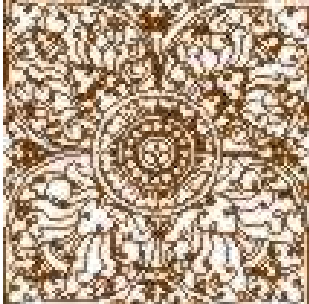




# NATIONAL CENTER FOR KHMER CERAMICS REVIVAL NEWSLETTER

Number 3

August 2007



## NCKCR Newsletters.

We are glad to present you our August newsletter.

We publish 2 newsletters per month:

1. A newsletter to our supporters about the works, research and life in NCKCR.
2. A newsletter aimed at marketing the NCKCR to the travel industry, travel agents, guides and hotels.

Both of these news letters are available in either French or English language versions.

Please subscribe by email to [info@khmerceramics.com](mailto:info@khmerceramics.com) for either or both of these newsletters according to your interests.

### Summary

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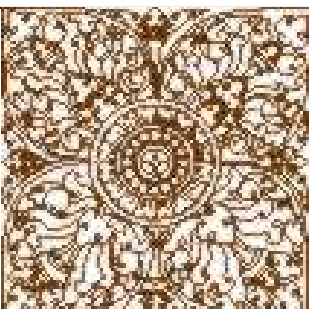
### Enjoy...

#### N.C.K.C.R. a thriving organization ...

The NCKCR is definitely thriving well, due to our work; but this works come mainly from your help on the sidelines and in the shadows. NCKCR now sends its newsletters to more than 500 supporters around the world - Scholars, Academics, Potters, Humanists, Collectors, Tours Developers, Leaders and Operators... Many of them are very helpful, assisting us with translations, corrections, communication, bibliography, advice, important contacts with others and in so many other areas. Please feel free to contact us at any time...as your views, thoughts, knowledge and advice are always welcome. A special “Thank you” to all of our supporters and helpers, where ever you are, from all of the NCKCR team here in Siem Reap.

#### Threefold salary increase!

Our two trainees have been working and studying at the NCKCR since December 2006. After just 9 months of studies, they are able to throw a pot on the potter’s wheel, carve items, perform kiln and pit firings. These are great results for them. They came from the low-paid, unskilled workforce used in the construction industry; the NCKCR now needs more potters to spread the skills, so we are recruiting more. Their training will continue to enable them able to be teachers and to pass on their newly developed skills and knowledge to others. They will go on to receive training about glaze and kiln construction. Two new trainees, who have been very carefully selected to ensure that they will complete their training, will soon be joining us. Their training program is not ambitious but developed and based the funding available to NCKCR.



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### Ancient Khmer kiln in conception.

The construction of the ancient Khmer kiln has not yet begun as more research is being undertaken with Mr Chhay Rachna (Apsara authority) and Mr Jeff Jewell (kiln designer) who have joined the NCKCR Khmer Kiln development team bringing with them new ideas, information and advice. As Jeff has pointed out, the Along Thom kiln has a close similarity with the Japanese Tokoname kiln dating from about the same period. Mr. Rachna offered us the opportunity to handle evidence from the Along Thom kiln. This is another example of the support and assistance coming to the NCKCR from its many helpers. The drawings for our reconstruction of an old Khmer kiln will be published in our next newsletter.

Picture provided by Mr. Jeff Jewell, kiln excavation in Tokoname, Japan.



### Stay Another Day



The NCKCR is featured on [www.stayanotherday.org](http://www.stayanotherday.org) promotion by “Stay Another Day”. Stay Another Day was set up to help you really get to know the countries you are visiting in more depth. Their goal is to promote "destination friendly" tourism, by connecting travellers with organizations that are helping to conserve local culture and heritage, support community projects benefiting local people or initiatives to lessen the negative environmental impacts of tourism. Currently covering the Mekong region of Cambodia, Lao PDR and soon Vietnam, they bring together interesting things to do, see or buy, by highlighting

organizations that not only offer noteworthy experiences and souvenirs but are also giving back to the local communities. Stay a bit longer and experience more...

### Conferences program during IKCF

#### **Ancient Khmer Ceramics: New Archaeological Findings, Production and the Revival of Techniques**

This conference aims to bring together Cambodian and international scholars specialized in ancient Khmer ceramics, with contemporary potters and craftsmen working in the revival of ancient production techniques. The objective is to raise awareness of the archaeological importance of ancient Cambodian ceramics and the new opportunities for sustainable economic development in the region through ceramic technology. Scholars based in Southeast Asia are especially encouraged to participate.

