

6. Ceremony

Since 2005, The University of Cambodia has managed and conducted ceremonies to distribute \$100 tokens to the Khmer Rouge victims.

First Ceremony

The first ceremony was organized on April 24, 2006, for 203 families living in Sopotep Commune, Chhbar Mon District, Kompong Speu province. The ceremony was presided by H.E. Mr. Say Chhum, *MP of Kampong Speu Constituency*, in the presence of Dr. Haruhisa Handa, *Chairman, World Mate Organization*, and his donor delegation. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, *Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation* and *UC President* was also present at the ceremony. This ceremony was jointly organized by The University of Cambodia and the Kompong Speu local authority.

Second Ceremony

On October 26, 2006, the Pedagogic School in Kandal Province provided the venue for the second ceremony. During the second ceremony, aid was distributed to families of 1,000 Khmer Rouge victims residing in three principal districts including Saang, Koh Thom, and Kandal Stoeng. This official ceremony was presided over by H.E. Mr. Sok An, *DPM, Minister in charge of Council of Ministers* and Lok Chumteav, *Higher Representative of Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister, Royal Government of Cambodia*. A multitude of people attended the distribution event, including MPs, Senators, members of the government, and national and international guests. Dr. Haruhisa Handa, *Chairman of World Mate*, and his delegation as well as Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, *UC President*, and other friends of UC attended. In close cooperation with the local authority of Kandal Province, The University of Cambodia successfully conducted the second distribution ceremony of the Dr. Handa Fund.

Third Ceremony

The third Dr. Handa Fund distribution ceremony was conducted at *Batheay District, Kompong Chham Province*, on January 30, 2007. This official ceremony was conducted at the Pagoda of Trapaing Tea in Mesrei Village, Mepring Commune. Another 1,000 Khmer Rouge victims' families benefited from the ceremony. H.E. Mr. Hor Nam Hong, *Deputy Prime Minister, The Royal Government of Cambodia; Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation*, presided over the ceremony. Dr. Haruhisa Handa, *Chairman of World Mate Organization* and Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, *UC President*, warmly welcomed all guests to the remarkable ceremony. Close cooperation with the local authorities made the ceremony a success.

The Fourth Ceremony

On March 6, 2007, the fourth ceremony was conducted at *Sandan and Prasath Sambeau Districts* in *Kompong Thom Province*. The fourth ceremony was presided over by H.E.

Mr. Un Noeng, *Member of Parliament*, and responsible for Kompong Thom Constituency and Lok Chumteav. With the presence of Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, *UC President*, and Lok Chumteav, the Dr. Handa Compensation and Memorial Fund was successfully conducted in the spirit of benevolent and humanitarian aid. The official ceremony distributed aid to 500 victimized families. The University of Cambodia research team cooperated closely with the local authorities to accomplish aid distribution in both districts.

The Fifth Ceremony

The fifth ceremony was conducted on December 21, 2007, in *Kirivong District* in *Takeo Province*. There were 1,000 recipients of the Dr. Handa Fund. This official ceremony was presided over by H.E. Mr. Sok An, *Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in Charge of the Council of Ministers*. Also present at this ceremony was Mr. Handa, brother of Dr. Haruhisa Handa, and Ms. Midori Miyazaki, *Representative of World Mate Organization*, and two delegate photographers. H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, *Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation; President of the University of Cambodia*, also attended. The ceremony was jointly organized by The University of Cambodia and the Kirivong District Local Authority. The ceremony was solemnly conducted in the spirit of responsibility and amity.

As of February 2009, 3,703 victimized families have received aid.