

Dr. Handa

Compensation and Memorial Fund

For the Victims of the Khmer Rouge genocide

I. Goals and Objectives

The University of Cambodia established the *Dr. Handa Compensation and Memorial Fund for the Victims of the Khmer Rouge Genocide* project in August 2005.

The Fund was established to honor the nearly two million Cambodians who died during the Khmer Rouge Genocide (1975-1979). It also aims to support those who survived the torturous Khmer Rouge Regime.

The Fund's objectives and budget were announced in August 2005. **Dr. Haruhisa Handa**, a highly active philanthropist and Chairman of World Mate Organization in Japan, made graciously benevolent contributions to the Fund.

The Fund was set up by the Board of Trustees of The University of Cambodia in mid-2005 with the intention to make a positive contribution to Cambodian society by providing a token of compensation for those who died as well as for those who survived the Khmer Rouge. In essence, the Fund is a symbolic gesture to psychologically and spiritually support the Cambodian people, particularly those who survived the Khmer Rouge atrocity.

Alongside the convening of the Khmer Rouge Tribunal, the establishment of this Fund can also support the process of national reconciliation and national healing in Cambodia, so as to ensure peace, non-violence and non-retribution. While the tribunal will attempt to bring justice to the Cambodian people, the Fund aims to console the victimized families, particularly those who lost the heads of their households and who have been facing psychological, physical, and economic difficulties caused by the Khmer Rouge. In this regard, it is important for society as a whole to recognize the enormous challenges and psychological trauma confronting the families who have been victimized by the Khmer Rouge.

While there are other programs and other sources, this Fund supports the compensation program and remembrance activities. The Funds intends to make a \$100 contribution per family for up to 10,000 victims' families. The Board of the World Mate Organization pledged \$1,000,000 in the hope that other sources regionally and internationally might support and enhance this Fund.

The Fund is being managed by an Executive Committee set up by The University of Cambodia, which established the necessary criteria to determine fairly and objectively those families that deserve the most.