

Queen Mother of
Cambodia Dies in
Peking

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The mother of Cambodian leader Norodom Sihanouk, Queen Mother Sisowath Kossamak, died here yesterday. She was 71.

Sihanouk, chairman of the United National Front of Cambodia (FUNK), recently said here that he would return to Phnom Penh from Peking, where he has lived in exile, only after the death of his mother.

The queen mother arrived here in November, 1973, from Phnom Penh, already seriously ill.

Cambodian officials had authorized her departure only after the intervention of former President Nixon, who was asked to enter the case by Chinese Premier Chou En-lai.

She had remained bedridden since then, under the care of Chinese physicians.

On April 19, observers here were startled when Sihanouk did not appear at a gathering organized to cele-

brate the Red Khmer victory in the Cambodian capital.

They learned later that his mother's condition had suddenly worsened, and that he had been at her bedside.

Daughter of Cambodian King Sisowath Monivong, who reigned from 1927 to 1941, and Queen Norodom Kanviman, Queen Mother Sisowath Kossamak was born in Phnom Penh of April 9, 1904.

In 1920 she married Prince Norodom Suramarit, a grandson of former Cambo-

dian King Norodom, who became king in 1941. Their only child, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, was born in 1922.

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