

AA CAVE ( Baker 1855 )

or: Cavern worthy of Robin Hood

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gravitationally dislocated gneiss boulders.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Nuwara Eliya district: Hakgala Strict Natural Reserve area: Perawella (Peréwellé) village.

POSITION: (If at the village of »Peréwellé« or Perawella itself), WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°56': E 080°51' / N 6.93333334°: E 80.85°  
<www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Baker, Samuel White 1855.

A »cavern worthy of Robin Hood« describes BAKER (1855, chapter vii) in the course of narrating a hunter's tale: »This had been formed by a couple of large rocks the size of a moderate house, which had been detached from the overhanging cliff above, and had fallen together. There was a smaller cavern within, which made a capital kennel ...«

Compare the likewise anonymous cave at →Hakgala (Cooray 1967).

SITUATION: Apparently within the Hakgala Strict Natural Reserve (note 1), and somewhere above one village of »Peréwellé« (note 2) and above a large waterfall (no name mentioned) in the gorge (no name mentioned) of a one obsolete »Fort M'Donald River« (note 3) where »the whole country forms a gorge, like a gigantic letter V. At the bottom roars the dreaded torrent, Fort M'Donald river, in a succession of foaming cataracts, all of which, however grand individually, are completely eclipsed by its last great plunge of three hundred feet perpendicular depth into a dark and narrow chasm of wall-bound cliffs. The bed of the river is the most frightful place that can be conceived, being choked by enormous fragments of rock, amidst which the irresistible torrent howls with a fury that it is impossible to describe. The river is confined on either side by rugged cliffs of gneiss rock, from which these fragments have from time to time become detached, and have accordingly fallen into the torrent, choking the bed and throwing the obstructed waters into frightful commotion. Here they lie piled one upon the other, like so many inverted cottages; here and there forming dripping caverns; now forming walls of slippery rock, over which the water falls in thundering volumes into pools black from their mysterious depth, and from which there is no visible means of exit. These dark and dangerous pools are walled in by hoary-looking rocks, beneath which the pent-up water dives and boils in subterranean caverns, until it at length escapes through secret channels, and reappears on the opposite side of its prison-walls; lashing itself into foam in its mad frenzy, it forms rapids of giddy velocity through the rocky bounds; now flying through a narrowed gorge, and leaping, striving and wrestling with unnumbered obstructions, it at length meets with the mighty fall, like death in a madman's course. One plunge! without a single shelf to break the fall, and down, down it sheets; at first like glass, then like the broken avalanche of snow, and lastly! - we cannot see more - the mist boils from the ruin of shattered waters and conceals the bottom of the fall. The roar vibrates like thunder in the rocky mountain, and forces the grandeur of the scene through every nerve.«

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1852 or 1853, May 30th: Samuel White BAKER (1855, chapter vii) enjoyed camping in the cave accompanied by his brother and one Captain Pelly of the 37th Regiment, who then ranked »Commandant of Newera Ellia« (Nuwara Eliya).

NOTE 1: »A large tract of jungle-covered hill stretches away from the Moon Plains at Newera Ellia [sic! for: Nuwara Eliya] toward the east, forming a hog's back of about three and a half miles in length. Upon the north side this shelves into a deep gorge, at the bottom of which flows, or rather tumbles, Fort M'Donald river on its way to the low country, through forest-covered hills and perpendicular cliffs, until it reaches the precipitous patina mountains, when, in a succession of large cataracts, it reaches the paddy-fields in the first village of Peréwellé [Perawella N 06°56': E 080°51']. Thus the river in the gorge below runs parallel to the long hog's back of mountain. This is bordered on the other side by another ravine and smaller torrent, to which the Badulla road runs parallel until it reaches the mountain of Hackgalla [Hakgala Peak N 06°54'36": E 080°47'22" WGS84], at which place the ravine deepens into the misty gorge already described.«

NOTE 2: »Peréwellé« (BAKER 1855) appears to correspond to the village of Perawella N 06°56': E 080°51' (WGS84) and thus at the very same spot where <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003) positions also the five villages of Galgewela, Karametiya, Medagodagama or Medagodegama, Perawella and Telhawadigama or Thelhawadigama.

NOTE 3: »Fort M'Donald River« (BAKER 1855) is not identified.

