

BMD
NORODOM SIHANOUK
Phnom Penh, 18 December 2004

Certain VIPS stated that “King (Second reign between 1993-2004), I (Norodom Sihanouk) did not respect certain stipulations, certain articles of our 1993 Constitution.”

Here are my responses to the accusations and criticisms leveled against the so-called “non-application” by King Norodom Sihanouk on the stipulations and articles of the 1993 Constitution:

1. I start by mentioning the VIOLATIONS of the constitutional rights by Men in Power during the 2nd Kingdom of Cambodia (1993-2001):

First, National Congress was never allowed to be held, unlike what it was under the SRN (Sangkum Reastr Niyum) era.

Second, all peaceful demonstrations were banned; furthermore, demonstrators and protesters who were only exercising their constitutional rights were repressed – with “deadly means”.

Third, Coup d’Etat was held against the winners of the legislative elections.

Fourth, the 1991 Paris Agreements, which forbid the “validation” of the unequal treaties between the Republic Socialist of Vietnam and the People’s Republic of Kampuchea – aka State of Cambodia – over the (false) territorial integrity (land and sea) of Cambodia, were violated.

Fifth, H.E. Var Kim Hong dared to present me with a falsified geographic map of our Country (Cambodia), a map which he affirmed (in fact he was lying) to be a map from the SRN era.

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2. I did not meet twice a month with Leaders or members of the RGC (Royal Government of Cambodia) because I was already very aware of the (true) situation and (the truly alarming) problems faced by Cambodia, the “new Country of Angkor”. In fact, first of all, TVK – which I watch day and night – already gave me the “version advanced by the government” of things and people in our country.

Furthermore, I already knew the true situation and the true problems faced by the “neo-Angkorian Kampuchea” by reading about them on “Cambodge Soir”, the “Cambodia Daily”, the “Bangkok Post”, “The Nation” (Bangkok) – all of which I received and read them regularly.

Since my years at the Preah Sutharot elementary school and up to now (2004), I was never a lazy person who neglects his work.

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3. I never presided over the Supreme Council of Magistracy because the 1993 Constitution made me assume responsibilities which did not correspond to the principle of non-power.

A king “rules but not governs” could not be held responsible for the Corruption and the injustices of our Judicial System, nor the loss of territorial Integrity.

I asked on several occasions for modification to the 1993 Constitution so that the King (who has no power) should not have to bear such responsibilities. However, it was in vain.

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My conclusion: History will judge me, as well as Others.

(Signed) *Norodom Sihanouk*