



អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia
Chambres Extraordinaires au sein des Tribunaux Cambodgiens

Request for Correction

ឯកសារដើម
ORIGINAL/ORIGINAL
ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ (Date): 01-Aug-2018, 15:48
CMS/CFO: Sann Rada

Case : 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC

To Document No(s):	ERN(s):	Request Date:	Correction Type:
E3/9318	00679657-00679684	01/08/2018	<input type="checkbox"/> Change to Original <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change to Translation <input type="checkbox"/> Reclassification

Reason for changes:
Review the unrevised version(TC's request).

Details:
Replace the unrevised version with the revised version.

Filed by: ITU

Signature:

Approved by Greffier (for originals):

Signature:

Approved by ITU (for translations):

Signature:

Documentation Center of Cambodia

PHÂN Him [ផាន់ ហ៊ឹម] called Thy [ធី], female, I04592
 Occupation: Commerce
 Interview with PHÂN Him, 48 years old, subject of the biography
 Living in: Ba Krong [បាក្រុង] village, Kouk Rovieng [ក្រុករវៀង] commune, Cheung Prey [ឃើងព្រៃ]
 district, Kampong Cham
 Date of interview: 14 February 2004
 Interviewer: LONG Dany [ឡុង ដានី]

SIDE A

Dany: Excuse me, what name do you go by?
Him: My name at birth PHÂN Him. Then once it was the Pol Pot period, I changed it
 to PHÂN Thy.
Dany: How old are you now?
Him: Now, I'm 48 years old.
Dany: Where was your native locality: in which village, commune and district?
Him: I native locality was in Ba Krong village, Kouk Rovieng commune, Cheung Prey
 district, Kampong Cham.
Dany: And nowadays, in what village, commune and district do you live currently?
Him: Nowadays, I am living in Ba Krong village, Kouk Rovieng commune, Cheung
 Prey district, Kampong Cham.
Dany: What is your spouse's name?
Him: My spouse's name is PHÂN Sarath [ផាន់ សារត់].
Dany: How old is he now?
Him: He is 51 years old, the year of the snake.
Dany: How many offspring do you have?
Him: A total of six, but one died already.
Dany: How many sons or daughters?
Him: Three sons and three daughters, but one of the older boys has died.
Dany: By what occupation do you make your living nowadays?
Him: I make my living making palm sugar and doing dry-season rice paddy
 sharecropping.
Dany: What's your mother's name?
Him: Her name was Nhèm [ន៉ែម].

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- Dany:** Your father's?
- Him:** His name was Phăn [phăn].
- Dany:** Are your parents alive?
- Him:** They have both perished.
- Dany:** Both of them?
- Him:** Both of them.
- Dany:** In what year did they pass away?
- Him:** My father passed away in 1990, because I came in 1992.
- Dany:** And your mother?
- Him:** My mother passed away in 1997.
- Dany:** How many siblings were there in total?
- Him:** Eight altogether.
- Dany:** How many are males and how many are females?
- Him:** Three sisters and five brothers.
- Dany:** What number were you?
- Him:** The seventh child, second from the youngest.
- Dany:** When you were young, did you do any studying?
- Him:** Back when I was a kid, I studied at your school here in Ph'av [ph'av]. And then when it happened, only once there was that coup of ours, I stopped studying, only having just studied to Grade 10.
- Dany:** And then what after that, when you had stopped studying?
- Him:** Once I had stopped studying, I helped out my parents with the work, farming the paddy fields, putting up embankments and suchlike with them. Then once the POL Pot era came, that Commune Com of theirs came and requested that I join up to do sales at at Chhouk [chhouk] Commune Commerce. Then, my father, having heard that I was to go do sales at Commerce, let me go do sales temporarily. He said that he would not let his daughter be completely cut off, but if I was to go and help out with the sales, I could help out with that. Once having finished with Commerce sales, I was sent to the district, my father didn't dare to make any protest to them.
- Dany:** Then, what happened next?

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Him:

Upon arrival at the district, I stayed at the District Office location at Ses Sar [សេសសា] I stayed there to teach children. Then the time came when they selected military, and they sent me to be military on the forward battlefield. Upon arrival, they had those of us who were adolescent go carry wounded to the rear battlefield. They did not have us go to the front. We were carrying these wounded both from Etharoes [អ៊ុយស្ទ័រ] and Baseth [បាសិត] mountain, and then it was all over with the fall of Phnom Penh. They advanced to stay in Phnom Penh, and I went straightaway to stay there the whole time.

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At first, I stayed there at Phsa Thmey [ផ្សារថ្មី] doing Commerce sales, issuing food to factory workers: dried fish, sugar, husked rice, *prahok*, salt, vegetables, pork and beef, and distributing this to the factories and workers in each and every ministry and suchlike. After finishing there, they removed me to go to the location they called K19, adjacent to our Olympic stadium, making all kinds of cakes. Once I was at this place of theirs, they had a shortage of forces to do Commerce sales, so they removed me out of their back there to Commerce sales. Then, at a later time, these contemptible traitors removed me and my lot to go close to

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Pochentong [ពោធិបឹងក្រុង], where they had us put up embankments and make feeder canals we were made to build the dikes and dig canals. And while this was being done, they said if we tried hard to exert real effort, the Organization would soon see that. Suddenly, a fortnight later, I saw vehicles come to do transportation, all of the vehicles being covered ones that they said going to do the taking away to Kampong Kantuot [កំពង់កន្ទួត]. After a few days, more vehicles came to do transportation? My lot were perplexed and asked them, "Friends, where is the transportation to?" They said they were for to be taken back to the cooperatives, to be taken to find parents. And then there was this courier, a guy who seemed to take pity on us, who surreptitiously that those going were being taken to be beaten to death and disposed of Kampong Kantuot, and if we wanted to know that, to wait and see when the vehicles left. Sure enough, that's where the vehicles departed for. A few days later, after having made three trips and almost no one was left, but not all could be loaded up, they told my lot to wait for a next vehicle, to stand by while that vehicle went ahead.

Deleted: Later on, these contemptible traitors relocated us to another location near the

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Deleted: At that time we were encouraged to work hard as Angkar would soon appreciate our commitment. Six weeks later, I saw a convoy of covered trucks coming to pick people

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A few subsequent days, trucks were seen coming to collect more people. We were curious to know what happened. We asked the comrades to where they transported these people. They said (... [27]

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and that another vehicle would come the next day as transport to the cooperatives. As that last receiving vehicle came to receive us, what was called the treason of the Northerners erupted, and they were arrested, so I escaped with my life. The vehicle got crowded, and I was left behind. At that point, my lot returned to Phsa Thmey and they had us teach children at Reusey Keo [រដ្ឋបាលស្រុក]. Once there, it seemed like that was a rather too secluded place, and the military there was always making trouble. There were Pol Pot-era military, who had nothing to eat, so they were always stealing and making trouble at that location. So, they had us removed to go teach children at Tuol Tumpoung [ស្រុកត្បូង]. Later, once we had stopped teaching children, we were removed back to go to Commerce, the same as before, but in their Commerce mobile unit for screening processed items, such as cardamom fruit and dangkao [ដង្កោ] fruit, mostly for export abroad; all kinds of animal bones; elephant bones, tiger bones; and peanuts and sesame. They had us screen them for the nice ones and peel them clean, and they took them for export abroad. Later, once I had been married to a spouse, I went to live in the place that back in the old society was called the Ministry of Finance, the wavy house. We had lived there for maybe a month when Yuon arrived there. They said that even though we were exiting to the Northwest Zone, we would be there only for maybe a fortnight or something like that and then come back. They then loaded up vehicles with rice, salt, prahok (preserved fish), dried fish and all kinds of things and had us board them to leave that very.

