

OUTLINE OF CAMBODIAN HISTORY

Prehistoric times: Tibeto-Burmans, a Mongoloid tribe, migrate from India to Southeast Asia.

3000 About this time the ancestors of Negritos, Australoids and Melanesians migrate to Southern India, the Andamans, Ceylon, the Celebes, Papua and Australia.

2000 About this time begins large movement of peoples from Yunnan and Tibet = Proto-Malayans, to Indochina and Indonesia. They are Neolithic peoples.

1500-500 Aryan invasion of India - The Mon and Khmer tribes flee to Indo-China; the Mons first to Lower Burma, then along the Menam valley into the Siamese interior. The Khmers move to Cambodia; the two tribes meet. Present in the area are the Chams (in the area of Annam) and the Malays (in their peninsula), both of Polynesian (or Austronesian) stock.

5th Century Mongolian (?) ancestors of the Khmers enter the area of the Great Lake and Lower Mekong via the Mon valley. The Mons settle around Lower Menam; they trace their descent through women, ancestor worship is an important part of their religion and have sacred places. Besides the Khmers and Mons, there are indigenous "wild" tribes, chiefly the Moi. Most tribes are matriarchial. There is an ordered political life; exceptional navigational ability; an advanced system of agriculture and irrigation; sound metallurgical techniques; and established artistic and dramatic traditions. Huts are built on stilts to raise them above the swamps. It is possible that the Khmer ancestry lies near Mesopotamia (i.e.; of the Scythians) as their cultural orientation is more Persian, Assyrian and Mesopotamian than Indian or Chinese.

350 About this time (±?) the Thais, a Mongolian tribe, migrate South and Southwest, settling in the Tonkin and Yunnan areas.

150 (± 50) About this time regular communication between India and Yunnan begins growing. It passes through the upper valley of the Irawaddy.

BCE TO CE

1 About this time begins Thai migration West and Southwest with the setting up of numerous principalities.

1st century Indian adventurers from Kalinga and the Coromandel coast begin entering Indo-China. Also about this time, Hindu colonists reach Indo-China; by land to Upper Burma; by sea to the rest: They greatly influence the Mons, Khmers, Malays and Chams. Strong Hinduized kingdoms are established along the seacoast: (Beginning from the West) The Mon kingdoms of Dhanyavati, Basim, Ramavati, Hamsavati and Suvarnabhumi (or Sudhamnavati); (on the West and South coasts of Lower Burma) Arakan, Bassein, Rangoon, Pegu and Thaton; farther South (beyond Dvaravati in Siam) is the Khmer kingdom of Kambuja and the Cham kingdom of Champa. The Tibeto-Burmans of the interior adopt Hindu civilization. The most powerful of the Hindu kingdoms are at the deltas of the Irawaddy, Salween, Menam and Mekong rivers.

100 About this time Liu-ye becomes Queen of Funan.

130 The Brahmin adventurer of the Lunar race Kaundinya (Chinese; Huen-tien) lands Funan; defeats Queen Liu-ye; he renames her Soma (marries her) and both assume rule of Funan as the Kaundinya - or Huen - dynasty. He teaches the people to wear clothes. The people are cunning and do not like to fight. There are no prisons or courts, but there is trial by ordeal. Kaundinya begins replacing the queen's aboriginal religion with Hinduism. Place-names begin to be Indianized. Funan is broken into seven principalities.

150 Huen-tien is succeeded by his son (Huen P'an-huang?). He reunites Funan.

197 About this time death of Huen P'an-huang. His second son and successor is P'an-p'an who leaves the government to general Fan-man (or Fan-che-man).

205 About this time Death of P'an-p'an. Fan-che-man rules. He constructs a powerful navy and conquers neighboring states that become Funan's vassals (i.e.; nearly all Siam, parts of Laos and the Malay peninsula acknowledge Funan's authority). Fan-che-man now assumes the title "Great King of Funan".

3rd Century There are seven-sailed vessels engaged in Indian Ocean commerce with Funan; they are Indian, Chinese and Persian.

227 About this time, Fan-che-man who is about to attack the Kin-lin (=Suvarnabhumi or Suvar nadvipa), falls ill. He sends eldest son Fan-kin-cheng to lead the army. Death of Fan-che-man. Gen Fan Chan, son of Fan-che-man's sister, kills Fan-kin-cheng and declares himself king.

236 An embassy is sent to China with presents of a few musicians and products of Funan. Fan Chan's relative Su-Wu goes to India, for one Kia-sing-li of T'an-Yang, Western India, has come to Funan and told of India's laws, customs, manners and immense wealth. He embarks at Teu-ki-li (Takkola?).

237 Su-Wu reaches India, meets the king who arranges a tour of the country. Meanwhile, Fan Chang, now about 20 years old and younger son of Fan-che-man, assassinates Fan Chan, avenging his elder brother's murder.

240 Gen Fan Siun kills Fan Chang and becomes ruler of Fu-nan. He ends the custom of men going naked.

247 Return of Su-Wu from India with a gift of four horses of the Yu-che country. With him are Indian envoys Chen-song and one other. In Funan they meet Chinese embassies K'ang T'ai and Chu Ying.

268, 285 and 286 Fan Siun sends embassies to China.

287 Fan Siun sends an embassy to China.

About this time T'ao Huang, governor of Tonkin, memorializes the emperor of China against further reduction of military presence in the Tonkin garrison because it would increase the danger from Fan Hiong, ruler of Champa (and constant raider of Chinese territory) who enjoys the reciprocal support of Funan.

300-350 Political troubles wrack Funan.

357 Chu Chan-t'an. His title Chandan is a royal title among the Indo-Scythians or Kushans. Chu is possibly a leader of a branch of the Kushans expelled from the Ganges valley by Chandragupta. As king of Funan, Chan-tan (or Chjandana or Chandra) sends an embassy to China. He sends along a gift of some elephants which the emperor states are too expensive to maintain and sends them back.

Fifth century From the chief port of Vyadhapura, Kampot, incursions into Malaya are made and ships are sent to Sumatra and Java.

420 Beginning of Song period. The dynastic name is unknown.

431/2 The king of Champa requests aid from king Ch'e-li-t'o-pa-mo of Funan so he can overthrow Tonkin but the request is refused.

434, 435 and 438 King Ch'e-li-t'o-pa-mo sends embassies with presents to China.

450 By this time the worship of Harihara, or Siva and Vishnu united in a single body, first appear on the rocks of Badami and Mahavellipur in the Pallava country, India. This will soon have an effect in Cambodia.

478 Cho-ye-pa-mo (Jayavarman) - family name Kaudinya - rules Funan. He sends merchants to Canton for trade. On their return (with Indian monk Na-kia-sien (Nagasena)) a storm forces their landing in Champa where the people plunder them. Nagasena makes it to Funan.

484 Jayavarman sends Nagasena to the Chin court, describing their losses to the Champas - blamed on the Funan rebel Kieu-ch'eu who has set himself up as ruler of Champa - and requests aid in subjugating Kieu-ch'eu. No aid is given.

500 About this time Srestavarman unites the petty states Northeast of Cambodia into Kambuja (Chen-la); at first recognizes Funan's suzerainty then later frees the area from its rule. He rules at Sresthapura.

503 Jayavarman sends an embassy to China; the emperor bestows the title "The General of the Pacified South, The King of Funan" upon him. The Funan Buddhist monk Mandra (or Mandrasena) goes to the Imperial court.

506 Funan Buddhist monk Sanghapala (or Sanghavarman; 460-524) is sent to China. Emperor Wu has him translate - besides other canonical texts - the Funan-Kuan (Bureau of Funan). He collaborates with Mandra in the translation of various sacred scriptures [He returns to Funan 522].

514 Death of Jayavarman. Elder son, Rudravarman, by a concubine, kills a younger son (Gunavarman?) by Jayavarman's legitimate wife (queen Kulaprabhavati - who founded a hermitage (arama) with tank and dwelling house (alaya) at Neak Ta Kambang Dek (Treang prov)) and becomes king of Funan. He is served by the physicians (and brothers) Brahmadata and Brahmasimha.

