The Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts is delighted to announce a historic event whereby the family of the collector, the late Douglas Latchford, is giving his entire extraordinary collection of Khmer antiquities to the Kingdom of Cambodia after three years of negotiation. A total of over 100 Khmer cultural objects in stone, as well as numerous other Khmer Cultural Properties, will be given to Cambodia. The parties have signed an agreement for the return of Khmer Cultural Properties on 18 September 2020.

These master works date back as far as the 6th century to the post-Angkor period and include Khmer treasures from the royal cities of Koh Ker and Angkor. These antiquities constitute one of the greatest collections of Khmer cultural heritage outside of Cambodia and will be exhibited in Phnom Penh at the National Museum. The first five items, including a stone sculpture of Shiva and Skanda and a bronze ship’s figurehead, are due to arrive soon. There will be further announcements of the arrival of other major pieces in different stages.

H.E. Mrs. Phoeurng Sackona, Minister of Culture and Fine Arts, stated “The current peace and political stability through the win-win policy of the Royal Government of Cambodia has created an opportunity for the return of the souls of Khmer ancestors, which departed from their motherland. This complex task could be accomplished under the highest guidance and full support from Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia as well as coordination from relevant ministries and many other dignitaries in both public and private institutions. The return to Cambodia of these pieces underlines Cambodia’s commitment to the repatriation of its cultural properties to Cambodia. Their return is an incredible event for the Cambodian people and the world.” The Ministry will continue to work to restore and preserve Cambodian cultural heritage and looks forward to further collaboration with the family and other collectors across the globe.

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, the Minister thanked Nawapan Kriangsak, daughter of the late collector, for her initiative and generosity of spirit in contributing to the celebration of the rich cultural history of Cambodia. The Minister also thanked the staff of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, Mr. Bradley James Gordon, Mr. Steven Andrew Heimberg and Mr. Charles Webb who for more than three years worked with the Ministry team on the return of these priceless pieces of Khmer heritage.

Nawapan Kriangsak said “When I started this conversation three years ago, I could not anticipate how complex it would become. I am delighted that this complete collection, gathered over many...
decades, will be returned to their ancestral home in the Kingdom of Cambodia. I am grateful to the Minister and her colleagues for their vision and cooperation, and to Messrs. Gordon, Heimberg and Webb for their dedication to ensuring this positive outcome.”

H.H. Princess Norodom Chansita, the daughter of the internationally renowned Khmer Royal Ballet dancer, the late HRH Norodom Buppha Devi, stated “I am pleased to hear about this extraordinary collection returning to Cambodia as all of these treasures were created for and by many of our ancient Khmer kings over a six-hundred-year period of the Angkor civilization. I am very pleased, on behalf of the royal family, to see these sacred objects come back to Cambodia.”

H.E. Sok Puthyvuth stated “This extraordinary return of Khmer antiquities follows in the footsteps of my father’s work, the late Deputy Prime Minister Sok An, to preserve Cambodian culture and celebrate our history. I look forward to finding new ways to share with the world the incredible cultural achievements and history of Cambodia. I also look forward to contributing to efforts to bring back more Khmer Cultural Properties to Cambodia.”

The Minister also acknowledged the invaluable contribution of the United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York, Homeland Security Investigations of the United States of America and the US Embassy in Phnom Penh. She said that joint efforts with the United States of America symbolizes the friendship between Cambodia and the United States, and fittingly marks the 70th anniversary of relations between the countries. The Minister believes “these events herald strong prospects of future cooperation to ensure that Khmer antiquities are enjoyed and cherished by Cambodians and the world.”

For further information, please contact:
The legal team of Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts
Email: ministryofculturelegaladvisors@edenbridge.asia
# LIST OF STATUES TO BE RETURNED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Photos</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Shiva and Skanda</strong>&lt;br&gt;Prasat Krachap, Koh Ker&lt;br&gt;Angkor period&lt;br&gt;Koh Ker style&lt;br&gt;1st half of 10th C.&lt;br&gt;Sandstone&lt;br&gt;H. 108 x 63 x 65 cm.</td>
<td><img src="image1.jpg" alt="Shiva and Skanda" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Boat Prow</strong> (Ornament in form of Garuda)&lt;br&gt;Angkor period&lt;br&gt;Bayon style, Late 12th C.&lt;br&gt;Bronze&lt;br&gt;H. 81 x 69 x 39 cm.</td>
<td><img src="image2.jpg" alt="Boat Prow" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3 | Ardhanarisvara  
(Half Male & Half Female Deity)  
Angkor period  
Koh Ker style? 10th C.  
Sandstone  
H. 94 x 41 x 34 cm. |
|---|---|
| 4 | Prajnaparamita  
Angkor period  
Bayon style, Late 12th C.  
Sandstone  
H. 133 x 34 x 21 cm. |
Male Deity
Angkor period
Baphuon style
Late 11th C.
Bronze
H. 60 x 38 x 29 cm.
In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and subject to the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 22 U.S.C. § 618, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this statement filed pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 et seq., that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof, and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date Printed Name Signature
10 June 2021 Bradley James Gordon

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