"	E 104°47'5226"
Kampong Leng	Prey Khsach/ 24 June 1998	300-500	100,000-150,000	Srey Sam Oeun ស្រី សំអឿន	R 062403B/ 040402	N 12°19'1521"	E 104°47'2208"
Kampong Leng	Kbal Khmaoch/ 24 June 1998	15-20 pits and 2 big pits	6,000	My Salan មី សាឡាន	R 062405A/ 040403	N 12°19'2105"	E 104°47'3284"
Kampong Leng	Rok Bal Prison/ 24 June 1998	Prison	N/A	Iem Yom ឿម យ៉ុម	R 062406A/ 040404	N 12°17'0670"	E 104°43'3702"
Rolea Phieat	Chong Prasat/ 25 June 1998	150-200	1,000-1,300	Makk Sary ម៉ក់ សារី	R 062502A/ 040601	N 12°08'1977"	E 104°44'2179"
Rolea Phieat	Trapeang Tik Tracheak/ 25 June 1998	Prison 3 pits	150	Makk Sary ម៉ក់ សារី	R 062503A/ 040602	N 12°09'3285"	E 104°41'5746"
Rolea Phieat	Khsach Sa/ 25 June 1998	125 pits	20,950	Chan Ngom ចាន់ ង៉ុម	R 062504A/ 040603	N 12°09'4310"	E 104°41'0504"

<b>Rolea Phieat</b>	Khsach Sa/ 25 June 1998	143 pits	35,040	Chan Ngom ចាន់ ង៉ុម	R 062504B/ 040604	N 12 <sup>0</sup> 09'3636"	E 104 <sup>0</sup> 41'0801"
<b>Rolea Phieat</b>	Khsach Sa/ 25 June 1998	58 pits	4,500	Chan Ngom ចាន់ ង៉ុម	R 062504C/ 040605	N 12 <sup>0</sup> 09'3393"	E 104 <sup>0</sup> 40'5990"
<b>Rolea Phieat</b>	Khsach Sa/ 25 June 1998	95 pits	4,200	Chan Ngom ចាន់ ង៉ុម	R 062505A/ 040606	N 12 <sup>0</sup> 09'4319"	E 104 <sup>0</sup> 40'5573"
<b>Rolea Phieat</b>	Chong Chroy prison/ 25 June 1998	Prison	N/A	Ros Sokhon រស់ សុខុន	R 062508B/ 040607	N 12 <sup>0</sup> 09'5632"	E 104 <sup>0</sup> 43'0252"
<b>Rolea Phieat</b>	Chong Chroy/ 25 June 1998	200-300 pits	70,000- 100,000	Ros Sokhon រស់ សុខុន	R 062508C/ 040608	N 12 <sup>0</sup> 09'5851"	E 104 <sup>0</sup> 43'0794"
<b>Chul Kiri</b>	Koh Sleng	Prison 100-150 pits	2000-3000	Aom Sam Oeun អោម សំឡើង	R 12 2408A/ 040201	N 12 <sup>0</sup> 07' 0454"	E 104 <sup>0</sup> 48'1063"

### **June 23, 1998**

The Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam) assigned the mapping team to conduct a research in Kampong Chhnang province. Our research team went by car along National Route 5 from Phnom Penh to Kampong Chhnang, which is 91 kilometers from Phnom Penh. At 8:10 a.m. we arrived at Kampong Chhnang provincial office where we met some provincial officials. Then we went to see Mr. Leng Loeung, Third Deputy Governor, to talk about our visit and research plan. During the talk, we raised our purposes and requests to him. The DC-Cam aims to conduct a mapping research in Kampong Chhnang province as part of its mapping project. Therefore, we need permission from all levels of authority, relevant sections such as province, district, sub-district, village and cooperation from inhabitants in order to carry out this work productively and securely. We need information about the position of concentration camps, prisons, execution sites and pits of the dead in order to locate those positions in the Global Positioning System unit. We also want documents, proof, bones and witnesses to explain crimes committed under the Khmer Rouge regime in Kampong Chhnang province. At 9:10 a.m., we went to the Provincial Culture and Art Department to see:

1. 1.Mr. Ly Sok Chhy, Chief of Provincial Culture Department.
2. Mr. Hun Sokhon, Chief of Administration Department.

There, we were given handwriting documents written by Mr. Ly Sok Chhy. The documents are about genocide activities committed during the Khmer Rouge regime in Kampong Chhnang province. It also includes the locations of prisons, concentration camps and execution sites. Then, we were suggested to see second Lieutenant Sek Chhoeun, First Deputy of Kampong Chhnang Provincial Police Headquarters. We asked him for a written permit to be used to contact police inspector in certain districts of the province.

### ***Baribo district genocide sites***

At 10:30 a.m., we left provincial town for Baribo district office by car along National Road 5. It is 32 kilometers from the provincial office to the district office. When we arrived, nobody was at the office. Therefore, we called on inspector of Baribo district police.

### ***Security***

There are robberies and thefts of cattle in remote areas. A couple of years ago, there were kidnappings allegedly by soldiers under General Nhek Bun Chhai<sup>1</sup>. The security situation is neither good nor bad.

### ***Information related to the location of genocide sites***

Sub-inspector of Baribo district police described the following positions:

1. The genocide sites were located at Wat Samdech Muny called Samdech Tok.
2. The memorial where the bones of the victims under the Khmer Rouge regime are kept is at Wat Samdech Muny. Now this memorial is ruined because no one takes care of it.
3. Execution sites is located north of the compound of Wat Samdech Muny (killing took place in 1975), and at Prey Sre Hek and Prey Rong Khla in the same village (killing took place in 1975).

