Phaya Naga

A Freebie to celebrate #stitchasia during March 2021.

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Naga are snakelike creatures featured in the folklore of South Asia, as well as the religions of Hinduism and Buddhism. While this particular Naga is fully serpentine, Naga are sometimes portrayed as half-snake half-human, with the body of a snake and the head or torso and head of a human. Naga also are sometimes shown with multiple necks and heads emerging from a singular serpentine body.

The Naga motif is commonly used in decoration across South Asia, including Laos, Thailand, and Cambodia. Intricate and colorful Naga statues and carvings are featured on temples, art installations, boats, and signs. They are deeply connected to the Mekong River which runs through each of these countries. Some say that real life Naga live within the river, causing abnormal wave patterns and leaving their slithering tracks behind them.

This pattern was designed to be a part of #stitchasia, an online initiative to stitch and celebrate Asian themes and designers/product creators in March 2021.