

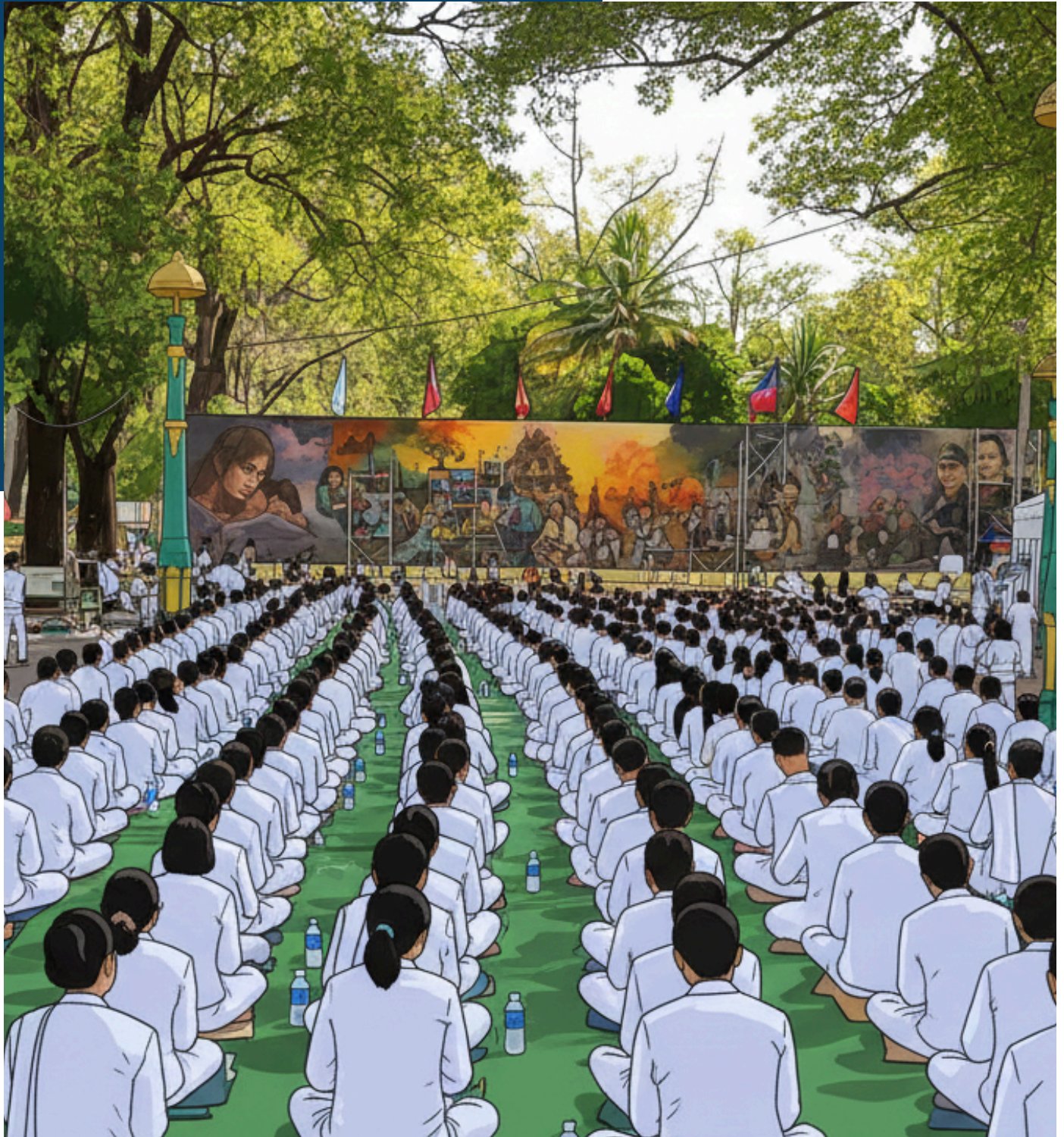
# AI FORUM NEWSLETTER

[HTTPS://AIFORUM.MY.CANVA.SITE/LINKTREE](https://aiforum.my.canva.site/linktree)

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**Prompt:** Walking Barefoot for Peace is a non-violent peace march that sends a clear and powerful message to international audiences, especially tourists in Siem Reap, that Cambodia is committed to peace, dignity, and the protection of human life