Deleted: However during the last trip, there were more people than the last truck could accommodate. A few of us suggested that we may as well wait for the next truck for it would be surely coming tomorrow to transport the final truck load of people to that cooperative... As that last receiving vehicle came to receive ... [28]

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We originally went only as far as Kampong Chhnang to sleep, where they said, "hey, keep moving, the Yuon are coming up from behind." So, we boarding the vehicles to just keep on going, arriving at the Pursat market to sleep. While we were sleeping there at the Pursat market, they came to tell us that a lot of Yuon were still pursuing the workers, so "Elder Friends, you have to keep on escaping forward," so we just kept on going. Once we arrived in Battambang, they said that if we went ahead, the Yuon would be waiting to ambush us, so which way should we go now? We said, well, it looks like if we stay here, the Yuon will mistreat us, and if we go on, the Yuon will mistreat us, so let's just keep on going. That's what we said. So, the vehicles kept on driving. I was on a vehicle with Us Friends, that was full of them, and just kept riding it, being transported

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by it. The transportation got to Thma Koul [ថ្មគោល], where the locals, the Village Com and the District Com arranged food and water for us. They said the Yuon were again pursuing workers. That's what they said and to go, we had to leave. My lot then kept saying to let us ask to lodge there, that we would keep on disguising ourselves, disguising ourselves as people of the cooperatives there. They said we would not be able to blend in because we had vehicles and had come with stuff, so we were chased further forward, on and on until we came out to the Thai border, where indeed the Yuon were still coming after us. Upon our arrival at

Deleted: We were frustrated and did not know where we should go. Finally we decided that it's better to move forward because if we stayed here we would end up being mistreated by the Yuons, anyway. We continued our journey. ¶
¶
We

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Deleted: The village and district chiefs invited us to have meals with them. They also confirmed that the Yuons were chasing ... [39]

Boeng Beng [បឹងបង], they attacked the houses there and burned down the contemptible Pot's ammunition dump. From there on, they burned everything to the ground and even shelled us once we had entered Thai territory. And once we had arrived in Thai territory, the contemptible Thai fired on us from there. They weren't letting us enter their territory: they said not to enter their territory, that this was as far as Khmer territory extended. They planted their national flag on for us to see where not to cross, not to cross into their territory. Otherwise, they would shoot. Nevertheless, my lot, fearing the shelling, kept on crawling in. Some stepped on landmines, some being killed, others surviving, some losing arms or legs. Once this point had been reached, the leaders on the contemptible Pot side of things went to make contact with the Thai government there, so it let us come in to be accommodated inside at what was called Wat Rang [វត្តរាំង],

Deleted: We couldn't help but continue our journey. We got to the Cambodia-Thailand border. The information that the Yuons were chasing us was substantiated. They kept chasing us until the border at

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which was on the just opposite our border, adjacent to our border. They had us stay there until our side removed us back to the other side. Once we had been there maybe a week later, they told us we were told that the Yuon had withdrawn to the rear. We were able to returned to our Khmer territory for maybe two or three nights, they fired upon us again and fled again into Thai territory. They transported us to a camp, one which was very far away, all the way to Sakeo [ស្កេត], a camp in Thailand. Once there in Thailand, living there, the Thai were constantly hounding us, saying we Khmer were rich and always looking to rip us off or do something else to us. Sometimes they mistreated us. They poisoned ice and the watermelons we bought to eat and even went so far as to poison tobacco.

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The reason for the poisoning was that we Khmer were rather cheeky: we took property and sold it to them, such as animal and vegetable cooking and suchlike which had been pissed into and then sealed up for sale to them. This having angered them, their come-back was the poisoning, and once we could no longer take this, we turned around and went back to live on our land at the border.

Deleted: I think (The reason for the poisoning was that we ... [46]

Then in 1984, the Yuon attacked us once again time, so we fled another time, to live at this Phnom K'ngok [អ្នក] camp, where were stayed for several years.

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When it got to be 1992, our government said we had to repatriate back to our Khmeria, saying that upon arrival, the government there in the interior, on the inside, it would sort things out us, everything from rice and other food and housing in which to live. They said to go and not be scared, which is why we repatriated to live here, but once we were here, nothing was distributed, and I only got this piece of land my mother gave me.

Dany: Right. So, back when you very first came out, were you told by the Commune Com who came to tell you that?

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Him: They had me go do Commerce sales at Chhouk village.

Deleted: told me to sell cCommerce sales ial goods ... [51]

Dany: Back then, did you want to go do the selling, or did they come and tell you to go do the selling?

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Him: Someone simply came to request this of my father. This is what s/he said: "Is your daughter literate?" And my father assumed they were just asking this casually, so he replied that I was reasonably literate, and s/he said "Then I am requesting that your daughter go help doing Commerce sales." **Dany:** What all did you sell?

Deleted: They Someone simply came to request this of ask ... [54]

Him: I sold salt, gasoline and I don't know what else; I forget. I sold medicines. I was selling to our people in exchange for un-husked rice. They merely came to make the purchase like this: they would tell me to give them a litre of kerosene, and we were measure it out to them, and once having measured it out would record it. Once whoever had been able to produce some paddy, we went and took a cut of it and brought it in. **Dany:** Which side of them was this?

Deleted: Ssalt, gasoline and I don't know what else; I forg ... [55]

Him: The contemptible Pot side, was the one having us do the sales. And having done sales, sales for not yet a proper full year, the items ran out, and so they sent me from there to the sales location at the district.

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Dany: In what year back then was it that they had you sell things?

Deleted: did you sell the ... [57]

Him: [19]73.

Dany: Did you go there all by yourself or did you go with kids from local villages?

Deleted: other villager ... [58]

Him: There were those who went,

Deleted: a few of them who went with me

Dany: Can you remember some with whom you were acquainted?

Deleted: Who are they

Him: I knew the those from there in the village; the wife of my older brother went to do sales with me. Her name is Yan [អ៊ិន]. And Auntie Seang, my cousin back there.

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Dany: What was the name of the Commune Com?

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Him: The Commune Com was named Yuth.

Dany: Male or female?

Him: Male.

Dany: Of Kouk Rovieng [ក្រុងរវៀង] commune there?

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Him: Yes. A squad of more than ten both men and women went to be at that office.

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Dany: Then, after that, they sent you to the District Office?

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Him: I went to the District Office, Once I had been taken to the District Office, they had me go teach children at Ses Sa.

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Deleted: you were sent you to the District Office. Is that c... [63]

Deleted: Yes, it is. Once I had been taken to the District O... [64]

Dany: What did you teach about?

Him: The alphabet, I taught children this small who had been removed from their mothers, maybe more than 20 of them, They had me teach, so I went ahead and taught, Outside of class, when study time was over, they had us help out with the labour, had us lead the children to go help help clear out weeds and clean up in front of the office, In that period, they called I an office, that shed in which we stayed.

Deleted: Khmer consonants and vowels. I taught young ... [65]

Dany: So, back in the 1973 period, it was the Liberation side that was governing Cheung Prey district?

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Him: Yes, the Liberation was governing,

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Dany: Not Lon Nol?

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Him: No, not Lon NOL. It had been attacked and cut off.

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Dany: Cut off from what year?

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Him: Cut off that very 1973.

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Dany: How long after having taught the children was it that you were selected to go into the army?

Deleted: had you been teaching before you were drafted

Him: It had been quite a long time. I left there for the battlefield in January 1975.

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Dany: When you left to go into the army, did you also go inform your parents or not?
Him: Yes, I did tell them, but they did not want me to go. They wept and wailed.

Dany: Back then, did you volunteer of your own accord, or once selected did you have to go?

Him: Then selected me and I then just went.

Dany: Did everyone go, of those at the office?

Him: Some stayed, Some went.

Dany: At this time in January 1975 when you went into the army to carry wounded, in which unit of organization were you?

Him: In Yeay Cheat's field-grade unit, the stretcher-bearer side of the field-grade unit back then.

Dany: Yeay Cheat was chairperson of this field-grade unit?

Him: Yes, chairperson of this field-grade unit. It's most likely she's dead.

Dany: A battalion?

Him: It was one of their regiments already, one of their big units, what they called one of their regiments.

