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ភ្នំពេញ



Einführung ins Khmer I (WiSe 2023/24)



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If you want to study this language and learn more about this country, you can register for the Khmer course "Introduction to Khmer (Khmer 1)". This Khmer course for beginners in winter semester 2023/24 is open to all students. Registration for this course number 57-332 is possible on STiNE.

If you have any problems with the registration, please contact Mr. Prum, who will be happy to help you unbureaucratically!

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Introduction to Khmer (Khmer 1) – the Language of Cambodia

Course Number: 57-332
Savuth Prum

The Kingdom of Cambodia is a Southeast Asian country bordered by Thailand, Vietnam and Laos – and bounded by a coastline to the south. The country, with a total area of 181,035 km², is divided into 24 provinces and one special administrative region, namely the country's capital, Phnom Penh. Cambodia is therefore about half the size of Germany or a little more than twice the size of Austria.

Cambodia's official language is Khmer – also known as Cambodian – and belongs to the Austroasiatic language family. It was influenced by Sanskrit and Pali through Hinduism and Buddhism and is spoken by 17–20 million Cambodians inside and outside of Cambodia. Unlike the neighboring countries' languages – Thai, Lao and Vietnamese – Khmer is not a tonal language.

Khmer is an analytical and isolating language. This means that no inflections, conjugations or case endings are used. The script consists of 33 consonants, 24 vowels and 14 initial vowels. The grammar of the Khmer language is simple. The verbs remain unchanged, whether singular or plural. The subject-verb-object word-order applies. Also tenses – past, present and future – are expressed by adverbs and other time indications.

Through this seminar you will acquire the most important fundamentals of the Khmer language and will be able to understand and use familiar, everyday expressions and very basic phrases.

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