

# First Khmer Rouge Trial Verdict Announced



The courtroom where the trials are being held

On 26 July a verdict was handed down in the case against Kaing Guek Ieu (Duch), the director of the notorious interrogation and torture centre, S-21. Duch was sentenced to 35 years in prison, but his sentence was reduced by 11 years in compensation for the time he spent in pre-trial detention and a further five years in recognition of his co-operation with the court.

The trial of four more Khmer Rouge leaders, Nuon Chea, Khieu Samphan, Ieng Sary and Ieng Thirith, could last from March 2011 to the third quarter of 2012. Two additional cases are now at the office of investigating judges, following split decisions between Cambodian and international judges. No further cases are proposed.

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## My Response

Name .....

Address .....

Email ..... Telephone .....

I enclose a gift for:

- Education (children)                       Dump Kids project
- Education (college students)            General funds



# Cambodian Herald

Bringing News of Cambodia and  
Cambodian Communities out of Crisis

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## No Problem!

**Problem:** 35% of Cambodians live below the national poverty line. 80.5% of Cambodians live in rural areas and are therefore dependent mainly on agriculture for employment and food supply.

**Problem:** Poverty, sickness, loss of land and unsustainable family size can drive country-dwellers towards the cities, where there are few employment opportunities for unskilled workers.

**Problem:** Some people end up trying to make a living by finding anything that can be recycled and selling it on to a dealer. Many trundle a cart around the streets of Phnom Penh, the capital city, looking for cast-offs, but some spend their days picking through refuse, searching for anything that they can sell.



**Problem:** Until 2009 several hundred families scavenged on Phnom Penh's municipal rubbish dump at Stung Meanchey. When the dump was full, another was opened at Choeung Ek, some distance away. Some of the scavengers started to work there, even though the dump was supposed to be secure and unofficial recycling was not permitted. Others had to find other sources of income.

**Problem:** Many of the children of the scavengers work alongside their parents or just play in the refuse.

**Problem:** Cambodian Communities out of Crisis is committed to helping 15 of these children keep off the dump, go to school and receive a cooked lunch each weekday, but we do not have enough sponsors to fund this project.

**Problem:** We need people like **you** to give £6 a week or £25 a month to ensure that these children can complete school and have a chance of a better life than that endured by their parents. We can link you with a boy or girl and keep you informed about the child's progress. Please help.

**Problem solved!**



## What Price Development?

The National Museum of Cambodia describes the country's capital Phnom Penh as a 'compact, low-rise city'. Pockets of colonial-era architecture remain, such as the Post Office (1894), situated in a square that could have been transplanted from a French provincial town, and the stunning Art Deco New Market (1937), which has been compared to an 'alien spacecraft from pulp science fiction'.

But 21st century Phnom Penh is becoming neither compact, with a steady expansion towards the north and west, nor exclusively low-rise. At least 30 construction projects are either in progress or at an advanced stage of planning, ranging from single buildings, including the recently completed 30-storey OCIC Tower and the 42-storey Gold Tower 42, at an advanced stage of construction, to satellite cities such as Camko City, which is to cover an area of 119 ha and cost \$2 billion.



Where has the land come from for these new development projects? Gold Tower 42 is being built on the site of a former hospital; some projects use reclaimed land; others are on sites where older buildings have been demolished; but elsewhere land could only be acquired by evicting the former occupants, in some cases several hundred slum-dwellers. And where did they go?



Some found alternative accommodation and moved voluntarily, but many were forcibly relocated to sites outside Phnom Penh where there were no buildings, no water supply, no sewage system and no mains electricity. One of these, Andong Vilage, now houses 800 to 1,000 families. A Cambodian pastor, Pastor Abraham, works among the residents there, has helped rehouse several hundred families and has built a school and a church building. As Phnom Penh has expanded, the value of the land at Andong has increased, and developers wanted to evict the residents once again. Pastor Abraham urged them to stand firm and even suffered an attempt to cause him and his pregnant wife to have a motorcycle accident.

Hardly a week goes by without a news report describing a dispute over land rights in Cambodia. The problem is not just in Phnom Penh but also affects rural land earmarked for plantations and mineral concessions. Cambodia is developing, but who is paying the price?

## How Can I Support CCC?

How many cheques have you written in the last year? Probably a lot fewer than five years ago. Cheques are likely to disappear altogether by 31 October 2018, but there is no need to wait until then to use other methods to make a donation to CCC. One of the easiest to set up and use is PayPal. There is a 'Donate Using PayPal' on every page of our web site.

But you can help us in other ways too.

**ploink!** is a new web site ([www.ploink.co.uk](http://www.ploink.co.uk)) offering you the chance to donate small amounts of change to CCC.



CCC is more than £50 better off because our supporters have registered at **easyfundraising.org.uk** to support CCC when they shop online. If you have not already registered, go to

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cambodiancommunities](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cambodiancommunities) and help us reach £100 this year.

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# easyfundraising

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## Cambodians Helping Cambodians



The Relief and Disaster Management Commission (RDMC) is part of the Evangelical Fellowship of Cambodia, a co-ordinating and service body for the churches in Cambodia.

RDMC helps to mobilise Cambodian churches to respond to events such as large-scale fires destroying hundreds of homes, of which there have been several in recent years. Pictured left is a grateful recipient of rice and other supplies distributed to 257 families in May 2010.

It is not just international organisations that respond to need in Cambodia. Local churches are increasingly taking responsibility to love their neighbour in practical ways and RDMC is helping to co-ordinate their efforts.