AA CAVE ( Hafner 1810 )

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central or Sabaragamuwa province: Kurunegala district:

"Seven Korles" or Rajwanny: Panduwas Nuwara / Panduvas Nuwara /

Panduvasnuwara area.

POSITION: (if at Panduwas Nuwara / Panduvas Nuwara / Panduvasnuwara itself), WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°22'30": E 080°07' / N 7.375°: E 80.11666667° <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-02 or NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Haafner, Jacob Godfried 1810, 1811, 1821a, 1821b, 1826a, 1852, 1926-1927, 1992-1997, 1995, 2004.

Somewhere in the wilderness of the dry lowland zone of North-Western Sri Lanka, Jacob Godfried Haafner spent a night in 1783 a night in a rock shelter on his way eastwards from Chilaw (note 1) into the obsolete »Seven Korles« (an administrative subdivision) on the way heading towards »Bocaul« (note 2) but at one stage of the journey back to Puttalam (N 08°02': E 079°49').

CAVE DESCRIPTION (HAAFNER 1810, 1811, 1821a, 1821b, 1826a, 1852, 1926-1927, 1992-1997, 1995, edited 2004, chapter 16: 273-275): »Bei Anbruch der Nacht sah ich mich nach einem geeigneten Platz um, an dem ich unterkommen und vor dem Regen und allem anderen geschützt war; was die wilden Tiere anging, so glaubte ich, sie nicht fürchten zu müssen, da sie zwischen den kahlen Felsen unmöglich auch nur die kleinste Beute finden konnten. Ich setzte mich schließlich an den Fuß eines Felsens, der durch sein vorspringendes Oberteil eine Art Gewölbe oder Grotte bildete ... Es war gegen Mitternacht, als ich einmal durch ein Geräusch wie das Blaffen von Hunden aus meinen traurigen Gedanken gerissen wurde; es mischte sich von Zeit zu Zeit mit tauben, hohlen Tönen, die aus dem Berg hervorzukommen schienen, der sich auf der gegenüberliegenden Seite des Kanals [note 3] befand. ... beklemmende Ruhe ... Auf einmal hörte ich deutlich hinter dem Felsen, an dem ich mich befand, einen unheimlichen, hallenden Schrei. Das Blut stockte mir in den Adern ... Ich bewaffnete mich mit einem großen Stein und stürzte halb wahnsinnig aus der Höhle, die meine Unterkunft bildete. Im selben Augenblick

kam hinter einem keine zehn Schritt entfernten Felsen eine derartige Mischung fremdartiger Töne hervor, so falsch, durchdringend, grässlich und ungeheuerlich [note 4], dass ich vor Furcht und Schrecken die Finger in die Ohren steckte und in tödlichem Entsetzen vor diesem höllischen Getöse mit solcher Hast in meine Grotte zurückrannte, dass ich mir an einem Felsüberhang in der Übereilung beinahe den Kopf in Stücke schlug. Blut strömte mir über das Gesicht, als ich mich wie ein Blatt zitternd in den hintersten Winkel verzog.«

SITUATION 1 (Kohl, Thomas in: HAAFNER 2004: 250 footnote 1): Somewhere in the vicinity of the ruins of »Panduwas Nuwara« (also: Panduvas Nuwara, Panduvasnuwara N 07°36': E 080°07' WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

SITUATION 2 (Kohl, Thomas in: HAAFNER 2004: 277 footnote 1): At a (linear?) distance of circa 15 km (or 15 miles or 25 km?) in an unspecified direction from Kurunegala (N 07°29'12": E 080°21'53" WGS84), which itself lies some 27 km in a direct line ESE of the ruins of »Panduwas Nuwara.«

NOTE 1: Chilaw N 07°34'33": E 079°47'43" (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003), also: Chilan [hence: Ceylon?], Chilow, Chillow.

NOTE 2: »Bocaul« (HAAFNER 1810, 1826; TIRION, Isaac 1750 map: Nieuwe Kaart van t Eiland Ceilon; Amsterdam) or »Hill Bocawl« (KNOX book 4, chapter 9) are the hills and the village of Bokkawala (N 07°23': E 080°33') about 5 or 10 km west of the road (Kohl, Thomas in: HAAFNER 2004: 180 footnote 2) from Kandy (N 07°17'47": E 080°38'06" WGS84) to Matale (N 07°28'18": E 080°37'28").

