Suggestions for Further Reading

[A window into the relationship between rural life and the sacred in Cambodia. Written by a leading Khmer ethnologist.]

[Discusses the complex teacher-student relationship in Indian performing arts. Similar concepts and practices exist in the relationships between Cambodian dance teachers and their students.]

[An overview of the history of Cambodian dance, and the situation of the dancers in the 1980s.]

[A general political history, written by one of the leading historians of Cambodia.]

[ Begins with the 1940s, and looks at the trajectory the country followed for much of the rest of that century.]

[Beautiful color paintings by Chet Chan illustrate the Khmer version of the Ramayana epic.]

[Rich historical detail combined with excellent descriptive passages about the history and aesthetics of Cambodian classical dance. Contains an extensive bibliography.]

[Based on oral history interviews with survivors, this article finds the author back in the village where she did her dissertation research more than thirty years ago.]

[An examination of the symbolic display of power in another part of Southeast Asia, from an anthropological perspective.]


[Dance and music in ancient Cambodia.]


[Written by a French official while Cambodia was a French “protectorate,” it presents his interpretation of the lives of the dancers.]


[Contains wonderful illustrations, with articles on history, religion, architecture, epigraphy and more, written by a number of scholars of Cambodia.]


[Compares and contrasts Ramayana stories across Asia. Beautiful full-color illustrations.]


[A look at the symbolic import of “Angkor” for Cambodians.]


[An exhaustive study of the inner workings of one of the most brutal regimes in history.]


[Covers the architectural and institutional history of the palace, with archival and contemporary illustrations.]


[An ethnographic study of stories and their meanings to Cambodians.]


[An exhaustive study of cosmological ideas as expressed through the design and creation...]

[...of Angkor Wat.]
of sacred space.]


Pou Saveros, 2003. Selected Papers on Khmerology. Phnom Penh: Reyum Publishing. [A collection of essays by a leading scholar of Cambodia covering linguistic, literary, and epigraphic topics, among others. Several articles concern the Reamker, the Khmer version of the Ramayana.]


[Contains rich ethnographic and historical detail about the all-male masked dance-drama performed in this village not far from Phnom Penh.]

[Focuses on the relationship between dance and war, and on the lives of Cambodia’s dancers from 1975 to 1994.]