**Khmer Art in Lop Buri**

**Lop Buri Art** generally refers to the style of art in Thailand that was influenced by Khmer art and culture from the 10th to 13th centuries CE (1,100-800 years ago).This is because Lop Buri was at that time an important city and center that came under the political influence of the Khmer Empire.

Hindu and Buddhist temples and objects have been found in Lop Buri. Many Hindu temples such as Prang Khaek were built during the early phase of this period. Later, Buddhism spread to the city. Archaeologists have discovered temples and artifacts dated to the 11th century CE (1,000 years ago), which was contemporary with the Angkor period in Cambodia. Buddhist temples and art objects in the Bayon style associated with King Jayavarman VII dated to the 13th century CE have also been found.

During the late 13th century CE (800-700 years ago), the local style of art emerged. An example of the sculpture made in the local art style is the Buddha Seated under Naga statue. The hood of the Naga is in the shape of a Bodhi leaf which has a more pointed tip than that of the Khmer Naga.

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