These locations are in Pel Changva sub-district. They are about 700 meters from the district hospital. We went to meet Mr. Mann Sarin, father of Deputy Chief of the district. He used to be sub-district Chief and Chief of the Wat committee in 1979. Then we went to see Mr. Sun Ngann, Chief of Wat Samdech Muny to gather more information because they both live there. (Dak Poar village, Dak Poar sub-district). At 11:10

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<sup>1</sup> Nhek Bun Chhai is Staff Commander In Chief of FUNCINPEC armed forces before July 1997. He is now at the border with his troops Loyal to Prince Norodom Rannariddh, former First Prime Minister.

a.m., we went to meet Chief of the district, Mr. Nhek Koeun at his house because we wanted more information and permission to have access to any villages and sub-districts in his district. The chief of the district did not know about the prisons and executions sites clearly because he did not live there during the Khmer Rouge regime, but he recommended us to meet a man as we were told by the Deputy Chief of the district. Baribo district is bordered on:

- the north with Kror Kor district, Pursat province,
- the west with Dang Prey Kup and Kro Kor district, Pursat province,
- the south with Rolea Phieat district, Kampong Chhnang, and
- the east with Tonle Sap riverbank and with Baray district, Kampong Thom province.

This district was called District 10, Region 31, Western Zone in the Khmer Rouge regime. It is a low land with a lot of trees. According to the district officials, people in Baribo are farmers, fishermen, firewood and charcoal dealers. After we got some documents kept in the provincial Culture Department as well as some information on crimes committed by the Khmer Rouge in this district from the police inspector, we went to seek villagers to look for surviving witnesses and anybody that could give us information we need.

### **1. Wat Samdech Muny 040101 B/P/M**

At 11:30 a.m., we arrived at the Wat. It is about 1 to 2 kilometers southeast of the district office. If we depart from the office, we will pass two Wats (Kruos and Dak Poar), then go ahead until we get to Wat Samdech Muny (Samdech Tok). There, we met a man named Sun Ngann, 73, chief of the Wat committee. He currently lives in Dak Poar village, Khon Rang sub-district, Baribo district. Mr. Sun Ngann was one of our important witnesses. He told us what he knew and did not hide any information from us. He told us that Wat Samdech Muny was used as security office, prison and big execution site of district 10, which is now called Baribo district.

### **Prison**

The following buildings used as prison and interrogation center by the Khmer Rouge:

1. Wat was used as prison,
2. Two tile-roofed monasteries behind the Wat was used as prison,
3. One big monastery north of the Wat was used as interrogation center.

### ***Execution sites:***

1. About 50 meters north of the Wat, there are around 100 pits; each contains 13 to 15 victims.
2. Prey Kok Lvea is about 1 kilometers north of the Wat,
3. Prey Kok Chro Rut is located north of the Wat,
4. Tnaot Chhor village also known as Chas village is about 50 meters in front of the Wat,
5. Prey Po Ta Va is 1 kilometers north of the Wat, **(040102 B)**
6. Prey Po Ta Cha, Prey Po Ta Moeun, and Prey Po Ta Koy are close to each other, and about 2 kilometers north of Wat Samdech Muny **(040103 B)**.
7. Prey Taney (Prey Kbal Khmaoch) and Tuol Khvann is about 6 kilometers from the Wat. Mr. Sun Ngann added that Comrade Snguon, who was Chief of prison and concentration camp, has lived in a concrete house about 200 to 300 meters west of the Wat. The house belonged to Mr. Lim, a teacher who died. (Comrade Snguon disappeared now.)

### ***Pits and victims***

We were told that there were about 100 pits near the Wat. Some of the victims died of diseases, starvation and battery. It was estimated that there were from 800 to 1300 victims in these pits. Mr. Mann Sarin found hand-written documents by the Khmer Rouge, which had been left before they escaped in 1979, when he arrived in the district in 1979-80. The documents said that 32,000 people were killed at Wat Samdech Muny. Unfortunately, these documents which were given to Mr. Sun Ngann, former Chief of the sub-district to look after, have now disappeared. Mr. Sun Ngann and Mann Sarin added that, from 1975 to 76, all the people who were driven from cities such as Phnom Penh, Kampong Chhnang, Prusat and Battambang, were arrested when they walked past the security office and prison. First, they were sent to Wat Kruos, but the Wat was not in so good condition. So, they were further sent to Wat Samdech Muny. Between 1976-78, villagers who allegedly committed moral offences in cooperatives and other 10 sub-districts of Baribo district, were sent to this Wat. Villagers who had the opposite tendency were accused of being secret agents. In short, every one who traveled past the Wat was arrested and kept there for interrogation. At the edge of the village, in the east of the riverbank, there was a ferry port from Chnok Trou located in Pursat province to Baray district of Kampong Thom and to Kampong Chhnang province. Therefore, when they got off from the boat there, they were arrested and killed. "Big pits in front of the Wat were filled up with the victims", added Mann Sarin. (He saw this in 1980.) Both witnesses added that the victims were tortured by being burned and having both legs hanged to the air, and the heads plunged into a jar of water. Khmer Rouge cadres at Tuol Sleng (Prison S-21) used similar method. It is possible that there were some survivors. They are:

1. Ms. Chhay Yan now lives in Tra Peang Por village, Khon Rang sub-district, Baribo district.
2. Ms. Phal now works in a district hospital and lives in Trapeang Por village, Khon Rang sub-districts, Baribo district.

3. Ms. Bo now lives in Trapeang Por village, Khon Rang sub-district, Baribo district.

These three women were imprisoned there, but survived. We have reference documents. We took photos of two witnesses, memorials and interviewed both witnesses. The sub-district Chief lost his documents. At 2:30 p.m., we took a horse cart to the following execution sites:

1. Tnaot Cho village (Chas village) about 500 meters from Wat Samdech Muny,
2. Prey Po Ta Va about 1 kilometer north of Wat Samdech Muny,
3. Prey Po Ta Cha about 2 kilometers northeast of Wat Samdech Muny,
4. Prey Po Ta Moeun about 2 kilometers east of Wat Samdech Muny,
5. Prey Po Ta Koy 500 meters northeast of Wat Samdech Muny.

The sites are about 500 meters to 600 meters from each other. We took pictures of the sites as pointed out by the cart driver. We also took photo of the provincial Culture Department. Execution sites are located northeast of Wat Samdech Muny. It is a sparse forest that can be remarked by Bayan trees and palm trees. Other execution sites could not be accessible because the path was full of trees. There was no security and they are too far from villagers' houses. We hope to visit the following sites in the future. These sites are:

1. Prey Kok Chor Rut
2. Prey Kok Lvea
3. Prey Ta Ney (Prey Khmoach)
4. Tuol Khvann
5. Prey ROUNG Khla

These sites are located west of National Route 5. We failed to confirm the exact villages, in which these sites are located, because we were then running out of time.

