



សហព័ន្ធខ្មែរកម្ពុជាក្រោម

KHMERS KAMPUCHEA-KROM FEDERATION

P.O. Box 193, Pennsauken, NJ 08110 • <https://khmerkrom.org> • info@khmerkrom.org • (856) 655-3838

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

Vietnamese Authority Sentenced Khmer-Krom Farmers Injustice

Pennsauken, NJ, 5 December 2020 -- The Khmers Kampuchea-Krom Federation (KKF) condemns the Vietnamese Court of Giang Thanh district, Kien Giang province for sentencing injustice against the Khmer-Krom farmers on December 3, 2020.

In the Press Release on June 8, 2020, KKF condemned the Vietnamese authority for arresting Mr. Huynh Van Dep without a warrant on June 7, 2020. After detaining Mr. Dep, the Vietnamese authority started summoning the Khmer-Krom farmers involved in the protest to defending for the confiscated farmlands on May 5, 2020.

While Mr. Dep was being detained, the Vietnamese authority accused three Khmer-Krom farmers facing the same alleged crime as Mr. Dep are: Mr. Tien Dam, Mr. Tien Nam, and Mrs. Thi Pich. Even these Khmer-Krom farmers were not arrested, but they did not allow going out of their village.

After three months of detaining, Mr. Dep was released because the Vietnamese authority could not find a better reason to detain him. Since being free from the detaining, Mr. Dep was allowed to stay at his house, not allowing him to travel out of his village, and wait to face the trial.

On December 3, 2020, the Vietnamese authority brought Mr. Huynh Van Dep, Mr. Tien Dam, Mr. Tien Nam, and Mrs. Thi Pich to face the trial. Instead of finding justice for these Khmer-Krom farmers to get their confiscated farmlands, the Vietnamese court of Giang Thanh district sentenced them with the alleged crime of “**Resisting a law enforcement officer in performance of his/her official duties**” under article 330 of the Penal Code.

- **Mr. Huynh Van Dep (born 1979) was sentenced to two years and six months in prison.**
- **Mr. Tien Dam (born 1992) was sentenced to two years and three months in prison.**
- **Mr. Tien Nam (born 1992) was sentenced to one year in prison.**
- **Mrs. Thi Pich (born 1956) was sentenced to one year’s probation.**

In this regard, the Khmers Kampuchea-Krom Federation urgently calls on the international community to urge Vietnam to drop the charge against Mr. Huynh Van Dep, Mr. Tien Dam, Mr. Tien Nam, and Mrs. Thi Pich. They are poor farmers. They need their farmlands to farm to support their family during this pandemic time.