515 About this time Sresthavarman, son of Srestavarman, rules at Sresthapura (near Vat Phu); he is a powerful king.

517 Rudravarman sends an embassy to China - an Indian named Tang-pao-lao (Dharmapala?) along with presents; an image of Buddha and pearls or precious stones of India.

519, 520, 530 and 535 Rudravarman sends embassies to China

539 Rudravarman sends an embassy to China. His presents are a live rhinoceros and offers a hair of Buddha 12 feet long; the emperor sends a monk to fetch the precious relic.

545 By this time Funan extends Northwards toward Laos, East toward Annam and South about half way down the Malay peninsula.

550 Bhavavarman (son of Viravarman, son of Sarvabhauma), husband of Kambuja-rajalaksmi, either sister or daughter of Sresthavarman, "protege of Siva"; the elder of two brothers who lead a revolt against Funan. He acquires the throne of Kambuja and begins greatly increasing its power and extent. He disputes Rudravarman's succession with his successor and triumphs, founding a new Kambu dynasty. Moves the capital to Bhavapura. He is attended by physicians Dharmadeva and Simhadeva (nephews (i.e.; sister's sons) of Brahmadata and Brahmasimha). He is a great conqueror, extending the kingdom to Battambang in the West; i.e.; he conquers all Funan's outlying districts.

NOTE: The History of the Sui describes Funan's end thus: 'The kingdom of Chenla is on the Southwest of Lin-yi [Champa]. It was originally a vassal kingdom of Funan. The family name of the king was Ch'a-li [Kshatriya], and his personal name Che-to-sseu-na [Chitrasena]. His predecessors had gradually increased the power of the country. Che-to-sseu-na attacked Funan and conquered it.'

No explanation for the name 'Chenla' has yet been found; it cannot be related to any Sanskrit or Khmer word.

Funan proper stretched over Southern Cambodia and Cochin China of modern times. Chenla was to the North of it; it occupied the lower and middle Mekong from Stung Treng Northwards, and its original center was in the region of Bassak just below the mouth of the Mun river. It thus covered what is now Northern Cambodia and the Southern part of

the kingdom of the Laos. According to the History of the Sui, before the subjugation of Funan the Chenla capital was situated near a mountain called 'Ling-kia-po-p'o' - i.e.; Lingaparvata - on which was a temple consecrated to the god "P'o-to-li" - i.e.; Bhadresvara, to whom the king annually offered a human sacrifice during the night.

A 10th century Khmer legend ascribes the origin of the royal family to the marriage of a hermit, Kambu Svayambhuva, with the celebrated nymph Mera given him by the god Siva. This story, which is obviously quite different from that of Kaundinya and the naga princess, seems to have been invented to explain the name 'Kambuja', which the Khmers adopted as a result of Indianization.

If Rudravarman is indeed the grandson of Sarvabhauma, he himself belonged to the Lunar dynasty founded by Kaundinya and Soma. His marriage was of great significance in the development of Khmer royal traditions, since it was used to explain how the later Cambodian monarchs claimed to trace their descent from both the Lunar and the Solar lines with their entirely unrelated dynastic legends.

What exactly took place when Rudravarman of Funan disappeared is not known. There may have been an attempt to restore the legitimate line: This provoked the brothers Bhavavarman and Chitrasena to place themselves at the head of a movement to vindicate their own rights as grandsons of the last reigning king.

REIGN: The capital may have been near Vat Phu or possibly at Stung Treng. In any case it was to Chenla that the sovereignty over Funan was transferred. Bhavavarman's long reign seems to have been a period of warfare, during which his brother Chitrasena, who commanded his armies, was kept constantly busy. The empire of Funan had included peoples and vassal states stretching from Champa in the East to the Bay of Bengal in the West, and included most of the Malay Peninsula. Of these only Funan proper seems to have acknowledged the suzerainty of Chenla. The Malay states known to the Chinese as Lang-ya-hsiu, P'an-P'an and Ch'ih-t'u seem to have opened diplomatic relations with China, as also did the Mon state of Dvaravati on the Menam.

598 Commemoration of the founding of a linga, Bhavavarman's sole inscription during his reign.

600 Mahendravarman (brother)(possibly succeeded after a very short rule of Bhavavarman's son)= Citrasena. His attendants are the same as those of his brother. He leads military expeditions against the successor of Rudravarman, taking almost all of Funan: Rudravarman's successor flees South, maintaining his dynasty in the extreme South of Cambodia (cap at Ba Phom?). Mahendravarman sends ambassador to Champa to renew the Champa-Kambu friendship; he takes an active part in Champa's politics.

The regnal name Mahendravarman means "Protege of the Great Indra". During his reign he conquered the lower Mun valley. He celebrates his conquests by establishing lingas dedicated to 'Girisa', the 'Lord of the Mountain'

609 An inscription at Ak Yom in the Mun valley about this time is in the Khmer language, indicating its slow emergence from the prevailing Sanskrit.

611 Isanavarman I, son. His minister is Simhavira, son of Dharmadeva. He mutilates his brothers and other potent rivals and places them in solitary to end their rivalry for the throne, thus securing his position. He begins campaigning against Funan.

616-7 Isanavarman I sends an embassy to China. The king of Funan has moved to Na-fu-na, farther South (=Navanagara?)

625 About this time Funan sends 2 embassies to China.

627 Isanavarman I terminates Funan's existence as a vassal state, annexing its territory. Kambuja now consists of all Cambodia and the valley of the Mun to North of the Dangrek mountains. He holds the three cities of Cakrankapura (=Chikreng or Chakreng), Amoghapura (= Battambang) and Bhimapura (= Phi-mai). He moves the capital to Isenapura (= Sambor Pre Kuk). His daughter Sri Sarvan is married to Jagaddharma of Champa [later their son Prakasadharm becomes ruler of Champa and restores order].

Funan is a center of Indian culture, spreading it throughout Southeast Asia. There is a limited caste system. Sanskrit language and literature are highly developed. Gupta art and architecture are prevalent, or exercise much influence.

Rest of reign: Extends power Westward. His capital of Isenapura is the city of Baladityapura (or Anindita-pura), founded by a prince of Funan, Baladitya. He conquers South to the city (modern) of Chantabun, and West to the borders of the Mon kingdom of Dvaravati. He is married to a Cham princess.

635 Bhavavarman II ascends. His relationship to Isanavarman is unknown. Only known inscription can be dated to 657.

650 Jayavarman I. His minister (and later appointed governor of Adhyapura) is Simhadatta, son of Simhavira. He is a great conquerer; by this time Kambuja's authority is over Cambodia, Cochin-China and a considerable part of modern Siam. The valley of the Mun river to North of the Dangrek mountains. The kingdom is divided into districts, each with a governor. Towns are surrounded by walls and ditches; towns have public schools (or libraries?), guesthouses (or hospitals?), large and small tanks, alms-houses and [Gridges?]. The king's council holds court three days a week. Jayavarman struggles to keep his empire together; Baldityapura holds a center of rival power in the West, while the Southern areas are unruly.

By this time the Khmers have progressively consolidated their power over the lower Mekong region and around the Tonle Sap. There are brick towers, single or in groups, statuary showing a likeness to Hindu prototypes but also

strongly-marked local traits, and rich decorative sculpture of the sort seen in the future Angkor period. Buddhism no longer holds a favored position as it had under Funan. Hinduism is prominent, and in particular the linga cult of Siva is the essence of the Court religion.

657 Earliest date of one of Jayavarman's inscriptions.

671-95 I-tsing visits what was Funan, which he now says is called Panan.

690 Queen Jayadevi ascends and a group of pretenders break the country into various principalities.

700-25 About this time king Sanjaya of Java (the Sailendra empire) undertakes conquests in Java and Bali, Malayan country and battles the Khmers (Kambuja). Kambuja is slowly coming under the dominance of Sailendra.

