



CAMBODIA-FLOATING VILLAGE KAMPOONG SEAM REAP

Dr. M. Padmaja

Associate Professor, CSEAPS, S.V. University, Tirupati.

KEYWORDS :

Lord Venkateswara is known as Kaliyugavayukuntam situated in Tirumala Tirupati Andhra Pradesh India. It was constructed and developed by Krishna devarayalu and Salvanarasimharayalu. Lord Vishnu temple at Angkor Wat Siem Reap is the largest temple, with an area of 500 acres in Cambodia. I went to Cambodia in December 2022 and visited Angkor Wat at that time I visited Kampong Floating Village. As an Anthropologist I was surprised a lot how people are living in this village in the floating water.

The village consists of houses, schools, temples, health centers what not it consists of each and everything else. The flora and fauna covered with greenery and the trees remain in the floating water with their fixed roots the areas are abundant with dogs and pigs few birds and aquatic creatures.

The people come from various countries visit the floating village. Watch Sun rise and Sun set. The sun set which we see can feel the excitement because the Sun is sinking into the sky. I asked people who live there how they constructed wooden houses remain safely in the water. They answered that it is the pine wood they used for construction of houses. Stay secure and this is the characteristic of pine wood of Siem Reap. At first when we want to enter into a big boat they pay 60 dollars and after reaching the point there is a wooden hotel later a small boat in Telugu we know it as theppa, and we should pay 15 dollars each person.

The larger boat is moved by 12 years old boy persons and smaller boat is moved by Kampong women and they sing a song "Row row a boat" and their names are similar to Indian culture like Savithri, Sakunthalai.

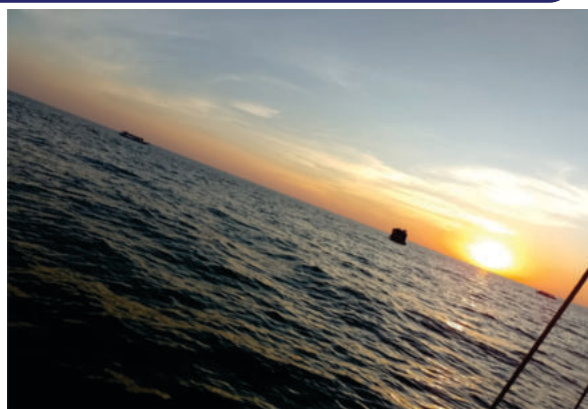
This is an excellent example of how Indian culture is diffused socially, culturally and religiously. First we have to remember Suryvarma and Jayavarma, who constructed Angkor Wat in Cambodia and diffused Indian culture in Cambodian Khmers life.

Fishing:

The people's livelihood is fishing in Kampong village. They make fishing nets and catch fish and trade it. They live 15 feet above the water on wood pillars at the base and then they construct houses on the first floor. The ground base is used for boat parking as we use for vehicles parking such as cars, two wheelers and bicycles. Tonal Sap is 16,000 square kilometers and nine meters deep during the rainy season. In the dry season, it shrinks to 2,700 sq km and between 1 - 2 meters deep.

Because the water levels differ so drastically in dry and rainy season, fishing families who make their living on the lake began living in floating villages which move with the changing water levels. Tonal Sap is one of the world's biggest inland fisheries. The annual income of households on the lake is under \$500. A few years ago, in New York Times published a sad outlook for Tonal Sap lake, reciting the issues the floating villages of Tonal Sap face due to climate change and longer periods of droughts.

The ecosystem in the lake is changing, the catch of the fishermen is declining, and it is likely that the floating villages won't be able to sustain themselves in the future.



Sun Rise And Sun Set

Life in Kampong:

Rowing a boat is a hard task and women row a boat to the lake and as we read in tales and moral stories. After reaching the point they pick lotus flowers from the rowing boat and present the flowers to us. This is an exciting feeling for us rowing in the boat in water and keeping a stick in a hand into the water. With all these emotional feelings one side with fear and the other side with daring the excitement experiences and pleasure. What a beautiful trip Kampong floating village and experiencing the people's livelihood in the floating village those who plan to visit Cambodia don't miss it. The floating markets of Bangkok with their colorful produce on adorable wooden boats floating through the city's canals. Most of Cambodia's floating villages are based on Lake Tonal Sap. Though this is the largest freshwater lake in South East Asia, this unique body of water changes drastically in size throughout the year. In the rainy season between June and October, the lake is massive, flooded with water from the Mekong River. In the dry season, from November to May, the lake shrinks to such a degree that its flow reverses to deposit water back into the Mekong.



Participation In Field Work At Kampong Village In Cambodia

Life in a floating village means that every errand must be run by boat. Dropping the kids off at school or heading off to play

basketball with their buddies must be done by paddling over by boat. And yes, there is a massive floating basketball court in the neighborhood! Most of the residents are self-sufficient, and it is incredible how they maintain their homes, with floating vegetable gardens and floating barns where they keep goats, pigs and chickens. The people living in the floating villages choose to make their home on the water mainly because they need to fish all year. The wildlife from the lake feeds their families and also gives them a source of income. It's difficult to fish during the dry season when their houses are much farther from the water, so the villagers have devised a way to move with the water levels, similar to a floating dock. Many of the houses on the lake were built on stilts. It looks as if time has stood still for a few decades. The handmade wooden houses contrast greatly with the booming city of Siem Reap where tourists touch down to explore the ancient temple of Angkor. Children operate boats, women wash themselves and their kids in the water, pigs are raised on boats. Vegetables grow in suspended pipes, and wooden frames covered in fishing lines mark small hand-made fish frames. Some houses are laterally floating on the calm water. Most of the people take the fish they catch to the shore to sell it on the markets. But kids take their boats as well to go to school.

On both sides of the road, colorful wooden houses on stilt rise about four to seven meters above us. The highest ones are up to ten meters. Young kids stare at us from the tiny balconies on which herbs and vegetables grow, their little feet dangling scarily above the steep vertical ladders.

CONCLUSION:

Visiting largest Vishnu temple Angkor what wonderful and fishing is livelihood in the floating village men, women and children are facing risk in their life. The absence of roaring boat engines and the rhythmic sound of the paddle hitting the water surface creates a peaceful atmosphere. In the distance, one of the women sings in Cambodia with a monk on-board. The orange robe of the religious man contrasts against the different shades of green from the tender green of the trees to the murky green of the water. We watch the sun sinking into the lake in an orange sky. What a beautiful trip... of floating village really amassing.

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