

មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលឯកសារកម្ពុជា

Surviving Toul Sleng Prisoners in 1979

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Known by its code name S-21, Tuol Sleng was the highest-level security facility among the 196 prisons in Democratic Kampuchea. Its over 14,000 prisoners were forced to write confessions, tortured, and ultimately sent to a nearby field, Choeung Ek, for execution.

There has been some dispute over the number of prisoners who escaped or were released from Tuol Sleng when Vietnamese soldiers liberated the prison in early January 1979. DC-Cam has compiled a list of known survivors based on records and interviews with former prisoners. Research is still being conducted to verify the status of some of the names below.

Survivors who are alive today

1. Bou Meng¹
2. Chum Manh aka Chum Mei¹
3. Heng Nath aka Vann Nath¹
4. Nhem Sal²
5. Touch Tem²

Survivors who died after 1979

6. Eam Chann¹
7. Phann Than Chann¹
8. Ruy Nea Kung¹
9. Ung Pech¹

Survivors who disappeared (Witnesses reported that these men were alive after 1979, but since disappeared)

10. Dy Phon³
11. Eng (full name unknown)³
12. Leng (full name unknown)³
13. Mok Sun Khun³
14. Pol Touch³
15. Tuon (full name unknown)³

Survivors who are thought to be alive, but status uncertain

16. Pheach Yoeun⁴
17. Sok Sophat⁴
18. Name Unknown⁵

Status unknown (No one has reported seeing these men since 1979)

19. Hem Sambath (arrested 11/75, released 1/76)¹
20. Chheang Sun Heng (arrested 9/75, released 3/76)¹

1 The status of these prisoners has been confirmed with the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, Cambodian Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

2 The status of these prisoners has been confirmed through DC-Cam's archives

3 Interview with Heng Nath aka Vann Nath

4 Person claims S-21 prisoner status, but there are no supporting documents

5 DC-Cam was informed of a former S-21 prisoner currently living in Ratanak Kiri province but there are no supporting documents