705-6 About this time Chenla, or Kambuja, is divided into two states; Kambuja of the land (Wen-tan or Po-leu) which includes a great part of Laos and touches the Tonkin province of China and the Thai kingdom of Yunnan (extending along the middle course of the Mekong, cap at Sambhupura); Kambuja of the water with capital at Po-lo-ti-pa (or Aninditapura?): Beginning Chen-la's dark age. The ruler is in nominal control of both as 'Adhiraja', or Supreme Ruler, but in fact power is in the hands of a group of petty kinglets. The two dynasties vie for supremacy: The Lunar dynasty of Aninditapura under Isvara (lords) of Baladitya's family, and the newly formed Solar dynasty of Sambhupura. Nripatindravarman restores the old kingdom of Baladityapura, acquiring a strip of delta territory extending to the sea at the old Funanese port of Oc Eo; capital is perhaps Angkor borei.

Meanwhile, by this time, Sambhupura has broken away: A princess of this state, perhaps a daughter of the founder, marries Pushkaraksha and whose husband becomes king of Sambhupura. Both kingdoms therefore claim to belong to the Kaundinya-Soma dynasty.

713 Last year of an inscription of Queen Jayadevi. It speaks of misfortunes.

716 Presumably the first year of an inscription by Pushkaraksha: "Pushkara had the god Pushkaresa erected by munis and the most eminent of Brahmans".

717 First embassy from Upper Chenla sent to China. The country is called Wen Tan by the Chinese; its territory seems to extend Northwards to Yunnan, with a population of Khas and possibly of T'ais on the Nanchao border.

722 Upper Chenla sends an army to help Mei Hiuan-Cheng (the frontier chief of Nghe-an in Annam) in his revolt against the Chinese governor of Chiao-chou (Tongking), but they are defeated.

725 About this time a son of Pushkaraksha marries the heiress to Sambhupura's throne, and as King Sambhuvarman, unites the whole of Lower Chenla.

750 Another embassy is sent to China, but from which Chenla is unknown.

753 The [CP?] of Wen Tan (son of the king of Kambuja of the Land) goes to the court of China, receiving the title of "Protector Firm and Persevering". China is at war with Nan-chao, whose king, Kolofeng, had allied with Tibet. The [CP?] accompanies the Chinese army which is utterly defeated by Nanchao.

767 Javanese (Sailendra?) forces raid Northern Annam.

770-81? Era of King Jayavarman I-bis. He is an unknown but of the kingdom of Sambhupura.

774 Java (Sailendra?), or Malay pirates, raid Champa and Kauthara (Southern Annam) burning a temple of Siva.

780 Accession of Mahipativarman; he expresses the desire to see the head of the Maharaja of Zabaj (i.e.; Srivijaya) on a plate.

787 Java (Sailendra?) raids the coast of Kambuja.

799 Kambuja of the Land sends an embassy to China; this is the last recorded envoy from Wen Tan.

800 By this time (± 50) the Thais have populated as far as the upper Irawaddy and Salween rivers in the West and the frontiers of Siam and Cambodia in the South.

About this time the ruler of Mithila (part of Yunnan) becomes enamored of Chinese civilization but he is rebuked by (?) the religious teachers of India.

802 The Maharaja of Zabaj makes a surprise attack and beheads king Mahipativarman. He orders the council of ministers to choose a new and suitable king. He returns to his home, taking prince Jayavarman with him. After awhile, Jayavarman returns to Kambuja, usurps the throne and sets up his capital at Indrapura (= Bantay Prei Nokor). He begins freeing Kambuja from the yoke of Sailendra and unite the chaotic political condition of the country into a whole. He is also faced with halting the incursions of Harivarman, king of Champa. Guru Sivakaivalya becomes royal priest - his family is designated the one from which all future priests are to come. Jayavarman II goes to Visaya Purvadisa where he gives the family of Guru Sivakaivalya lands, assigning to them the newly founded village of Kutu (Bantay Kdei?). Ruling at Hariharalaya (=Lolei), he founds Amarendrapura (Bantay Chmar?) and Mahendraparvata (Phnom Kulen). At the latter he invites the Brahmana Hiranyadama to perform tantric rites so that Kambujadesa will no longer be dependent upon Java. Hiranyadama establishes the cult of Devaraja. He revives the old tradition of Kambuja (not observed in Funan by Bhavavarman and his successors) wherein the rulers descended from Kaundinya and Soma. Jayavarman II is known as a great builder. He establishes a state religion which is a form of Tantric Saivism. By the end of his reign, he has freed Kambuja from Champa and Java, uniting and solidifying the country.

NOTE on the REIGN: Founder of the Angkor kingdom. It is said he is the great-grandson of Nripatindravarman of

Aninditapura but this is probably not true.

825 +20 Hindu monk named Chandragupta of Magadha carries out a brilliant career as thaumaturgist in Yunnan.

850 Death of Jayavarman II. His authority in Northern Cambodia did not extend beyond the region of the Great Lake. His reign made a great impression upon his kingdom, founding its greatness, and especially of the far-reaching claims of its ruling authority. He began the pyramid-sanctuary as the center of the royal city. At its summit - the center of the universe - the Deva-rajā entered into a relationship with the divine world. He himself was the god to whom in his own lifetime the temple was dedicated; at his death it became his mausoleum. Son and successor is Jayavarman III. He has a passion for hunting elephants.

851 Arab merchant Sulayman travels the area and picks up the story of the fall of Kambuja by the Sailendras.

877 Death of Jayavarman III. Kambuja is now a powerful empire, including all of Laos in the North and almost touches the frontier of Yunnan, Administration is capable, justice fair. Revenue is gained mainly from cockfights. The army is mainly infantry because of the difficult terrain. Drinking and adultery are forbidden and are capital crimes. The king maintains a large harem.

Indravarman I comes to the throne; Kambuja either controls or holds as vassals Cina, Champa and Yavadvipa. Yavadvipa is probably central Java, to which the king of Champa sends an embassy. Indravarman is a great builder and raises Kambujan art to higher development.

He is claimed to be a nephew of Jayavarman II's queen - important because she traces her descent back to the royal families of Chenla and Funan - through her he acquires rights over Sambhupura, which had not been exercised by his predecessors. He is the first to undertake irrigation works in the Angkor region. A huge artificial lake is built North of his capital for water storage. Construction of the first stone temple, the Bakong pyramid.

879 Indravarman I dedicates statues to his parents, his maternal grand-parents and of Jayavarman II and his queen to the Preah Ko, a collection of six towers on a single terrace. This is part of the beginning of classical Khmer art, exemplifying the Khmer form of ancestor worship; the identification of the human being with a god is indicated by the use of the first part of the name plus -esvara for a man or -devi for a woman. Indravarman I is called "Lion among Kings".

889 Death of Indravarman I; son and successor is Yasovarman I (educated by Vamasira, grand-nephew of Siva Kaivalya, appointed by Indravarman). He establishes a new cap at Kambupuri - later called Yasodharapura (= part of Angkor Thom). Kambuja now extends from China to the mountains between the Menam and Salween rivers, from Champa to the sea. He rules over a peaceful and prosperous kingdom, a great scholar he is patron of art and science. A follower of Saivism, he patronizes Buddhism.

The new capital is 10 miles square; the river Siem Reap is diverted and straightened to allow construction of the Eastern walls. A moat surrounds the city and in it are more than 800 water ponds. Sinking of great basin of the Eastern Baray. Construction of a temple atop almost every hill and many bridges and roads. Begins construction of temple of Prah Vihear. Yasovarman is a man of peace, tolerant of all religions, lover of beauty and creator of fine Khmer masterpieces.

10th Century: Mainly an era of building, a period of splendor: Khmer civilization takes shape. Available inscriptions are concerned solely with the affairs of the Deva-rajā and his court; they give hardly any clue to the material civilization, customs and beliefs of the people.

