SUMMARY BIOGRAPHY OF HIS MAJESTY PREAH BAT SAMDECH PREAH NORODOM SIHANOUK, KING OF CAMBODIA

Born on 31 October 1922 in Phnom Penh Cambodia.

Years 1930-1940: Primary schooling at the François Baudoin Primary School [in Phnom Penh], the secondary schooling at the Chasseloup-Laubat High School, in Saigon [South Vietnam].

April 1941: Elected King of Cambodia by the Council of the Crown, in Phnom Penh.

1946 and 1948: Higher studies at the School of Application of the Cavalry and Armoured Army in Saumur [France].

1952 - 1953: NORODOM SIHANOUK claims and obtains from France the complete independence of Cambodia.

April 1955: NORODOM SIHANOUK abdicates in favour of his father, His Majesty NORODOM SURAMARIT.

King SURAMARIT grants to NORODOM SIHANOUK the rank of “Samdech” and the title of “Upayuvareach of Cambodia”.

His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHANOUK founded the Sangkum Reastr Niyum [or in English the People’s Socialist Community].

The Sangkum Reastr Niyum achieves a great victory at the legislative elections [82% of the people’s suffrage] NORODOM SIHANOUK becomes Prime Minister and, at the helm of the Cambodian people, works for the general development of Cambodia, in all the field of her national construction.

(Continue on page 2...)

SUMMARY BIOGRAPHY OF HER MAJESTY PREAH REACH AKKA-MOHESSEY NORODOM MONINEATH SIHANOUK, QUEEN OF CAMBODIA

Miss OUK, young Khmer lady from Phnom Penh, Maternal Grandmother of Her Majesty the Queen, was married to His Royal Highness Prince NORODOM Duongchak, eldest son of His Majesty King NORODOM 1st.

From this marriage two children were born:

1.His Highness Prince NORODOM Ratharasy, who was the first Cambodian Doctor and who died in the years 40s.

2.Her Highness Princess Phaypheak, who died in the years 50s.

 Madame OUK married for a second time, Mr. PEANG, a Khmer, and had two other children:


2 Mr. Hell PEANG, born in 1906 and deceased in the years 60s.

3.Miss Pomme PEANG married Mr. OUM Phankeo, Khmer, son of Major OUM From this marriage five children were born:

1. Mr. OUM Mannorine, born in 1924, currently Ambassador of Cambodia to the People’s Democratic Republic of Korea.

2. Mr. OUM Vinavuth, born in 1925, Officer of the Royal Khmer Army, fallen on the battlefield, killed by the Vietminhs in 1948, in Kampot.


(Continue on page 3...)

MESSAGE FROM THE AMBASSADOR

Best wishes to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk

King of Cambodia

On the tenth Anniversary of His Majesty’s accession to the throne and on the forthcoming celebration of His Majesty’s 82nd Birthday, I would like to respectfully extend my heartiest and best wishes for Happiness, Good Health and Longevity.

This time of year is an auspicious one for Cambodia and its People. The 50th Anniversary of our National Independence will be celebrated on November 9th. The Paris Peace Agreement, which ushered in a new era of Democracy, reaches its 12th Anniversary, and the traditional Water and Moon Festivals comes soon in this November, too. It is a time of reflection, to cherish our blessings and to work together in common for a better future.

Cambodia has come a long way in the past five years, since the second term of the Royal Government of (Continue on page 2...)

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Prime Minister Hun Sen. With strong political commitment, expressed in decisive action on its policy and institutional reform agenda over the past five year, the second term of the Royal Government of Cambodia has generated a powerful momentum towards progress and has achieved positive results towards development, progress and prosperity.

The final goal, to the whole society and politicians, is to build a Cambodian society marked by sustained prosperity and a Cambodian society marked by sustained prosperity and a Cambodian society marked by sustained prosperity and a Cambodian society marked by sustained prosperity and a Cambodian society marked by sustained prosperity and a Cambodian society marked by sustained prosperity.

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The President of the Cambodian National Council of Cambodia as the neutral President of this Council which is composed by the Party of H.E. Hun Sen [Government of the State of Cambodia, Phnom Penh]; and the Party NGC [National Government of Cambodia/Resistance]; the NGC being a tripartite Coalition composed of the KPNLF of H.E. Son Sann, the PKD of H.E. Khieu Samphan and the FUNCINPEC of HRH Norodom Ranariddh.

