

2.30 Unpublished Inscription from Damunupola and the Archaeological Significance of the Surrounding Area

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ABSTRACT

The “Sathara Koralaya” holds an important place in Sri Lankan history. The archaeological importance of this area is evident by the prehistoric sites at Alulena, Doravakkanda. Maniyangama Belilena (Deraniyagala,1992) as well as from the inscriptions which refer to “Bata” and “Parumaka” which were high ranking administrative posts.

H.C.P.Bell the first Commissioner of the Department of Archaeology which was established in 1890 conducted extensive archaeological surveys of the Kegalle District (Bell,1990). In addition the archaeological importance of the Sathara Koralaya has been proved through various scholarly researches.

The historic village of Atugoda Damunupola greatly contributes to the historical and archaeological importance of our country. The main reason for the importance of Damunupola is due to it being on the path of an ancient royal roadway extending from Menikkadawara, Iddamalpana, Attapitiya etc. In addition its geographical location makes it a suitable security point as well.

The main aim of this paper is to discuss the unpublished slab inscription which was used as a flower altar in the Damunupola Viharaya and also to discuss its ancient as well as contemporary society.

References

- Bell.H.C.P. 1990 Report on the Kegalla District in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, Archaeological Survey of Ceylon, Colombo.
- Deraniyagala.S.U 1992 The prehistory in Sri Lanka, Part II, Department of Archaeological Survey, Sri Lanka.