NOTE 3: Kohl, Thomas in: HAAFNER (2004: 250 footnote 1): »Haafner spricht hier an mehreren Stellen von einem Kanal (ndl. kanaal), was auf einen ehemaligen Bewässerungskanal hindeutet; in der Nähe befinden sich die Ruinen von Panduwas Nuwara [Panduvas Nuwara, Panduvasnuwara N 07°36': E 080°07' WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003], der ehemaligen singhalesischen Königsstadt Parakramabahus I. aus dem 12. Jh. Vor den Zerstörungen des 13 Jhds., beginnend mit Magha aus Kalinga, stand die Stadt mitten in einer Kulturlandschaft; nach dem Wegzug der Bevölkerung aus der einst blühenden Landschaft Rajrata im Norden und nach dem Verfall der Bewässerungsanlagen bildete sich eine "verwüstete Ruine aus verlassenen Ortschaften, überwachsenem Dschungel und vertrockneten Wasserteichen" (Encyclopaedia Britannica 2003 s.v. Sri Lanka - History - Drift to the Southwest - Economic changes - Collapse of the Dry Zone cultivation).«

NOTE 4: KNOX (1681, IV.iii) describes the horrible, barking and not locateable noise ascribed by the Singhalese to the devil.

TENNENT (1861, VI.i): »Owls.-- Of the nocturnal accipitres the most remarkable is the brown owl, which, from its hideous yell, has acquired the name of the "Devil-Bird" (Syrnium Indranee Sykes). The Singhalese regard it literally with horror, and its scream by night in the vicinity of a village is bewailed as the harbinger of impending calamity. The horror of this nocturnal scream was equally prevalent in the West as in the East. Ovid introduces it in his Fasti (L. vi. l. 139) and Tibullus in his Elegies (L. i. El. 5). Statius says: Nocturnaeque gemunt striges, et feralla bubo Damna canens (Theb. iii. l. 511). But Pliny, l. xi. c. 93, doubts as to what bird produced the sound and the details of Ovid's description do not apply to an owl. Mr. Mitford, of the Ceylon Civil Service, to whom I am indebted for many valuable notes relative to the birds of the island, regards the identification of the Singhalese Devil-Bird as open to similar doubt. He says: "The Devil-Bird is not an owl. I never heard it until I came to Kornegalle [Kurunegala N 07°29'12": E 080°21'53" WGS84], where it haunts the rocky hill at the back of Government house. Its ordinary note is a magnificent clear

shout like that of a human being, and which can be heard at a great distance, and has a fine effect in the silence of the closing night. It has another cry like that of a hen just caught, but the sounds which have earned for it its bad name, and which I have heard but once to perfection, are indescribable, the most appalling that can be imagined, and scarcely to be heard without shuddering; I can only compare it to a boy in torture, whose screams are being stopped by being strangled. I have offered rewards for a specimen, but without success. The only European who had seen and fired at one agreed with the natives that it is of the size of a pigeon, with a long tail. I believe it is a Podargus or Night Hawk." In a subsequent note he further says: "I have since seen two birds by moonlight, one of the size and shape of a cuckoo, the other a large black bird, which I imagine to be the one which gives these calls."

HAECKEL (1881/1882, 6th edition 1922): »Im übrigen wurde meine Nachtruhe durch die mannigfaltigen Bestien von Belligemma [Beligama N 07°44': E 080°33'] nur wenig gestört, abgesehen von dem Geheul des Schakals und dem unheimlichen Ruf des Teufelsvogels (einer Eule, Syrnium Indrani).«

WIESE, Leopold von (1923: 32): »Da drang ein klagender Ton durch die Luft, nicht zu laut, aber so qualerfüllt, als läge in ihm alles Leid zusammengefasst, das in diesem Augenblick auf der weiten Erde ... bestand.«

AA CAVE ( Lübke 1953 )

or: Hundert Erdspalten, Hundred Chasms

A group of unexplored and not mapped fabulous pothole caves in gravitationally or tectonically dislocated gneiss or granite.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Anuradhapura district: Mihintale (Mihintala) area: Field of the 100 Chasms.

POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Lübke, Anton 1953, 1955, 1958a, 1958b, 1961.

