

Part IV

NEWS CLIPPINGS

Samleng Chunpika News

First Year, No. 01, published on August 3, 2005

Dr. Handa's project supports the victims of the Khmer Rouge Genocide.

After Paris Peace Agreement on 23 October 2001, Cambodia faced many problems that needed to be resolved. Indeed, the main challenging issue was the poverty left by the Khmer Rouge regime.

Recently, Dr. Handa has conducted a press conference at the University of Cambodia, on the 1st of August 2005, to launch **Dr. Handa Compensation and Memorial Fund for the Victims of the Khmer Rouge Genocide**. This Fund, as publicly announced by Dr. Haruhisa Handa, offers donations to pay homage to the nearly 2 million Cambodian people who were killed by the Khmer Rouge during 1975 to 1979.

Dr. Haruhisa Handa is a very distinguished philanthropist from Japan. He is the Chairman of World Mate Organization based in Tokyo, Japan. With his strong benevolence towards Cambodian people in mind, Dr. Handa has appealed to the national and international community to help establish and amplify this prominent project. Since, the amount of fund is not fixed, the project could be widely expanded to more three years time.

It is worthy mentioning that this press conference to the launching of "Dr. Handa Compensation and Memorial Fund for the Victims of the Khmer Rouge Genocide" was conducted by the University of Cambodia. It is highly presided over by Dr. Haruhisa Handa, Chairman of World Mate, and Chancellor of the University of Cambodia.

PRACHEAPREI MAZAGINE

The Victims of the Khmer Rouge Genocide receive \$100 US Dollars; those who didn't receive were unhappy...

This is the first time that relatives of the deceased victims of the Khmer Rouge received donations from the Dr. Handa Japanese Fund after having pledged for many months. There were 200 victims' families, including the poor and elderly, received aids from Dr. Handa Compensation Fund.

On the 24th of April 2006, on the grounds of Amporvanda Monastery called Prey Svay Pagoda, located in the commune of Sopotep, Chbar Mon District, Kompong Speu Province, Khmer Rouge Genocide victimized families happily showed up to receive aid. Previously, no one received \$100 US dollars donation, they received only rice, sarongs, scarves and clothes. Conversely, there were also unhappy people around the pagoda. They were unhappy because they did not receive any aid, even though they had relatives victimized by the Khmer Rouge too. A woman, 50 years old or so, deeply drunk, came to the venue and said that she also had her husband and kinsmen killed by the Khmer Rouge, but why she did not receive any donation? In her drunken state, she was embarrassed to enter the premise.

During the ceremony, H.E. Mr. Say Chhum, MPs of Kompong Speu Constituency, H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, President of the University of Cambodia, along with Dr. Haruhisa Handa, head of Dr. Handa Compensation and Memorial Fund for the victims of the Khmer Rouge Genocide, appeared on the tribune.

Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, President of the University of Cambodia, said that he wished to apologize to all of the people who did not have received this fund. He really did not know any Cambodian people who had not suffered from the Khmer Rouge. However the first distribution of aid was organized only for widows who were the poorest of the poor families and whose kinsmen as well as children had been assassinated by the Khmer Rouge.

This was the first time that Dr. Handa Fund distributed aid to the victim families of the Khmer Rouge Genocide. Those who received the donation came from 19 villages among the three communes of Chbar Mon District, Kompong Speu Province. Two hundred victimized families had been selected among three hundred and fifty poorest families. As stipulated in the agreement, each family received a total of \$100 US dollars in aid, \$90 US dollars was in cash and the other was 50 kgs or \$10 worth of rice.

Dr. Haruhisa Handa, Chairman of the World Mate Organization, Chairman of the International Foundation for Arts and Culture in Tokyo, Japan, and Chancellor of the University of Cambodia, said during the ceremony he had been deeply touched and attached to the Cambodian people, who had been seriously victimized by wars, separation and sufferings. The donation that he gave to them can be partly spent to organize

religious ceremony to contribute to their deceased husbands and children who died during the Khmer Rouge so their spirits can rest in peace in the spiritual world; and the rest can be spent for alleviating poverty within their families. This fund was aimed at distributing aid to 10,000 victims' families of the Khmer Rouge Genocide throughout the country. The Fund targeted those who were widows, whose husbands were killed, and poorest of the poor.

Dr. Haruhisa Handa, a Japanese philanthropist, has already been given a "Cambodian Citizenship." His blessed work has also included supported to free medical treatment to Cambodian patients at the Preah Sihanouk Hospital of Hope. As a new Cambodia citizen, Dr. Haruhisa Handa pledged that he would try his best to distribute his personal fund to help Cambodian people who have difficulties in their lives. The amount of this fund totaled \$1,300,000 US dollars.