Dany: Back then, what was the division number?

Him: I forget. I don't know what number.

Dany: What was the name of the division chairperson?

Him: I have totally forgotten, This period was many years ago already, I don't recall.

Dany: Back then, what spearhead were you on?

Him: Immediately upon joining up, outset, I was on standby at Oetharoes [អង្គរវត្ត] on the Udong [ឧដុង្គ]- Kampong Luong [កំពង់ឆ្នាំង] battlefield, attacking the Chi Khal bridge Chikhhal [គិក្កាខ្ពស់] and so on. It was all about carrying the wounded around there.

Dany: Then what next?

Him: Then, once the attacks cut those places off, we advance to Oetharoes, Kob Srov [ក្រប៉ុស្តរ], Anlung Kangan [អង្គរក្សាន] and Praseth Mountain [ភ្នំប្រសិទ្ធិ], standing by there instead to carry the wounded back to the rear.

Dany: Back then, were the wounded carried to a hospital?

Him: They were carried to a very far-away hospital.

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Deleted: , to which unit were you assigned when you joined the team to carry the wounded

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Deleted: Yes. TThey were carried brought ... [89]

Dany: Where exactly was it?

Him: I did not know where it was. All we did was to keep on carrying the wounded there.

Dany: Did you ever go all the way to the hospital?

Him: No. We only carried them as far as a way station where others were continue with them.

Dany: So, were those carrying the wounded young women?

Him: Yes, they were all in young women's squads.

Dany: How old were you back when you joined the army?

Him: I was then 16 or 17 years old.

Dany: So, all the wounded were men and were carried by kids?

Him: Yes, they did the carrying. Sometimes upon seeing us, the poor guys shouted out, "put me down and leave me here. It seems to me that you Young Women Friends they have coming to carry us are all tiny, whereas I am big bodied, so this can only lead to a screw-up. Just leave me right here." Like these poor guys with broken arms and legs who saw we were carrying them teetering back and forth were always shouting out "go on, go and ask to be back on your mother's breast. Don't come to carry me." Seeing us, they felt sorry for us as we were all small females.

Dany: So, when Phnom Penh fell on 17 April 1975, did you just go straight into the city?

Him: I went in. Initially, immediately upon its fall, they said, "Right, go move the war booty." After that, my lot there advanced to Prek Phnov [ព្រែកព្រាវ], where they then had us lodge. After having lodged there at Prek Phnov, they had us go clean up Phsa Thmey market, with which I had never been acquainted in the old days. They had us go around cleaning up the city and Phsa Thmey there, collecting things starting with the pig-butcher boards and whatever, gathering them up and transporting them to be left at Prek Phnov and Stung Mean Chey. They had us clean up the place, wash and sweep it so it was clean and tidy and then straightaway launch Commerce for the factory workers.

Dany: So, back when you entered in 1975, on 17 April 1975, what were the scenes like that you saw in Phnom Penh at that time?

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Deleted: asked us not to carry them there since we were too young and small to bear their body weight. Some who were wounded in the arms or legs told us to drop them after they were briefly carried away

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Deleted: we were asked to stay for awhile. Then we asked to

Deleted: I had never known Phsa Thmey market before

Deleted: We were made to clean the city and the market. V ... [90]

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Transcribed from cassette by OEUR Ratana - 28

Him: There was nothing to see. It was total silence. Dany: At that time, you did not see them evacuating the people?

Him: At that time, they had evacuated everybody out already. Immediately upon its fall, I went only as far as Prek Phnov, and then the people had already exited. It was only once the people had left and it was all quiet that they sent is in to go clean up.

Dany: I see. Once the cleaning was completed the launched the Commerce?

Him: Yes. Commerce was launched to do distribution to workers in the factories.

Dany: What was the name of the chairperson who launched things there back then?

Him: My first chairperson was the contemptible Chhoeun. Later on, they removed him to some side of things at the Ministry, and the contemptible came to grasp things there.

Dany: Back then, what kind of food supplies were issued to the workers?

Him: Let me think: there was pork, beef, dried fish, smoked fish, palm sugar, salt and some kind of aromatic dried fish of theirs. That's what was issued to the workers. They weighed it out for them and distributed it as a ration, like for one factory.

Dany: So, does it seem like back then the workers or whatever got pretty much enough stuff to eat?

Him: They did. If one was in the city, one got enough. There was mistreatment only in the cooperatives at the rear, where those there had neither food nor drink. Other than for them, there was issue of rice and so on, which was transported in from I don't know where. I only remember recording that it was moved out from the warehouses to go into Phsa Thmey market, and early the next morning, workers would come to have it issued to them.

Dany: And the rest of the stuff, where was it gotten from?

Him: It was transported in from our Zones. Sometimes, it was fish, and when that week's round was over, it was pork, and the next round was fish, and then dried fish or smoked fish the round after that. It was distributed by rounds. Then there were vegetables transported in from Chamka Leu [ចំការស្រី], including banana flowers, bananas, bitter gourd leaves and other green leaves and suchlike, which were taken for distribution to workers.

Dany: So, when you first came in, did you ever get to attend meetings, to attend Party celebrations, anniversaries or the like? Him: Upon first having come in, they

Deleted: I saw nothing. It's very quiet. ¶
Deleted: Did you witness the evacuation of the people from the city
Deleted: At that time city was already emptied. When we were still at Prek Phnov the evacuation could have been underway. However
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Deleted: The food ration was weighted before distributing to workers of each factory. ¶
Deleted: Did workers receive decent food ration
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Deleted: Workers in the city received enough food. Unlike workers at corporative who were inhumanly treated and went without food. Rice was seen transported from the warehouse
Deleted: in the morning where workers lined up to get their share.
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did have me going to a meeting, a meeting at what this location they called Borey Keila [ប៊ូរីកេឡា]. They indoctrinated us to have us go all out to refashion ourselves and work hard to build up our country to make it flourish and things like that. They studied according to their documents and we were to distribute food to the workers according to the rules and regulations. Like what they had written from their office locations, what they wrote on a piece of paper that was brought to us. We were the ones who weighed it out, and having weighed it out, divvied it out. Whatever was to be weighed out, we divvied out to others. **Dany:** So, like the person who came to do the meeting, which side of things did s/he come from, the chairperson?

Him: I heard that mostly these chairpersons of theirs were mostly from over in the Southwest Zone. The name was *Ta* NOUN Chea.

Dany: Had you ever been familiar with the face of NOUN Chea?

Him: I was familiar with it.

Dany: What side of things was he doing?

Him: Wasn't he at that very Ministry? *Ta* Rith.

Dany: *Ta* Rith also?

Him: Yes.

Dany: What was *Ta* Rith like?

Him: He was short and chubby.

Dany: His hair?

Him: White haired. This was when I was at Commerce inside the Ministry, that is, where I came later. When I first came in, first arrived, I was at that other place, I was there at *Ta* Rith's place after I had gotten married already.

Dany: So, as for NOUN Chea, what did you ever see him come to do?

Him: He came to convene study sessions and schools and taught us.

Dany: What was NOUN Chea like?

Him: He was rather tall and sturdy, older and with what looked like an almost shaved head.

Dany: If it was this NOUN Chea, did he mostly come to teach and convene study sessions?

Him: Yes.

Dany: What about *Ta* Rith? Was he simply Commerce Chairperson?

Deleted: At first, we were asked to attend a meeting at

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Deleted: where we were educated to build ourselves, construct our country to become a prosperous one. We were given handouts. We were advised to properly weight the food before distributing to workers. For

Deleted: example, when receiving a piece of letter requesting for food, we then had to weight the food properly before distributing to requester. ¶

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Deleted: who was from the Southwest Zone.

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Deleted: I only met him when I worked at the Ministry of Commerce. I did not work with him at the outset.

