


FRIENDS
WITHOUT A BORDER

For Immediate Release

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EMINENT PHOTOGRAPHER BUILDS CLARITY HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN AT ANCIENT ANGKOR CAPITAL

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Kenro Izu, the eminent New York-based Japanese photographer who first visited Cambodia to photograph Angkor monuments six years ago, was so inspired by the ancient temples that he produced a book and used the sales of his prints to raise funding for a charity hospital for needy Cambodian children.

The Angkor Hospital For Children which will serve as a teaching hospital for local medical personnel while providing quality health care, opens on February 22 1999 at the Ancient capital of Siem Reap where the Angkor temples are located. Donors and visitors from the U.S., Europe and Japan, along with diplomats and Cambodian officials will attend the opening.

After seeing so many Cambodian children injured by landmines, Izu founded Friends Without A Border, a New York based nonprofit organization in 1995 to raise money to build the hospital. With help from a board of international health care professionals, the art community, and 3000 supporters worldwide, Friends was able to build the hospital in just three years.

Staffed by an international team of seven medical professionals and 50 Cambodians, this 60 bed hospital is offering emergency and outpatient services and expects to begin surgery by April 1999. A rehabilitation center for landmine victims and patients with other disabilities will open later this year.

Patients will be asked to donate \$.25 (=R.1,000) per visit for outpatient services. Patients referred from local Health Centers, as well as patients who can not afford to pay, will be treated free. Inpatients will be asked to donate \$2.50 (=R.10,000) a day, but after 4 days the donation will not be more than \$10 (=R.40,000), no matter how long the stay is.

The Angkor Hospital For Children is working closely with the Cambodian Ministry of Health to help improve the quality of health care and number of medical professionals throughout Siem Reap Province.