



National May 6, 2020

About 400 footwear workers protest over unpaid wages

Sen David / Khmer Times /

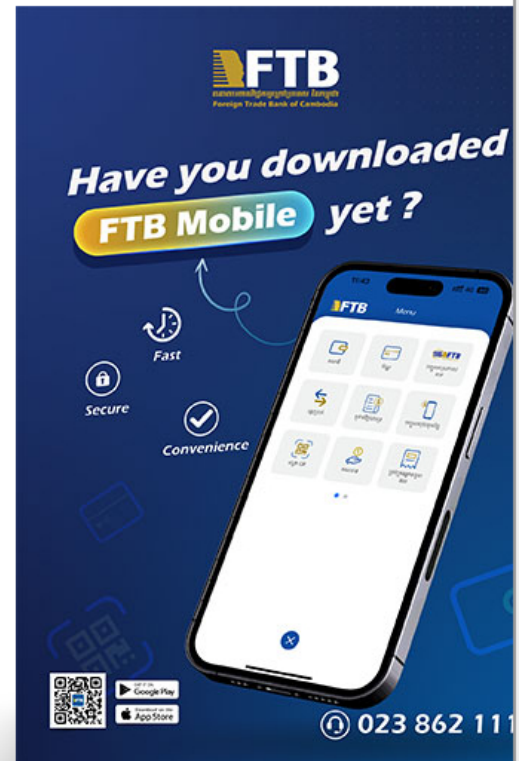
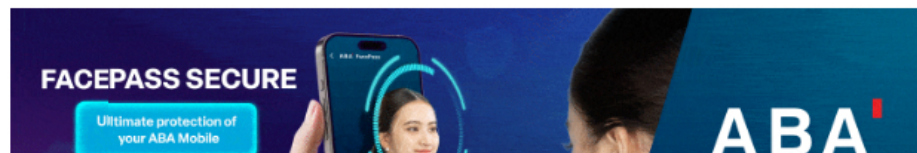


Some of the protesters wait outside the Kun Da factory in Phnom Penh. KT/Siv Channa

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About 400 footwear workers of Kun Da Footwear Co. Ltd staged a protest in the capital's Dangkor district yesterday to demand missing wages and seniority pay.



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Chhin Vanna, one of the protestors, said the factory suspended its operations at the end of last month and the employer failed to show up to pay them.

“Our employer has fled. No one has come to find a solution related to our seniority pay,” she said.

Ms Vanna said for the last wages, the company only paid some workers and not all of them.

The workers are demanding their seniority pay and that they worked with the company for nearly five years.

Another worker Kun Nenh said the company has been selling some of its machinery but until now they have not paid them.

“The company keeps promising day after day that it will pay our last wages and some benefits but until now we have not gotten anything,” she said.

Ms Nenh said workers saw the company transporting some machinery out of the factory to sell which is why they are demanding that it speeds up paying them.

“We workers are finding it difficult to find money to pay for our housing and other expenses,” she added.

On April 29, the company informed the workers it was no longer able to operate and had decided to sell off its machinery to pay seniority payments to all of them.

On Monday the Garment Manufacturing Association of Cambodia released a statement saying so far 80 factories have suspended their operations, with 60 more in the pipeline, which is wreaking havoc on more than 150,000 workers.

The statement said this will impact not only the workers but also the two million Cambodian family members who depend on them.

On April 2, GMAC appealed to garment, footwear and travel goods buyers to continue sourcing from Cambodia.

In Monday’s statement, the association said it has received commitments from some buyers, for which GMAC and Cambodian people are grateful.

However, GMAC noted the COVID-19 situation has since worsened and affected global economy, especially in Cambodia.

“We understand the difficulties business are facing but we do stress the

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Opinion



UNESCO symposium highlights mutual learning, intercultural...

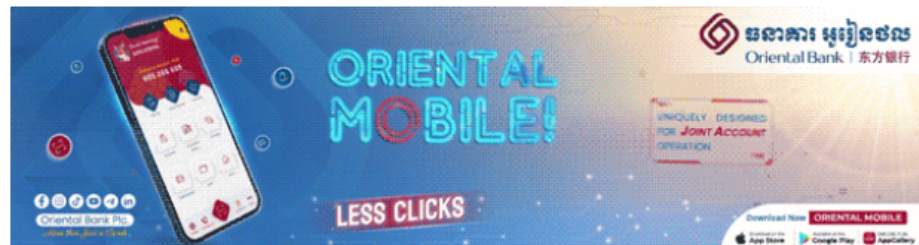
An international symposium on intercultural exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations was held Monday (April 15) at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) headquarters in Paris, the French capital.



For Melania Trump, a cautious return to the spotlight?

Extremely discreet at the White House and even more reserved since leaving Washington, Melania Trump is keeping observers guessing whether she will appear, however usually, on the campaign

“we understand the difficulty buyers are facing but we do strongly appeal to all of you to honour your payment for goods received or in transit to you,” it said. “Cambodian manufacturers are already suffering from many cancellations and with no new orders they cannot withstand any payment default.”



Tags: Kun Da Footwear, missing wages, workers

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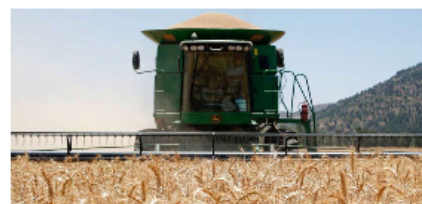
Two young children die after house goes up in flames

appeal, however wary, on the campaign trail alongside her husband.



War takes toll on Gaza's ancient heritage

Gaza's ancient Greek site of Anthedon has been bombed, its “Napoleon’s Palace” destroyed, and the only private museum burned down: the war has taken a terrible toll on the rich heritage of the Palestinian territory.



Aquaculture, funding can play a vital role in ensuring food security

Food security is emerging as a troublesome issue worldwide. We are not spared. It is proving to be even more critical than energy security.

Features



Unravelling issues in Trump's Supreme Court immunity case

The Supreme Court has scheduled a special session to hear arguments over whether former President Donald Trump can be prosecuted over his efforts to undo his 2020 election loss to President Joe Biden.





Memories from the life of a KR genocide survivor

As a genocide survivor of the Khmer Rouge and the executive director of an organisation dedicated to helping survivors, I have always believed that I have a firm grasp of the full spectrum of harm inflicted upon Cambodian society by the regime, particularly since I have dedicated my life to helping people in this population.



Possible TikTok ban in US won't see app disappear anytime soon

The House passed legislation Saturday that would ban TikTok in the United States if the popular social media platform's China-based owner doesn't sell its stake within a year, but don't expect the app to go away anytime soon.

Good Times2



An on-again, off-again year for Siem Reap's arts

Siem Reap's 2020 arts and lifestyle coverage kicked off the year on an optimistic note that, with the wisdom of hindsight, turned out to be somewhat ironic.





Remaining sane while you care for your baby

Because our baby is now at the centre of our life, it has been mentally challenging since even getting a good night's sleep or a decent meal has suddenly become a real task.



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