



AJWS Recommended Reading List for Cambodia Study Tour

Books

The Depths of the Sea by Jamie Metzl (fiction)

"Jamie Metzl is the rare novelist who can draw upon real world experiences as both an aid worker and a White House official. In *The Depths of the Sea*, Metzl has given us a gripping and vivid thriller that leads readers on a trail of gun-running, Cold War intrigue, betrayal, and moral ambiguity. Metzl reminds us that the costs of U.S. interventions and retreats are lived one individual at a time." - Samantha Power

First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers by Loung Ung (nonfiction)

"This is a story of the triumph of a child's indomitable spirit over the tyranny of the Khmer Rouge; over a culture where children are trained to become killing machines. Loung's subsequent campaign against land mines is a result of witnessing firsthand how her famished neighbors, after dodging soldiers' bullets, risked their lives to traverse unmapped minefields in search of food. Despite the heartache, I could not put the book down until I reached the end. Meeting Loung in person merely reaffirmed my admiration of her." ~ QUEEN NOOR of Jordan, founder, Women and Development Project

Audio and Video Stories

Al Jazeera video on the Sesan River that features AJWS partner 3SPN

<http://www.aljazeera.com/video/asia-pacific/2012/04/20124225512268289.html>

Al Jazeera report on land and evictions in Cambodia

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pHLiWcTZfJE>

Articles

Cambodia pardons 10 jailed female land rights activists (South China Morning Post)

Ten female Cambodian land activists jailed over protests last year have been pardoned and released from prison, a rights group said yesterday, following an outcry over their arrests.

<http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/article/1765240/cambodia-pardons-10-jailed-female-land-rights-activists>

Time to sow the seeds of land reform in Cambodia (Establishment Post)

While the majority of Cambodians live off the land, access is precarious. Recently the Cambodian government has been making some encouraging reforms, but troubling signs remain.

<http://www.establishmentpost.com/time-sow-seeds-land-reform-cambodia/>

Cambodian child labor laws flouted with fake IDs (The Guardian)

Despite national legislation, poverty leads families to help children lie about their age to get a job, while factories turn a blind eye to underage workers.

<http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2015/mar/30/cambodian-child-labour-laws-flouted-with-fake-ids>

Cambodian War Tribunal Charges Another Ex-Member of Khmer Rouge (New York Times)

An international judge at a war crimes court in Cambodia charged another former Khmer Rouge member with crimes against humanity on Friday.

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/03/28/world/asia/cambodian-war-tribunal-charges-another-ex-member-of-khmer-rouge.html?ref=asia&_r=0

Development curbs indigenous community land and legal rights: report (UCA News)

Despite Cambodia's indigenous peoples being legally recognized and protected under the country's Forestry and Land Laws, limited implementation combined with a lack of coordination have resulted in many indigenous communities being denied their land and legal rights, according to a report released this month by the Heinrich Böll Foundation.

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/development-curbs-indigenous-community-land-and-legal-rights-report/73266>

Michelle Obama urges Cambodian students to seek more freedom (USA Today)

Michelle Obama urged Cambodian students to finish their education and speak up to demand greater freedoms and more equality on a landmark visit to a Southeast Asian country that has been ruled by an authoritarian strongman for decades.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/03/22/michelle-obama-cambodia/25175297/>

Drowning in debt: the growing threat to Cambodia's poor (The Guardian)

In a growing micro finance market, some Cambodians are juggling as many as six separate loans.

<http://www.theguardian.com/global-development-professionals-network/2015/mar/06/drowning-in-debt-the-growing-threat-to-cambodias-poor>

'Transitioning Cambodia' Photos Show Vanishing Worlds Behind Rapid Development (Huffington Post)

In 2007, a company owned by well-connected Cambodians received a lease to develop the land around the lake. Just a year after it took control, the company started pumping the landmark full of sand, making way for a high-end building project. Thousands of people were forcibly evicted in the process.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/02/25/transitioning-cambodia-photos_n_6744814.html

AJWS's Blog, Global Voices

Life on \$3 a Day: Garment Workers and Cambodia's Struggle for Human Rights

<http://blogs.ajws.org/blog/tag/cambodia/#sthash.8VBmUSA8.dpuf>

Alarming Statistics About Attitudes Toward LGBTI People

<http://blogs.ajws.org/blog/tag/cambodia/#sthash.iePFgTuS.dpuf>

Into the Field: Stories from Cambodia

<http://blogs.ajws.org/blog/2012/08/29/into-the-field-stories-from-cambodia/>

Why Cambodia Needs Freedom of Expression

<http://blogs.ajws.org/blog/2012/01/18/why-cambodia-needs-freedom-of-expression/>

Additional Resources

Report on the 3S River Region by International Rivers

http://www.internationalrivers.org/files/attached-files/3s_rivers_english.pdf

The Delusion of Progress: Cambodia's Legislative Assault on Freedom of Expression

Report from the Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights

<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/reports/files/162LICADHOREport-LegislativeAssaultFreedomExpression2011-English.pdf>

History

Looking for a brief overview? Lonely Planet offers a thorough synopsis.

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/cambodia/history>