Allegedly numerous, sizeable, and unexplored but fabulous rift caves —merely 20 m wide and up to 800 m deep— stages LÜBKE (1953 etc.) at a »Field of Hundred Chasms« near Mihintale (N 08°21': E 080°30'). Lübke decided the chasms are said, according to faked up chroniclers, to have come into existence on occasion of an eleven day long earthquake in the year 1645 AD. Most have only a small opening but with increasing depth they open into the gaping, completely unexplored chambers. Only every now and then, skillful Singhalese climbers descent on swaying rope ladders into the deep abysses to release wild animals, which had fallen down during their nightly expeditions from their agony, with a shot.

CAVE DESCRIPTION: Quite a few translations into European languages, including French (LÜBKE 1955), English (LÜBKE 1958a, 1958b) and Spanish (LÜBKE 1961), exist of the original German tale by LÜBKE (1953: 134): »Nur von wenigen Höhlen weiß man mit Sicherheit, wann und wie sie entstanden, um von ihnen auf die Entstehung anderer Höhlen schließen zu können. Zu diesen gehören die des "Feldes der 100 Erdspalten" in der Nähe des Ortes Mihintale auf Ceylon, die hier als markantes Beispiel für die Entstehung von Spaltenhöhlen in geschichtlicher Zeit zuerst genannt werden sollen. Dieses Höhlengebiet entstand während eines gewaltigen Erdbebens, das 1645 die Insel Ceylon heimsuchte. Elf Tage lang, so berichten Chronisten, erschütterten die unterirdischen Kräfte Nordceylon ... Heute ist dieses Gebiet von zahlreichen 20 m breiten und bis zu 800 m tiefen Erdspalten durchsetzt. Die meisten Erdspalten haben nur eine geringe Öffnung, verbreitern sich aber nach unten zu weitklaffenden Felskammern, die noch vollkommen unerforscht sind. Nur dann und wann wagen gewandte singhalesische Kletterer sich auf

schwankenden Strickleitern in die tiefen Schlünde, um wilde Tiere, die während ihrer nächtlichen Streifzüge hinabstürzen, von ihrer Todesqual durch einen Schuß zu erlösen.«

AA CAVE " MINNERYIA " ( Chopard 1916 )

or: Minneriya, Minneri, Minnerya

Unexplored and not mapped cave, rock shelter or rock-cut chamber.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Polonnaruwa (Polonnaruwa) district: Minneriya or »Minneryia« (Minneri, Minnerya).

POSITION: Representative WGS84 or Everest 1830 coordinates (assumed horizontal precision error  $\pm 5$  km) N 08°02'30": E 080°52'30" / N 8.04166667°: E 80.875° (mere guesswork).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Pollonaruwa; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Aellen, Villy; Sket, Boris & Strinati, Pierre 2001; Chopard, Louis 1916.

An unspecified site, perhaps a cave (possibly not), yielded one male specimen of an immature cricket (CHOPARD 1916: 114-115; AELLEN, SKET & STRINATI, 2001: 1978).

SITUATION: At an unspecified location somewhere at a so-called »Minneryia, Ceylan« (CHOPARD 1916: 114) which seems to be a corrupted Minneryia (note 1).

CAVE LIFE: CHOPARD (1916: 114-115) gives a taxonomical description of the new sub-species *Diestrammena Gravely ceylonica* (Orthoptera: Stenopelmatidae).

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1916: B.H. Buxton (Indian Museum) had collected on an unidentified date one immature male specimen of a cricket (CHOPARD 1916: 114).

NOTE 1: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) lists (WGS84):

N 08°05': E 080°55' Minneriya (proposed forest reserve) N 08°03': E 080°53' Minneri, Minneriya, Minneriya Railway Halt N 08°02': E 080°54' Minneriya, Minneriya Bathgampattuwa, Minnerya (village) N 08°00': E 080°50' Minneriya (mountain) N 08°00': E 080°53' Minneriya Giritale (sanctuary).

Grotte près du

ADAM's PEAK ( Siffre 1975 )

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural sacred troglodyte cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area.

POSITION: Representative WGS84 or Everest 1830 coordinates (estimated horizontal precision error  $\pm 10$  km) N 06°50': E 080°28' / N 6.83333334°: E 80.46666667° (unspecified coordinate source).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton or Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Siffre, Michel 1975.