### **Confirmation**

Each pit is invisible and has now become a rice field or trees have grown on them. The witness who guided us to these sites was Mr. Rin Sao Im. We first went to the farthest sites at 4:20 p.m.. We returned to the downtown, and arrived there at 5.20 p.m. Mr. Sun Ngann, who was a Khmer Rouge transportation cadre and used to transport food past the Wat in the Khmer Rogue regime, is our witness. Baribo district was a big execution site in which 32,000 people were killed. There were two witnesses who saw the documents, the security office and prison, and the execution sites.

## **Memorial**

Bones are kept in stupas and cuffs kept at the airport of Kampong Chhnang province. Other three women who were once imprisoned and burned alive, but they did not die. These witnesses (whose names are mentioned above) are important because they knew the actual events. It was apparent that this site was a target position. We did not assume but we had witnesses who had seen or been tortured and imprisoned. We regretted that we could not visit all sites. This was because the time was not enough and security along the road was unforeseeable. We hope to come back to visit this site again in the future.

**June 24, 1998**

### **Kampong Leng district**

Our team traveled by boat down the Tole Sap River from Kampong Chhnang town to Kampong Leng district Office. It took us 45 minutes to get there. We arrived at 8 a.m. Then, we went to meet the district Chief, Mr. Soem Ly. According to the district Office's report, the district Office is located about 6 kilometers northeast of Kampong Chhnang province. It is rich in low land, plateaus and hills. Kampong Leng district is bordered on:

- the north by Santuk district, Kampong Thom,
- the south by Rolea Phieat district, Kampong Chhnang,
- the west by Baribo district, Kampong Chhnang,
- the east by Baray district, Kampong Thom.

There are 9 sub-districts and 44 villages. It has a population of 32,603 (female 18,221). Most of them are farmers, fishermen. People over 18 and eligible to vote are 18,585. In the Khmer Rouge regime, it was in Region 31, Western Zone. And it had 11 sub-districts but now it has only 9.

### ***Information on genocide sites:***

1. Security office and prison are in Khleng Poar village, Trangil sub-district.
2. Execution sites are:
  - Along Touk Meas Mountain, 5 kilometers from the prison and the interrogation camp (not safe)
  - At Chamnoch Kdol, Rongil village.

- At Damrei Kapp Kaun in Rongil village. There are many small pits near there.
- At the end of the lake, behind Kampong Basrov village, Sdei Takeo, Por Poun mountain in Prey Kry sub-district.
- In front of Wat Peam Chhkaok, Prey Banakk, Prek Andaung in Peam Chhkaok sub-district.
- Andaung Tbeng (also called Kbal Khmaoch), Prey Khsach, Sre Ta Huch, Trapeang Mealea in Svay Rumpear sub-district.
- At Sre Veng, at the edge of Prasat Mountain in Da sub-district.
- At Trum mountain, Trangil sub-district.

After we had the above information, we went to visit 3 sub-districts. First we went straight to the sub-district which is 20 kilometers from the district office, the execution site was at Veal Sre Veng. It was also a security office and prison. It is not safe there but we struggled and took risk to go there. We kept asking the police along the way until we got there at 10 a.m.. We visited Mr. Un Voeung, 66, and the Prasat village Chief, Mr. Kan Koeun, 49, who had lived there and worked in a mobile work brigade during the Khmer Rouge regime.

### ***Information from the chief of the village and witness***

Mr. Un Voeung told us that there are execution sites at Veal Sre Veng. In the Sihanouk regime, it was a bean farm. It is obvious that there is a rice field called Veal Sre Veng (**040401 B**), and an execution site was actually there. In 1980, he saw pits there, and between 1983-86, he saw villagers digging graves and searching for gold. There are three big pits, 3 by 6 meters and 1.5 meters deep, and one pond.

### **Victims**

All evacuees from various cities in 1977 were forced to build dams. Guilty people or people who were involved in opposite tendency against Angkar had their whole family killed. Upper class was abolished. Some people in Kampong Leng district were sent from village cooperatives, Da sub-district and other sub-districts.

- Base people and Khmer Rouge cadres were also killed when they were found guilty.
- At the edge of Prasat mountain, there were hundreds of tombs of Khmer Rouge soldiers and cadres.
- According to Mr. Voeun, the victims who were there rarely survived.

At 11:30 a.m., we arrived in Svay Rampear sub-district, Kampong Leng district. It is in Prasat village, Da sub-district. Kampong Leng district about 700 meters from the road. There was a mango tree, bean farm and a pond in the middle of it. The position of the security office and prison called O Ta Pun. Execution site is located at Prey Khsach and another at Andaung Tbeng.

Mr. Srey Sam Oeun, who now lives at Lvea village, Svay Rumpear sub-district, told us that there were two big execution sites, about 1 kilometers from the security office and prison in Prey Khsach and Andaung Tbeng. Our team visited the sites with the presence of Mr. My Salan, 27, born in Lvea village, Svay Rumpear sub-district. In the Khmer Rouge time, he was between 10 to 11 years old. He knew this because he lived there and he saw these sites after 1979.

**Munty Ta Beng (Ta Beng Office):**

Ta Beng was a Khmer Rouge communist person who set up a revolutionary base there. It was a resistance base before 1970.

**Prey Khsach (040402 B/P)**

It is 1 kilometer wide and the length is very long. Mr. My Salan told us that the security office and prison in the sub-district were built in 1975. Execution sites were set up before and after 1970. People were killed there until 1979.

***Victims***

Between 1975-76, the victims were ordinary people, civil officials, soldiers and teachers. Between 1976-77, they were evacuees from cities. First they were investigated by the Khmer Rouge cadres to find out their tendency, and then were killed there. (Males, females, and adults were killed). The whole families were killed. All new people and base people were killed when they were found guilty. Between 1973-74 (this area was liberated by the Khmer Rouge before 1975), Lon Nol's soldiers who were defeated and arrested were killed. Most of the victims were taken from the security office and prison in Svay Rumpear sub-district called O Ta Pun and others were taken from village cooperatives in the sub-districts or other places.