The king as head of the state occupies so exalted a position in theory, and is committed to a life involving so much religious ceremony, that he has little, if any, personal contact with his people. As the source of all authority he is the guardian of law and order, the protector of religion, and the defender of his land against external foes. Administrative functions are in the hands of a narrow oligarchy, with the chief offices held by members of the royal family and the great sacerdotal families. Their intermarriage has formed a class racially different from the rest of the population. Though representing Hindu tradition, they use Khmer names. Like the king, they too erected shrines with statues so that their "sacred egos" became fixed in the stone after they died. Saivism is predominant.

Kambuja's neighbors are Champa (= Annam) and Ramannadesa (= lower Burma). Khmer authority has been spread (by Indravarman?) over Mithilarastra (= Nan-chao); thus includes a considerable part of Yunnan. Authority also extends along the Menam valley; i.e.; all territory between the Gulf of Siam and Kampheng Phet in the North: Additionally political influence exercised North of here upon petty principalities there (in geographic order from South; Sukhodaya, Yanakarastra and Ksmerarastra which touches Alavirastra in the Mekong valley). A strong fort has been established at Unmargasilanagara, commanding the roads to the upper valleys of the Mekong and Menam. These petty princes often revolt. Between Kambuja territory and India lie Burmese principalities of Ramannadesa, the most powerful (= all lower Burma, Tavoy, Mergui and Tennasserim), North is Pagan (= Arimardapura; upper Burma along the valley of the Irawaddy and the Chindwin); Further North is the Kausambi federation of Thai states lying along the valleys of the upper Irawaddy and Salween rivers. Kambuja is thus the center for Hindu civilization in Southeast Asia. To the South, contests with the Sailendras occur in the Malay peninsula; Kambuja controls the area North of the isthms of Kra. To the East, chronic hostilities with Champa continue. This period notes an intensification of Hindu culture, even to the use of Sanskrit language and literature. Great growth - i.e.; common

adoption - of Hindu religion. Rule is patterned after that of India; the rulers have their teachers and marriage relationships are the same. Close contact is maintained with India (for example, Rajendravarman's daughter Rajalaksmi is married to an Indian Brahmana Divikara Bhatta). The kings, particularly Yasovarman, lay down extensive rules and regulations of social and religious conduct of the Asramas (religious communes of enclosures).

900 Death of Yasovarman I (could be 908 or 910??). Son and successor is Harshavarman I. He rules the area between Southern Laos and the Gulf of Siam, and not farther West than Chantabun. Champa and the Mon states are independent. He attempts to conquer Champa but is defeated by Indravarman II.

920 About this time Jayavarman, husband of Yasovarman's sister, rebels and sets up an independent rule in Kambuja.

921 Construction of Prasat Kravan.

928 Death of Isanavarman II; Jayavarman IV usurps the throne. He conquers Yasodharapura (Angkor) and is then either driven out or abandons it, establishing a new capital at Koh Ker (Chok Gargyar). He renews conflict with Champa, "destroying" her ruler.

931 Beginning of the construction of the Koh Ker group (completed 950) about 100 miles North of Angkor.

937 Construction of Prasat Banteay Pir Chan.

944 Rajendravarman II, accedes after a struggle with his brothers who he kills, and after dethroning Harshavarman II. He moves the capital back to Yasodharagiri (or Yasodharapura)(= Angkor). This returning the capital involves a great task of reconstruction for which he is praised: Houses are ornamented with shining gold, palaces glittering with precious stones, like the palace of Mahendra on earth. He is tolerant of a great variety of religions. Buddhism flourishes, and ancestor-worship becomes more closely identified with the great temples.

945-6 Invasion of Champa; he carries away the gold image of Bhagavati from the temple of Po Nagar.

947 Construction of Baksei Chamkrong.

952 Construction of the Eastern Mebon.

960 Construction of Leak Neang.

961 Construction of Pre Rup begun.

964 300 religious missionaries are sent by the Chin emperor to India in search of sacred texts; they return by way of Yunnan.

965 Rajendravarman II defeats Champa in Khan Hoa province. He also enjoys military successes all around Kambuja.

967 Construction of Banteay Srei begun. Also, this year, he appoints his son Jayavarman to a regency.

968 Death of Rajendravarman II. Jayavarman V to the throne. His minister is Kirtipandita and although Saivism remains official religion, Buddhism gains predominance. He raises some notable monuments such as Hemasrangiri. Continues aggressive policy against Champa.

Reign is an age of learning and brilliant ministers. Young at accession, his long minority enables the great Brahman families to take the lead. "From all directions brahmins celebrated for their wisdom...who possess the essence of the science of Vedanta...faithful to their duty...and profoundly versed in the Vedas and Vedantas, have saluted him..." Women hold high position at court. There is Prana, chief of confidential secretaries, Indralakshmi, Jayavarman's younger sister, married to Divakara, a Brahman from Northern India, and praised in inscriptions, and Jahnvi, famous for her religious foundations. The Chinese report that the women of the royal family hold high political posts and praise their knowledge of astrology and government.

1001 Death of Jayavarman V - civil war erupts. Udayadityavarman's rule is contested by one Suryavarman, said to be a son of a king of Tambralinga, claiming the throne by virtue of descent through his mother from the maternal line of Indravarman I (his mother is elder sister of the queen of Jayavarman V whose senapati is his brother Rajapativarman); he lands in Eastern Cambodia.

1002 Death of Udayadityavarman I. He is succeeded by his bro Jayaviravarman who continues battling Suryavarman. Jayaviravarman is located in Angkor and Western regions.

Suryavarman I assumes rule of some of the country. He carries out Khmer expansion in the Menam valley. Conquests include the Mon km of Dvaravati and the Malay kingdom of Tambralinga, later Ligor. He occupies the Mekong valley as far as Luang Prabang, possibly as far as Chiengsen. A builder, two of his are renown: The Phimeanakas ("celestial palace") and the Ta Keo (begun under Jayavarman V). The Ta Keo is the first Khmer temple to be built of sandstone. Its central feature is a platform surmounted by five towers. The Phimeanakas is in pyramidal style with one tower. The towers are gilded, a practice begun by Suryavarman.

1007-11 About this time Jayaviravarman's claim to rule Cambodia comes to an end.

1010 About this time Suryavarman I is installed at Angkor. He is scholarly and a Buddhist. He issues edicts containing regulations of monasteries. He does maintain the royal tutelary deity, constructing both Saiva and Vaisnava temples. He establishes the caste-system.

1011 Suryavarman I institutes an oath by which all officers of the kingdom swear fealty and service to the king: This to prevent further wars of succession. It is said he conquers all Siam and carries his arms to the Mon kingdom of Thanton in lower Burma.

1050 Death of Suryavarman I; son and successor is Udayadityavarman II. His reign is spent fending off invasions and quelling revolts: King Jaya Paramesvaradeva (Paramesvaravarman) raids into Kambuja, sacking Sambhupura.

1st revolt: caused by Cham interference from the region of Panduranga. Under Aravindhadrada who gains mastery over the Southern part of the kingdom (possibly he is a rival claimant to the throne); after several defeats, royal forces under Sangrama defeat him and force him to Champa.

2nd revolt: under the king's general Kamvau who overruns the kingdom and enjoys several victories in which he kills several renown generals; he is finally dispatched by Sangrama and his army routed.

3rd revolt: Led by Slvat, aided by brother Siddhikara and another brother Sagantibhurana. Sangrama defeats them, pursues them to Prasanvairmmyat where he defeats another local enemy then continues the pursuit and captures Slvat (C1066). Kambuja, however, has been broken into two kingdoms.

These revolts may have been instigated by Udayadityavarman II's hostility to Buddhism. He builds only Saivite sanctuaries. In the most magnificent, the gilded Baphuon, he installed a gold linga.

1056 Champa king's nephew and general Yuvaraja Mahasenapati defeat the Khmers at Sambhupura.

Engraving of the Skok Kak Thom Inscription (story of Cambodian royal priests from 802-1052)

Udayadityavarman II's guru is Jayendrapandita; he teaches the king astronomy, mathematics, grammar, Dharmasastra and all other Sastras. He has another guru, Sankarapandita.