SIFFRE (1975: 12) gives a photograph of a cave without specified name called »Grotte près d'Adam's Peak avec habitations troglodytiques.« This is possibly identical --but this is mere guesswork-- with (one of?) the -->Old Woman's Hut Grottoes.

SITUATION: At an unspecified location without recognised spatial relation »near« Adam's Peak (Sri Pada, Pidurutulagula N 06°48'30": E 080°29'53": 2242.3 m asl).

Cave on

ADAM's PEAK ( Verthema 1503 )

A modified natural sacred cave, rock shelter or rock-cut chamber.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton or Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Verthema, Ludovico 1503 edited by Kerr, Robert 1811-1812 reprinted 1824 edited 2004.

In 1503 Ludovico Verthema had heard of a sacred "cave or den" on Adam's Peak (N 06°48'30": E 080°29'53": 2242.3 m asl): »A Mahometan merchant assured my companion, that on the top of a high mountain in the centre of this island, there is a certain cave or den where the inhabitants resort for devotion, in memory of our first parents, who, as they allege, lived in that place in continual penitence, after breaking the covenant with God, which is confirmed by the print of Adam's feet being still to be seen there above two spans in length« (VERTHEMA 1503 edited by KERR 1811-1812, 2nd edition 1824, vol. 7, part II, book III, section IX, chapter V).

Cave on the

ALEXANDER RIDGE

see: Cave of the →Sultan or: Alexander, Iskandar

A natural or man-made cave, rock shelter or rock-cut chamber.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central or Sabaragamuwa province: Kegalle (Kegalla) district or Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton or Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: [Ibn] Battuta, Muhammad Ibn-Abdallah Awamiri (circa 1355 for 1325-1354), edited by Lee, Samuel 1829: 189.

ALIGALA GALGE

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Matale district: Sigiriya (Sighiri, Sigiri) Rock.

POSITION: (WGS84) N 07°57': E 080°45' / N 7.95°: E 80.75°

<[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Polonnaruwa; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1992; Karunaratne, P. & G. Adikari 1994; Mogren, M. 1994. SECONDARY

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1996 published 1998, 2001b, 2002.

Aligala Galge (in short Aligala) is an unspecified "shelter" (perhaps a daylight lit rock shelter or, possibly, a true cave once used as a shelter by man) which yielded the only Early Iron Age settlement in Sri Lanka.

SITUATION: At the base of Sigiriya rock (note 1).

CULTURAL HISTORY - Archaeology (note 2): DERANIYAGALA, S.U. (1996 published 1998, 2001b): »The protohistoric Early Iron Age appears to have established itself in South India by at least as early as 1'200 BC, if not earlier (Possehl 1990; Deraniyagala 1992: 734). The earliest manifestation of this in Sri Lanka is radiocarbon dated to ca. 1000-800 BC at Anuradhapura and Aligala shelter in Sigiriya [note 3] (Deraniyagala 1992: 709- 729; Karunaratne and Adikari 1994: 58; Mogren 1994: 39... So far no other settlements of the Early Iron Age have been located in Sri Lanka —with the exception of the very small-scale deposit within the rock-shelter at Aligala.«

NOTE 1: Sigiriya Rock (also Sigiri) N 07°57': E 080°45' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NOTE 2: DERANIYAGALA, S.U. (1992: 709-729), KARUNARATNE & ADIKARI (1994: 55-64), and MOGREN (1994: 39) need to be checked..

NOTE 3: Two rock shelters at Sigiriya in the lowland Dry Zone have been dated on charcoal: Aligala at the base of Sigiriya rock, 5'500 - 4'100, and →Potana ... (DERANIYAGALA 2002: 5).

Cave in

ALLINGTON ESTATE

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Rakwana town: Bulutota Pass area: Allington estate.

POSITION: WGS84 (approximate horizontal precision error ±5 km) N 06°27': E 080°34' / N 6.45°: E 80.56666667° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Rakwana; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Siffre, Michel 1975.

A cave entrance without specified shape or dimensions, which faces an unspecified direction, gives access to an unspecified cave with bats and spiders (SIFFRE 1975: 14-20, photographs on pages 12, 16).

SITUATION: At an unspecified location somewhere in the Allington Estate (N 06°27': E 080°34'), a tea plantation, which was understood to lie in one way or another »near Ratnapura« (note 1). Considerably much closer, however, is the town of Rakwana (note 2).