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- Him:** Yes. Ta Rith was right there as chairperson of our lot at Commerce. He looked after responsibility for the inventory of what came in and what went out. That sort of stuff was up to him.
- Dany:** Did he ever also come to chat with those working there or not?
- Him:** Ever since I got married, they had me go to the cooking side of things, and my spouse was on the typing side of things, that having to do with the inventories of what was coming in from and going out to which countries, whether it was going to Singapore or Korea, typing up those inventories.
- Dany:** Ah, he was typing up the inventories of merchandise exported?
- Him:** Yes, like to Hong Kong or wherever, he typed up the inventories.
- Dany:** But back in that period, did those like Ta Rith, his underlings or such like come to do some casual talking at all?
- Him:** He did come for ordinary casual talks with us like that, such as to speak about the work, the cooking of the food not being sanitary and such like, in which case he would immediately re-educate us to do things so they were sanitary and not to let there be illnesses and diseases; to have things done well, such as having sour soup that was spot-on sour and citrusy soup that was spot-on citrusy, with vegetables and so on. If it was to be citrusy, to peel vegetables to make it citrusy, not letting us make some hotch-potch. He also educated thus that if there was any unoccupied land in the food-cooking area, we were to grow citronella, chilli peppers, leafy condiments and whatever else that was worth us eating to supply our unit of organization there. He didn't come to make any trouble for us. He never did that.
- Dany:** So, he didn't educate you to exert an all-out effort to do the work in some way?
- Him:** He did that too. He merely said for us to make an all-out effort to do the work well. In connection with eating, he had us eat three times a day: rice gruel at dawn, rice mid-day at 11 o'clock and rice in the early evening.
- Dany:** Were you furthermore also acquainted with Ta Rith's deputy or not?
- Him:** I had no idea where Ta Rith's deputy was from. It can only have been Ta Hong.
- Dany:** This Ta Hong was deputy?
- Him:** Yes.
- Dany:** So, apart from Ta Rith, Ta Hong and NUON Chea did you ever see any other big shots or not?

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Him: The big shots did not let us see very much of them, of the side of things that was their internal work.

Dany: What about different ones, such as POL Pot, did you ever hear that name?

Him: I did, but I never got to see his face.

Dany: Did you know what POL Pot was doing back during that period or not?

Him: I knew that he grasped things from above like that. All I'm saying is that I never saw him.

Dany: What then about those like IENG Sary, or other ones?

Him: This IENG Sary was likewise on the supervision side of things in Phnom Penh, but I never saw him. This IENG Sary and his wife IENG Thirith grasped the hospital side of things.

Dany: Did you ever also see his wife or not?

Him: Yes, I did. That one day a worker was driving a truck like our Korean ones but without a roof, transporting workers. These workers were not sitting in the truck but on the truck sideboards. Then, at arrive at the turning there in front of the Ministry of Finance, it turned hard south, and the workers were like thrown off when the truck turned over. No one took any notice of them until there was someone driving her motorbike, a courier giving her a ride, and she turned her head and saw this. She got off the bike to clean up the mess and whatnot, how many were injured and the like, loading them onto the truck to be taken to the hospital. Then she asked from which ministry they were and asked why no one who had seen the accident had helped. Then she took them to the hospital. That was IENG Thirith, IENG Sary's wife.

Dany: So, how did you recognize her as IENG Thirith when you saw her??

Him: I was at the house there, Upon hearing the crash of the truck turning over, I peered out over the wall, saw that she was rather short, not very tall, rather robust, rather fat and light-skinned.

Dany: You saw her just that once?

Him: Yes, just once, I was not concerned to see her again.

Dany: So, how was it that back then that you were aware she was at the hospital side of things Ministry?

Him: I only heard this from what others said, such as Ta Rith who told us so during a meeting.

Dany: What did he tell you?

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- Deleted: There was time when a no-roof truck [like Korean truck] was driven by a worker carrying other workers. The passengers did not sit
- Deleted: trailer guard
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- Deleted: driver took a swift turn the truck overturned throwing all passengers out on the street.
- Deleted: until this woman who was on a motorbike with her messenger observed the accident
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- Deleted: of medium height, with fair complexion and ratl ... [113]
- Deleted: Did you only see her
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Him: He said IENG Thirith was IENG Sary's wife and grasped the hospital's side of things.

Dany: So, other than this, were you acquainted with anyone else?

Him: I was well-acquainted with the lower downs, like unit chairpersons and squad chairpersons, those grasping things along those lines.

Dany: Were you also in attendance when there were Party anniversary conferences or not?

Him: I went once, after when they arrested traitors, like when they said there had been betrayal over in the North and had arrested and swept them all cleanly away. They had us go to a meeting there at the Borey Keila school. They convened a study session conference and had us listen to their meeting. They spoke of building up the nation, about three tons per hectare and so on. They were always educating us about that and to make all-out efforts to do things. They had arrested all the traitors who had betrayed: we should stop being afraid, being worried and suchlike.

Dany: Who came to the meeting, speaking to tell you this?

Him: It was *Ta* NOUN Chea who came. He came to have the meeting.

Dany: What year was it that he came to have the meeting?

Him: [19]77.

Dany: So, do you remember who all back then they arrested over there in the North who they said had betrayed?

Him: The contemptible KOY Thuon's group via their links with the contemptible Nhem. I have completely forgotten whatever else there was.

Dany: Were you acquainted with this KOY Thuon?

Him: KOY Thoun was fat and not very light-skinned: with a swarthy complexion. He had a tiny head. He had grasped the entire North Zone. He also grasped Performing Arts of 70 persons, all of whom he had violated.

Dany: Oh? How did you know he violated them?

Him: If they denounced him, I knew. I will speak concretely of one: Friend Kheng. He convened a study session or something like that and seized her, Friend Kheng, and went to violate her. After finishing violating her, he arranged her marriage to Friend Long. Friend Long was also in that unit of organization, but had gone to be in Kampong Som. Having already arranged her marriage to Friend Long, whenever he had the need, he summoned Friend Kheng and mistreated her.

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Deleted: I attended the session when some perceived traitors from the North were arrested

Deleted: They said they would start arresting people to wipe out all traitors.

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Deleted: where a meeting was held. We were made to listen to the meeting in which the work on reconstruction of the country and increasing rice production from one tonne a hectare to three tonnes were lectured. They educated us to strive to work hard and that all traitors were arrested and we should not be worried anymore.

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Deleted: He raped all the seventy women in the Arts Group.

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Deleted: knew that because he was condemned during a study session. I'm telling the truth. KOY Thuon took comrade Kheng and raped her. After that he made her marry comrade

Deleted: who was in the same unit but deployed to work

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violated her again that way. She was afraid of him, so she would always go. A courier would come and transport her by car. Once violated, she returned to her location. Then one day, when the appointed day once a month that the husband was allowed to come relax and have fun with his wife, she cried upon his arrival. The husband asked: "Why are you crying, my dear, when you see me come to visit? Do you hate me, or what, that you cry like this when you see me?" The wife responded: "I do not hate you. I take pity on you. Back when I was a virgin and unmarried, I said nothing when I was summoned and mistreated. But now I am married to you, and I am still being summoned and mistreated." But he had assigned a young woman intimate of his, that bitch Mai, a star singer back in the contemptible Pot period, which bitch was keeping track things and heard what the contemptible Long had said, then left. The following morning, Long was arrested and taken away, then stuffed into a toilet and interrogated about what all his wife had said, but he kept that secret and did not answer, fearing they would mistreat his wife.

SIDE B

- Dany:** What happened after Long was arrested?
- Him:** Once he was arrested, and during the week that he was interrogated, he did not answer. That contemptible Thuon used a courier to arrest him, snap his arms and legs, stuff him into a sack, transport him on the back of a motorbike, weigh him down with stones and put him into a river. Once he was dead, another person was married to Friend Kheng.
- Dany:** So, how did you come to know about these matters?
- Him:** They came to convene this study session and spoke about them. They made a presentation telling us, saying that the contemptible KOY Thuon was corrupt this way and that. He violated the women in Performing Arts, He violated Friend Kheng and mistreated her husband. She had not known until they had this meeting that her husband had been mistreated to death. She had not known this, either. They kept secrets very close.
- Dany:** Where was Friend Kheng also there at the time of the meeting?
- Him:** They summoned Friend Kheng to participate in the meeting with the others so she could hear and know this.
- Dany:** What happened to the Performing Arts woman named Mai?

