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PRESS RELEASE . . . PRESS RELEASE . . .

UNESCO launches a new publication on the “Missing Objects from the Wat Po Veal and Battambang Provincial Museums”

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Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts at 10:00am

Through the 1970 Convention, UNESCO fights against the illicit trafficking of cultural properties. Since 1975 in Cambodia, hundreds of statues and cultural artifacts were damaged or simply disappeared. During periods of war, the Battambang Museum and Wat Po Museum also suffered from looting and illicit-trafficking.

A team from the Battambang Museum and Wat Po Museum carried out an intensive research with a view to identify the sculptures from the museums which disappeared during the civil war and the Khmer Rouge regime.

UNESCO hopes that the description of these 67 lost artifacts will draw attention to these collections and encourage the repatriation of these objects. The 67 stone objects consist of 37 objects from the Wat Po Veal museum and 30 works from the Battambang Provincial Museum.

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