CAVE LIFE: SIFFRE (1975) mentions bats (Chiroptera) and spiders (Aranaea), and turns sensational (note 3).

NOTE 1: Allington Estate lies about 31 km in a direct line approximately SSE from Ratnapura (N 06°40'58": E 080°23'57" WGS84).

NOTE 2: Allington Estate lies about 5 km in a direct line approximately WSW from Rakwana (N 06°28'18": E 080°36'42" WGS84).

NOTE 2: SIFFRE (1975) draws attention not only to imagined and mostly absent, but also to deadly poisonous, venomous, and lethal vipers, cobras, crocodiles and the likely presence of the fungus *Histoplasma capsulatum*. Inhalation of the spores of *Histoplasma capsulatum*, the imperfect state of a fungus of the Ascomycotina (\*), may result in a group of diseases commonly called Histoplasmosis. The fungus occurs in soil, including that with a high nitrogen content such as from the guano of bats and birds. It has been recorded from over 50 countries around the world, with a high incidence of a positive reaction to skin tests in some areas. It has been associated with caves, particularly in the New World and Africa. It has been recorded rarely in Europe and the Middle East (records from Romania, Cyprus, and Israel), Asia (records only from Malaysia), and Australia. It is found principally in dusty bat caves. It may frequently give rise to mild respiratory disorders and is rarely fatal. A simple precaution is the use of a respirator or mask that can remove particles as small as two microns in diameter. \* SCHWARZ, J. (1981): Histoplasmosis.- Praeger Special Studies (New York: Praeger Publishers). SACKS, J.J., AJELLO, L. & CROCKETT, L.K. (1986): An outbreak and review of cave-associated Histoplasmosis capsulati.- Journal of Medical and Veterinary Mycology, 24, 313-327.

ALOO WIHARA

→Aluvihara

A modified natural caves, rock shelters (temple caves) or rock-cut chambers ('cave temples').

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Matale district: Aluvihare (Aluvihara, Aluwihara, Aluwihare, Maha Viharé).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Tennent, James Emerson 1859 revised 4th edition 1860, 1.III.viii: 375.

ALU GALGE ( Telulla )

or: Kalu Galge

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Monaragalla district: Kirindi Oya: Damba kota aré area: Tellulla / Telulla.

POSITION: (If at Tellulla itself), Unspecified map datum probably Everest 1830 coordinates (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°36': E 081°08' / N 6.6°: E 81.13333333° (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1955b: 295): 215 m asl (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1983: 249).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Happutale; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

SPELEOMETRY: Length: Allegedly 9 m. Vertical range: Not known.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983; Deraniyagala, P.E.P. 1955b; Sarasin, Fritz & Sarasin, Paul 1908.

An up to 14 m wide entrance leads up to 9 m into a rock shelter of archaeological importance (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 247-248; 1983: 249-250), Compare

→Kalu Galge (SARASIN & SARASIN 1908: 1-15) west of Tellulla (N 06°36': E 081°08') and near Wellawaya (N 06°44': E 081°06').

ETYMOLOGY: The Sinhala "alu galge" translates into »ash shelter«

SITUATION: (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1955b: 295) near Tellulla (N 06°12': E 081°17'), about 7 miles (11.3 km, probably along the road) west of the 47th mile on the Hambantota - Wellawaya road. It is reached by travelling / walking up the bank of the Damba kota aré / Dambakota ara, a tributary to the Kirindi Oya river.

POSITION: CHECK? N 06°12': E 081°17' (unspecified map datum probably Everest 1830 coordinates, DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1955b: 295): 215 m asl (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1983: 249).

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1954 July: P.E.P. DERANIYAGALA (1955b: 296) excavated.

NOTE 1: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) lists two such places:

1) Tellulla / Telulla N 06°36': E 081°08' (WGS84) on Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet "Happutale" (one inch series) and on sheet NB44-07 in Monaragalla district, on the road A2 along the Kirindi Oya; 2) Tellulla / Telulla N 06°12': E 081°17' (WGS84) on Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet "Hambantota" (one inch series) and on sheet NB44-07 in Hambantota district, and within the Bundala sanctuary on the sea coast.