**Kbal Khmaoch (also called Andaung Tbeng)                      040403                      B**

This site is in Lvea village, Svay Rumpea sub-district, Kampong Leng district. This site is located 14 kilometers from Kampong Leng District Office. The site can be accessed by road in all seasons. There were between 15-20 mass graves in which about 6,000 people were killed.

**Rok Bal Prison                      040404                      P**

This site is in Rok Bal village, Trangel sub-district, Kampong Leng district. This site is located 1,5 kilometers from Kampong Leng District Office. The road there is a bit slippery in the rainy season. Mr. Iem Yom, 56, lives in Rok Ban village, Trangel sub-district, Kampong Leng district. He showed us the exact prison location and we took pictures of the location and him for our documents. There are two big execution sites:

1. Andaung Tbeng in Lvea village, Svay Rumpear sub-district.
2. Prey Khsach about 500 meters from Andaung Tbeng. Victims were killed in forest, and there were some pits near a well but they were covered by soil and could not be identified. We asked the witnesses (whose names are mentioned above) to point out where the pits are located, then we took pictures of each of the pits.

At 12:30 p.m., our team went to collect GPS data from the sites. Mr. My Salan showed us that the bones of victims with old ragged clothes. The site of each pit is 6 meters wide, 12 meters long and 1.5 meters deep. We went to this place along ox-cart tracks. There was a car route but it was sandy. It was white sand. At noon, it was so very hot a day that we could not reach those pits but our witness told us that each pit could contain 50 to 150 corpses, depending on how big the pit is. The witness said that there were over 6,000 victims.

At 1 p.m., we went to Ban village, which is close to Kleng Poar village Trangil sub-district, Kampong Leng district. This area is about 1 kilometer or 1.5 kilometers from the district office. We met Yom, female, and Ket Soeun, male, who now live there. They told us that on the right-hand side, there were two tile-roofed houses that were filled with victims. On the left-hand side, there were two tile-roofed houses where victims were handcuffed or shackled in lines. Yom saw this when she was looking for cassava roots. The execution site is located about 100 or 200 meters from the prison. They are at:

1. Veal Chrapp in the south of the prison.
2. Trayok in the west of the prison.
3. Por Chrey.
4. In the north of the prison.

This area is full of trees in 1981. She looked for gold among the bones, and she collected those bones and kept them under palm trees. Between 1983-84, the bones were taken to Wat Pochrey, but now they all were ruined and have disappeared due to long exposure to rain and were eaten by pigs and cows. Soeun and Yom told us that people who used to be imprisoned in the prison of District 12 (now called Kampong Leng district) were Mr. Boeun, who now lives in Trangil sub-district and Ms. Eng Lin who now is a teacher in District Education Department.

This prison was the biggest in the district. Crimes were committed at the following places:

1. Along Touk Meas Mountain, Prey Banakk, Prek Anh Chanh.
2. Chamnoch Kdol in front of Wat Peam Chhkaok.
3. Ra Ngieng Mountain behind Kampong Basrov.

#### 4. Damrei Kapp Kaun.

We could not reach those execution sites. It is just about 5 kilometers but the Khmer Rouge guerrillas appeared in Sre Lich village, Cha Nouk sub-district on Jun 22, 1998. The district Chief, Mr. Sim Yi did not allow us to go there. According to what I heard there were many execution sites in Kampong Leng district. We went to the district on June 24, 1998. We might go to Sre Lich village through Chranauk sub-district, but we did not go because 15 to 20 Khmer Rouge soldiers have just entered recently. Because of the time and security concern, we worked anxiously and so we could not find any prisoners or witnesses. Besides, we were afraid of rain or storm during the trip back to the town because it was already 3 p.m., and we could not work till 5:30 p.m. Therefore, we should go there again in the future when the situation is better.

**June 25, 1998**

#### ***Rolea Phieat district***

At 7:30 a.m., we went to meet Mr. Ean Chhea, Chief of the district. We told him about our purpose, then we raised a request to him for help. He told us the names of the sub-districts in which there were execution sites. District Office is situated along National Road 5, about 3 kilometers south of provincial hall. In the Khmer Rouge regime, this district was called Region 31, Western Zone. It has plain land, plateaus and hills. According to the district report, it consists of three sub-districts, 131 villages with 16,775 families. It has a population of 79,050. People who are over 18 and eligible to vote are 40,675. Most of them are farmers, handicraft workers, and potters. The district is bordered on:

- the north by Baribo district,
- the south by Kampong Tralach district,
- the west by Tik Chous district, and
- the east by Chul Kiri district.

#### ***Execution sites according to Mr. Ean Chhea, Chief of the district, are:***

1. Chong Prasat (**040601 B**) at Andaung Snay village,
2. Veal Khsach Sa before Prey Khsach Sa, Tuol Khsach Sa at Andaung Snay.
3. Chong Chroy in Chheu Kach village, Kok Banteay sub-district (District 10 in the Khmer Rouge regime.)
4. Cham Bakk, Kok Banteay sub-district,
5. O Russei, Kok Banteay sub-district,

6. Kang Meas, Kok Banteay sub-district,
7. Prey Koh in Kok Banteay sub-district-
8. Veal Tik Koh, Banteay Preal sub-district,
9. Tanon Mountain, Banteay Preal sub-district,
10. Tuol Am, Chung Tanang in Tik Ho sub-district,
11. Andaung Phdao, O Liech sub-district,
12. Khmaoch Prahaong, O Liech sub-district.

After getting some documents related to the Khmer Rouge atrocities from Provincial Culture Department and receiving information from the village chief, who was about to launch the first political party policy campaign for July 1998 Election at school, we met the district Deputy Chief who chaired the campaign meeting. Then, we showed him a pass issued by Mr. Ean Chhea. The Chief of Andaung Snay sub-district appointed one village Chief and two-deputy Chiefs to join us in order to show us the execution site. There were three big execution sites. There are:

1. Chong Prasat (**040601 B**), Andaung Snay village, Andaung Snay sub-district.
2. Prey Khsach Sa and Tuol Khsach Sa or Veal Khsach Sa in Andaung Snay village, Andaung Snay sub-district.
3. Chong Chroy in Andaung Snay village, Andaung Snay sub-district.

