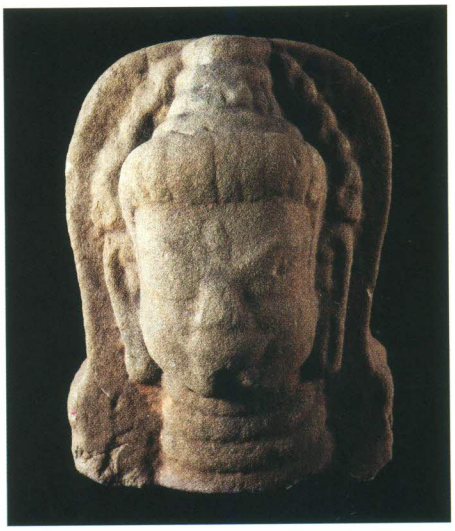
49. Heads of relief statues

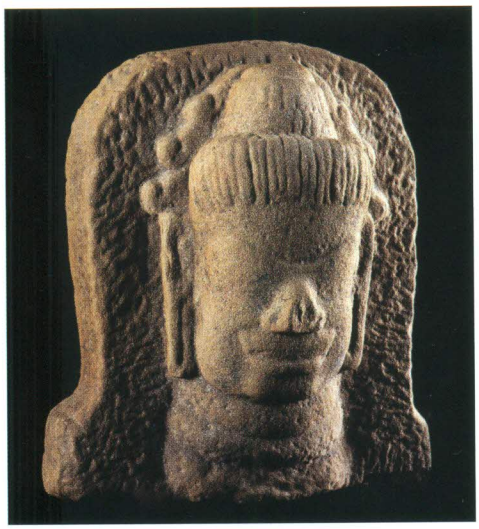
Quá Giáng, Đà Nẵng
10th century
Sandstone.

1. BTC 76-44.18
H. 38 cm; W. 25 cm; D. 27 cm

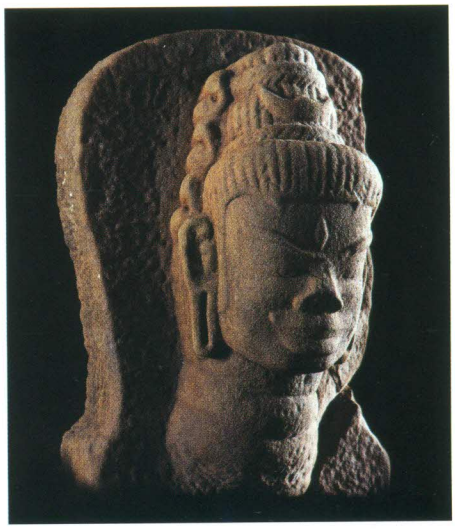


2. BTC 1643
H. 36 cm; W.27 cm; D. 33 cm

3. BTC 1644
H. 34cm; W. 29 cm; D. 19 cm



4. BTC 14.QG.H1.15
H. 34 cm; W. 33 cm; D. 20 cm



5. BTC 14.QG.H1.05
H.37 cm; W. 26 cm; D. 31 cm

These heads of statues were collected from the ruin of Quá Giáng located 15 km southwest of the centre of Đà Nẵng City. Many bricks from the mostly ruined temple were removed to repair the nearby national road (Parmentier 1909: 314-316).

All the collected heads – 33 in number - resemble each other in size and style. The *jaṭā-mukuṭa* has three or four tiers and the neat tresses hanging down. Some heads bear the crescent moons on the chignon. The face has strong eyebrows intersecting in the middle and curving up the brow, a prominent moustache above fleshy lips, and the long ears distended by jewelry. The neck folds are heavy. Such features are typical of the art of the late 9th to early 10th centuries, in the late Đồng Dương style.

The heads are large, averaging 35cm high, and were carved in high relief against a back support with a buttress or a tenon which connected the standing body to a pilaster of the outer wall of the temple. Such forms of decoration can be seen on the outer walls of the extant temples Mỹ Sơn B5, C1, D1.

VVT