



News

Three Senior Students at the Department of Sociology are awarded the Thesis Scholarship.



Miss KOEMSEAN Chantrea
Age: 23 years old



Miss VY Kimlang
Age: 22 years old



Mr. RY Kimhang
Age: 19 years old

In 2023, the Legal Documentation Center relating to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia awarded three senior undergraduate students with scholarships at the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities. The center granted scholarships to seven groups of senior undergraduate students with a total of twelve students from different universities in Cambodia, including the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP), the Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE), and the American University of Phnom Penh (AUPP). Each group received a scholarship in cash of 3,000,000 Khmer Riels or \$US 750 for their research-related activities.

Research grantees are also provided with training on research methodology, data entry and analysis, and academic research writing. Moreover, the research grantees have opportunities to establish network connections to share their research findings among policymakers, planners, practitioners, and researchers. The undergraduate scholarship allows students to pursue their interests, learn something new, hone their problem-solving skills, and challenge themselves in new ways. Working on a faculty-initiated research project allows students to work thoroughly with a mentor, a faculty member, or other experienced researchers.



Picture 1. Faculty and students from the Department of Sociology of the RUPP and scholarship management team from the Legal Documentation Center relating to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia.



Picture 2. Faculty and students from the Department of Sociology and scholarship management team at the RUPP.

Topic: “Life experiences on living in the Democratic Kampuchea regime” by KOEMSEAN Chantrea.

The purpose of this research is to examine the living conditions of survivors of the Democratic Kampuchea regime. This study has focused on the experiences of survivors and the effects of the atrocities of this brutal genocide. The study results from qualitative research analysis using a snowball sampling design to interview the survivors. The results of the study show that the survivors of the Democratic Kampuchea regime went through many experiences and have many recollections of what happened at that time, including forced evictions, fear and intimidation, and beatings.

Topic: “Potential of the irrigation system left over from the Democratic Kampuchea regime for current agriculture in Cambodia” by RY Kimhang.

The research has applied quantitative and qualitative methods for data collection among the water user in the farming communities. Fieldwork was conducted in Ta Kream commune of Banan district, Battambang province with a sample size of 134 households. The research explores the potential of the irrigation system left over from the Democratic Kampuchea for current use and management for its sustainability.

Topic: “Marriage during Khmer Rouge regime: a case Study in Poug Kong commune, Sampotong district, Kampong Speu province” by Vy Kimlang.

This qualitative research aims to explore forms of marriage during the Khmer Rouge regime, learn how Cambodians were married, and investigate the current status of married couples during the Khmer Rouge period. The research is very important for the young generation to learn how people married during the genocidal regime. In addition, the study aims to explore if couples are still together after the forced marriage.

The three students have been awarded undergraduate scholarships from the Legal Documentation Center relating to the Extraordinary Chambers of the Courts of Cambodia under the leadership of Mr. Naroeun Thy, Head of the Department of Sociology at the RUPP. The Department of Sociology is one of the leading sociology departments in Cambodia, providing students with theoretical knowledge and research skills in sociology, social services, community knowledge, and a high level of professional ethics. The department was established in 1994 by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

(MoEYS) and the RUPP, with technical assistance from Bologna University and financial support from the New Humanities Organization of Italy. The department is currently conducting technical cooperation with the Department of Sociology of Sogang University of the Republic of Korea.

Mr. Naroen Thy also would like to thank the scholarship management team, in particular Mrs. CHEA Sarun (Director), Mr. SIENG Sopheak (Scholarship official), and all the officials from the Legal Documentation Center related to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia who initiated this important program to promote research culture, evidence-based establishment, and knowledge-based communication in Cambodia. The Research Scholarships for Undergraduates project is under the framework of Fulfilling the Legacy Mandate of the Legal Documentation Center related to the ECCC (LDC) project, which is funded by the Government and the people of Japan.