

Embassy of Japan in the Kingdom of Cambodia

## **Press Release**

29 August 2016

## Awarding Ceremony for Commendation of the Foreign Minister of Japan conferred upon Mr. Koji Tezuka, Ms. Loch Leaksmy and Mr. Kenji Koyama

The awarding ceremony of the commendation of the Foreign Minister of Japan conferred on Mr. Koji Tezuka, Advisor of the Buddhist Institute and Ms. Loch Leaksmy, Head of the Department of Japanese Language of the Institute of Foreign Languages of the Royal University of Phnom Penh was held on 26<sup>th</sup> August at the residence of the Ambassador of Japan to Cambodia.

On this occasion, Mr. Kenji Koyama, Executive chef for Ambassador, was also awarded the Foreign Minister's Commendation for the Excellent Chefs for Ambassador/Consul General of Japan.

On 13 July, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan announced the Foreign Minister's Commendations for this year, which are awarded to individuals and groups with outstanding achievement in international fields, to acknowledge their contributions to the promotion of friendship between Japan and other countries and areas.

Mr. Koji Tezuka, Advisor of the Buddhist Institute, has contributed to promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Cambodia through his 32 years of activities, which include working as an NGO staff to help the Cambodian refugees and promote education in Cambodia, and serving as the Chairman of the Japanese Association three times.

Ms. Loch Leaksmy, Head of the Department of Japanese Language of the Institute of Foreign Languages of the Royal University of Phnom Penh, contributed to promoting Japanese language education in Cambodia. Mr. Kenji Koyama has promoted Japanese cuisine in Cambodia not only at the Ambassador's residence, but also at cultural events and a TV program.

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