



Marists seeing the world through the eyes of a child

Listening to the voice of Marists...

... through the eyes of a child in Cambodia

I am 12 and live in the Svay Rieng Province with my family. I lost my right arm 2 years ago when I was working in a brick-making factory. A lot of people think I did something wrong in a former life and are sometimes critical of me. Some people even think my disability means that I am intellectually handicapped. I want to go to school to better myself but most of the villagers discourage me because of my handicap; they look down on me and so do some of my old friends. I do feel shame having this disability as there are no schools willing to accept me.



What can be done for me?

- ❖ You have a right to be treated without discrimination of any kind irrespective of your disability. You have a right to a good education and your government must make education accessible and available to you. You have a right to be protected from economic exploitation and from working instead of getting an education.
- ❖ The Khmer government is a signatory to the Convention for the Rights of the Child (CRC) where your international rights are explained
- ❖ In 2009 the Human Rights Council (United Nations) reviewed Cambodia's performance in implementing the CRC and its other UN treaties in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)
- ❖ Marist Solidarity was a participating non-government organisation in Cambodia's UPR and spoke out for the rights of Cambodian children