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**Tilottama**: female deity created by the gods to pacify two fighting **asuras** who were wreaking havoc on earth.

**Tipitaka, Tri-pitaka** (pl 'Three Baskets'): the three main divisions of the **Pali** Canon.

**Tonle** (sk danle, kh ទន្លេ): lake.

**Toych** (kh តូច): small.

**Tral**: boat.

**Tramak** (kh ប្រុសដំរី moh domrei): mahout.

**Trapeang** (kh ត្រពាំង): small tank or pond, usually man-made. Often followed by a proper noun identifying a particular source of water.

**Trei** (kh ត្រី): fish. **Reach sramut** (sk raj sramut 'king of the sea', kh រាជសមុទ្រ): the 'royal sea fish', tuna.

**Trijata**: a rakshini who spoke in favor of **Sita**.

**Trimukha** (sk 'three-faced'): three-lobed design of a platform or structure seen in plan.

**Trivikrama**: epithet of **Vishnu** when making three steps.

**Tuk, Toek** (kh ទឹក): water.

## U

**Uccaihrava**: the white horse of **Indra**, bred from the **Churning of the ocean of milk**.

**Uma**: daughter of the god Himavan, wife of Shiva. Also known as **Parvati**.

**Upanisad**: The esoteric texts that developed a mystical and spiritualized understanding of the **Vedas**, and which would form the basis of Hinduism.

**Upasunda**: an **asura** who fought with **Sunda**.

**Upiidiina**: 'clinging', attachment; it is etymologically related to upadi, fuel.

**Uposatha**: the days of fasting and abstinence in the Vedic tradition.

**Usha**: beautiful daughter of **Bana**.

## V

**Vahana** (sk 'vehicle'): a term which indicates the animal or avian mounts or vehicles of the gods, e.g. Skanda's peacock, Shiva's nandi...

**Vaisya**: The third caste of farmers and stockbreeders in the Aryan system.

**Vaisravana** (sk vaisravana, pl vessavana): one of the 'Forth Heavenly Kings'.

**Valin**: in the **Ramayana**, king of the monkeys, son of **Indra**, half-brother of **Sugriva**, and husband of **Tara**.

**Valmiki**: the sage who compiled the **Ramayana**.

**Vantail**: leaf of a door.

**Varman** (kh វរ្ម័ន៍): 'Protector'. **-varman** (sk 'protection, breast-plate') is a suffix for the royal names of almost all the Khmer kings; thus 'Jayavarman' means 'protected by Victory', 'Indravarman' 'protected by (the god) **Indra**'...

**Varuna**: God of the ocean and guardian of the West.

**Vasana**: The subconscious activities of the mind.

**Vasudeva**: Father of **Krishna**.

**Vasuki**: great king of the nagas.

**Vault**: arch extended in depth.

**Vayu**: guardian of the North West.

**Veda**: the inspired texts, recited and interpreted by the brahmins, in the Aryan religious system.

**Vibhishana**: 'The Terrifying', rakshasa brother of **Ravana**, who left Lanka to join **Rama**.

**Vihara, Vihear** (sk and pl 'secluded place', kh វិហារ): an ascetic's cave or retreat, and also a name given to temples or monasteries in Theravada Buddhism. Rectangular building housing a Buddha image.

**Vimana**: celestial palace of the gods.

**Vinaya**: the monastic code of the Buddhist Order; one of the 'Three Baskets' (Ti-pitaka) of **Pali** Canon: **vinaya-pitaka, sutta-pitaka, abhi-dhamma-pitaka**.

**Viradha**: Rakshasa who attempted to abduct **Sita**.

**Vishnu** (sk 'The Pervader', kh វិស្ណុ): one of the main Hindu deities, Maintainer of the Universe. Hinduism's supreme deity, yet less widely-worshipped than **Shiva** by the Khmers. He is the Divine Preserver of the earth and heavens, whose extent he measured in three giant steps. Through his **avatara**, he intervenes to restore order when there is chaos. His mild and peaceful nature the perfect counterbalance to Shiva's destructive wrath. In Khmer art he is portrayed with four arms, the upper two holding the god's 'attributes' of the *conch* and the *discus*, the lower two the *orb* (symbolizing the Earth) and the *club*.

**Vishvamita**: a sage.

## W

**Wat** (or **Vat**) (sk vastu, pl vatthu, kh វត្ត): temple, pagoda, Khmer Theravada monastery consisting of the religious buildings and the monks' cells. **Angkor Wat**, originally dedicated to **Vishnu**, has since become known as 'the city which is a (Buddhist) monastery'.

**Wiang** (ta เวียง): fortified temple. In Lao language, a city, like in *Wiang Chan* (lao ວຽງຈັນ), Vientiane, the capital city of Laos.

## Y

**Yaksha**: half-human and half-godlike being, associated with **Kubera**.

**Yama:** The 'prohibitions' observed by yogini and ascetics, who were forbidden to steal, lie, have sexual intercourse, take hallucinogens, kill or harm another being.

**Yama** (kh យមរាជ): king of the Dead, son of **Surya** reigning over the subterranean world, guardian of the South.

**Yasoda:** Krishna's adoptive mother.

**Yassa** (kh ធូលីព្រះវស្សា): the spiritual retreat during the monsoon rains, from June to September.

**Yatra** (sk 'journey'): Hindu procession or pilgrimage.

**Yekagrata:** In **yoga**, the concentration of the mind 'on a single point.

**Yoga** (kh យូហ្គា): The discipline of 'yoking' the powers of the mind in order to cultivate alternative states of consciousness and insight.

**Yogin:** A practitioner of yoga.

**Yoni** (pl gabbhaseyya 'womb', sk yoni, kh យូនី): womb, female genitalia and by extension the female sexual principle, holding the **linga** in Brahmanic representations. When the **linga** is ceremonially lustrated, the water thus becoming holy, runs down the **yoni** and flows out through its spout(s), allowing

**Yuga** (kh យុគៈ): an age of the world.

**Yuvaraja** (sk): crown prince.

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