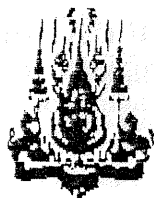


COPY



Norodom Sihanouk
Roi du Cambodge

à l'Honorable Mr Dana ROHRABACHER
Member of Congress of the United States of America
Washington, DC
USA

Monsieur le Représentant,

Depuis mon enfance jusqu'à maintenant et jusqu'à la fin de ma vie, je n'ai jamais trahi et je ne trahirai jamais ma Patrie, mon Peuple et leurs intérêts supérieurs.

Pour ce qui concerne la tragique situation actuelle du Cambodge, je me conduis en Roi neutre, agissant uniquement pour la paix, la justice et une recherche réaliste d'une solution acceptable à nos problèmes.

Je ne suis pas "avec" Mr HUN SEN, ni avec son armée.

A Mr HUN SEN, à son Armée, à sa Police, j'ai adressé des Messages très clairs leur demandant d'être bienveillants à l'égard des contestataires et d'éviter à tout prix d'user de la violence contre eux et elles.

Quant à mon appel aux députés FUNCINPEC et FSR leur suggérant d'aller travailler au sein de notre Assemblée Nationale, cet appel n'a pour but que de leur éviter des "accidents" majeurs. Si ces "accidents" leur arrivent, vous-même et les USA eux-mêmes ne pourrez pas les sauver, moi non plus.

Dans un Cambodge qui n'est pas un Etat de Droit et qui n'est pas une authentique Démocratie, je n'ai pas d'autre choix que de conseiller aux faibles de choisir une politique qui évite le malheur du Peuple, de la Patrie et d'eux-mêmes.

Vous êtes leur ami, mais vous ne pourrez pas les sauver s'ils font des faux pas.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur le Représentant, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Sihanouk', is written over a horizontal line.

Siemreap-Angkor, le 12 Septembre 1998



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

Nation - Religion - King

Translated from Khmer

STATEMENT BY SAMDECH CHIEA SIM

Chairman of the National Assembly

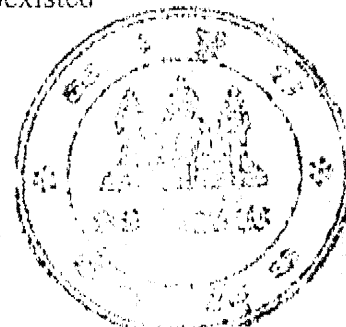
Kingdom of Cambodia

During the past two weeks, demonstrations have disrupted public order stability and security in Phnom Penh. These demonstrations have raised serious concern in as much as they have, with each passing day, escalated from peaceful to violent demonstration, from an orderly respect for law and order to uncontrollable anarchy. It was only reluctantly that the authorities intervened. It was proved that some extremists have incited violence and poisoned the atmosphere and subsequent clashes have caused some regrettable loss of lives and a number of injuries to demonstrators, including Buddhist monks, foreigners and government forces in charge of restoring public order.

In the face of this deplorable situation, His Majesty the King has repeatedly appealed to His children, grand-children and great grand-children and asked them to try to resolve the complaints and disputes in a peaceful manner, through friendly talks among political parties and Cambodians by avoiding violence which can cause the destruction of life to our innocent people, bring about national dishonor and plunge the country into a new conflict.

Along this very highest appeal from His Majesty, our Monarch, the Royal Government, the Ministry of Interior, the General Staff of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces, the Ministry of Information, competent authorities and Cambodian political leaders, in unity with the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and governments of friendly nations have separately issued their appeals seeking to end these disputes which caused the demonstrations and to return to the negotiating table with the aim of calling the meeting of the new National Assembly and the speedy formation of the new Government according to the democratic process which will reflect the will of the Cambodian people and the results of the independent, free and fair election of 26 July 1998.