**Photo Credit:** ChatGPT

01/09

## 1. Canada seeks to support Cambodia's AI, emerging technology development

ប្រទេសកាណាដា កំពុងជួយគាំទ្រដល់ការអភិវឌ្ឍបច្ចេកវិទ្យាសិប្បនិម្មិត និងបច្ចេកវិទ្យាថ្មីៗ  
របស់ប្រទេសកម្ពុជា

Source: [Khmer Times](#)



Source: iStoke

Canada plans to support Cambodia's AI and emerging technology development through potential partnerships, leveraging Canada's strength in AI and digital governance. Discussions with Cambodia's Ministry of Post and Telecommunications also highlighted collaboration around AI innovation and digital solutions, including Canada's support for the FrancoTech event linked to the Francophonie Summit 2026, which will showcase AI and new technologies from the Francophone world.

Reference:

Nhean, C. (2025, December 22). Canada seeks to support Cambodia's AI, emerging technology development. *Khmer Times*.  
<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501812595/canada-seeks-to-support-cambodias-ai-emerging-technology-development/>

## 2. Since start of second Thai attack, 218 cases of fake news noted

ព័ត៌មានក្លែងក្លាយចំនួន ២១៨ ករណីត្រូវបានកត់សម្គាល់ក្នុងអំឡុងពេលថៃចាប់ផ្តើម  
ការវាយប្រហារជាលើកទីពីរ

Source: [The Phnom Penh Post](#)

Cambodia's Ministry of Information reports 218 cases of fake news since December 7, accusing Thailand and hostile foreign groups of using AI-generated images and fabricated content to distort facts during the conflict. Officials warn this AI-driven disinformation targets national leaders, institutions, and displaced civilians, aiming to fuel confusion and psychological warfare. The public is urged not to share AI-manipulated content to protect national security and social stability.



Source: iStoke

Reference:

Niem, C. (2025, December 21). Since start of second Thai attack, 218 cases of fake news noted. *The Phnom Penh Post*.  
<https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/information-ministry-since-start-of-second-thai-attack-218-cases-of-fake-news-noted>

### 3. Cyberport unites with the Government and industry to build AI-powered cybersecurity shield for Hong Kong

ក្រុមហ៊ុន Cyberport សហការជាមួយរដ្ឋាភិបាល និងវិស័យឯកជនដើម្បីបង្កើត  
ប្រព័ន្ធសន្តិសុខតាមអ៊ីនធឺណិតក្នុងទីក្រុងហុងកុង

Source: [The Standard](#)



Source: iStoke

Hong Kong is building an AI-powered cybersecurity shield through collaboration between government, industry, and tech leaders, led by Cyberport. AI is being used both to counter AI-enabled cybercrime (deepfakes, phishing, automated attacks) and to strengthen defence via AI-driven threat intelligence, automated incident response, and Zero Trust security. Companies and authorities—including the Hong Kong Police Force—are deploying AI to detect fraud faster, reduce defence costs, and protect critical sectors like finance, positioning Hong Kong as a regional hub for secure and trustworthy AI cybersecurity.

Reference:

The Standard. (2025, December 12). *Cyberport unites with the Government and industry to build AI-powered cybersecurity shield for Hong Kong*. <https://www.thestandard.com.hk/spotlight-news/article/319886/Cyberport-unites-with-the-Government-and-industry-to-build-AI-powered-cybersecurity-shield-for-Hong-Kong>

### 4. Is 2025 ending with an AI bubble? We could be at a turning point in history

តើឆ្នាំ ២០២៥ នឹងបញ្ចប់ដោយសប្បុរសភាព Bubble ឬយ៉ាងណា? យើងអាចត្រលប់  
ទៅចំណុចរបស់មួយក្នុងប្រវត្តិសាស្ត្រ

Source: [ABC Net](#)



Source: iStoke

2025 may mark the peak of an AI investment bubble, with explosive AI adoption driving record stock valuations and massive spending on data centers. While AI—and emerging humanoid robots are clearly transformative, concerns are rising that financial expectations exceed realistic returns, risking a market correction even as AI permanently reshapes work, the economy, and society.

