

ORTHODONTICS BRACES: IT MIGHT EXIST FOR A VERY LONG TIME-EVIDENCE FOR ANCIENT KHMER SCULPTURE

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ABSTRACT

Orthodontics brace is the widely used dental tool at present. This tool helps positioning and alignment of the teeth. The technique is advanced at present. Nevertheless, the technique might have a very long history. Here, the authors shows and discusses on the evidence for ancient Khmer sculpture that has orthodontic braces-like structure.

KEYWORDS: Orthodontics, Braces, Ancient.

INTRODUCTION

Orthodontics brace is the widely used dental tool at present [1-3]. This tool helps positioning and alignment of the teeth. The technique is advanced at present. Nevertheless, the technique might have a very long history. Here, the authors shows and discusses on the evidence for ancient Khmer sculpture that has orthodontic braces-like structure.

CASE STUDY

The case is the appearance of orthodontic braces-like structure at the old Khmer (ancient Cambodian) sculpture (Figure 1). The sculpture of the imaginary creature namely Kala head usually have the mentioned appearance.

DISCUSSION

Old Khmer or Cambodia is an ancient historical town. It is well-known for the world wonder, Angkor Wat. Many sculptures exist at Angkor and there are many interesting findings from those sculptures. The existence of the orthodontic braces-like structure at Kala head in Khmer might reflect a possibility of existence of orthodontics braces at that ancient time. Indeed, the ancient Java or old Balinese culture also have similar Kala head namely Rahu but there has never been any appearance of orthodontic braces-like structure. This might be very older than the known present orthodontics brace technique that has a history less than one hundred year period [4].

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Figure 1. Picture showing appearance of an orthodontic braces-like structure at the mouth of the old Khmer structure (see green line).

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

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