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Original KH: 00058258-00058282

Deleted: Even though he made her marry comrade Long, KOY Thuon kept raping comrade Kheng whenever he wanted to. Being intimidated comrade Kheng could not say no

Deleted: She would be brought to KOY Thuon by a messenger who came to her with a car. After being raped she would be returned.

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Deleted: , comrade Long would be allowed to visit comrade Kheng. During an evening, when meeting his wife, comrade Long heard her crying. Long asked whether she cried because she hated him and did not wish to see him.

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Deleted: that she did not hate him. She was sympathetic toward him. She said it was already too bad that she was raped when she was virgin and unmarried. However, it was worse now that she had been married with him yet she would be raped by KOY Thuon.

Deleted: KOY Thuon assigned a very close woman to him called Kamai who was a senior singer

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Deleted: regime to find out about Long and what Kheng would have told him about.

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Deleted: visited his wife he had to go back to work. He was then arrested and confined in a water closet where he was interrogated. He was asked what his wife could have talked to him about. Long, who was terrified and afraid that his wife would be in danger if he told the truth, decided not to say anything about his wife.

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Deleted: Long had been detained and interrogated for a week. However, he chose not to respond. The contemptible Thuon then asked his messenger to place him in a sack and carried away on a motorbike. The sack was then tied with a rock and plunged into a river. Long died. Kheng was made to marry another man.

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Deleted: We were told about these during a study session. We were told

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Deleted: Kheng did not know that her husband would have been inhumanely treated and executed. It was very confidential. She became to know it during the study session only.

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Deleted: She was invited to attend the meeting with others so that she could hear this.

Him: They took the bitch Maj and so on all away, arresting them in the same period as that contemptible Khuon.

Dany: What did Khuon do back when he was in Phnom Penh?

Him: He grasped Commerce right there in Phnom Penh. He was the biggest one, grasping things on top of everyone else throughout Phnom Penh the Commerce department.

Dany: Even bigger than Ta Rith?

Him: Yes, he was. Ta Rith was only later. It was only after all the Khuon arrests that Ta Rith moved up.

Dany: So, does that mean you knew only about the the one arrest, that of Khuon?

Him: Well, With the arrest of Khuon, there was that of the contemptible Chhoeun and those who had come via him from there in the North Zone.

Dany: So when they arrested those from over in the North Zone, what about you, having also come from the North?

Him: Yes, I had also come from the North Zone. That's what I was talking about: them making arrests and loading onto vehicles those they were about to kill and dispose of at Kampong Kantuoth. I was completely disconcerted and kept asking where they were being taken. They said they were being taken to cooperatives to meet their parents.

Dany: Back then did they send you away along with everybody else?

Him: They had me go somewhere near Pochentong.

Dany: What did you do then?

Him: They had me put up and chop down paddy field embankments. They had us get tempered by putting up paddy field embankments and feeder canals. What we put them up there has remained there to this very day, the dams and whatever that we put up, what's there north of the road in the paddy fields near the railroad. Once they had been doing transports daily for two or three days, transporting and transporting, I was disconcerted and asked: "Where are Our Friends taking them?" They said, "Older Friend, don't want to know. Wait and soon it will be that everybody has gone. You all are going back to your locality, going to a cooperative, following your parents there."

Dany: Who did you ask?

Him: I asked those who came to do the transportation, the ones who were putting them in the vehicles, I did not know them.

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Original KH: 00058258-00058282

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Deleted: When people from the North were arrested, were you also coming from the North

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Deleted: felt suspicious. I asked them where those people were being taken to. They said they were returned to a cooperative so that they could be reunited with their parents.

Deleted: Were you also sent away

Deleted: Yes, I was. I was sent to a location

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Deleted: I was made to raise dams. I was tempered by building the dikes and canals. We worked to the

Deleted: I would see people being taken away by trucks almost every day. I was suspicious as to where these people were taken to. I asked other comrades about this. They said I did not need to know about this now since soon everyone would be taken there al[... [114]

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Dany: In what year did they come to take them away?

Him: Let's see: it was into 1977, late 1977, almost 1978. At the time of the last vehicle, they had my lot board. When the time came to depart, they pushed me back and away, saying to wait for a later vehicle, which was to arrive any time. The next morning, the story of the traitorous Northerners erupted, and Northerners were arrested, so I escaped with my life.

Dany: Erupted how? Didn't they arrest KOY Thuon before you were sent to Kampong Kantouth?

Him: He was arrested after that.

Dany: They made the arrest even after that?

Him: Yes, it was only after they had taken my lot for tempering that the arrest was made.

Dany: Why were you taken to be tempered?

Him: I didn't know via what links I was traced. I don't know much about that. When they said to go, they said we had been in the North, and they were having us go for tempering. Only once they had made all those arrests did they disband my lot and have it go back to live at Phsar Thmei market. At Phsar Thmei market, they continued with follow-up arrests at the lower strata. It was not yet over. They had arrested the chiefs, then when it came to those still there, they kept on summing up that Northerners this and the Northerners that. Then each night, two or three military vehicles were to be seen going around arresting at the ministries. Once the arresting had all subsided, they removed my lot to teach children back at Chraing Chamres. However, first of all, they had arrested the contemptible Khuon. He was the leader of the others.

Dany: So, so when they were arresting two or three a night, did you know back then where they were being taken when arrested?

Him: I did not know. It was said they were being arrested and taken to this 870 of theirs, wherever that was. I was not familiar with it, did not know where it was located. That's what they told us, but I was not familiar with it.

Dany: This 870 of theirs, was it an office or what?

Him: They said Office 870 of theirs was located in the general vicinity of, in front of the Royal Palace.

Dany: Back then, did you ever hear what sort of office 870 was?

Deleted: By**Deleted:** or early**Deleted:** When the next truck arrived we were asked to get on it. However, we were pushed back down and told that we should wait for another coming truck as this truck was full. When the next morning came, the news of the traitors of the North broke out. The North people were arrested and I was released.**Deleted:** H**Deleted:** d**Deleted:** the news break out when**Deleted:** was arrested**Deleted:** even**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt, Not Bold, Complex Script Font: 11 pt**Deleted:** Was the arrest made**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt, Complex Script Font: 11 pt**Deleted:** We had been taken to be tempered. Then**Deleted:** have**Deleted:** idea how they traced our background. When they said that we were from**Deleted:** we had to be**Deleted:** ed**Deleted:** we had to go**Deleted:** After those people were all arrested we were released and repatriated to work**Deleted:** the**Deleted:** location**Deleted:** More arrests were made. When a senior person was arrested more people would be arrested subsequently as long as they were perceived to be those from the North**Deleted:** I would see a few military trucks coming to take people who had been arrested at ministries. After all were arrested we were made**Deleted:** was first arrested. He was the most senior person**Deleted:** When you noted that a few people would be arrested every night, where did you think they were taken to**Deleted:** have no idea**Deleted:** People said they were**Deleted:** don't know where that place is**Deleted:** That's all**Deleted:** What was**Deleted:** ?**Deleted:** W**Deleted:** somewhere**Deleted:** Did you ever happen to know what Office 870 was tasked with*Transcribed from cassette by OEUR Ratana - 28*