Reference:

Kohler, A. (2025, December 22). *Is 2025 ending with an AI bubble? We could be at a turning point in history*. *ABC Net*. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-12-22/ai-bubble-2025-turning-point-history/106163574>

## 5. Japanese government adopts first basic plan on AI រដ្ឋាភិបាលជប៉ុនបានអនុម័តផែនការមូលដ្ឋានលើកដំបូងស្តីពីបញ្ញាសប្បនិម្មិត

Source: [The Japan Times](#)

Japan has adopted its first national AI basic plan, under Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi, aiming to accelerate AI development and adoption while ensuring reliable and safe AI. The plan prioritizes domestic AI models, AI-powered robotics (physical AI), government-wide AI use, expanded AI safety oversight through the Japan AI Safety Institute, and early AI education in schools to close Japan's growing AI gap with other countries.



Reference:

JJI. (2025, December 23). Japanese government adopts first basic plan on AI. *The Japan Times*.  
<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2025/12/23/japan/ai-first-basic-plan/>

## 6. AI deepfakes fuel surge in online scams targeting families បច្ចេកវិទ្យា AI deepfakes បង្កើនការឆបោកតាមប្រព័ន្ធអនឡាញដែលផ្តោតលើការ ក្លែងបន្លំសម្លេង ឬរូបភាពឱ្យដូចសមាជិកគ្រួសាររបស់អ្នកដើម្បីបោកបញ្ឆោតយកប្រាក់

Source: [Tampa Bay28](#)



AI-generated deepfakes (voice and video) are rapidly becoming a major driver of online scams, especially those targeting families through fake emergencies (e.g., kidnappings or accidents). Cybersecurity experts warn that by late 2026, deepfakes may become the dominant scam method, as AI tools can clone voices and faces within minutes using social media content. This AI-enabled fraud has contributed to billions of dollars in losses, making public awareness and skepticism the most important defense against AI-powered deception.

Reference:

Walser, A. (2025, December 24). AI deepfakes fuel surge in online scams targeting families. *Tampa Bay28*.  
<https://www.tampabay28.com/news/local-news/i-team-investigates/ai-deepfakes-fuel-surge-in-online-scams-targeting-families>

PUBLICATIONS

**AIF Insights No. 35  
(2025) | From  
Medicine to  
Meaning: A  
Buddhist Journey  
through Being,  
Knowing, and  
Acting in AI**

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Chhem, K. R. (2025, October 10). *From Medicine to Meaning: A Buddhist Journey through Being, Knowing, and Acting in AI*. AI Forum. <https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/?publication=aif-insights-no-35-2025-from-medicine-to-meaning-a-buddhist-journey-through-being-knowing-and-acting-in-ai>

From Medicine to Meaning: A Buddhist Journey through Being, Knowing, and Acting in AI explores how Buddhist philosophy reframes the discourse on artificial intelligence through an ontology of interdependence, an epistemology of the Middle Way, and an ethics of compassion. Moving beyond Western notions of autonomy and binary logic, the essay situates AI within a relational framework grounded in dependent origination (paṭiccasamuppāda) and non-self (anattā). It argues that intelligence should be understood not as independent agency but as a process arising from interconnected causes and conditions. Drawing on the Four Brahmavihāras—loving-kindness, compassion, sympathetic joy, and equanimity—the paper proposes a model of “compassionate design” where moral intention replaces mechanical compliance. The author’s intellectual evolution from medicine to education and history mirrors a shift from empirical control to contemplative wisdom. Ultimately, the essay contends that the true innovation in AI lies not in computation but in consciousness—inviting humanity to design intelligent systems guided by mindfulness, wisdom, and compassion.

## PUBLICATIONS

### AIF Insights No. 36 (2025) | Khmer Gatilok and Relational Ethics: A Cultural Lens for AI Morality

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Chhem, K. R. (2025, October 31). *Khmer Gatilok and Relational Ethics: A Cultural Lens for AI Morality*. AI Forum.

<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-36-2025-khmer-gatilok-and-relational-ethics-a-cultural-lens-for-ai-morality/>

This essay examines the Khmer ethical system of Gatilok as a culturally grounded framework for AI ethics. Unlike Western approaches that prioritize universal principles, Gatilok emphasizes relational, situational, and long-term moral reasoning rooted in Theravāda Buddhist concepts such as intention (cetanā), karma (kamma), and social harmony (sampheap). Through stories, proverbs, and oral traditions, Gatilok teaches that ethical behavior depends on context, relationships, and the consequences of actions over time. Applying these insights to AI governance highlights the importance of relational accountability, participatory oversight, culturally sensitive datasets, and long-term impact assessments. By integrating Gatilok into AI design and policy, this perspective encourages ethically aware, contextually appropriate, and culturally responsive AI systems that respect local values and foster social cohesion.

