

CAMBODIA

General Information

- Population: 14.8 million.
- Religion: The official religion is [Theravada Buddhism](#), which is practiced by approximately 95% of the Cambodian population.
- One percent of Cambodians are identified as being “Christian,” but that is a loose term, being applied to Protestants, Roman Catholics, United Pentecostals, Mormons, and Jehovah Witnesses, to name a few.
- Location: Bordered by [Thailand](#) to the northwest, [Laos](#) to the northeast, [Vietnam](#) to the east and the [Gulf of Thailand](#) to the southwest.



Challenges

- Cambodia is consistently listed as one of the most corrupt governments in the world.
- Many Cambodians died during the [Khmer Rouge](#) regime (subject of the 1984 movie, “The Killing Fields”). Estimates of total number of deaths resulting from Khmer Rouge policies, including disease and starvation, range from 1.7 to 2.5 million out of a 1975 population of just over 8 million.
- The civil war and subsequent genocide markedly affected the Cambodian population; 50% of the population is younger than 22 years old.
- Adherence to Buddhism generally is considered intrinsic to the country's ethnic and cultural identity. Religion in Cambodia, including Buddhism, was suppressed by the Khmer Rouge during the late 1970s but has since experienced a revival.

Pray For

- Chheng Nuon and his wife Sophorn of the Church of Mercy mission to Cambodia. [The Church of Mercy](#) mission to Cambodia is a church planting mission started by the Chheng Nuon family and the [First Baptist Church of Parker](#) in 1999. “By God's grace we have thus far established two churches in the villages of Prek Ambel in Kandal province and Sre Trang in Kampot province.”

Reference

- <http://www.persecution.net/News-Articles-Cambodia/>
- <http://www.thechurchofmercy.org/>