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14 November 1991: Triumphal return of NORODOM SIHANOUK to Phnom Penh. After his return, the government of the State of Cambodia, whose Prime Minister is H.E. Hun Sen and the Pracheachon Party of Cambodia, whose President is H.E. Chea Sim; the KPNLF, whose President is H.E. Son Sann; FUNCINPEC, whose President is HRH Norodom Ranariddh and the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, whose President is H.E. Khieu Samphan, respec tively declare officially and in writing that NORODOM SIHANOUK has never ceased to be the legal and legitimate Head of State of the whole of Cambodia. Consequently, NORODOM SIHANOUK maintains and will maintain officially the title of Head of State of Cambodia until the Presidential elections of 1993 in Cambodia.

22 May 1993: NORODOM SIHANOUK, Head of State and President of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, declares he completely support the General Elections organized and supervised by UNTAC and which should take place from 23 to 28 May 1993. The new Constituent Assembly born of these elections adopts unanimously a resolution, dated 14 June 1993, fully rehabilitating NORODOM SIHANOUK, victim of the anti-Constitutional Putsch of 18 March 1970 and granting full powers to NORODOM SIHANOUK in his capacity of Head of State of Cambodia.

24 September 1993: NORODOM SIHANOUK solemnly promulgates the new Constitution of Cambodia, drafted by the Constituent Assembly. Cambodia becomes an advanced Liberal Democracy and a Constitutional Monarchy whose King reigns but does not rule. NORODOM SIHANOUK, with the support of the National Assembly and Government is elected, by the Council of the Crown, unanimously, King and Head of State for life of Cambodia.

MESSAGE ....

Prime Minister Hun Sen. With strong political commitment, expressed in decisive action on its policy and institutional reform agenda over the past five year, the second term of the Royal Government of Cambodia has generated a powerful momentum towards progress and has achieved positive results towards development, progress and prosperity.

The final goal, to the whole society and politicians, is to build a Cambodian society marked by sustained prosperity and a firm democracy, gained through to fair-play behaviour in accepting the results of the 27 July National Elections through solidarity, progressive education, respect for moral values and social justice.

In honour of this glorious occasion, I would like to humbly pray and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying and join all the People of Cambodia and the World in praying.

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HISTORY OF CAMBODIA

Cambodia's modern-day culture has its roots in the 1st to 6th centuries in a state referred to as Funan, known as the oldest Indianized state in Southeast Asia. It is from this period that evolved Cambodia's language, part of the Mon-Khmer family, which contains elements of Sanskrit, its ancient religion of Hinduism and Buddhism. Historians have noted, for example, that Cambodians can be distinguished from their neighbors by their clothing - checkered scarves known as kramas are worn instead of straw hats. Funan gave way to the Angkor Empire with the rise to power of King Jayavarman II in 802. The following 600 years saw powerful Khmer kings dominate much of present day Southeast Asia, from the borders of Myanmar east to the South China Sea and north to Laos.
quagmire of growing war in Vietnam spread relentlessly, and in 1970, as war spilled over into Cambodia, Prince Sihanouk was overthrown by General Lon Nol.

Then, 17 April 1975, Lon Nol's weakened government was itself overthrown by the Khmers Rouges. They immediately emptied the capital of its residents and brought Prince Sihanouk back, only to hold him under house arrest. The ensuing four years "reign of terror" under Pol Pot's Democratic Kampuchea resulted in the deaths of an estimated 1.7 million people.

In 1979 the Khmers Rouges were overthrown and the People's Republic of Kampuchea was established. In 1989 the government renamed the country State of Cambodia. The SOC ruled independently until the Paris Peace Agreement of 1991 created the United Nations Transitional Authority (UNTAC). Supported by the presence of some 22,000 UN troops, UNTAC in May 1993 supervised general elections in Cambodia. A second general election was held in 1998.

Cambodia today enjoys a parliamentary system with one Prime Minister, Samdech Hun Sen. A constitution was adopted in 1993, the same year King Norodom Sihanouk returned to the throne. His Majesty remains a symbol of national unity to his people.

Cambodian Buddhists offer food to the monk at pagoda as part of Pchum Ben, festival for the dead. Chum Ben this year is held from 11 to 25 September during which people visit pagodas every morning to pay homage to their ancestors with food and prayers.

The King and Queen of Cambodia granted a Royal audience to H.E. Ms Louise HAND, former Australian Ambassador to Cambodia and her family at the Royal Palace, when she finished her Diplomatic Mission in Cambodia.

On 23 August 2003, H.E. Ms Annabel Mary ANDERSON, Australian Ambassador, has presented the Letters of Credence to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, King of Cambodia, at the Throne Hall, Royal Palace.