- Him:** I didn't know. Back then, all I heard said was that they were being taken to the 870 place. If we asked follow-up question, they would keep track of us too.
- Dany:** Did you know what the name of the chairperson at 870 was?
- Him:** I didn't know.
- Dany:** So, then what happened when they sent you back to Phsar Thmei market?
- Him:** After I had been at Phsar Thmei for maybe a week they chose me to teach children at Ruessei Keo.
- Dany:** What all did you teach when you went at that time?
- Him:** I taught letters of our Khmer alphabet. While teaching, right at that location, military from the old stadium at the end of Chroy Changva Bridge plagued us. They had nothing to eat. They were always coming to steal rice and whatnot in our kitchen. They also kept coming into the place where we slept, and if they saw scarves, they stole scarves, and if they saw shoes, they stole shoes. So we were all removed to Tuol Tumpoung. They took us to teach there. After having taught children there for maybe a month, they removed us from that children's place and had us go straightaway there to screening processed items. A month after being moved to this new location we were then transferred to the by-product selection section.
- Dany:** So, back when you were teaching children, where were the children from?
- Him:** I don't know from where all they came. Everywhere. They had been separated from their parents and placed there. The parents they had going to do some job.
- Dany:** Were there quite a lot of children there or not?
- Him:** There were maybe 50 to 60 children, both boys and girls. Every last one of the children who ended up there died from starvation, the ones who were transported by vehicle with my lot, who were no bigger than this, had no rice or anything else to eat. They went around, catching grasshoppers or whatever to eat. They swelled up, had suppuration, and died.
- Dany:** So, once you had been at the Tuol Tumpoung location, you were removed to screening processed items instead?
- Him:** Yes.
- Dany:** By then what year was it?
- Him:** That I've also forgotten. It was 1978 already, because by late 1978 I got married. Maybe two or three months after getting married, it was the end: the Yuon came in and they simply had us flee.

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Deleted: my marriage Phnom Penh collapsed when it was attacked by the Yuons. We were allowed to flee.

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Dany: So back when you were screening processed items there, what did you do?

Him: We screened everything from peanuts, sesame, cardamom and gaub tree fruit), then tiger bones, elephant bones and whatever bones, as long as they were being exported abroad.

Dany: Where did these bones and whatever from back then?

Him: They were brought in from the zones, mostly transported in from the Southwest Zone.

Dany: They told you to screen them?

Him: Yes. Each night it was like that: sieving out the dirt with a strainer, picking away any that were bad and disposing of them, selecting only the very good ones to be stuffed into sacks and taken to be placed in vehicles going to Kampong Saom and exported abroad.

Dany: Back then, how did you know that they took things to put on vehicles going to Kampong Som for export abroad?

Him: Him here (husband) signed off on incomings and outgoings. **Dany:** And from the foreign side, was there also something brought back to the Commerce side?

Him: How would I know, if I was only doing screening. I don't know what they brought in. **Sarath:** As for me, I had already gone to Singapore we collapsed.

Dany: Back during the period when you were in Phnom Penh, did you ever see any foreigners or not?

Him: I saw only persons of African nationality.

Dany: What did they come to do?

Him: I don't know what they came to do. I only saw them coming to Phsar Thmei by car and whatever. They mostly called them delegations or something like that.

My lot also welcomed guests from Timor whatever at Pochentong Airport. When foreigners came there, they had us wear silk sarongs and white blouse with sleeves to here to receive guests, waiting with a bunch of flowers to wave when they disembarked from the plane.

Dany: What did they tell you back then?

Him: They said we were to go receive a delegation.

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Deleted: What was importing from a foreign country when it comes to commerce

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- Dany:** They gave you blouses to wear, silk sarongs and the like? **Him:** Yes, silk other fancy sarongs and suchlike were given to us to wear to receive them and we went by car.
- Dany:** Those of which countries did you receive back then?
- Him:** Korea, China and Timor.
- Dany:** Did you go to receive them quite a lot?
- Him:** Yes, we did a lot, quite often.
- Dany:** How did you know that one was from Timor?
- Him:** In making such an announcement via loudspeaker, saying that the Timor delegation had arrived and we should get ready to line up and so on.
- Dany:** There were Koreans and Chinese and so on?
- Him:** Yes, sometimes it was Korea sometimes China, all as delegations.
- Dany:** So, were there never any Chinese or whoever who came down to the Commerce side of things?
- Him:** No. They never reached us. They reached only major locations and never come to have contact with other sides of things.
- Dany:** So, back in that period, when you married with your husband, were you in love with each and get married or what?
- Him:** No. The Organization grabbed to ask and straightaway did the marriage.
- Dany:** Grabbed to ask what?
- Him:** The Organization asked: "Now the Organizing is going to have you, Friend, have a spouse." I kept on replying that I would not yet take one because I was still a kid. I kept on replying with that excuse. The Organization said: "No, the Organization says you, Young Female Friend are psychologically and mentally mature and so on. The Organization must arrange a marriage to a spouse for you," and they went on an arranged it for me like that.
- Dany:** Back then, were you acquainted with your husband or not?
- Him:** No. We were at the same Ministry of Commerce, but he was foreign and I was domestic.
- Dany:** But you had never seen each other's faces?
- Him:** We had, but without interest. We did study together every day 10 and day 30.
- Dany:** Oh, so what did they teach whenever it was day 10 and day 30?
- Him:** They came for studies about doing the work and how far it had advanced and stuff like that: how far we had gotten in screening processed items and stuff like

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- Deleted:** we were. We were
- Deleted:** *phamuong* (traditional Khmer clothing worn by ... [119]
- Deleted:** and then we would be taken by a
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- Deleted:** Did
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- Deleted:** after you had been in love
- Deleted:** It was a forced marriage. I was forced to answer ... [122]
- Deleted:** How were you forced to answer the question
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- Deleted:** Did you ever see one another
- Deleted:** Yes, I
- Deleted:** did.
- Deleted:** But I was not interested in him.
- Deleted:** He attended the study sessions on the 10th and 3 ... [125]
- Deleted:** Did you always attend study sessions every 10th ... [126]
- Deleted:** How was the session conducted?

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that. And for example, we refashioned each other work hard to do things well and make the stuff clean for taking abroad and stuff like that. **Dany:** What locality was your husband from?

Him: He was from over in Pursat.

Dany: How many couples were there at your wedding?

Him: 21 couples.

Dany: What was the wedding like?

Him: When I wed, his side of the Ministry, who were for receiving Hong Kong guests, came to cook and make the drinks, laying the tables with soft drinks, so only alcohol was missing. They made sour chicken soup, a curry and a rice sweet dish. They had us enter into there and then summoned us to come, a couple at a time, having us hold hands and salute that Party flag of theirs. Once we had held hands, we sat at our respective tables next to the others, and the Ministry Com educated us, Committee.

Dany: Who was the Ministry Com?

Him: That Ta Rith. He said would were to know how to have solidarity with each other, to strive to serve the Party and the people and stuff like that.

Dany: So, when you objected, saying you did not want to get married?

Him: I didn't want this yet and kept on objecting that I did not want to take him.

Dany: And what did the Organization say to that?

Him: The Organization said it had to arrange the marriage.

Dany: And you dared not object?

Him: Yes, I dared not object, for fear of mistreatment.

Dany: So then, had your husband ever seen you or been in love with you before? Did he propose you to them or what?

Him: No. He had never seen me.

Dany: They simply grabbed you for pairing up?

Him: Yes. He had come to sneak a look, but this was a sneaked look only from behind. I wasn't aware that he had come to look. I was working at my place. He drove a vehicle back and forth and heaved sesame up onto it, then walked back. When the vehicle arrived, he could only see me from behind. Once we were already married, he said: "You know, I had gone to look at you, Friend, but could not see you, only from behind as you walked." I had not known been aware of him looking.

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Original KH: 00058258-00058282

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Deleted: couples were then asked to walk into the meeting hall,

Deleted: Each couple was asked to

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Deleted: Then we were asked to sit next to our couple to ... [129]

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Dany: Once you were married, how long did they have you living together?

Him: They had us go to live together at his home.

Dany: They had you live together right there at his home?

Him: Yes, we were living together right there.

Dany: You were living together and going to work right with each other?

Him: Yes, we were going to work together there. He was on the typing up inventories side of things, whereas I was at the cooking side of things. **Dany:** So, back in that period, was anyone at all with whom you were working ever called away and then disappeared?

