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UC Established Dr. Handa Compensation and Memorial Fund for the Victims of Khmer Rouge Genocide.

This is an initiative of the University of Cambodia (UC) and Dr. Haruhisa Handa, a prominent Japanese philanthropist to jointly establish a fund called "*Dr. Handa Compensation and Memorial Fund for the Victims of the Khmer Rouge Genocide,*" for the amount of \$1,300,000 (One Million and thirty hundred US Dollars). The establishment of this fund is aimed at memorializing and compensating the victims of the Khmer Rouge (1975-1979). The launch of this project has just conducted by the University of Cambodia during the press conference on the 1st of August 2005.

In an interview with journalists at the conclusion of the press conference, Dr. Kao Kim Hourn said that this was the first step of distributing aid. Only women head of the household, who seriously suffered from the Khmer Rouge Regime, were to be given aid. Dr. Kao clarified that the aid distribution would get started in September 2005. All of the application forms would be prepared and distributed by the University of Cambodia. During this initial step 10,000 victimized families would be receiving aid.

Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, President of the University of Cambodia, reiterated that Dr. Handa Fund would warmly welcome other financial sources to would like to support the fund. What is most important is the intention to help share hard burden in poverty alleviation caused by the Khmer Rouge to the Cambodian people.

In the interview, Dr. Kao Kim Hourn revealed that during the Khmer Rouge Genocide he had been living in zone no.3 and one of his brothers was killed by the Khmer Rouge.

At the press conference, Dr. Haruhisa Handa, Chairman of World Mate Organization said he was very happy to appear at the University of Cambodia to declare his strong support, especially his financial contribution for the establishment of Dr. Handa Compensation and Memorial Fund for the Victims of the Khmer Rouge Genocide, created by the Board of Trustees of the University of Cambodia.

"I would like to express my deep thanks to the University, especially the UC Board of Trustees for naming this fund after me and I feel highly honored," said Dr. Haruhisa Handa. He also reiterated that he had always considered the need to offer a contribution to the millions of Cambodians who were killed during the Khmer Rouge Genocide. And along with this, the ceremony was conducted to commemorate other Cambodian people who had survived the cruelty of an atrocious regime.

In addition, Dr. Haurhisa Handa also confirmed that the fund will warmly welcome all of other financial sources who would like to support this project. As planned, 10,000 victimized families would receive a \$100 US dollars contribution to pay homage to their decease love ones.