

PRESS RELEASE

Embassy of Japan to Cambodia

NOH Theatre in Cambodia

6 December (Wednesday) 2006, 18h30 (doors open at 18h00)

at Chenla Theatre

The Embassy of Japan announces that the NOH Theatre, performed by UMEWAKA TANBAZA, will be held on Wednesday, 6 December at the Chenla Theater.

A detailed program of the event is attached hereto.

NOH is one of the oldest theatrical arts of Japan. Since the 14th century, the arts of NOH have been performed and passed down through families, over numerous generations. The UMEWAKA Family is widely acclaimed in Japan and abroad for their mastery of the traditional arts as well as for their innovative approach to the NOH performance.

NOH is unique in its refined expression and its use of distinctive masks, with combination of dance, drama, music and poetry into one highly aesthetic stage act. In 2001, NOH was proclaimed amongst the first World Heritages (Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity) by UNESCO.

During the performance in Cambodia, NOH will be jointly performed with the Royal Ballet of Cambodia which is also listed as UNESCO's World Heritage in 2003. The NOH performance will be accompanied by SHOMYO, Buddhist Choral Chanting performed by priests of Naritasan Shinsho-ji Temple in order to pray for the everlasting peace.

The joint performance of NOH and the Royal Ballet of Cambodia, two World Heritage of UNESCO, will offer an opportunity to promote mutual cultural exchange between Cambodian and Japan.

ENDS

###

For further information, please contact:

Embassy of Japan, Culture & Information Section / Tel: 023-217-161