During the ceremony a representative of the victims, Mr. Suon Him, strongly rejoiced with Dr. Haruhisa Handa's donations. Mr. Him recalled the punishment and suffering he had witness and undergone, towards his family as well as other Cambodian families throughout the country, during the Khmer Rouge genocide. An old aunt named In Mao, living in Varsar Village, Varsar Commune, Samrong Tong District, described the suffering she had undergone. These sufferings couldn't be forgettable. No words could be compared with those sufferings. Her husband was killed simply because they accused him of being traitor of the nation; and her other four children were also put on trial to be definitely killed, but fortunately, two of them survived. For nearly 30 years, she has been struggling to feed her surviving children. The \$100 dollars was not much for the rich, but for a poor widow like her it was worth everything. She thought that with that sum of money she could offer religious ceremony to memorize her deceased husband and children's spirits.

Outside of the premises, there were crowds of unhappy peoples. They said they were also poor and victimized and asked why they were not given any aid. They realized, undoubtedly, that every Cambodian people's families had all been strongly affected by the Khmer Rouge Genocide.

Consequently, the 200 families qualified to receive Dr. Haruhisa Handa's generous donation. Dr. Handa distribution ceremonies were launched along with the Khmer Rouge Tribunal to put on trial surviving Khmer Rouge leaders in Cambodia.

So far, there is no exact number of the people who had been killed by the Khmer Rouge Regime. During 1979-80, there was information estimating that there had been more than three million Cambodian people killed during Khmer Rouge Genocide; but afterwards, there was information speculated that there were around two million people who had died, and finally, there was only more than one million....

KOH SANTEPHEAP DAILY

Year 39, No. 5872, published on Friday October 27, 2006

Seriously Victimized People by Khmer Rouge Genocide Receives Aid

Phnom Penh- One thousand families coming from four districts of Kandal Province, who were seriously victimized by the Khmer Rouge Genocide (1975-1979), received aid on the 26th of October, 2006, at the Hun Sen Regional Center for Pedagogy. This auspicious ceremony was highly presided over by H.E. Mr. Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in Charge of the Council of Ministers. This was the first time that a large amount of aid distributions was conducted to victims of the so-called Khmer Rouge Democratic Kampuchea.

Among the 1,000 families, there were 15 families who were symbolically given aid by H.E. Mr. Sok An. Each of them received 50 kg of rice and 355,000 riels in cash. The 985 other families received cash amount of 410,000 riels.

Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, President of the University of Cambodia, mentioned that this ceremony was supported by Dr. Handa Fund and carried out by the University of Cambodia. Dr. Handa Fund was a non-profit organization supported by Dr. Haruhisa Handa, Chairman of World Mate Organization in Tokyo, Japan. Dr. Handa is a renowned Japanese philanthropist who has contributed a lot of his wealth and his organization assets to help develop Cambodia. For instance, Dr. Handa has helped construct Preah Sihanouk Hospital, the Center of Hope, the Orphan Center, and a dozen other schools throughout the country.

The Dr. Handa Fund was initially established to compensate and memorialize the victims of the Khmer Rouge Genocide from 1975 to 1979. People who had the right to receive these aids must conform to these following criteria:

- 1) Widows who were seriously suffered by the Khmer Rouge Regime from 1975 to 1979;
- 2) Widows whose husband and their children had been killed by the Khmer Rouge Regime;
- 3) Widows who have been victimized by the Khmer Rouge Regime and who are now poorest of the poorer.

Based on these principles Dr. Kao said, “Group of researchers and the committee to select people of the University of Cambodia ventured out to four district of Kandal Province to conduct research and select qualified people. The teams work closely and collaboratively with local authorities to screen and interview 1,200 families. Among these numbers, only 1,000 families were selected to be recipients.”

In 2006, H.E. Deputy Prime Minister Sok An stated that Dr. Handa Compensation and Memorial Fund for the Victims of KHMER ROUGE Genocide distributed aid to 200 families in Kompong Speu Province. Most of them were widows and elderly whose families were killed by the Khmer Rouge Regime. Dr. Haruhisa Handa has planned to distribute aid to the poorest people of Cambodia.

CAMBODIA TODAY

Year II, No. 179, published on Monday August 2, 2005

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.

MEATUPHOUM NEWSPAPER

Year...No. 148, published every Monday – Friday August 8-12, 2005

The Cambodian Victimized People of the Khmer Rouge Regime will receive \$100 US dollars from Dr. Handa Fund

The Cambodian people who were suffered during the Khmer Rouge Regime from 1975 to 1979 will receive some compensation from “Dr. Handa Fund” within the near future.

Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, President of the University of Cambodia, said that the Dr. Handa Fund had been established to commemorate and compensate the Khmer Rouge victims. This project was initiated by the University of Cambodia and supported by Dr. Haruhisa Handa, Chairman of World Mate Organization, and Chancellor of the University of Cambodia. This fund will distribute aid to the victims of the Khmer Rouge Genocide for the purpose of commemorating those who had tragically passed away and strongly affected by the Khmer Rouge Regime.

Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, President, University of Cambodia, confirmed that for the first project, the budget amount is one million and three hundred thousands US dollars. Of which, one million US dollars was donated by the World Mate Organization, and three hundred thousands was donated by Dr. Haruhisa Handa. This fund would be timely distributed to the victims of the Khmer Rouge.