Him: No. No one was ever summoned away. Having worked and eating in the evening, we would go to rest with our spouses. Early the next morning, we left to go work in our respective places. He went to work on his side of things and went to work on mine.

Dany: In the evenings you would reunited with one another?

Him: Yes. In the evenings, we would go back to the location of the house in which we rested.

Dany: Back then did you ever have your photo taken?

Him: Yes, I did, but I don't know where they have gotten to. After the wedding, we went to live in that place, but I don't know where in the world the photos taken have gotten to.

Dany: There are none that you have been able to hold onto until now?

Him: None. All were thrown away. Negatives back then were black and white and after long while, they were cracked, and I threw them all away.

Dany: And what about whether this was like a time at which they were pretty industrious about doing biographies?

Him: It was not. Back then, this was done assiduously only when we had been at the cooperatives in the rear. Once we were in this place, it was done only once in a long while, once a year. It was merely a matter of copying from the old ones and giving it back to them, because they already knew we were poor peasants and so on.

Dany: So, back in that period, did you ever get to visit your home or not?

Him: When Phnom Penh fell, I went once to visit home.

Dany: What was the scene like in the villages when you went to visit your home?

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Deleted: During that time were there any of your colleagues disappeared

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Deleted: How was your home village like back then

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- Him:** Back then when I went, when Phnom Penh fell, eating was not yet in common in the cooperatives. Eating was still at home. When I came there, my parents were very old. I saw them cooking rice and eating there at the house, while my older sister had joined what they called the young women's mobile unit, which went around breaking up the soil in our cooperatives there.
- Dany:** How many days did you get to visit home?
- Him:** I went to visit for three days.
- Dany:** Later on, after that, did you ever get to visit or not?
- Him:** I did come one more time later on, but only for a moment. I was then busy transporting someone who was ill, a woman who was crazy.
- Dany:** In what period was that?
- Him:** That was back during the contemptible Pot period.
- Dany:** But I thought you were Commerce section. How did you end up transporting someone who was ill?
- Him:** You'll see. She was in the same unit of organization with me. A woman. A time came when she said that when living in her locality, they had promoted her into the Party League. Back in the contemptible Pot era, those in the Party League were different from us masses. It could be side like once they had joined this Party League or whatever it was of theirs, they were in control over us. She was in charge as a squad chairperson, and they had her go to study at a Wat Unaloam pagoda session. When she went to study, she put her clothes with the chairperson above her, a woman, too, Set. Then she went being carried on the back of a bicycle to Wat Unaloam. However, it turned out that Set was unable to carry them, so she entrusted them to the chairperson on the men's side of things, who was named Friend Py and was riding a separate bicycle. She said to him, "I am entrusting this satchel of clothes with you because I am giving somebody a ride on back. Upon arrival at Wat Unaloam and getting ready to find places to sleep, then going to take a bath, she said that as soon as she laid out her clothes, she saw a snake in them, there in the Wat Unaloam study session. Ever since she saw this snake, she started talking gibberish, as if she no longer knew what was going on. At first, she would sometimes say something that made no sense and sometimes something that made no sense. When the studies ceased, they took her back to the ministry. Once back to her house, she kept on shouting, "Call Friend Thy to come" (call me) "because when I went to study, they promoted me to a cadre and

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Deleted: the head of the group. She was sent to study at
Deleted: She had packed a set of clothes to be worn during her studies. The luggage was too heavy to be carried on a bicycle; she left it with the head of the male group, named comrade Py.
Deleted: asked him to help keep the luggage for her as he could not carry it along while riding the bicycle.
Deleted: It was late in the afternoon, at Unaloam pagoda; she managed to find the place for spending the night there and was at the ready to have a bath. When she was about to unpack her luggage she saw a snake in the luggage
Deleted: She was frightened by seeing the snake that she started to speak erratically. This made her become a mentally challenged person. ... [134]
Deleted: When she got home she would be calling for comrade Py. ... [135]
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Transcribed from cassette by OEUR Ratana - 28

made her my courier. That's what she said. Then I kept onto Bang Leng, saying "What's she talking about? Something's not right." Then she accused somebody of being a pacification agent, saying s/he was an enemy or somesuch. Back then they called them pacification agents. Then she totally lost her mind. She no longer knew what she was talking about, sometimes things that both made sense and made no sense. Out of the blue, a chairperson on the male side, Lonh, under the contemptible Py, that Py again, came up to ask, saying, "Hey, Friend Leng, what's going on here?" Just for that, she lept off the bed in a flash and went to thrash this Friend Leng, a man. She thrashed and twisted him, pounding on him until he fell overs, and if I had not grabbed her, she what have split open his face. I grabbed her and Friend Leng clasped her tight, I told Friend Lonh to get up and run away. Once that happened, she fought back against me, and I could not best her. She was a strong person, how could I have bested her? I let her go, and she pursued him, cursing him the whole time. Others could see she had gone crazy. After a while, it got to be that she was stripping off her clothese, and she was then taken to Hospital 17. Taken there, she beat the doctors and others. The person who brought her meals was beaten until her arms were distended. They telephoned to have her taken back and my lot brought her back. Upon her return, she kept on talking nonsense. She was taken to be chained on the top floor, the upper floor, where no one ever slept. They put her there even though it was the cold season, in December when the winds descend. She was suddenly calling: "Please Friends, bring me a blanket with which to cover myself. I'm very cold." Enough was placed on her but she tore it into bits. She stomped on the wooden board on which she had been sleeping until it was completely smashed up, with the chains still attached there to her legs. At this point, they asked whether there was anywhere a traditional healer who was talented, if so, they would take her to have him look after her. Then a person living in Prey Char village, south of Skun, said there was a monk who had looked after persons way back in the old society. He had looked after those who were crazy, so they transported her by vehicle there. As soon as she was merely approaching the pagoda gate her body stopped shaking and the like, fearing its manifestation of the powers of the Buddha and shivering. I asked Bang Leng how she was, and she said she was very cold. As soon as we went up into the monks'

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Deleted: that it's not appropriate to say that. She then accused a man of being a peace alliance. She said this when she was mentally ill. Nonetheless, Lonh, the head of the male group, asked
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Deleted: She then rushed to attack comrade Lonh. The two people were engaged in a fierce fighting. I was quick to intervene (... [136]
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Deleted: . Her spirit was afraid of the pagoda spirit that h (... [144]
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- quarters, the monk who was on a bed there lept up, and she stopped shaking to clasped her hands in front of the monk, paying her respects to him.
- Dany:** Were there monks even during that period?
- Him:** Yes, a monk remained there. He has just passed away recently.
- Dany:** But, during the POL Pot period, they allowed the existence of monks?
- Him:** Yes. That monk remained specifically for looking after crazy persons, doing so on the sly. There was an old lady there, and it was like that the monk gave her the medicines to go look after person, but it was this monk who had the medicines for treatment.
- Dany:** Then what happened next?
- Him:** At this point, once I had taken her to the pagoda there, she was shaking with fear of the monk. I kept on sweet-talking her into staying there. The monk called the old lady to take her with her. I said, "Bang Leng, you go ahead and sleep here. I am going somewhere for a moment. I lied that way in order for her not to return. I slipped away and went back to Phnom Penh, I said to myself I would take a route by which I could visit home for a moment. While I was driven there by vehicle and upon arrival met my grandfather and parents, having us together there. And only after just a moment, I boarded the vehicle and went back. There was just that the whole time all the way until 1992 before I arrived there again.
- Dany:** So, after that, you never got to visit your home again?
- Him:** I was unable to do so the whole time.
- Dany:** Since you lived in and went through this Khmer Rouge regime, what kind of regime do you think the Khmer Rouge regime was?
- Him:** I think it was a communist regime. It was also a regime that mistreated the people, but we did not know where to go. Anyway, we were the people in the country, so where could we have escaoed to? They didn't even let us run away home. One of my older brothers, whose wife was pregnant, they took away to kill and dispose of.
- Dany:** How many relations and relatives did you lose?
- Him:** I only lost an older brother, his pregnant wife, and a son. The pregnant woman had not yet given birth when she was taken away. A whole lot of my aunts and cousins were taken away.
- Dany:** What was your brother's name?
- Him:** Say.
- Deleted:** We then went up to the monastery. The monk was seen lying on a bed. Upon seeing us he was sitting up. She was obediently saluting him.
- Deleted:** as there any ... monks even during that regime? ... [145]
- Deleted:** was. The monk was there.
- Deleted:** Was a monk allowed to practice religion during ... [146]
- Deleted:** was for healing the mentally ill persons., doing ... [147]
- Deleted:** W
- Deleted:** e pagoda there, she was comrade Leng was very ... [148]
- Formatted** ... [149]
- Deleted:** told comrade Leng, you go ahead and sleep here ... [150]
- Deleted:** did you never got to visit your home again until ... [151]
- Deleted:** Yes
- Deleted:** have went through this experienced living thro ... [152]
- Deleted:** The regime that mistreated the where... people, t ... [153]
- Deleted:** of your siblings and relatives have you lost
- Deleted:** A brother, his pregnant wife, and a son. The pre ... [154]

