

Republic of .....

Ministry of Propaganda and Culture

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Department of [illegible handwriting]

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**Genocidal Report of POL Pot in Trăm Kàk (ត្រាំកាក់) District**

Trăm Kàk district is located in west of Takeo (តាកែវ) provincial town; it is about 9 km from the provincial town to the district town. Trăm Kàk district town is in Ang Ta Saom (អង្គតាសោម). Like other districts in Takeo province, Trăm Kàk district has been devastated in all areas by POL Pot. Our investigative team has conducted a thorough search over Kraing Ta Chăn (ក្រាំងតាចាន់) prison which was a large prison where many people were killed by POL Pot.

Genocidal Center of Kraing Ta Chăn prison: In the previous regime, Kraing Ta Chăn had been a gravesite. The hill is located in Kraing Ta Chăn village, Kous (គូស) commune, Trăm Kàk district, Takeo province. During POL Pot's regime, Kraing Ta Chăn hill was turned into a genocidal site where many old and young people were killed. The Criminal Investigating Committee has conducted a field visit to Kraing Ta Chăn prison and met with three eyewitnesses face to face: Comrade PHIM Rân (ភឹម រ៉ន), who is currently the chief of Kous commune; Comrade KHUON Tri (ហួន ទ្រី), who is a villager; and Comrade PĂL Chring (ប៉ាល់ ជ្រីង), who is currently the village chief. These three comrades have confirmed that POL Pot had killed 10,001 (ten thousand and one) people here at Kraing Ta Chăn prison.

All of the male, female, young and old people in Trăm Kàk district were murdered in this prison. They were accused by POL Pot of opposing the cooperatives and [*illegible handwriting*] killing the 17 April people.

Those who were imprisoned here were beaten for their confession; they were then slaughtered.

Those eyewitnesses have confirmed that the tortures included:

- Hanging
- Beating with long sticks, big sticks, or dropping big logs on the prisoners. Children had their head beaten against the base of big trees.
- The victims were put in small cells, measuring 0.7 m high and 1 m long, which were iron cages surrounded by barbed wires with a plank for them to sleep on; thus, they were not able to rest easily.
- There were dark cells which were made by digging small holes with a closed door and surrounded by barbed wires. A short while after the victims were put in, they died from suffocation.
- There was another way of killing the victims. They treated the killing as their sport. Two trunks of big trees were laid, one on the top, the other at the bottom with a hidden release device. The victims were told to lie on the bottom tree with their hands and legs raised up; then the secret release was pressed to drop the top tree onto the victims; and the victims were immediately killed. The victims were mostly POL Pot's military cadres who had deserted because they were not courageous enough to take part in combat.
- Another style of killing was clubbing the nape of the neck, cutting open the belly and burying people in the prison compound.

After liberation day, our local authorities found and exhumed bones of hundreds, thousands of victims and hundreds of holes.

The organizers at Kraing Ta Chăn prison included Ti (ទី), the prison chief; Ǻn (អាន), Penh (ពេញ). Chēng (ចេង), the executor, and Moeun (ម៉ឺន) the prison-guard.

Kraing Ta Chăn Prison was built by POL Pot in 1973. At first, Chhēn (ឃេន), the Office Committee, had built a 9 x 6 meter building, and told the villagers that the building would be used as a school. In 1973-74, people were prohibited from passing or contacting this office. In 1975, they started killing people and playing loud sounds through speakers to cover the victims' cries and wails of suffering. The victims were blindfolded with a scarf and beaten with a mallet.

In 1976-77, Potence Sticks (La Potence) were made for interrogations. The cadres who had betrayed were cuffed with big chains. In 1978-1979, all people were accused of betraying the Revolution; and a plan was developed to completely raze the population. However, the place was abandoned when the Khmer Rouge were defeated on 07 January 1979.

Phnom Penh, date: ....., 1985

Criminal Investigating Department

Investigator