

## MR. NOU TAT (Founder of ACO)



Nou Tat was born on **October 15, 1974** in Siem Reap province in typical rural Cambodia and lived with the struggles of poor water and food supplies and under resourced school. He is from a destitute social status background. He lives in an extended family with 9 people. They are his parents, grandparents, aunt, uncle and two sisters. His father was a priest teacher. And his mother was a house-maid. He grew up as a typical rural boy with a love of the countryside.

### His Life with Cambodian Clean Water Project 2002 (CCWP)

Nou Tat has so much passion to help poor, destitute people after being a tour guide since **1993**. He found the poverty here is a real shock. So he decided to devote most of his time talking to his clients while touring to see if anyone of them interested in seeing the villages and he brought up that basic sanity and clean water are the key to the villagers' health to his clients. He has been spending his time with the villagers besides his guiding to scout those who badly need the well and he is always trying his best to get the donation and has the well installed in time. He is well admired and respected locally and internationally. After many years of promoting the project, he registered his project under the name of **Cambodian Clean Water Project in 2002** to address many of these above needs. CCWP has its roots in the clean water which was in his brain child. He never forgot what it was like to struggle to find clean water and, as he secured the future of his life, he turned his attention to the needs of those still struggling. He installed several hundreds of pump wells which provide good source of clean and healthy water for those who live in the remote isolated areas in Siem Reap, Cambodia. There are over **5,000** poor people being influenced by CCWP.

### His Life with Angkor Charity Organization 2009 (ACO)

From **2008-2012**, he gained his **Master Degree** from the Faculty of Education (**BBU**). He really knows that education is the main source of human capital to develop human society and civilize our world, and especially Cambodia a developing country. He desperately needs more human resources to rehabilitate his country and gives his people better life chances to break the cycle of poverty line. On his behalf of a Cambodian who loves peace, equity, humanity and education; he decided to contribute his own property and donate his guiding fee to construct an English Language School (**Angkor Charity School**) which composes of **4 rooms** for (English Class, Computer Center, Library and Directing Office) that accommodate more than **100** impoverished local children in his community in Siem Reap. Now, he is working out of the kinks to contact all kinds of generous fund supporters to fulfill his charity work soon in order to improve the good quality of education, life-style while expecting, promoting cultural traditions and Khmer social values.

## His life and experience in Pol Pot Regime (1975-1979)

He was born in 1970 before Pol Pot Regime started. Unluckily, five years later Cambodia got involved in the terrible situation, was Pol Pot regime (1975-1979) when Pol Pot controlled Cambodia, the bitter experience of the darkest year and long painful history of the Khmer people. After they occupied the country, they evacuated the people from the capital city, province to rural concentration-camp to do slave labor in mobile work teams for 9-10 hours per day. Back then, he was about 5 or 6 years old. Imagine his real life during that hard time. He was forced to collect the animal manure. The whole Cambodia faced the doom situation. His family lived in the shanty house like chicken coop, their meal consisted of little more than watery rice porridge twice a day, meant to sustain men, women and children, and they deserved only two pairs of black uniforms and a scarf which are the symbol of misery, death and poor medical care. Diseases haunted the work camps, malaria, dysentery, cholera, typhoid, elephantiasis striking down whole families; death was a relief for many people from the horror of life. The terrible thing still sticks in his mind, was the death of his father, grandfather, uncle, aunt and some relatives and close friends. He was hogtied, punched, kicked and seriously hacked in the forehead with a hoe. Now, you can see an indentation that is still on his head. His offence was a bowl of rice because he was very hungry! His life was ready on the edge of survival. The political program of the Pol Pot regime consisted of a brutal restructuring of society on strictly Maoist Lines. Pol Pot policies heaped misery, suffering and death on millions of Cambodians. Their main aim was to transform Cambodia into a Maoist, peasant dominated agrarian cooperative. Another aim was to remove all differences between town people and peasants by destroying the centers of mercantile and capitalist activity. The advent of Pol Pot rule was proclaimed Year Zero. It was a regime of racial genocide, and attempted cultural annihilation from which the country recovering. There are no precise figures for the number of lives which lost in the "Democratic Kampuchea" under the Pol Pot. The Foreign Minister, names Ieng Sary, spoke privately of a figure of one million. The highest price in blood was paid by the official corps, the intellectuals and priests of all religions. Early 1996, Yale University researchers undertaking ongoing investigations estimated that the figure was around 2 millions, and there would still be six millions of us left. Hundreds of thousands of people more died of execution, starvation, overwork and disease...etc. Anyone who spoke a foreign language or simply wore glasses was held to be a subversive or a parasite and usually paid with their own lives. Luckily, 7<sup>th</sup> January 1979, the Vietnamese Army marched into Phnom Penh collaborated with National United Front for Salvation so as to topple Pol Pot regime and push them out of the country. On the liberation day; his mother, grandmother, two sisters came home alive. They were grief stricken because they nearly lost everything. His family was starving and lived from hand to mouth. Peace no longer exists anymore in Cambodia. The influence of communist country cut the anchor of Cambodian boat and forced it sink into the deep ocean. The Vietnamese occupied Cambodia from 1979-1988. The civil war started from 1979-1993 between two rival enemies, the National Khmer Arm Forces (pro-Russian and Vietnam) and the Khmer Rouge forces (pro-China). The Khmer Rouge and his supporters were sent fleeing to the jungle near the Thailand border, from where they spent the next decade launching attacks on the Cambodian government. They put thousands of landmines that killed and maimed Cambodian to-day. Hundreds of thousands of women lost their husbands, children, parents, brothers and sisters. And thousands of children lost their parents; they became poor, homeless orphans. This is the bitter experience through the hard time in his life. [Khmer Rouge - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)>.