Motherland* / មេត្រធានី / មាតេសមុី

Published : Weekly
Language : Khmer
Average pages : 4, black and white
Circulation : 4,000
Publisher/ownership : Chea Chanprakorth
Editor-in-chief : Chea Chanprakorth
Founding Date : 1993 – Present

Overview:
Motherland is one of the oldest Khmer language newspapers that has survived through today. An interesting note from the paper itself of its earliest issue held by Yale University Library published on July 13, 1993 indicates that it was in its vol. 38. This clearly shows that originally the paper must have begun publishing before 1993, but republished in 1993. It could have begun in the 1960s and/or early 1970, but there was no source confirming on this.

A survey conducted in 1995 by Judith Clarke from Journalism Department of Hong Kong Baptist College shows that the paper was printed weekly with a circulation as small as 300 copies. Additionally, a survey conducted in 2004 by Helen Jarvis and Peter Arfanis and the current list by the Ministry of Information posted on its website (February, 2012) consistently shows that the paper continues publishing weekly with a circulation increases from 300 to 1,800 and 4,000.

The same as other local Khmer language newspapers, Motherland provides coverage for local news only. The most significant and heavily coverage of the paper is a political issues related to the activities of the senior government officials and those Cambodian prominent politicians. Because Motherland is known as Cambodian People’s Party affiliated paper, its political reports and cartoons are often highly critical to the opponent parties and their members.

Issues held by Yale University Library:

1993 [Year 38]
- Issue [8, 9, 10]: [Jul 12, 19, 26] (duplex)

1995 [Year 39]
- Issue [113-115]: [Sep 9-10, 17-18, 29-30] (duplex)
- Issue [120-122]: [Nov 12-13, 18-19, 25-26](duplex)

1996 [Year 40]
- Issue [132-134]: [Feb 3-4, 10-11, 23-24] (duplex)
- Issue [139, 142, 143]: [Apr 1, 22, 29]
- Issue [144]: [May 6] (the rest are missing)