Overview:

Yale University Library holds the 1st issue of the paper published on February 27, 1994. A survey conducted by Judith Clarke, Journalism Department of Hong Kong Baptist College in 1995 shows that the paper published twice weekly with a circulation of 3,429. However, the current list by the Ministry of Information posted on its website (February 2012) shows that the paper is published two issues a month with a circulation as small as 1,000 copies.

The same as other local Khmer language newspapers, Sakal News provides coverage for only local news related to social and political issues. The social issue is often reported on crime and violence while the political one is often on the activities of the senior government officials as well as the prominent politicians. In addition, the paper also runs an irregular cartoon that is also critical of political and social issues. As for entertainment, the paper also provides a literary section with a novel fiction and poem for its readers.

There is no information confirming the political affiliation of the paper. Based on the available issues, the paper is critical of the royalist and the opposition, but is rather soft with CPP. It is important to point out that the paper was banned on May 16, 1994 after it ran articles and cartoons violating the country constitution by challenging and criticizing King Norodom Sihanouk's involvement with Khmer Rouge. According to the constitution the King is untouchable. So, criticizing and challenging the King’s record is a violation of the constitution. However, the paper was resumed within that same month after the charge was dropped.

Issues held by Yale University Library:

1994 [Year 1]

- Issue [1]: [Feb 27] (Duplex)
- Issue [28-34]: [Jul 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 30-31] (All are duplicate, except 31)
- Issue [35-46]: [Aug 4-5, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 14, 16-17, 18-19, 21-22, 23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 31-1] (Duplex)
- Issue [47-57]: [Sep 2-3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 14-15, 21-22, 23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-1] (All are duplicate, except 48, 56 are single)
- Issue [70-73]: [Dec 16-17, 22-23, 24-25, 27-28] (Duplicate while the rest are missing)
1995 [Year 2]
- Issue [76]: [Feb 29-Mar 1] (Duplex)
- Issue [88]: [Jul 27-28] (Duplex)
- Issue [89]: [Aug 3-4] (Duplex)
- Issue [90]: [Nov 25] (Duplex)
- Issue [91, 92]: [Dec 2-3, 9-10] (Duplicate, the rest are missing)

1996 [Year 3]
- Issue [94, 95]: [Mar 16-17, 20-21] (Duplicate)