

# មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលឯកសារកម្ពុជា

Cambodia, June 12, 2013

## **SUBJECT: Appeal for Donation of Archives Related to the KR and UNTAC Periods**

To Whom It May Concern:

The Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam) respectfully appeals for the donation of archival material related to the Khmer Rouge (KR) and United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) periods.

DC-Cam is an independent Cambodian NGO originally created by Yale University scholars pursuant to the Cambodian Genocide Justice Act of 1994. It is dedicated to ensuring memory and justice in Cambodia with respect to the abuses of the infamous Democratic Kampuchea (DK) regime. The Center is the largest provider of evidence to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), and it has been a pivotal stakeholder in Cambodia's post-conflict reconciliation and reconstruction efforts. As part of these efforts, DC-Cam supports a wide variety of different projects that contribute to scholarship, education, and promotion of the arts. It is through these efforts that DC-Cam has been recognized as the principal agent for all genocide education curricula in Cambodia's public school system.

But education is only one part of Cambodia's struggle. Poor library services and the public's awareness and access to documents and archival material continue to be an ongoing hurdle in the country's struggle to reclaim its cultural and historical heritage. Indeed, Cambodia has suffered decades of war, atrocity, and social upheaval that ravaged the country's academic, scholarship, and cultural heritage systems. Even today, vast quantities of documents, photographs, film, and audio recordings remain scattered to individuals and institutions around the world. With an aim toward restoring the country's access to these materials, DC-Cam appeals for their donation. Of course, individuals and institutions may have legitimate concerns about protecting the confidentiality of certain sources. DC-Cam is cognizant of this concern, and we believe viable solutions can always be found to such problems.

DC-Cam has been at the forefront of the effort to collect, catalogue, and publicize records related to the Khmer Rouge period, and it is a recognized leader in the overarching struggle to ensure truth, accountability, and justice in the wake of mass violence. DC-Cam appeals for the donation of archival material as part of its mission to provide Cambodians with greater access to their history by housing these archival collections within its facilities.

Sincerely,

  
Youk Chhang  
Director,  
The Documentation Center of Cambodia