1066 Death of Udayadityavarman II; Sankarapandita, along with the ministers, places his younger brother on the throne; Harshavarman III. A peace loving king, he tries to repair the damage and loss caused by the civil warfare.

1076 The Chinese emperor decides to campaign against Annam and calls on Champa and Kambuja to help him. With the Chinese defeat, the allied forces retreat.

1077-8 Soon, hostilities erupt between Champa and Kambuja; Champa king Harivarman IV defeats the Kambuja troops at Somesvara, capturing prince Sri Nandanavarmadeva.

1080 Harshavarman III is dethroned by a revolt led by prince Jayavarman who assumes rule as Jayavarman VI, founding a new dynasty. Members of Harshavarman's family raise a revolt in the South against him.

1107 Death of Jayavarman VI. Left without a leader, the people impress the elder brother who reluctantly ascends the throne (crowned by Divakava Pandita) as Dharanindravarman I. He was a man of advanced age who had retired to a monastery. Though he "governs with prudence", he is unable to cope with the rebellion. He is dethroned by his grand-nephew on the maternal side, a young man of boundless ambition:

1113 Suryavarman II reunites the Cambodian kingdom by defeating a successor of Harshavarman III. He is consecrated by Divakara Pandita who initiates him into the mysteries of Vrah Guhya (the Great Secret). The cult of Bhadresara appears about this time with a sacred temple at Vat Phu. Construction of ANGKOR VAT.

Suryavarman II becomes the most powerful king of Khmer history. His accession coincides with the deaths of Jaya Indravarman II of Champa and Kyanzittha of Pagan. A better knowledge of the relations between these might show a connection of cause and effect between the disappearance of two powerful kings and the seizure of power by an ambitious Khmer king able to strike both East and West. His armies go farther afield than ever before in Khmer history. Inscriptions are lacking, however, regarding his campaigns against Champa and Annam, as well as against the Mons and T'ais of the Menam valley. Most are found in the North where he apparently spent much of his time and founded a number of temples.

1116, 1120 Suryavarman II is first Cambodian king since Jayavarman II to enter into diplomatic relations with China His embassies sent there these two years are received.

1125 About this time Suryavarman II sends several expeditions against Champa, reducing the Northern part, the kingdom of Vijaya, to vassalage.

1128 The king sends an army of 20,000 against Annam, invading Nghe-an, but, because the Champa fleet does not arrive in time, are defeated. The Cham fleet appears later, ravages the coast of Nghe-an and Tnan-hoa and retreats.

This year another embassy is sent to China. The emperor confers high titles on the "King of Chenla" for

Kambuja extends from Champa to lower Burma, including Northern Malay peninsula up to the Bay of Bandon.

1132 Kambuja forces, allied with Cham forces, invade Nghe-an but are easily repulsed by the governor of Than-hoa. Soon Kambuja and Champa conclude peace with Annam.

1135 Kambuja and Champa send embassies to Annam. Discussions take place that peaceably settles the countries' commercial difficulties.

1137 Kambuja army again invades Nghe-an and is easily repulsed.

1147 Jaya Harivarman ascends the throne of Champa. Suryavarman, to punish the country for not aiding him in his last expedition against Annam, sends general Sankara who is aided by a large contingent from Vijaya. Battle of Chaklyan; the Chams defeat Sankara.

1148 Suryavarman sends another army against Champa; Battle of Kayeu field; Jaya Harivarman defeats them. Now Harivarman takes the offensive; Suryavarman consecrates Harideva (younger brother of his first queen) king of Vijaya and sets up a Cambodian force to protect him. But Jaya Harivarman reaches Vijaya first and takes the city.

1149 Battle of Mahisa plain; Jaya Harivarman defeats and kills Harideva.

1150 (Autumn) Suryavarman sends a force against Annam but the army is debilitated by the monsoons and retreats. This year also, Suryavarman II dies and is succeeded by Dharanindravarman II, possibly the son of his maternal uncle.

Dharanindravarman's queen is the daughter of Harsavarman (II?). Dharanindravarman is a Buddhist, breaking the long tradition of Hinduism.

- 1160 Accession of Yasovarman II who is not a legitimate heir to the throne. His eldest son Jayavarman who should have succeeded, goes into voluntary exile in Champa (being a good Buddhist, he "shrank from causing civil war by pressing his claim"). Yasovarman is faced with a rebellion led by Bharata Rahu Sambuddh, who even attacks the palace, causing royal troops to flee. Prince Srindrakumara, son of Jayavarman VII (and protected by faithful Sanjaks) rescues Yasovarman and defeats the rebels.
- 1161-4 Yasovarman II sends an expedition against Champa led by Prince Srindrakumara. The fort on Mt. Vek is taken and a Cham general placed on the throne. Soon, however, Cham forces force Srindrakumara to withdraw, his life again saved by his faithful Sanjaks.
- 1165-6 Death of Prince Srindrakumara. The war with Champa goes on. An expedition, possibly under Jayavarman VII is sent to Vijaya. Meanwhile, a rebellion led by Tribhuvanadityavarman ('a servant ambitious to arrive at the royal power') erupts, defeating and killing Yasovarman; Tribhuvanadityavarman ascends the throne; Jayavarman VII is too late to rescue Yasovarman and retires again into obscurity.
- 1167 Tribhuvanadityavarman continues the chronic war with Champa whose king Jaya Indravarman IV, a usurper, ascends this year. The latter is more successful with fighting that mainly occurs along the borders.
- 1170 Jaya Indravarman IV invades Kambuja, beginning an indecisive war.
- 1177 Having failed to obtain the necessary number of horses for a raid on the grand scale, the Chams resort to an attack by sea. The fleet sails up the Mekong; Angkor is captured and sacked. The old city of Yasodharapura is defended by wooden palisades that can't withstand a well prepared enemy. King Tribhuvanadityavarman is killed. The central government collapses and anarchy becomes widespread. Now Jayavarman sets out to remedy the situation (to 1181). He deals first with the Chams: He routs them in a great naval fight. He begins reducing the country to obedience.
- 1181 Having established his power firmly enough, Jayavarman VII celebrates his coronation at Angkor.
- 1182 Jayavarman VII begins a relentless war against the Chams. Sri Suryavarmadeva prince Sri Vidyanandana of Champa goes over to Kambuja.
- 1185 Prince Sri Vidyanandana, heading Khmer armies, puts down a revolt of the town of Malyan.
- 1186 By this time inscriptions indicate Jayavarman VII rules as far North as Vien Chang (Vientiane). Chinese authors assert Kambuja rules over part of the Malay Peninsula, also that Pagan is a dependency (could be they're confusing Pagan with Pegu). Pagan under Narapatisithu is independent.
- 1190 The war against Champa resumes; prince Sri Vidyanandana advances against the aggression of Champa king Jaya Indravarman On Vatuv. Prince Sri Vidyanandana defeats and captures the king. Champa is now divided; the Northern part (cap at Vijaya) ruled by Surya Jayaviarmada prince In (Sri Vidyanandana's brother-in-law); the Southern part (cap at Rajapura in Panran) under Sri Vidyanandana. Some "thieves or pirates" - probably adherents of the last reign - revolt but Sri Vidyanandana defeats them and Champa is at peace.
- Jayavarman VII now rules Eastern Indochina to Hue, on both sides of the Mekong to Vientiane; the central Siamese plain and Northern part of the Malay peninsula. He now undertakes the reconstruction of Angkor: A great builder he reconstructs previously built shrines; builds over 100 hospitals, over 120 pilgrim rest houses; highways and bridges; and many temples (it is possible that Banteay Chhmar (= Narrow Fortress) is Jayavarman's funerary temple). Labor is supplied largely by slaves.
- 1192 Prince Rasupati, a local chief, leads a revolt against Kambuja usurper prince In who is defeated; Rasupati becomes ruler as Sri Jaya Indravarman. Jayavarman sends an expedition to Vijaya to place Sri Jaya Indravarman On Vatuv on the throne, to conciliate national sentiments, as a dependent. The expedition goes to Rajapura where Sri Vidyanandana sets out against Vijaya, captures the city and kills Rasupati, reuniting Champa: Sri Jaya Indravarman On Vatuv flees to Amaravati, reorganizes and marches against Vijaya, is defeated and at Traik, killed.
- 1193 Jayavarman sends an expedition against Sri Vidyanandana but it is defeated.
- 1194 Jayavarman sends an even larger expedition against Sri Vidyanandana but it too is defeated.
- 1200 About this time with Kambuja and Champa wearing themselves out against each other, they begin to be harassed by other neighbors: The Annamites begin pressuring Champa from the North and the Thais of Siam begin pressing Kambuja from the West.
- 1203 Jayavarman sends Mnagahna On Dhanapati (Ong Dhama-patigrama), uncle of Sri Vidyanandana, also a Champa exile in Kambuja, against his nephew. Sri Vidyanandana is defeated and Yuvaraja becomes ruler of Champa.
- 1204-6 Several revolts break out in Champa; On Dhanapati puts them down. Putau Ajna Ku leads a fierce revolt, conquering from Amaravati as far as Pidhyan. Jayavarman sends On Dhanapati after him, defeats him and Putau Ajna Ku is captured.
- 1207 On Dhanapati is appointed Yuvaraja - formally appointed ruler of Champa - as he has Khmer troops at his disposal for his attacks on Annam; they are led by another Cham prince Ong Ansaraja, a son of Jaya Harsha-varman II (1162-3) and heir to the throne of Champa.