### ***Witnesses***

1. Mr. Chan Ngom, 58, Chief of Andaung Snay village.
2. Mr. Soem Sam Un, 39, Deputy village Chief.
3. Mr. Makk Sary, 45, Deputy Chief of Pahy village.

### ***Execution site***

We traveled along National Road 5 about 3 kilometers from Kampong Chhnang town, turned left, and went on until we reached the first execution site. It is 8 kilometers from National Road 5 and 11 kilometers from the district office. There, we saw people plowing their fields. One of them is Mr. Iem Vann, 37, living in Pahy village, about 3 kilometers from the execution site. The execution site is in Pahy village, Andaung Snay sub-district. We examined and marked the site. Some pits have not been filled up by soil yet. We took photographs of pits as pointed by the witness.

## ***Remarks***

There are wild bamboo trees, mango trees, and palm trees at the site. It was a home village of Mr. Seom Sam Un's ancestors but no body lives there now. It is 1 kilometer from Preah Mountain (Enteakpakk Borei Mountain). According to Mr. Chan Ngom, there were from 150 to 200 pits. There were from three to five victims in each pit. Then we could add up the number to a total of 800- 1,000 victims, but the witnesses said it could be up to 1,300 people.

## ***Victims***

The witnesses said that in late 1975 and early 1976 people were taken from Koh Kong province by boat and spread into village cooperatives and sub-districts. Then, the Khmer Rouge investigated into the people's backgrounds, trends, careers and positions. People were told to reveal their backgrounds, so Angkar would let them hold the same position as they previously were. "The Khmer Rouge said Angkar would find them guilty or forgive them", said the witnesses. On the contrary, when one told the Khmer Rouge that he/she was lieutenant, professor, military policeman or policeman, His/her whole family was killed. The Khmer Rouge evacuated Northern people to the Eastern Zone and Eastern people to the Western Zone.

In 1979 when the witnesses came, they saw swollen, decayed, stinking and bloody corpses whose dresses did not disappear yet. Flesh of some bodies were taken away.

## ***Remains of victims***

Bones were not collected and kept in a secure place. The victims were taken from cooperatives, sub-districts and many were evacuees from Koh Kong province, cities and other provinces. New people and base people were all killed when they were allegedly found guilty. The witnesses told us that the guards of the prisons in Chong Prasat were Comrade Kuy Teng, Comrade Kuch, Comrade Snguon and Comrade Chet's son who lived at Kampong Sala. Comrade Snguon is now a sub-district soldier and lives at Kampong Aus village, Prek Chhpoh sub-district, Chul Kiri district.

## ***Trapeang Tik Tracheak      040602      B/P***

It was a political training center, security office and prison in O Tasek village, Andoung Snay sub-district. We went there by car on an ox-cart path and past Veal Chrap, Prey Bampong Trach (Prey Cheukach) and Bampong Slek village until we got to Wat Trapeang Tik Tracheak in O

Tasek village at 10:10 a.m. At 10:30 a.m., we went to see pits and photographed them. Each pit is 3x4 square meters. There were three big pits. There were approximately from 50 to 100 corpses in each pit. The total number of victims was from 150 to 230.

### ***Victims***

They were Khmer Rouge cadres and people, who had moral offences, taken from various cooperatives and villages in Andaung Snay sub-district. We had Chief of Andaung Snay village and two Deputy Chiefs accompanying us. There were execution sites (no prisons). At 11:20 a.m., we went to Prey Khsach Sa, which is called Tuol Khach Sa or Veal Khsach Sa.

### ***Other information***

1. Tile-roofed barracks built on big hump by people in Andaung Snay sub-district (already photographed).
2. One well and one bamboo bush (already photographed).

It is about 1.5 kilometers from Tanoan Mountain<sup>2</sup>.

### **Prey Khsach Sa      040603 B, 040604 B, 040605 B, and 040606 B**

At Prey Khsach Sa, villagers always hold spiritual ceremony and ceremony for peace every year. Prey Khsach Sa is 2 square kilometers, we asked four witnesses to guide us to the location of pits. Pits were everywhere at the killing side. There were from 300 to 500 big pits and hundreds of small pits. The pits covered 2 kilometers from Ta Nun Mountain to Tuol Khsach and over 1 kilometer from Chamkar Daung to Prey Khsach. Now, coconut trees are planted on the pits. We could not reach there because there were no road.

Total victims are estimated at 50,000-100,000 or 150,000. One witness was Mr. Phann Chor, 57. He lives in Andaung Snay village, Andaung Snay sub-district and has done farming at Tuol Khsach Sa (Prey Khsach Sa) for 3 years. He told us that he saw about 180 pits by the hump. The pits far from the hump could not be counted because there are too many to count. It is estimated that there are from 500 to 1,000 pits.

### ***Victims***

Perpetrators tied victims in lines and walked them to the killing site at:

- O Russei Prison, Phchek village, Andaung Snat sub-district.

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<sup>2</sup> This place was high hump with sparse forest and Prey Sraong and Khmer Sa. Refugee's camps to settle down and have occupied land for farming.

- Tampakk prison, Tbeng village, Andaung Snay sub-district.
- All cooperatives in Andaung Snay sub-district and other sub-districts in the Khmer Rouge District 18 in Kampong Chhnang village.

Through the above information, it was obvious that there was a prison in Region 31. Perpetrators were Comrade Va Keut and Comrade Suk, who lived in Phork Khpuos, Baribo district in the Khmer Rouge time. In the Khmer Rouge regime, no body lived near this execution site; so it was difficult to find witnesses who could tell us the number of victims killed. We could have learnt the fact if we had found any prison guards, executors or survivors. If we looked at 20 year-old big long and deep pits that have still been identified, we could assume that there were many victims. Therefore, finding witnesses is necessary if we can continue our research here in the future. At 12:30 p.m., we ate lunch. At 1 p.m., we arrived at the house of Kok Banteay sub-district Chief. His name is Mr. Va Im, 56. We asked him to accompany us.

