

## Thailand's Khorat Geopark: the bottom up approach

In 2019, Khorat Geopark of Thailand applied as an aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark. It is endowed with numerous and highly diverse fossils including dinosaurs and other reptiles (about 115 to 100 million years ago), mammalian and petrified wood (ranging from 16 million to 10,000 years ago) which are significant geological heritages of international value. Also of international importance is the sandstone cuesta, the rich forest system such as the deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forests as well as the unique Thai Khorat cultural heritages.

Riding on the Buddhism tradition of Thailand, the Geopark has designed the 'Home-Temple-School' model to promote geoconservation, education, sustainable development and to engage local communities to achieve the objectives of Global Geoparks. Since its inception in 2018, this bottom up approach has successfully attracted 26 schools to participate. Meanwhile, it has launched nine education/geotourism programmes running by villagers, monks, teachers and students in the vicinity.

On 19 July 2020, we are honoured to have Dr. Jaroon Duangkrayom, Deputy Director of Education and Information of Khorat Geopark to online share their success story.

## Online Talk - Thailand's Khorat Geopark: the bottom up approach

Organisor: Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong (AGHK)

Date: 19 July 2020 (Sunday)
Time: Hong Kong Time, PM
2:30 – 3:00 Testing
3:00 – 4:15 Talk
4:25 – 4:30 Q&A

Dr. Jaroon Duangkrayom

Language: English Charges: Free Software: Zoom

Speaker:

(Software download and testing details will be provided later to successful applicants)

Enquiry: <u>talk@rocks.org.hk</u>

For those interested, please complete and submit the registration form at <a href="https://forms.gle/sjQhbAmtePVGyiSP7">https://forms.gle/sjQhbAmtePVGyiSP7</a>. Seats are limited and priority will be given to AGHK members. Successful applicants will be notified by email. AGHK reserves the right of the final application results.

## **About the Speaker**



**Dr. Jaroon Duangkrayom,** Deputy Director of Education & Information of Korat Geopark, has been assisting the incorporation and development of the Geopark. From 2008 – 2017, he had been the geologist of Satun Geopark. From 2004 to present, he is the researcher of Northeastern Research Institute of Petrified Wood and Mineral Resources as well as the lecturer of Geoinformatic Programme of Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University. Dr. Duangkrayom specialises in comparative anatomy of Neogene mammal especially Proboscidean, phylogeny, terrestrial deposits and stratigraphy, and paleogeography.