Please submit titles and short abstracts (300 words maximum) and contact details to [info@khmerceraamics.com](mailto:info@khmerceraamics.com) by October 15, 2007.

#### **Conference Advisory Committee:**

Dr. Dougald O'Reilly, Chair

Prof. John Miksic, Mr. Chhay Rachna, Dr. Philippe Peycam, Mr. Serge Rega


#### **Conference Ancient Khmer Ceramics: New Archaeological Findings, Production and the Revival of Techniques.**

#### **Wat Damnak, Siem Reap - Cambodia**

Thursday December 13 (afternoon) Friday, December 14 and Saturday December 15 (morning), 2007

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### **Main Themes**

Economics of ceramics in Ancient Cambodia.

Craft and production in ancient Cambodia.

Appraising and typology of ancient Khmer ceramics.

Chronology of Khmer ceramics.

Revitalization of ceramic production in Cambodia.

Contemporary ceramic production and slowing the illicit trade of antiquities.

### **Agenda**

**Thursday, December 13, 2007**

**13:30 Optional visit to two ancient Khmer sites**

**19:00-20:30 Cocktail**

**Friday, December 14, 2007**

**8:30 Opening of the Conferences**

Philippe Peycam, CKS Director, & Mr. Serge Rega, NCKCR

**8:40 Panel 1** Economics of ceramics in Ancient Cambodia.

**9:30 Panel 2** Craft and production in ancient Cambodia.

**10:30 Panel 3** Appraising and typology of ancient Khmer ceramics.

**11:30 Discussion**

**12:00 Lunch**

**14:00 Panel 4** Chronology of Khmer ceramics.

**15:00 Panel 5** Revitalization of ceramic production in Cambodia.

**16:00 Panel 6** Contemporary ceramic production and slowing the illicit trade of antiquities.

16:50 –17:00 Closing by Dr. Philippe Peycam, CKS

**Saturday, December 15, 2007**

8:30 – 10:30 Visit to the workshop in the National Center for Khmer Ceramics Revival.

Reviving Lost Skills – Khmer Ceramics.

The National Centre for Khmer Ceramic Revival – NCKCR,



cordially invites you to visit, free of charge, our ceramic revival training centre, workshops and kilns, as we assist present and future generations of young Cambodians to revive the rich ceramic heritage of the Khmer Empire – 802 to 1432.



The Khmer ceramic heritage is unique and very different from the ceramic traditions of China, Vietnam, Champa and later Siam. You will be fascinated by the many activities taking place, and we encourage you to try your hand at the potter's wheel!



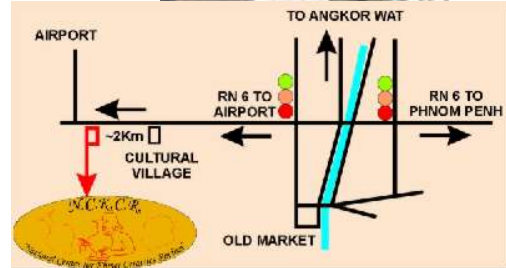
The NCKCR and its young Khmer students are passionate about bringing about a full revival of the ancient skills and recreating traditional, high quality, Khmer ceramics for the benefit of future generations. We wish to share this passion with you – its infectious!



Our trainees will give you a fully guided tour with explanations and demonstrations of all stages and processes involved in turning raw clay in to a full finished, fired and glazed Khmer ceramic of beauty and utility. After which we invite you to browse in our show room and relax in the beautiful tropical garden setting. Our several kilns are all faithful reconstructions of ancient traditional Khmer Kiln types based on proven archaeological discoveries, and are of great interest and fascination to most people; especially so if your visit coincides with the regular firing of one of the kilns.



These kilns operate at very high temperatures, between 1,000 °C to 1,400 °C (1,800 F to 2,550 F). Please join in and help us “fire” a kiln – an impressive and awe inspiring activity and highly photogenic! Visiting the NCKCR is a “must” whilst in the Angkor region as it brings you closer to the true Khmer spirit and gives you a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Khmer ceramic arts and heritage, so sadly lost, but now making a slow renaissance through our work and research.



Opening hours are: 8 am to 6 pm daily.

