



KROUSAR THMEY « NEW FAMILY »

FIRST CAMBODIAN FOUNDATION
FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN

2012



KROUSAR THMEY (« NEW FAMILY » IN KHMER)

KEY FACTS ON KROUSAR THMEY

- ✿ An NGO run by Cambodians and for Cambodians, apolitical and non-denominational
- ✿ More than 20 years of action in the field of development
- ✿ 400 professional Cambodian staff, 3 European volunteers
- ✿ 4 000 children supported in 2011
- ✿ Less than 4% of administrative costs each year
- ✿ 3 key words:
Identity, Integration, Dignity
- ✿ Mission:
To enable the integration of children through education, appropriate support and the arts in accordance with their traditions and beliefs

Krousar Thmey received the
Wenhui Prize – UNESCO for Innovation in Education in 2011.
World Children Award in 2012.



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Cultural development for all
School of Khmer arts and culture
Exhibitions
Cultural activities
Awareness campaigns



Special education
Special schools for deaf or blind children
Braille workshop
Sign language committee
Integrated classes



Child Welfare
Temporary street children centres
Permanent protection centres
Family houses
Prevention campaign against child trafficking and prostitution
Support to a primary school



SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR DEAF CHILDREN

KROUSAR THMEY – SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME

HISTORY

Wanna, a blind child deprived of schooling: the first school for blind children opens in 1994.

Deafness is a disability more spread than blindness.

1997: the first school for deaf children opens in Chbar Ampov, Phnom Penh.
(Battambang and Siem Reap in 2000 – Kampong Cham in 2002 – Phnom Penh Thmey in 2009)

Adapting the American sign language and all the necessary tools to empower deaf children to grow into independant and responsible adults.

OBJECTIVE

To enable children who are deaf to find their place in society through access to basic education and guidance towards an active life.

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SERVICES PROVIDED

✦ **5 special schools** welcoming 486 pupils including 210 girls
From Kindergarten through to high school, the schools offer a comprehensive teaching in sign language as well as complementary courses in English and computer skills.

✦ **29 integrated classes** for 166 children (including 60 girls)

✦ **42 inclusive classes** for 191 children (including 81 girls)

For children living far from special schools so they can access an adapted and qualitative education without leaving their family.



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THE ONLY COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME ON SPECIAL EDUCATION...

Krousar Thmey is the only organization in Cambodia to offer a **comprehensive educational programme** for deaf children in the country, in accordance with the national school curriculum.

PROVIDING THE NECESSARY TOOLS AND MEANS

The Foundation has created and developed all the **necessary tools to a basic special education**:

- ✿ Khmer sign language
- ✿ Adapted text books
- ✿ Trainings of teachers: teaching methodology, speech therapy, classroom management, psychology, basic knowledge....

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COLLABORATION WITH THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Krousar Thmey works hand in hand with the MoEYS in order to provide a **qualitative and adapted education** to deaf children throughout Cambodia.

Agreements are signed so that deaf students can have access to public schools but not yet to higher education.

COLLABORATION WITH PARTNERS

To ensure sustainability, Krousar Thmey works with other NGOs partners:

- ✿ Teachers' trainings (CBM)
- ✿ Kitting out deaf children (ESC - Enfants Sourds du Cambodge)
- ✿ Vocational training for deaf adult (Maloptapang)
- ✿ Vocational training skills for deaf students (DDP – Deaf Development Programme)
- ✿ High school level general knowledge, pedagogy, methodology and psychology (NIE – National Institute of Education)
- ✿ Funding (TDH – Terre des Hommes, ARC – Australian Red Cross, AEA – Aide et Action...)

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ACHIEVEMENTS

- ✿ In 2006, for the first time in Cambodia, Deaf students completed their secondary education
- ✿ Up until now, 15 students (5 women) passed their high-school diploma.
- ✿ In 2011, the first deaf students gained access to an institute to pursue higher education
- ✿ 14 deaf students (4 women) have been appointed to be teachers for the deaf by Krousar Thmey
- ✿ The sign language committee has compiled sign language textbooks up to grade 6
- ✿ TVK (once a week) and Bayon TV (6 days a week) provide the interpretation of news into sign language for deaf people in Cambodia.
- ✿ Kindergarten classes in Chbar Ampov, Phnom Penh Thmey, Siem Reap and Battambang
- ✿ Core trainers are present in the five schools
- ✿ Completion of materials on deaf culture



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DRAWBACKS

- ✿ Data collection regarding the deaf population in Cambodia is only partial
- ✿ Parents lack knowledge and trust in their children's future
- ✿ MoEYS' participation is limited in terms of standardisation of teaching methods for disabled children in integrated classrooms
- ✿ A lack of understanding on the difference between sign language and Khmer sign language leads to unintentional ignorance of deaf children
- ✿ The understanding of deaf culture is poor and teaching deaf children can therefore be rendered more complicated



FUTURE PLANS

- ✿ Improve the skills of the sign language committee
- ✿ Increase the number of sign interpreters
- ✿ Cooperate with UNICEF for a pilot project: to conduct research on local sign language and on the openings in high education for deaf students
- ✿ Find more partners to develop vocational training for deaf young adults
- ✿ Continue to improve the knowledge of Krousar Thmey's core trainers
- ✿ Increase involvement of the MoEYS in the education for deaf children



KROUSAR THMEY'S CHILDREN THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT !
www.krousar-thmey.org