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THE KHMER KAMPUCHEA KROM COMMUNITY LA COMMUNAUTĖ DU KHMER KAMPUCHEA KROM

To

Samdech Hun Sen Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia

Subject: A request to raise the Khmer Kampuchea Krom issues with Hon. Nong Duc Manh, Communist Party Secretary General of Vietnam

Per subject above, please allow me to inform Samdech Prime Minister on occasion of the state visit of Hon. Nong Duc Manh, Communist Party Secretary General of Vietnam, to the Kingdom of Cambodia, commences on December 17 - 19, 2009, on behalf of the organizations and associations of the Khmer Kampuchea Krom, I would like to request Samdech to raise the plight and suffering of the Khmer Kampuchea Krom citizens with Hon. Nong Duc Manh in order to find solutions to these issues.

Samdech.

The pressing issues facing the Khmer Kampuchea Krom citizens are as followed:

- 1. The Vietnamese authorities confiscated lands from the Khmer citizens almost all over Kampuchea Krom (presently southern part of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam), as recently as about 50 Khmer Krom families in An Cu commune, Tin Bien district, An Giang province (Khmer Mort Chrouk), the authorities used force to confiscate their lands without compensations.
- 2. Khmer language study is prohibited by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.
- 3. Khmer Buddhism is under the administration of BCV or the Buddhist Church of Vietnam or Buddhist Sangha of Vietnam a Vietnamese government-appointed body, and the Buddhist monasteries must pay donation (a kind of taxes) to the State; force the Buddhist monks to do ordinary people's labor, raise livestock [against their will and Buddhist teaching].
- 4. Monitor, threat, and intimidate the Khmer Buddhist monks and people from contacting, organizing assembly in order to discuss social or political issue.
- 5. Systematic forced assimilation of Khmer people as Vietnamese without their consent.

Please, Samdech, raise these issues during your reception for Hon. Nong Duc Manh in order to discuss and find solution for the Khmer Kampuchea Krom victims.

Please, Samdech, accept my highest regard and sincerity.

Phnom Penh December 16, 2009

Executive Director of the Khmer Kampuchea Krom Community [Signed]

Thach Setha

Phnom Penh Municipality Councilman Former Senator

Original text in Khmer (Cambodian)