ALU LENA ( Kegalla: Attanagoda )

or: Alulena, Alu-lena

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central or Sabaragamuwa province: Kegalle (Kegalla) district: Attanagoda village.

POSITION: WGS84 (approximate horizontal precision error ±5 km) N 07°14':



E 080°24' / N 7.23333333°: E 80.4° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-02.  
SPELEOMETRY: Length: Estimated 7,5 m. Vertical range: Not known.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983; Deraniyagala, S.U. 1987, 1992, 1996 published 1998, 2001b, 2002.

A large »cave« or rock shelter with an entrance some 15 m across and extending for 7 or 8 m into the hillside would appear to have been formed by mind-boggling »solutational erosion« of a mineral filled cavity / pocket in the gneiss (Brooks 1995 Mss: no. 2).

ETYMOLOGY: The singhala »alu lena« means »ash cave« and has been called »Alulena, near Kegalla« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 254; 1983: 256) and »Alu-lena at Attanagoda near Kegalle« (DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 1996 published 1998, 2001b).

SITUATION: By a stream at the village of Attanagoda N 07°14': E 080°24' near Kegalla N 07°15'11": E 080°21'02" (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

CULTURAL HISTORY - archaeology: Investigated by W.H. Wijepala for archaeological remains (Brooks 1995 Mss: no. 2). S.U. DERANIYAGALA (1987: 101) notes a radiocarbon date of 9700 BP (uncalibrated?) and S.U. DERANIYAGALA (1996 published 1998, 2001b; 2002: 5) a mesolithic radiocarbon date on charcoal of 10,500 BP calibrated by Beta Analytic Inc. using data base of INTCAL 98 calibrations.

ALU LENA ( Mimure )

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Kandy district: Rangala range / Knuckles - Heen Ganga valley area: Teldeniya - Rangala - Looloowatte: Mimure (obsolete: Corbett's Gap, Meemoorra, Memora, Meemora).

POSITION: WGS84 (approximate horizontal precision error ±5 km) N 07°26': E 080°50' / N 7.43333333°: E 80.83333334° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995: Personal correspondence.

COMMUNICATOR: Deraniyagala, S.U. undated, circa 1995.04: Personal communication with Simon J. Brooks.

An unspecified cave or rock shelter near Mimure (note 1) contains a significant ash deposit (note 2) and may be an important archaeological site (Brooks 1995 Mss, item no. 40a after S.U. Deraniyagala, circa 1995.04: Personal communication).

NOTE 1: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) offers four different "Mimure" at N 07°24': E 080°51' = Mimure, EST (estate); N 07°15': E 080°15' = Mimure, PPL (populated place); N 07°26': E 080°50' = Mimure, PPL (populated place); N 07°26': E 080°51' = Mimure Oya, STM (stream).

NOTE 2: Both Alu Lena (in English: Ash Cave) and →Lunugala Lena (White Salt Cave) are situated near Mimure and both contain sorts of salt. One wonders if ash is but an other expression for white salt, and whether the two caves are one and the same.

ALU WIHARA

→Aluvihara

A modified natural caves, rock shelters (temple caves) or rock-cut chambers ('cave

temples').

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Matale district: Aluvihare (Aluvihara, Aluwihara, Aluwihare, Maha Viharé).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Tennent, James Emerson 1859 revised 4th edition 1860, 1.III.viii: 375, 1860, 1.IV.vii: 489.

WEBSITE: <[www.lankalibrary.com/](http://www.lankalibrary.com/)> accessed 17.11.2003.

#### ALUVIHARA

or: Aloo Wihara, Alu Wihara, Aluvihare, Aluwihara, Aluwihare, Maha Viharé  
Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural caves, rock shelters (temple caves) or rock-cut chambers ('cave temples') in gravitationally dislocated gneiss boulders.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Matale district: Aluvihara (Aloo Wihara, Alu Wihara, Aluvihare, Aluwihara, Aluwihare, Maha Viharé).

POSITION: WGS84 (approximate horizontal precision error  $\pm 5$  km) N 07°30'00": E 080°37'17" / N 7.5°: E 80.62138889° <[www.nima.mil/geonames/](http://www.nima.mil/geonames/)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Cave, Henry W. 1900, 1901, 1904, 1907, 1908, 1912, 1921, 1999; Leclercq, Jules 1898; Ratnajinendra, M.R. 1965; Tennent, James Emerson 1859, 1860.