1208-15 Chronic warfare with the Annamites carries on with great losses on both sides.

1215 About this time the Thais of the North and West break into open revolt in Siam.

1216, 1218 A Cham and Cambodian force attack Nghe-An but the governor of the province disperses them.

1218 About this time death of Jayavarman VII (he was born sometime between 1125 and 1130).

REIGN: He annexed the km of Pagan that had subjugated Ramannadesa thereby ruling cent and S'n Burma (C 1195?), possibly because the Burmese king seized and held a princess sent to Jayavarman by Ceylonese king Parakramabahu (1164-1197). Jayavarman was a Buddhist. Under him, Cambodia reached from Lower Burma to Annam, from the Bay of Bengal to the China Sea: The Thai prince of Laos acknowledges suzerainty and boundaries touch China. In the South, includes all Siam, Cambodia and Cochin-China and part of the Malay peninsula. All this spreading Hindu culture more thoroughly throughout the region; cultivation of Sanskrit literature. High priests learned in Hindu and Buddhist canons obtain a dominant position in state and society. Monuments: Besides Angkor Wat, Baphuon (Udaya-dityavarman II), Angkor Thom and Temple of Bayon (Jaya-varman VII), Bantay Chmar (either Jayavarman VII or Yasovarman II).

1219 Accession of Indravarman II. Most of Jayavarman's work now begins to disappear.

1220 After a series of bloody battles, much of Champa is lost. With the evacuation of Champa, a Hindu reaction sweeps away the cult of the Buddharaja; lingas replace Lokesvaras. Soon, Tambralinga gains independence. Meanwhile, tribes fleeing the Mongol onslaught are hammering the Southeast Asian countries.

1243 Accession of Jayavarman VIII. He refuses to pay tribute to the Yuan dynasty of China. His is the longest reign in Khmer history. REIGN: Acts of vandalism are carried out on the Buddhist images erected by his predecessor; Brahman dominance is re-established. He is unable to curb the T'ai; they gain control over most of modern Thailand or Siam: A big step being when a T'ai chieftain (Indraditya) who married a daughter of Jayavarman VII defeats the Khmer governor of the upper Menam valley and establishes the kingdom of Sukhot'ai.

1253/4 Conquest of Yunnan (the old T'ai kingdom of Tali, or Nanchao) by Kublai Khan; a tremendous wave of Thai immigrants from Yunnan enter Sukhot'ai.

1270 Rama Khamheng (married daughter of Jayavarman VII?) ascends the throne of Sukhot'ai. He and Mangrai (a T'ai prince who conquered the old Mon kingdom of Haripunjaya in the Meping valley and built Chiangmai as capital) establish close relations with Kublai Khan. They begin attacks on the Khmers. Jayavarman VIII has turned a deaf ear to Mongol demands for homage, even imprisoning Kublai's envoy.

1290 With marshal Sogatu's failure against Champa (eliminating Cambodia as his next conquest), Kublai supports the T'ai cause. About this time Rama Khamheng carries his arms to lower Burma in the W and the heart of Kambuja in the East. But though the area around Angkor is devastated, this is more of a predatory raid against Kambuja and not conquest.

The conquests of the T'ai cause such serious losses both of revenue and of man power for forced labor that they alone cause a sudden stop in the erection of great monuments of art. Otherwise, life in Cambodia goes on as before, being actually easier for the oppressed masses who no longer must labor to build these monuments. The abandonment of these great enterprises promoted a new zest for learning - "Sanskrit verse was still written. Wise men abounded...foreign savants came, drawn by the reputation of this kingdom of high culture. Nowhere was knowledge more in honor. Scholars occupied the first charges of the State; they were on terms of familiarity with kings. Their daughters were queens. They themselves were royal preceptors, grand judges, ministers. There was a "King of Professors". - But the greatest change is at the other end of the scale; the conversion of the people to the Buddhism of the Sinhalese Mahavihara sect. This new teaching had been introduced into Burma at the end of the 12th century by Mon monks, spread from the Menam valley and by the middle of the 13th century to the T'ai and Eastwards to the Khmers. It is simple, needing no priest-hood, expensive temples or elaborate ceremonial. Its missionaries are monks who prescribe austerity, solitude and meditation, and are devoted to a life of poverty and self-abnegation. Unlike the hierarchy at the capital, they are in direct contact with the people, undermining the old state religion and all that goes with it. "From the day when the sovereign ceased to be Siva descended to earth" or the living Buddha, as Jayavarman VII had been, the royal dynasty no longer inspires the people with the religious respect that enabled it to accomplish great enterprises.

Thai forces under Phra Ruang oust the Khmer viceroy at Sukhot'ai and establish the independent kingdom of Siam, which now begins raiding and ravaging Kambuja's borders.

1291 Marco Polo visits Angkor.

1295/6 Jayavarman VIII abdicates after designating his son-in-law, the soldier Srindravarman, but his son contests the succession; Srindravarman mutilates and imprisons the son and succeeds as Indravarman III.

1296-7 Emperor Timur Khan (or Yuen-Cheng) sends an embassy to Angkor. With him is Chinese scholar Chou Ta-kuan who records the chronicles of the Khmer people. He also notes the debilitating effect the repeated Thai incursions are having on Kambuja (he returns to China in 1297). Indravarman tries to infuse new energy into the kingship; whereas his predecessor never showed himself in public, he often appears in the streets. His reception of the Chinese mission is a sign of a change of attitude, if not of policy. Indravarman III pays homage to the new emperor,

but there is no sign of the usual subsequent official relations. Still, Indravarman placates the Imperial Court; he is able to hold the T'ai attacks, lessening danger from there. Though he reverses the religious policy of Jayavarman VIII, he makes no change in the official state ceremonial, which had again become Saivite. He makes benedictions to a Buddhist monastery and shrine near the close of his reign.

1308 Indravarman III abdicates, to become a monk and devote himself to the study and practice of the new Hinayana doctrine. Indrajayavarman succeeds.

1309 Indravarman III makes a gift of revenues to a Buddhist monastery.

1312 Thais (from the West) and Chams (from the East) attack Kambuja. Indrajayavarman manages to retaliate against the Thais.

1317 Death of Rama K'amheng, the power of Sukhot'ai begins to decline; the threat of danger to the Khmer kingdom is greatly lessened.

