

Ambassador Helps Inaugurate Sam Relief-built School

Koh Sotin, Kampong Cham Province
August 6, 2006



Students at the new school wave U.S. and Cambodian flags.
[Full Size](#)

Ambassador Mussomeli joined the Minister of Information H.E. Khieu Kanharith as the guests of honor in dedicating a new school in Koh Sotin, Kampong Cham province built by the U.S.-based nonprofit organization Sam Relief, Inc. The construction of the school was made possible by the dedication and hard work of Sam Relief's founder and president, Mr. Sambonn Lek, and the generosity of Mr. Clifford Laughton, whose financial support made this construction possible.

This school fills a void in an area that lacked enough schools to meet the needs of the local population. It will afford more children access to education, a vital link toward their own future prosperity as well as that of their families. More than 506 students in grades 1 - 6 are already enrolled and studying hard.

In his remarks, Ambassador Mussomeli stated:

Education is vital in strengthening Cambodia's most important resource—its people. Basic education represents the foundation on which all else is built. Without improvements here, it will be difficult to encourage community involvement, promote democracy, improve social indicators and provide the skills that Cambodia needs to compete regionally and within the global economy. As Thomas Jefferson once observed: Educate "the people . . . , and tyranny and oppressions . . . will vanish like evil spirits at the dawn of day"

[Sam Relief, Inc.](#) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing education and educational resources to the impoverished children of Cambodia. In addition to this school, in 2006 Sam Relief will build three other schools: a five-classroom school at Kam Pong Chalk Svay Rieng, donated by Mr. Stephen Meagher; a five-classroom school at Wat Tmor Kor in Khet Kandal donated by Senator Philip Hoffman; and three classrooms will be added to the 2005 Olivia school donated by Ms. Elizabeth Updike.

For more information on Sam Relief's activities in Cambodia, please use the side link.