**Chong Chroy      040607      P**

Chong Chroy is 3 kilometers east of Wat Chheu Trach, or 5-10 kilometers south of the district office, or 5 kilometers from the sub-district office. It is in Chheu Kach village, Kok Banteay sub-district, Rolea Phieat district. In the Khmer Rouge regime, she worked in a regional mobile work brigade in Chheu Kach village, Kok Banteay sub-district. Mr. Van Im and Mr. Phann Choar were our two important witnesses because they saw victims being walked in lines, they saw the prison and the pits, and heard the scream of victims being hit. After that, it was the work of photographing and interviewing for our documentation. Mr. Van Im said that in 1977 he saw Khmer Rouge cadres walking victims in lines past his house towards the security office and prison in Chong Chroy. This site is one kilometer southeast of the village. In each line, there were from 12 to 30 victims and he saw this every two or three days until 1979. At 6 or 7 p.m., he always heard screaming sound, so he went toward it secretly and saw a female victim being tortured by heating iron bar. He was deeply shocked. At that time he was between 11 to 12 years old.

***Victims***

The victims were sent every day from cooperatives and sub-districts in District 18 to this prison because it was the district prison. The victims were accused of having moral offences, being spies and enemies of Angkar. The victims were old, adult and young people as well as children. Sometimes, male and female youth or children in mobile work brigades were tied together in lines. When fathers were arrested, the whole family followed the same suit. Sometimes after parents were killed, their children were transported by ox-carts to be killed, too. The Khmer Rouge killed both new and Base People.

***The number of pits at Chong Chroy    040608    B***

- Some pits were 4 square meters.

- Some pits were from 10 square to 40 square meters with 5 meters deep.

The pits were flattened when they were filled with corpses. We examined the pits directly. Each pit is 3 meters wide, 15 meters long and 1.5 meters deep. There were from 200 to 300 small pits. There were from 30 to 40 big pits. The number of victims was estimated at between 70,000 to 150,000. The size of the execution site was in square meter and filled with corpses. Now it is full of trees and wild bamboo. All information received from the four people who live in the same villages, Chheu Kach, are:

1. Mr. Sem Soeun, 42.
2. Mr. Ran Phat, 38.
3. Mr. Tim Pon, 31.
4. Mr. Va Im sub-district chief, 56.

As we did a field visit, we agreed with the report. It was true. We worked together to work out the number of the pits. There were too many pits for us to count. It requires at least one day to count. We finished work there at 4 p.m..

### ***Personal observation***

Rolea Phieat district was a very safe place. It lies along National Road 5 near Kampong Chhnang Provincial town. The execution site was very big and shocking. We needed more witnesses and more time. As in Prey Khsach Sa we had some witnesses but they did not know very well. This was because it has been a deserted area so far. We learnt that perpetrators are still alive, but they live far away. The witnesses that we had just knew and saw the execution site, and pits. There were some more sites that we did not visit or know clearly. We just heard of it. In the future, it is necessary to go there if the program is renewed<sup>3</sup>.

**June 26, 1998**

#### **Samaky Meanchey district**

On June 26, 1998, we traveled south along the National Road 5, then turned right and went on until we got to Samaky Meanchey district. It is 48 kilometers from the downtown and 12 kilometers from the national road.

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<sup>3</sup> We could not draw a map of the execution site in this district because it was complicated to get there and it was full of forests.

## ***Sumaky Meanchey District***

It is located in the southwest of Kampong Chhnang Provincial Town. It is a low land with a lot of trees. Sumaky Meanchey district is bordered on:

- the north by Tik Phos, Rolea Phieat, Kampong Chhnang province,
- the south by Oudong and Thpong districts, Kampong Speu province,
- the west by Thpong district, Kampong Speu province, and
- the east by Tralach district, Kampong Chhnang province.

According to the district report, it has 9 sub-districts and 89 villages. It has a population of 56,334, of which 29,290 are female. There are 11,180 families in the whole district. Most people are farmers, firewood and charcoal dealers. In the Khmer Rouge regime, this district was called District 10, Kampong Tralarch Loe, Region 31, Western Zone. It was not safe to go to farther sub-districts such as Svay Chut and Kraing Lvea and remote area. On June 25, 1998, the Khmer Rouge guerrillas entered Svay Chut sub-district. The execution sites with many pits are mainly in three sub-districts, but there are also killing sites in other sub-districts. The district chief named Mr. Loeung Chhoeun and the district agricultural Chief named Mr. Seom Porn told us the following information:

## ***Svay Chut sub-district***

- Execution site, security office and prison at Damrei Srot.
- Execution site at Kraing Srama, Chas village.
- Chrak Sangke execution site in Svay Chuk sub-district.

Svay Chut is 16 kilometers southwest of the district. It is 20 kilometers from the district to the execution site.

## ***Kraing Lvea sub-district***

- Security office and prison at Chumteav Chreng village now called Ak Prakk village.
- Execution site in the forest 3 kilometers from the prison. (Unsafe and no car way).

## ***Peam sub-district***

- Execution site in Thmei village. This place is not safe.

## ***Witnesses***

The chief of the district found four witnesses whose names are mentioned below for us. They were very important witnesses because they used to be prisoners in Damrei Srok, prison security guards at Chumteav Chreng prison, sub-district security forces and sub-district Kang Haroy<sup>4</sup> persons.

### **Names of the witnesses**

1. Mr. Sem Porn, Deputy Chief of the district Agriculture Department, had been imprisoned in Damrei Srok prison for 3 years in the Khmer Rouge regime.
2. Mr. Muong Moeun, 56, was in Kang Haroy in Svay Dok sub-district cooperative. Now he is Chief of Tbeng Khpuos village and Chief of Wat Raneak comMitee.
3. Mr. Soeu Oeun was a house builder, and now lives in Mean Por village, Tbeng Khpuos sub-district.
4. Mr. Kok Hakk, 42, was a prison security guard responsible for holding the name list of prisoners and victims newly arrested and already killed.

