

Film Project: *I Little Slave*

Promo Sequence: “Through My Son’s Eyes”

The images are placed in a sequence to visually bring the viewer through Bounsang’s sentencing, his incarceration and his experience at the camps. The “Raising Buffalo” drawing is placed last as it takes the viewer inside Bounsang’s world inside the camp to reveal some poignant lessons and achievements in spite of the Pathet Lao’s intentions.



The Pathet Lao Tribunal

Bounsang and other prisoners face the Pathet Lao in tribunals which condemned them indefinitely. There is no redress or legal protections. The prisoners are only allowed to confess and serve the State.



Kneeling Before the Guards

A Laotian cultural gesture of respect warps into an ugly version of master and slave inside the Re-education Camps of Laos. Bounsang and the other prisoners were forced to answer, "I little slave," to show reverence to those in power.



Tied to a Cell

Bounsang spent the first year of his imprisonment tied to his cell.



A Prison Cell

The prison cells were makeshift buildings of wood, thatch and tin.



Shackled to the Floor

Shackles were used to torture and humiliate prisoners.



An Empty Cell

Cells were only emptied when the prisoners were forced to perform labor outside.



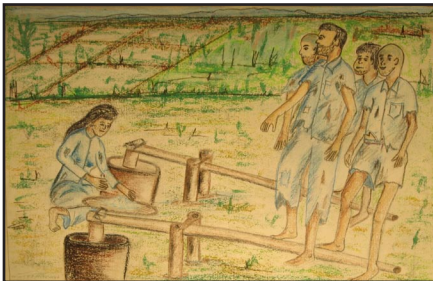
Harassment from the Guards

The life of a prisoner was of little to no value for the guards. Their daily taunts added another layer of misery for the prisoners.



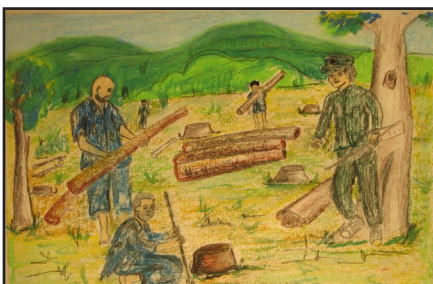
Re-education in the Fields

The Pathet Lao combined cruelty and forced labor to rehabilitate those who questioned its authority.



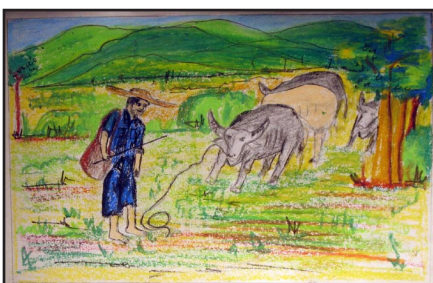
Grinding Flour

Prisoners were forced to perform all types of work in the camps. Though they were required to grow and prepare food, they received little to none. Many starved to death inside the camps.



Logging

The Pathet Lao made money off the hard labor of the prisoners.



Raising Buffalo

Bounsang's one job that opened him to new experiences and insights.