1327 Accession of Jayavarman Paramesvara, the last Cambodian king mentioned by the inscriptions. The date of the end of his reign is unknown, as is also his connection with the earliest kings of the Cambodian Chronicle

1340 About this time begins the Cambodian Chronicle with a posthumous name, Mahanippean. The Sanskrit inscriptions end abruptly in the reign of Jayavarman Paramesvara. It would seem that he and his court became converts to Hinayana Buddhism, and the official language became Pali, ending the habit of celebrating his achievements in conventional Sanskrit verse exquisitely carved in stone. If indeed this last king is Jayavarman Paramesvara, he had a long reign (see 1353).

NOTE: About this time serious discrepancies are evident in Cambodian chronology from here to 1566:

Several sources are intermixed:

C-I Angkor Empire; see bibliography

C-II Briggs Ancient Khmer Empire

C-III Cambodian Chronicle

C-IV Khmer Chronicles of Ang Eng (various translations)

C-V Dr O. W. Wolter

C-VI References in Chinese histories

C-VII Other later histories or analyses

Arabic numerals in parenthesis refer to the king list.

1340-53 Four kings (C-III) reign in Angkor; first is Nippean Bat (Mahanippean; C-28A) - see 1405.

1350 Foundation of Ayut'ia, a new Thai kingdom; king Ramadhipati soon becomes master of Siam and Laos (C-I). Siamese attacks on Cambodia begin (to 1431) that destroy much of the reservoirs and other hydraulic works, making much of the Angkor Thom area uninhabitable.

1353 Rama Thibodi I (Ramadhipati) of Ayut'ia captures Angkor (to 1357) (C-III). The Khmer king takes refuge at the court of Laos. NOTE: See 1431.

Jayavarman Paramesvara helps exiled Laos prince Phi-Fa and his son Fa-Ngum to found the independent km of Lan Chang (cap at Muang Swa); Fa-Ngum marries Jayavarman Paramesvara's daughter and through her efforts, the Laotians are converted to Hinayanism (C-II).

1357 King Ramadhipati besieges Angkor (C-I).

1358 After a 16 month siege, Angkor falls. The country is devastated and 90,000 prisoners taken. Freed from the Khmer yoke, Ramadhipati founds Ayuthia. Remnant Khmer groups assemble under a prince and move to a new capital; Basan (C-I).

1368 Accession of the Ming dynasty in China brings Cambodia once more into relationship with China. Four missions are sent (to 1398)(C-VI).

1369 Last year of king Ramadhipati (C-V).

1370 A woman, Lady Penh, discovers a log floating in the Mekong with an image of Buddha embedded in it. She takes it home (she lives atop a phnom, or hill) near the confluence of Tonle Sap and the Mekong. This place becomes sacred and is called Phnom Penh (= The Hill of the Lady Penh)(C-I).

1371 The Khmer king moves to Basan (to 1373)(C-III, C-V)

King Hu-erh-na (C-29A) sends "tribute" to the emperor, it is presented on 14 December (C-VI).

1371-3 Hu-erh-na rules at Basan, far away from Angkor (C-III and C-V).

1373 Second mission sent to China, received November (C-VI)

1377 Samdach Kambujadhiraja (Gamkat; C-30A), ruling at Angkor, sends "tribute" to China, received Jan., 1378 (C-IV and C-VI).

1380 Samdach Kambujadhiraja sends "tribute" to China (C-IV and C-VI).

1383 Mission sent to China by Samdach Kambujadhiraja (C-IV and C-VI).

1386 King Samdach Pao-p'i-yeh Kambuja (Dharmasokaraja; C-31A) receives Chinese missions (C-VI).

1387 Samdach Pao-p'i-yeh Kambuja sends a mission to China (received September). The emperor confers a seal of office

upon him (C-V and C-VI).

Era of bad relations with the Chams begins at this time (to 1400)(C-V).

1388 Samdach Pao-p'i-yeh sends a mission to China (received October)(C-V), thanking the emperor for his honor. His "tribute" consists of 59 elephants and 60,000 catties of incense. In May, the emperor rebukes the Cham king Che Bong Nga for seizing some elephants en route for China. Perhaps this Cham king is fighting Khmers as well as the Vietnamese.

1388-9 Chams attack Angkor during the dry season (C-V).

1389 Three Khmer missions sent to China (C-V). Angkor falls to the Chams (C-IV) by treachery after a siege of seven months. Death of king Dharmasoka (Pao-p'i-yeh) during the siege, followed by the defection of two mandarins and two leading Buddhist monks to the enemy - thus the city falls. As on the previous occasion, the Siamese strip Angkor of all they can carry away and deport thousands of prisoners. A Siamese vassal prince is placed in control. Dharmasoka's successor (the Chinese P'o-p'i-ya) escapes and later procures the assassination of the usurper and recovers the throne as Ponhea Yat (C-32A)(C-II and C-V). Thus the three Khmer missions to China in quick succession: First to inform the emperor of the new king's accession; second to report his recovery of Angkor; and third to assert his right to recognition as lawful ruler of Cambodia.

1390 Khmer mission(s) sent to China (C-VI).

1394 Siamese conquest (C-I) of Angkor (to 1401); they place a Siamese prince on the throne.

1400 By this time Annam has conquered nearly all Champa: Kambuja is now hard pressed by Annam and Ayuthia; her weak rulers try to save the kingdom by playing the two powerful enemies one against the other (C-I).

1401 Siamese are driven out of Angkor (C-III).

1403 Accession of Yung-lo emperor. He sends three missions to Cambodia (to 1424)(C-VI).

1404 King P'o-p'i-ya (C-32A) sends a mission to China in reply to the emperor's of last year (C-VI).

Accession of prince Gamkat (Ping-ya; C-33A)(C-III). Cambodian title Narayana Ramadhipati, or Prea Noreay Reamea Thyphdey (C-VI). He transfers the capital back to Angkor.

1405 Accession of Nippean Bat (C-30)(C-II). His (P'ing-ya?) envoys to China (August) report his father's death (C-VI). Reign is uneventful.

1414 Khmer envoys to China complain Cham raids had prevented the dispatch of embassies to the Imperial Court several times (C-II).

1419 Last mission of P'ing-ya to China (C-IV and C-VI).

1420 Large scale Siamese attack on Kambuja (C-I).

1421 Chams celebrate a victory over the Khmers. This severe struggle that rages continually between the Khmers and the Siamese in the provinces of Chantabun and Jolburi, with raiding and counter-raiding, and deportation of thousands of hapless peasants, tempted the Chams to join in (C-V).

1426 Cham forces are expelled from the Mekong delta region (C-II).

1428 Death of Narayana Dhipati (C-33A). Great dissensions arise within the royal family; his brothers, Sri Raja and Tieraraja, fight for the crown (C-IV).

1429 Tieraraja wins, killing his brother, and reigns with the title Sri Sodaiya (or Srey; C-34A) at "Muan Nagara Hlvan" i.e.; Angkor (C-IV and C-V).

1431 Fall of Angkor to the Siamese (= 1432) led by Paramaraja II (C-II). Angkor withstands the siege for seven months until two priests go over to the enemy and the Khmer kingdom is irrecoverably ruined. Her empire gone, Kambuja remains, prostrate (C-I).

1432 Abandonment of Angkor by the Khmers (see 1444)(C-I and C-II).

1434 After having capitals at Chatur, Mukha, Pursat, Babour, Lovek and Udong; king Ponhea Yat (C-35) selects Phnom Penh as his royal residence (C-I).

1443/4 Trouble breaks out between Sri Sodaiya and his son Dharmaraja, who rebels and dethrones him. Prince Dharmaraja's grand-mother, the mother of Srey, was a Siamese princess whom Ponhea Yat married. She had warned Dharmaraja that his father did not trust him, and had designs on his life. So he fled to Korat, raised an army and drove his father out of Angkor, whence he escaped first to Lovek then Ayut'ia (C-IV and C-V).

1444 Abandonment of Angkor by the Khmers (see 1432).

The victorious prince proclaims himself king with the title Dharmarajadhiraja (C-35A). Meanwhile, Narayana Ramadhipati's widow had taken refuge at Pursat and proclaimed her son, Chau Ba, king. He resists all Dharmaraja's attacks and the two kings reign simultaneously in their respective capitals (C-IV and C-V).

