LIFE BEFORE GENOCIDE



The Cambodian Genocide Uk Sivutha

When I was young, I wanted to study so that I could become a teacher. I had seen that teachers were well educated, dressed smartly, and did not have to work very hard. But Cambodian tradition was very strict in those days. My parents were afraid that no man would want to marry me if I had a good education. They also said that the school was far from my house and no one would be there to take care of me. Not wanting to go against my parents' wishes, I quit school when I was in the sixth grade and became a farmer.

My husband Sivutha and I met when he came from Choeung Prey District in Kampong Cham Province to visit my neighbors. He first saw me when I came out of the house to greet my father, who was coming back from the fields. He asked the neighbors about me and they later helped persuade my father to accept his marriage proposal. He gave my family the required 8,000 riels as a dowry.

Today, I am a Buddhist nun; I do good deeds and dedicate my prayers to my husband and three children who died during the Khmer Rouge regime.



LIFE BEFORE GENOCIDE



The Holocaust Eva Heyman

"February 13, 1944.

I've turned thirteen, I was born on Friday the thirteenth. [...] From Grandma Racz, I got a light tan spring coat and a navy blue knit dress. From my father, a pair of high-heeled shoes. Until now I have always worn only flat-heeled shoes [...] From Grandma Lujza, three pairs of pajamas, a dozen colored handkerchiefs and candy [...] From Grandpa, phonograph records of the kind I like. My grandfather bought them so that I should learn French lyrics, which will make Ági [Éva's mother] happy, because she isn't happy about my school record cards except when I get a good mark in French, because a news photographer has to be good in languages. I know Hungarian and German well, I've forgotten Rumanian, and I'm beginning to be good in French. I do a lot of athletics, swimming, skating, bicycle riding, and exercise. [...] I've written enough today. You're probably tired, dear diary."



Eva Heyman was born on February 13, 1931, in Oradea, Romania, which was known as Nagyvárad when it became part of Hungary in 1940. After her parents divorced in 1933, she lived with her grandparents who owned a pharmacy in the town. She was given a diary for her 13th birthday in 1944, shortly before the Germans invaded Hungary on March 19, 1944. She was deported to Auschwitz in June 1944 and was murdered four months later, on October 17, 1944. She was 13 years old.

CITATION: Heyman, E. (1974). The Diary of Eva Heymann. The Diary of Éva Heyman - Éva Heyman Teaching the Story of the Holocaust in Hungary Through One Diary. Retrieved from https://www.yadvashem.org/education/educational-materials/books/dear-diary.html#footnote7_m5csbr3