In spite of these public statements and appeals, some politicians and Cambodian fellowmen did not agree to end the demonstrations. They have instead looked for new poisonous means to fuel revenge, incite retaliation and racism; and to enlarge division among Cambodians and fan the fire of hatred to create new crises. These attempts have increased the number of difficulties which in turn cause members of the society to tear each other apart, to annihilate each other because of the political colors and races; while at the same time these politicians repudiate virtue, national dignity, tradition and national identity which have coexisted peacefully, in families, in love, in mutual assistance and in sincere friendship.



The present situation has pointed out that the "democratic process" which these politicians and some of our fellowmen have understood and have adopted is one which has gradually departed from the constitution and from other laws in force in Cambodia. This sort of "democracy," as defined by these politicians and some of our fellowmen, is plunging our nation into great confusion with the inevitable consequence of producing bloodletting, tear-shedding and destruction.

In the face of these burning events and their negative influence caused by abuses of democracy and amidst the confusion caused to our country, and as chairman of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, I wish to launch the following appeal :

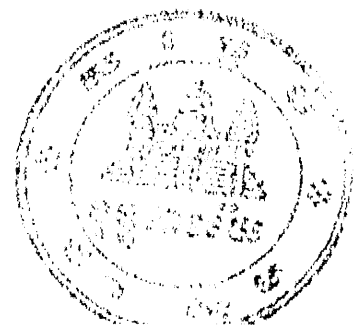
1) I ask all our countrymen, all laymen and members of the Buddhist clergy, to please stop immediately all demonstrations and counter-demonstrations. The struggle to voice your opinion will not reach your real goals through such an avenue. On the contrary, the real results of using democracy through marches in public places and on the streets as these marches have been so unwisely organized, motivated by hidden and dark agenda, will bring only accidents, injuries, the loss of life and of your own properties and those of the public, the loss of time for your work, the loss of time from schools, and the great loss of time for the construction of the country. Concerns and complaints must be addressed by our political leaders through immediate negotiations acceptable to all concerned, in line with the advice and wisdom provided by His Majesty, our Monarch, and along with the numerous requests from the international community.

The time between the 13th and the 24th of September 1998 has a very significant meaning for our nation to successfully resolve the opening of the meeting of the National Assembly in the Second Legislature and the formation of the new Government. It is also a very significant occasion for our people who will celebrate the Festival of the Dead according to the Buddhist traditions of our nation.

Eventually, the calm manifested by our people from this time on, by following the Lord Buddha and His teaching, the Dhamma and in practicing it in our heart, in our soul and in our action in order to negate anger, arrogance and ambition, is vital for the resolution of political conflict acceptable to all political parties and to everyone. This is a valuable contribution to the progress of democracy which we all wish to have.

2) I ask political leaders of our nation to show that they have prepared concrete plans to follow the very highest advice of His Majesty, our Monarch. Especially, the plans for the meeting and negotiation at the highest level of all the three distinguished leaders of the three political parties which have won seats at the National Assembly, in the Second Legislature, and the formation of a new Government.

Any further delay in endorsing the result of the election by certain parties which have won seats in the National Assembly and any delay in the opening session of the National Assembly will bring pain and suffering to the innocent people of Cambodia, and will bring great shame to all of us look like lamentable losers. In coping with the ideals of our nation and the wishes of our citizens, politicians of this country must have respect for the people, must have great courage and great sense of responsibility in making decisions, and must all be prepared to make sacrifices and concessions, in humility and gentleness, in sincere friendship, and in the true spirit of national reconciliation.



I firmly believe that our fellowmen and our political leaders will pool their resources again together, in order to preserve the social stability of our land and reconstruct this land with the dignity it deserves, toward prosperity and a bright future for a great lawful nation. At this time, more than any other, we have to contribute our part to our society and avoid catastrophic destruction from which no one can escape alone and over which no one can declare himself the winner.

13 September 1998

Signed:

CHIEA SIM
Chairman, National Assembly
Kingdom of Cambodia