The Khmer Path Beyond AI explores how a mistranslation of “artificial intelligence” in Cambodia opened a deeper conversation about the difference between intelligence and wisdom. The article argues that while modern AI focuses on computation and efficiency, Khmer Buddhist thought offers a path that centers mindfulness, discernment, and compassion. It suggests that Cambodia’s philosophical heritage can inspire a shift from building smart machines to cultivating wise technologies grounded in ethical awareness and human flourishing.

Reference:

Chhem, K. R. (2025, November 11). *Artificial Wisdom: The Khmer Path Beyond AI*. AI Forum.

<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-37-2025-artificial-wisdom-the-khmer-path-beyond-ai/>

### AIF Insights No. 37 (2025) | Artificial Wisdom: The Khmer Path Beyond AI

Source: [AI Forum](#)

## PUBLICATIONS

### AIF Insights No. 38 (2025) | Science as Shield: How Small States Survive Through Cyber, AI, Math, and Physics

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Chhem, K. R. (2025, December 17). *Science as Shield: How Small States Survive Through Cyber, AI, Math, and Physics*. AI Forum.  
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-38-2025-science-as-shield-how-small-states-survive-through-cyber-ai-math-and-physics/>

This article argues that for small states, survival in an era shaped by great power rivalry, war economy dynamics, and artificial intelligence depends on scientific depth rather than size or rhetoric. It contends that mathematics, physics, and cyber capability form the core pillars of industrial capacity, technological sovereignty, and national security. Drawing on earlier Cambodian policy papers and contemporary global trends, the analysis shows how neglecting these foundations leads to structural dependence, strategic vulnerability, and silent erosion of sovereignty, especially as AI amplifies existing scientific inequalities. The article concludes that science is no longer a long-term development goal but an immediate strategic necessity, and that for small states, building robust scientific ecosystems is the decisive condition for autonomy and survival in the modern international system.

This paper examines how Gatilok parables, a classical Khmer moral tradition, can inform contemporary debates on AI ethics and governance. Drawing on six well known stories, it treats these parables as moral case studies rather than folklore, highlighting themes of authority without wisdom, silenced questioning, and ethical failure rooted in unchecked desire. The analysis shows clear parallels between these narratives and modern AI systems that rely on institutional prestige, technical opacity, and voluntary ethics frameworks without enforcement. By reframing AI governance through Gatilok's ethical grammar, the paper argues for designs that make power accountable, systems contestable, and moral insight visible, especially for societies in the Global South that often receive AI technologies developed elsewhere. It concludes that ethical AI requires not only technical safeguards but also moral architectures that encourage listening, restraint, and responsibility.

### AIF Insights No. 39 (2025) | Gatilok Ethics for AI

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Chhem, K. R. (2025, October 10). *Gatilok Ethics for AI*. AI Forum.  
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/?publication=aif-insights-no-35-2025-from-medicine-to-meaning-a-buddhist-journey-through-being-knowing-and-acting-in-ai>

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<https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/information-ministry-since-start-of-second-thai-attack-218-cases-of-fake-news-noted>
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<https://www.thestandard.com.hk/spotlight-news/article/319886/Cyberport-unites-with-the-Government-and-industry-to-build-AI-powered-cybersecurity-shield-for-Hong-Kong>
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<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-12-22/ai-bubble-2025-turning-point-history/106163574>
5. JIJI. (2025, December 23). Japanese government adopts first basic plan on AI. *The Japan Times*.  
<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2025/12/23/japan/ai-first-basic-plan/>
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<https://www.tampabay28.com/news/local-news/i-team-investigates/ai-deepfakes-fuel-surge-in-online-scams-targeting-families>

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<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-36-2025-khmer-gatilok-and-relational-ethics-a-cultural-lens-for-ai-morality/>
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<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-38-2025-science-as-shield-how-small-states-survive-through-cyber-ai-math-and-physics/>