Following the assessment, Dr. Kao resumed that each victimized family could receive \$100 US dollars to commemorate their decease love ones. So far, one could not confirm how many families would be able to receive the aid, but for the first phase, Dr. Kao Kim Hourn said that the distribution would be done in October 2005 for impoverished wi'ows' families.

The prominent supporter of this project was Dr. Haruhisa Handa who said during the conference that the compensation budget was a small amount of money that could not adequately reimburse for the destruction and the suffering of the Cambodian people. Especially, the Khmer Rouge victimized families, but it was a small amount of money to console them or to spiritually heal the victims. The Fund's Chairmans appeal to other humanitarian organization to join in supporting this prominent project.

It worth mentioning that recently the Royal Government of Cambodia and the United Nations have agreed to establish the Khmer Rouge Tribunal to put on trail surviving Khmer Rouge leaders. However, they didn't confirm when this tribunal will take place. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, finally, reaffirmed that apart from helping to console people, this project would help to alleviate their poverty.

KOH SANTEPHEAP NEWSPAPER

Year.....No. 5720, published on Monday May 1, 2006

Government Leaders welcome Food Aids and Law Aids

Dr. Haruhisa Handa, Chairman, International Foundation for Arts and Culture in Tokyo, Japan, has recently reported to Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen regarding his activity in Kompong Speu Province with the presence of H.E. Mr. Say Chhum to distribute aid to 203 poor families victimized by the Khmer Rouge genocidal regime during the period during 1975-1979. In May 2006, he planned to distribute additional aid to 1,000 families who had been seriously victimized by the Khmer Rouge Regime, and the distribution would be done continuously to reach 10,000 victimized families across Cambodia.

Dr. Haruhisa Handa made this report to Samdech Prime Minister in the afternoon of April 26, 2006 at his residence. Pertaining to the distribution of aid to the Khmer Rouge victims, Dr. Handa invited Samdech Prime Minister to preside over a ceremony which will be held in October 2006 if Samdech had time.

The Chairman of the International Foundation For Arts and Culture in Tokyo, Japan, has also informed Samdech Prime Minister that, up till now, he has a budget around \$1,300,000 US dollars to donate to the Cambodian people, specifically, to those widows who were the victims of the Khmer Rouge genocidal regime. Dr. Handa thanked Samdech Prime Minister for having spent his valuable time to join the Asia Economic Forum which had been held in Siem Reap. During AEF, Samdech Prime Minister was the highest personality to preside over the forum. In front of an audience of more than four hundred distinguished personalities, Dr. Handa asked Samdech Hun Sen to be the prominent leader, the President of the Asia Economic Forum. Dr. Handa add that he had the idea to expand the Asia Economic Forum to be more influential to other countries such as Australia, New Zealand and Fiji.

Moreover, Dr. Haruhisa Handa has warmly expressed his deep thanks to Samdech Prime Minister for giving him an honorary Cambodian citizenship. He kindly told Samdech that Samdech was like his foster father in Cambodia. He also asked the permission from Samdech Prime Minister to establish a curriculum called “Hun Sen University” at the University of Cambodia. This new curriculum will extract various strategies and tactics of Samdech to insert into UC academic curriculum in providing knowledge to all government officials and civil servants to better understand those strategies and tactics of Samdech.

Responding to the proposal, Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen expressed his deep thanks to Dr. Handa for his kind attention and his generosity in helping the victimized Cambodian victimized people. Samdech Prime Minister said that for he and his wife has a similar project to help the people. Lok Chumteav herself has happily led project donation of food and materials to poor people. Also Obaseka mother in-law provided shelter to poor people. The activities that could be often seen through TV are: (1) Project for Miserable People and Hope; (2) Miserable People and Struggle; (3) It is called 9

minutes of Real Life. These projects reflect the activities of Samdech and also his own families in assisting poor people. These projects not only target the poor people from the Khmer Rouge Regime, but all Cambodian poor as a whole. For instance, the poor people who are infected by HIV/AIDS or elderly without shelters.

Pertaining to the invitation of Samdech Prime Minister to preside over the distribution of aid to poor people in October, Samdech said that he would join if the time were acceptable. On the other hand, Samdech also suggested that it would be good if the project invited the leaders, who had defeated the Khmer Rouge Regime, to distribute aid to the victims.

Intertwined with the invitation of Samdech Prime Minister to be Chairman of the Asia Economic Forum, Samdech recommended Dr. Haruhisa Handa to resume thinking a little bit on how to expand the AEF. Samdech Prime Minister reiterated that to play the role of President might be acceptable, but how to expand the existing AEF does not compete with other forums must be considered.

Samdech Prime Minister also suggested connecting with other previous leaders, those who were recognized as good leaders, even if they are retired, so as to enable them to engage together with current leaders to make this Forum a success.

Along the lines with asking the Prime Minister's name to be used as a part of the knowledge training for government officials and civil servants, Samdech said that time was not favorable yet. It is worth taking theories such as "Win-Win Policy" and other program of the political reforms, such as triangular or rectangular strategies as well as other priorities to be included within the academic programs and advance higher education curriculum. Samdech stated that it's not time to use his name because the time was not favorable. It is better to make a trial of taking his strategies to be taught in the academic programs.