All of the four witnesses were very important because they knew clearly what had happened. They used to be Khmer Rouge cadres and one of them had been imprisoned for 3 years.

### ***Information from witness named Sem Porn, 47***

He was imprisoned in Damrei Srok security office and prison from 1977 to 1979 for talking and having sympathy with new people by allowing them to forage for food. The Khmer Rouge accused him of interfering in their affairs, and so imprisoned him. He was transferred to a fishing team in the eastern part of Kampong Chhnang. He was released in 1978-1979 after the Vietnamese invasion. He returned to Svay Chuk village in 1979.

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<sup>4</sup> Mobile work brigade consists of 50 persons.

## **Victims**

1. The victims were accused of involving in or having relatives in the Khmer resistance forces from Hanoi. Though their relatives already died, they were still imprisoned and killed.
2. The victims included Khmer Rouge cadres, soldiers, security personnel who were allegedly found guilty or had moral offences.
3. The victims were civil officials, intellectuals, professors, the rich aristocrats, customs officers, police, military police officers and soldiers. They were forced to transplant seedlings and offered with gruel for meals. They were kept under surveillance. Whenever their backgrounds were revealed, their whole families were killed. The Khmer Rouge killed the victims first, and then they unlocked shackles later. When the prison was empty, new victims were brought in.
4. New people were killed between 1975-76. The Khmer Rouge cadres with offences were killed after one or two days' imprisonment.

Execution site in Damrei Skuk, Svay Chrut sub-district (75-79) The execution sites are:

- Prey Tortung
- Chorlorng Tapot

At night, perpetrators walked the victims in lines to be killed; and at dawn, they were stained with blood. The victims were undressed before being killed. The witness named Sem Porn added that evacuated city dwellers were killed in 1975.

## ***Number of pits***

In Damrei Srok, Chorlorng Ta Put, Prey Tortung, there were from 700-1,000 pits. Some corpses were cut into parts and buried and they planted coconut trees on those pits. There was from one to five bodies in each pit.

## ***Number of victims***

The number of victims is estimated at 12,000 to 13,000 or maybe more, said Mr. Muong Moeun, 50, Chief of Wat Norrea, lived in Mean Rokaet village, Kraing Nou sub-district in the Khmer Rouge time. He was in a mobile work brigade (group of 50) as a firewood collector in the Khmer Rouge time. He told us about execution site, security office and prison in Ak Prakk, Chumteav Chreng, Kraing Lvea sub-district. The execution site was about 3 kilometers from the prison (in forest), but he did not know the name of the forest.

## ***Type of victims***

1. From 1973-75, all Lon Nol soldiers captured by the Khmer Rouge were considered war prisoners and killed.
2. Civil servants and military officers, teachers, intellectuals, new people and base people were sent to the prison when they were accused of moral offences and having relatives living in the city, especially, they were accused of espionage. Before 1975, teachers and well-educated people were charged with espionage. They were beaten and questioned. When they confessed, the Khmer Rouge did not beat them anymore, but “killed” them instead. Some victims did not serve in the armed forces but said they did otherwise they were beaten until they confessed as alleged. But, sooner or later, they had to be killed by the Khmer Rouge cadres.

Comrade Kok Hakk was a security personnel in Ak Prakk, Chumteav Chreng and responsible for holding the list of victims. In 1975, he served the Khmer Rouge army in the west of Phonm Penh, so all the documents were left to the one who replaced him. In Ak Prakk, there were 86 houses, but 6 big tile-roofed houses were used as prison, which was filled with victims. After each interrogation, about 12 to 30 victims were taken to be killed in the forest about 3 kilometers from the prison sometimes in the evening, sometimes at night. Mr. Muong Moeun and Mr. Kok Hakk did not know the exact number of the pits.

## ***Number of victims***

- During 1973-74, there were 30,000 victims (estimated by Mr. Kok Hakk)
- During 1975-79, there were 5,000-6,000 victims (estimated by Muong Hakk)

The total victims were 36,000. The detail information was recorded on cassette tapes for documentation.

Mr. Soeu Oeun, 49, told us about execution sites at Prey Kang Meas. He saw 3 big pits. Each pit was 2 meters wide, 15 meters long and 1.5 meters deep. Between 1982-83, he saw people dig the pits and search for gold. He estimates that there were between 100 to 150 victims in each pit.

## ***Victims***

The victims killed at Prey Kang Meas were people who did not follow Angkar’s rules, according to the witnesses. We regret that we could not reach the sites because they are very far and inaccessible, and security is also a concern.

## **Conclusion**

Sumaky Meanchey district lies in a remote area. The trip to the target sites was not safe, and it is surrounded by dense forest. We could not reach these by car or even by motor taxi. We got the report from the main witnesses as we mentioned above, but we did not have photographs of the execution sites, security office and prison. We found witness living nearby the target site. This is the first step for our investigation in the future. The district Chief did not allow us to go to any sites because of our safety concern. We were told not to go to Chul Kiri district, which is further than Kampong Leng district where there was Khmer Rouge guerrilla. Finally we have been to 4 districts in Kampong Chhnang province. We tried to get there with effort and patience, even though we learnt that there were armed robbers. But we instead decided not to go because the local authority warned that it was dangerous to our team to visit the sites. Making a trip in this season is very difficult, too. It took a whole day to go to each district.

## **December 25, 1998**

### **Chul Kiri District**

Our team went along National Road #5 towards Kampong Chhnang, which is 90 Kilometers from Phnom Penh, and we reached its provincial office at 8 a.m. At the provincial office, we met Mr. Men Soeun, Chief of Provincial Cabinet. After we received formal permission from him, we went to meet Mr. Ly Suthy, Chief of Provincial Culture and Fine Art Office, and we asked him to go along with us to the two districts, Chul Kiri and Sumaky Meanchey districts. On the same day at 10:30 a.m., we hired one motor boat to go to Chul Kiri district.

We went along Tonle Sap tributary in a motor boat to Chul Kiri district, which is 38 kilometers from the Provincial Office. And we got there at 1.5 p.m. We met Mr. Met, and Mr. Aom Sam Ouen, Chief of the District and Mr. Mey Phan, Chief of District Administration.