Transcribed from cassette by OEUR Ratana - 28

Dany: What had he done wrong that he was taken away?

Him: Back in the LON Nol period he was a soldier for a period of a month. When they did not pay him his monthly salary, he ran away home. He was merely connected to the soldier tendency.

Dany: They took him away to be killed and disposed of?

Him: They took him away to be killed and disposed of. It was only because he had been press-ganged that he did it.

Dany: In what year did they take him away to be killed?

Him: 1972.

Dany: Was it even before you left home that they took him away to be killed?

Him: Oh, if we are speaking of his being killed, he was killed in 1977. If we are speaking of his becoming a soldier, it was 1972, back then in the Lon Nol period. Then, when they didn't pay him his monthly salary, he told my father: "I don't have the money to sustain my wife and children, so the only thing I can do is desert." My father said: "It's up to you, kid, but sort it out in a way that it doesn't stick to me." So he ran away to my older brother's village, Veal, to which he also was not tracked. They knew he had not been paid any money he could spend, and so he got away with it; nothing more happened. During the contemptible Pot period, it was merely that he was connected to the soldier tendency. At this point, there was also a cousin who was a little bit connected by having been a soldier and who was taken away to be killed and disposed of along with his wife and kids, too.

Dany: To this day, have you ever talked about your life story during the Khmer Rouge era to tell it to your children and grand children who were born after it to get them to know about it?

Him: Yes, I have. But once having listened to it, they always wonder: "Back in your day, Mom, it was a bowl of rice in which there was nothing but a spoonful of rice?" Once having heard it, they are always casually telling their peers about it: "Back when my mother was doing what she was doing in the contemptible Pot period, she had nothing to eat, and it was like that when she went to the border, too. It was rice gruel with bamboo shoots and tree leaves." So for me, it was utterly miserable there along the Thai border before the organizations from Thailand made contact, there was nothing at all to eat. My husband went around digging up bamboo shoots to be boiled and eaten, and once eaten, you swelled

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Deleted: He was killed because he was affiliated with the army.

Deleted: Was he taken to be executed

Deleted: Yes, he was

Deleted: He actually did not join the army voluntarily. He was arrested and drafted.

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Deleted: As to his execution, it was

Deleted: As to his working as the soldier it was 1972 during the LON Nol regime

Deleted: After having not received his

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Deleted: that he could not afford to feed his children and wife without the salary. He asked whether it was a good idea that he deserted the army. Our father said it was up to him (my brother) to decide. He said whatever solution he (my brother) could come up with must not implicate him (our father). He then ran to our elder brother's village, Veal village

Deleted: The situation where his salary was not paid was well understood and he was not chased after.

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Deleted: After having heard the story they said their mother used to eat porridge comprised of a spoonful of grain of rice.

Deleted: They went on to say that their mother very often went without food during POL Pot's regime and that their mother went to live near the border eating porridge mixed with bamboo shoots and wild leaves. My life was a living hell when we were at the border with Thailand. There was no connection with Thailand at that time so there no food at all.

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Transcribed from cassette by OEUR Ratana - 28

- up, as there were not the elements of rice.**Dany:** When you talk and tell the kids this, do they believe it or not?
- Him:** They believe it, because they know I came from there. I say to them: "Listen, kids, back in the period before I had you, I suffered hugely. There was nothing to eat. They issued us one can of rice per week, which were for a husband and wife to eat." Sometimes my husband went around digging up bamboo shoots, not daring to enter Thai territory, because if one entered Thai territory, they would say we were stealing the corns and whatnot. The Thai beat us and shot at us. A whole lot of us Khmer died in Thailand, died of starvation. Some were simply good, just going there casually, not to look for vegetables, but when they came back to me that without anything to eat, it meant going around digging up bamboo shoots, jungle bamboo shoots, along our border, to make rice gruel with *kapi* (shrimp paste) and whatnot. There was nothing to eat.
- Dany:** To this day, have you ever heard information about the creation of the Khmer Rouge Tribunal to try senior Khmer Rouge leaders or not?
- Him:** Yes, I have, but only sometimes, given that I am so busy with work.
- Dany:** What have you heard about it?
- Him:** I heard that POL Pol, TA Mok and whoever are being tried, but I have not sat down to listen regularly because I am always busy with work.
- Dany:** What do you think about the creation of a Khmer Rouge Tribunal to try the senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge?
- Him:** I have no idea. I can only say that is up to the acts they carried out, and let them be tried however they are tried.
- Dany:** In your heart, do you want them to be tried or what?
- Him:** It is up to the government.
- Dany:** In your heart, you don't ...?**Him:** When I think back upon that miserable period, I do want them to be tried, because they mistreated people. There were no good times, just killing each other.
- Dany:** Back when you were living in that Khmer Rouge regime, did you ever witness them arresting or killing or not?
- Him:** No, I didn't see killings in front of my eyes. If they arrested someone, they took them away and disappeared them.

Deleted: The shoots were then boiled and eaten as food. We went without rice and eating only boiled bamboo shoots; our bodies became swollen. ¶

Deleted: Did your children find your story convincing

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Deleted: told them that "our lives had been a living hell before I gave birth to you". We had gone without food. For a week, we were offered only a can of rice for our couple. "Sometimes your father had to look for bamboo shoots." He was afraid

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Deleted: listened to it [radio], but most of the time I was just too

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Deleted: What about you? Do you not want to have such trials?¶

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Deleted: People were usually taken away to be executed.

Dany: So, I would like to reiterate that we are from the Documentation Centre of Cambodia, which works in connection with gathering documents from within the Khmer Rouge regime. We are gathering all these documents in order to compile and preserve them as historical documents about the Khmer Rouge regime, preserving them for the younger generation and researchers who would like to read them and research the Khmer Rouge. They can read come to read and do research in them at DC-Cam. We have come to your home because we have a biography of yours written during the POL Pot era.

Him: Found in Phnom Penh?

Dany: Yes, When we ask you about your life, about your story back in the Khmer Rouge period, what feelings do you have in your heart?

Him: I have been delighted that you have come like this, as I think maybe you can help sort out my standard of living these days, because I have a whole lot of children but no paddy fields, unlike others, I am excited to see you.

Dany: So, you have nothing left from back when you were making revolution?

Him: Nothing.

Dany: So do you have anything further you would like to add or clarify about that which we have not asked you regarding the story of the history of the Khmer Rouge?

Him: No, I would only like to request that your agency to help sort out things for me, too.

Dany: OK, Thank you very much,

Him: Yes.

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Deleted: What has left for you after your joining the revolutionary

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Deleted: Would you wish to add anything else presuming that we could have missed to cover during our interview with you about the history of the Khmer Rouge?

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