1452 Mission to China sent by the Khmer king (C-IV, C-V and C-VI).

1462 A Cambodian king and his brother live in Siamese territory (to 1465; see 1476)(C-VII).

1468 Dharmarajadhiraja seizes the throne (C-VII).

1472 Srei (C-34A?) ascends the throne (C-VII).

1473 Srei handles a rebellion led by his nephew Soryoti the son of Preah Noreay (Narayana; C-33A) supported by the Siamese who apparently gain possession of the Cambodian provinces of Chantabun, Korat and Angkor. They

follow this up by capturing King Srei himself, and deport him and the rebel Soryotei to Siam. Dharmaraja (C-35A) thereupon assumes leadership in the fight for liberation (C-VII).

1476 Dharmaraja drives out the Siamese and is crowned king. At Dharmarajadhiraja's request, Siam sends an expedition that captures the Pursat ruler, deporting him and his brother to Ayut'ia (see 1462)(C-VII).

1486-1504 Dharmarajadhiraja (C-35A) is succeeded by his son Srei Sukonthor (C-36)(C-VII). But funeral rites are recorded in 1486 which is also the year of the birth of son Ang Chan (C-V).

1512 Murder of Srei Sukonthor (C-36) by his brother-in-law Kan, who seizes the throne (C-37). Ang Chan and other members of the royal family escape to Pursat, where he rallies his partisans and later invades Angkor province, defeats and kills Kan (year?, or:)(C-VII).

1516 Ang Chan returns to Cambodia, rallies the people and defeats Kan, gaining the rule (C-38)(C-V and C-VII).

1528 King Ang Chan, probably an Annamite, makes Udong his headquarters and only visits Phnom Penh for the annual oblations Ang Chan welcomes the first Portuguese missionaries to Cambodia (C-I).

1531 Cambodian raid on Prachin province (C-VII).

1532-3 Siamese counterattack by land and sea during dry season is led by Chau Pnhea Ang, a son of exiled king Preah Srei who had died in Siam (C-VII).

1534 Ang Chan defeats and kills Chau Pnhea Ang near Pursat (C-III).

1548-9 Burmese besiege Ayut'ia but are forced to retreat (see 1555)(C-VII).

1549 Cambodians raid Prachin during the siege (C-VII).

1550/1 Rediscovery of Angkor Thom by a Cambodian king (Ang Chan?) while hunting (C-VII).

1551 Bayinnaung to the Burmese throne. He begins an all-out attempt by Burma to subjugate all the Tai states within her reach; the Shan States, Chiangmai, the Laos Kingdom and Siam herself (C-VII).

1555 Siamese forces are dispersed by bad weather from their Cambodian raid; Chau Pnhea Ang dies in Cambodia (or 1556)(C-VII).

1559 Ang Chan begins unceasingly raiding Siamese territory.

1564 His armies advance to the walls of Ayut'ia, but return empty-handed, for the city had fallen into Burmese hands in Feb, and there is a Burmese army of occupation.

1566 Death of Ang Chan. He is succeeded by his only son Barom Reachea I who carries on the contest with Siam with much vigor.

1570 Barom Reachea I establishes his headquarters in the Angkor region and his armies occupy the Korat province. But the struggle is becoming increasingly indecisive, causing appalling suffering through widespread devastation and wholesale deportations of people.

About this time (perhaps) Angkor Thom is reoccupied under direction of Barom Reachea I.

1576 Satha succeeds. The tide begins to turn decisively against Cambodia.

About this time Satha installs his court at or near Angkor and restores the Wat.

1577 Restoration of Brah Bisnuloka, i.e.; the Angkor Wat.

1579 For the glorification of Buddhism, the great towers of the Wat are repaired, new summits built on them, and they are covered with gold. Satha consecrates a reliquary to his ancestors and his deceased father.

1580 Possibility of a successful Cambodian expedition against Siam, though not likely.

1581 Death of Bayinnaung; Burma's hold on Siam begins to weaken. A new Siamese leader, Pra Naret, begins rapidly building up his country's powers of resistance to both Burma and Cambodia.

1583 Pra Naret invades Cambodia, gaining a success (possibly the capture of Lovek?)(see 1587 and 1594).

1583-9 Catholic missionaries visit Satha at Angkor. They bring the West its earliest information about Angkor.

1585 Deciding to help Siam against the Burmese, King Satha concludes a treaty with Pra Naret. He sends an army under the command of his brother Srisup'anma.

1586 Srisup'anma, cooperating with the Siamese, defeats a Laotian invasion led by the Burmese governor of Chiangmai. A quarrel between the two breaks up the alliance.

1587 Ayut'ia is besieged by the Burmese - Satha invades Siam and seizes Prachin. Through lack of supplies, the Burmese are forced to retreat; Pra Naret is denied a victory over them because he is now forced to deal with the Cambodians. He pursues them deeply within their own country, capturing Battambang and Pursat, but is unable to take Lovek for lack of supplies.

Erection of images of the Buddha and repairs to the towers with four faces of the Wat by a court dignitary; possible the king is no longer at Angkor Thom.

1590 Pra Naret becomes King Naresuen. With Burmese pressure so great at this time, he is unable to settle with Cambodia for now. Meanwhile, King Satha seeks Spanish and Portuguese help, but none is forthcoming.

1593 With Burmese attempts on Siam ended, three Siamese armies invade Cambodia, capture Siemreap and Bassac, then Battambang and Pursat and converge on Lovek. Satha flees to Srei Santhor, leaving younger brother Soryopor to defend the capital. He puts up a strong resistance.

1594 (Jan -or, July) Lovek falls to the Siamese. The city is placed under a Siamese military governor. At Srei Santhor the

defeated king, Satha, is deposed by a relative, Reamea Chung Prei, and with his two elder sons flees to Luang Prabang (dies 1596).

1618 King Chetta II, having served an "apprenticeship" in Siam, ascends the throne and marries an Annamese princess. He is ruler of "the Territory of the Khmers". High offices are given to the Annamese and a factory is set up.

1698 Annam annexes Saigon.

1750 About this time (±?) Cambodia cedes Tan-an and Go-cong to Annam

1794 Siam annexes Sisophon, Battambang and Siem Reap provinces, including the region of Angkor.

1796 By this time central Tra-vinh and Soc-trang have been ceded to Annam. This year king Ang Eng is forced to flee the Annamese to Siam. His successor is an Annamese puppet.

1813 By this time the Annamese are entrenched in Phnom Penh and creeping North and West over Cambodia. As assistance to the Cambodians, the Siamese are taking up areas unoccupied by the Annamese.

1845 Ang-Duong, crowned by representatives of Bangkok and Hue, accepts French protection to escape his neighbors threats.

1854 Now reduced to a petty state, king Ang-Duong allows Cambodia to become a French Protectorate.

1859 Death of Ang-Duong. Son and successor (by a concubine) is Norodom, who spent his childhood in Siam and is about to be crowned in Bangkok when the French intervene; he crowns himself at Udong.

1863 Norodom signs a treaty with the French; the French promise military aid in exchange for freedom of trade: Cambodia becomes a French Protectorate.

1884 The Kingdom of Cambodia is incorporated in the Indochinese Union, under direct French administration.

1902 A French-Siamese convention retrocedes the provinces of M'lu Prei and Tonle Kepu to Cambodia.

1904 A French-Siamese convention passes the port of Krat, the territories to the South and the islands off the coast from region of Lem-sing to Cambodia.

1907 (23 March) Siamese-French treaty: Provinces of Battambang, Sisophon and Siem Reap ceded to Cambodia.

1909 King Sisowath, half-brother of Norodom, takes over, with great ceremony, the custody of Angkor.

1941 Under Japanese influence, Battambang, Sisophon and Siem Reap and other area are ceded to Siam. The Issaraks (guerrillas; the "Free Cambodia" nationalists) violently oppose this and open campaigns against the Japanese.

1945 (15 March) The king asserts his independence.

1946 The areas Japan bestowed upon Siam are returned to Cambodia (Washington Conference).

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