We told the district chief about our purpose and then we raised our requests for help from the district, sub-district, village authorities and people. The district has northern border with Kampong Leng and Baray district, Kampong Thom province, western border with Kampong Chhnang provincial office, southern border with Kampong Tralach, and eastern border with Batheay district, Kampong Cham.

- Terrain: Low land with mountains and water streams.
- The district is divided into 5 sub-districts with 26 villages. 80 per cent of the people are farmers and fishermen (Growing lotus is the main work for them), hand craft and potters.

Note: This district was just created in 1983 by integrating 5 sub-districts from other districts around it.

### **Important information about execution site and prisons**

- a. Kong Sleng was a prison and an execution site that was in Koh Sleng village, Koh Thkov sub-district, Chul Kiri district. It is 8 kilometers from the district. This was a big place for victims such as:

1. students,
  2. civil servants,
  3. Khmer Rouge cadres.
- b. Prek Anh Chanh and Prek Branakk was an execution site situated in front of Wat Pream Chhkaok, Peam Chhkaok sub-district that was 10 kilometers from the district along the Tole Sap River.
- c. Chong Beng Sdei Takeo execution sites:
1. Behind Kampong Ta Srov village,
  2. Po Puon Phnom sites,
  3. Prey Korki site, 3.5 kilometers from the district.

After we got the above information, we tried to reach all the sites.

**Koh Sleng            040201            B/P**  
**Prison, execution sites and work camp**

Our team, the district chief, the chief of district administration, and third deputy of Koh Thkov sub-district went together by motor boat towards Koh Sleng. We found two witnesses, Mr. Aom Sam Ouen, District Chief and Mr. Not Khum, Third Deputy in Koh Sleng village. They both lived in Koh Sleng village, Koh Thkov sub-district and held a position in a mobile work brigade in the Khmer Rouge regime. Koh Sleng is surrounded by river. It is 3 kilometers long. The prison was in the Southern edge, and the execution site was in the north (forest). The whole island was used for plantation controlled by the Khmer Rouge.

**Victims**

Most of the victims were students, sent by boat from various sub-districts in District #8 (now Kampong Tralach district). Besides students were civil servants, mobile work brigade and Khmer Rouge cadres who were found guilty of moral offences.

**Number of victims**

From 2,000 to 3,000, the witnesses said that the victims on this island had no chance to escape, because big rivers surrounded it and there were no boats. There were not many cooperatives. However, some victims managed to escape but not many.

Witnesses said that victims were killed and thrown into the water attached with stone, but only a few were thrown into the pits. There was an execution site at the edge of Koh Sleng, about 2.5 kilometers from the office when the Khmer Rouge occupied. The witnesses added that some of the victims were driven to other prisons such as prison at Chong Prey Trach, Banteay sub-district, which was a prison of District #18 now called Kampong Tralach district.

We asked the witness if any victims survived but we were told that all victims perished before the downfall of the Khmer Rouge regime, 1979. The Chief of Security on this island was Comrade Voet (dead). Bones were not found because the victims were fastened on stones and thrown into water in order to leave no evidence. We recorded the interviews and took pictures of the witnesses for documentation purpose.

### **Conclusion**

Chul Kiri district has two more target sites that we have not reached, because one day was not enough time. It was already 2 p.m. after we got information from the district and each site was far away. When we returned from Kampong Tralach, it was 6 p.m.. We traveled at night.

Even though we reached only one site, we got witnesses who used to be on that island and lived near it. They heard the victims shouting while they were being beaten to death. Mr. Ren Kim Lieng, District official, is our third witness who lived in Koh Sleng in the Khmer Rouge regime.

Moreover, we got more information from Mr. Mey Phan, who used to be a sub-district clerk and responsible for sub-district logistics in Por sub-district, Kampong Leng district in the 1960's. Then he was a chief of monks, and he was disrobed and forced to kill fish and people. He told us a lot about criminal activities that he had known. Therefore, he will become our important future witness. We already interviewed him for documentation purpose.

For other two places in Chul Kiri district that we have not yet reached, we will go there sometimes in the future. If we go to these sites, we should sleep at the district office for one night, so we will be able to get detailed information and position. On one hand, we were in a hurry, so we had no time to cook and on the other hand, there were no restaurants. So we missed our meal.

### **December 25, 1998**

#### **Sumaky Meanchey District *(All sites in this district have not yet been visited)***

This was our second attempt to reach sites in this district. The first time we went to this district was in 1998, but we could not reach the sites and this time we still could not either.

#### **Reasons:**

Last time the security had not been favorable (Khmer Rouge still there). This time security was OK, but the time was too short. “We have to travel by a special train. Unfortunately, that special train had already left by the time we got there because it had to leave earlier than the regular train. We got information as we discussed with Mr. Chhuong, District Chief. He told us that there were two main locations, as we were informed when we were there for the first time.

### **1. First location**

- a. Damrei Srok was a prison.
- b. Prey Tor Roeng was an execution site.
- c. Chror Lorng Taput, was prison and execution site.

These sites are about from 10 to 15 kilometers from the district office, and execution site is about 18 kilometers. These sites are in Svay Chuk sub-district, Sumaky Meanchey district, Kampong Chhnang province. Vehicle can only reach the sub-district office, and then we have to walk to prison and execution site. It will take one day for each site,” said the chief of the district.

- d. Site at Chumteav Chreng village

Chumteav Chreng can be reached by car and then by train if we set out at dawn. It is 20 kilometers from the district office. We discussed with the District Welfare official named Mr. Din Sey, who saw and knew the execution site clearly. He affirmed that he would guide us in the future. Note: Chumteav Chreng is in another sub-district. We can reach it through Sala Lek Praim district, but not through Svay Chuk sub-district (Damrei Srok). We need to spend one day to go to this site, so we will need two days and some money to rent a train to go to these two sites.

We would like to request that these two sites must be visited because these execution sites were bigger than others. In order to get full results; a proper amount of budget is needed. If one day was not enough time, so two days must be allowed because they are important sites. One day was just enough to go and return like a holiday. Please consider this problem. Next time if the trip has to be made by water, more budget must be allocated to pay for the motor boat.