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List of Toul Sleng (S-21) Prisoners Who Survived in 1979

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There have been some disputes about the number of prisoners who escaped Pol Pot's secret prison when Vietnamese soldiers and the United Front for the National Salvation of Kampuchea invaded Cambodia on January 7, 1979. This was a prison which housed as many as several thousand prisoners at one point and throughout the period in which the Democratic Kampuchea government ruled (1975-1979), was responsible for the deaths of at least 14,000 people. Known by its code name S-21, the prison was the highest level security prison among the 196 which existed at that time. Those sent there were forced to write confessions, tortured, and ultimately sent to a nearby field, Choeung Ek, for group extermination. DC-Cam has been working on compiling a list of people who were released or escaped in 1979. Based on primary sources and interviews with the three survivors who are still alive today, the following 19 names have been generated. Research is still being conducted to verify the disappearance status of some of the names below.

1. Chum Manh, a.k.a. Chum Mei, alive[1]
2. Heng Nath, a.k.a. Vann Nath, alive[2]
3. Phann Than Chann, deceased[3]
4. Ruy Nea Kung, deceased[4]
5. Bou Meng, alive[5]
6. Ung Pech, deceased[6]
7. Eam Chann, deceased[7]
8. Dy Phon, disappeared[8]
9. Touch Tem, alive[9]
10. Nhem Sal, alive[10]
11. Pheach Yoeun (S-21 prisoner status being verified), alive[11]
12. Name Unknown, sources say he is living in Ratanak Kiri province but there are no supporting documents yet[12]

13. Mok Sun Khun, disappeared[13]
14. Eng (full name unknown), disappeared[14]
15. Leng (full name unknown), disappeared[15]
16. Tuon (full name unknown), disappeared[16]
17. Pol Touch, disappeared[17]
18. Hem Sambath (arrested on 11/75, released on 1/76), status unknown[18]
19. Chheang Sun Heng (arrested on 9/75, released on 3/76), status unknown[19]

[1] Source: Toul Sleng Genocide Museum, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

[2] Source: Toul Sleng Genocide Museum, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

[3] Source: Toul Sleng Genocide Museum, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

[4] Source: Toul Sleng Genocide Museum, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

[5] Source: Toul Sleng Genocide Museum, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

[6] Source: Toul Sleng Genocide Museum, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

[7] Source: Toul Sleng Genocide Museum, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

[8] Source: Vann Nath

[9] Source: Documentation Center of Cambodia

[10] Source: Documentation Center of Cambodia

[11] Source: Documentation Center of Cambodia

[12] Source: Vann Nath

[13] Source: Vann Nath

[14] Source: Vann Nath

[15] Source: Vann Nath

[16] Source: Vann Nath

[17] Source: Vann Nath

[18] Source: Toul Sleng Genocide Museum, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

[19] Source: Toul Sleng Genocide Museum, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

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