WEBSITE: <[www.lankalibrary.com/](http://www.lankalibrary.com/)> accessed 17.11.2003.

Several modified natural rock shelters between gravitationally dislocated gneiss boulders at Aluvihara (note 1) have been used by Buddhist monks as troglodyte hermitage retreats and meditation cells and serve, in parts, as profitable templecaves, complete with colourful paintings (note 2), enlightening inscriptions and a sacred corporate identity that invokes ancient (note 3) and up to date celebrities, including such as His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sihanouk of Cambodia, the late Premier Srimavo Dias Bandaranaike and Mr. W. Edwin in charge of the library.

CAVE DESCRIPTION (TENNET 1859, 4th revised edition 1860, 1.IV.vii: 489): »... in Ceylon the earliest rock temples were merely hollows beneath overhanging rocks, like those still existing at Dambool, and the Aluwihara at Matelle, in both of which advantage has been taken of the accidental shelter of rounded boulders, and an entrance constructed by applying a façade of masonry, devoid of all pretensions to ornament.«

CULTURAL HISTORY - human use: TENNET (1859 revised 4th edition 1860, 1.III.viii: 375): »But the achievement by which most of all he entitled himself to the gratitude of the Singhalese annalists, was the reduction to writing of the doctrines and discourses of Buddha, which had been orally delivered by Mahindo, and previously preserved by tradition alone. These sacred volumes, which may be termed the Buddhist B.C. 89.Scriptures, contain the Pittakataya, and its commentaries the Atthakatha, and were compiled by a company of priests in a cave to the north of Matelle, known as the Aloo-wihara.[1] This, and other caverns in which the king had sought concealment during his adversity, he caused to be converted into rock temples after his restoration to power.«

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1860: One Mister A. Nicholl has a woodcut depicting »The Alu Wihara near Matelle« published in TENNET (1860,1: 375). 1896: Henry W. CAVE (1900, 4th edition 1907, edited 1921, reproduced 1999) takes photographs.

NOTE 1: The small town of Aluvihara (in English: Ash Monastery), the »Alu Wihara«

and »Aloo Wihara« of TENNENT (1859 revised 1860), »Aluwihara« of LECLERCQU (1898), also: Aluvihare, Aluwihare, Maha Viharé) lies near N 07°30'00": E 080°37'17" (<[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) north of Matala (The »Metalle« of TENNENT (1859, 160, 1861) at N 07°28'18": E 080°37'28"), on the road from Kandy (N 07°17'47": E 080°38'06") north to Jaffna (N 09°40': E 080°00').

NOTE 2: LECLERCQ (1898) recorded rock art (cave paintings, engravings): »... celui d'Aluwihara (dans un pays de nombreuses cavernes) est plutôt une série de crevasses, avec de naïves peintures, des escaliers dans le roc, et des cellules naturelles pour les prêtres; il n'y a rien non plus d'artificiel.« — <[www.lankalibrary.com/](http://www.lankalibrary.com/)> (accessed 17.11.2003) offers a topic »Aluvihara- where Tripitakas were written« noting »a mass of rock boulders harbouring cave shelters ...« and describing a »first cave about 25 feet long and 10 feet high ... On its apex is written in bold Sinhala letters ... The rock cave shelter harbours an Image House. Its entrance doorway, overhead is surmounted with the typical Makara Thoranay motif flanked by janitors. There are also seated standing and recumbent Buddha statues of terra-cotta, while the murals are adorned with paintings of Jataka stories. The cave ceilings are studded with fascinating paintings of lotus flowers in full bloom - all dating back to the Kandyan period of time. Next comes a spiral stone staircase that terminates on its summit where the sacred Bodhiya stands cloistering an image house in this rock cave shelter. The third cave is met amidst a conclave of rock boulders where is sheltered another rock cave where the Tripitakayas were written on ola leaves by the ancient Buddhist monks.« NOTE 4: <[www.lankalibrary.com/](http://www.lankalibrary.com/)> (accessed 17.11.2003) claims »the epic reign of king Valagamba / Vattagamani (104-77 B.C.) would go into the annals of the Buddhist literary history as the Tripitakas (Buddhist scriptures) were written down on ola leaves in Pali by a conclave of Buddhist monks of the Aluvihara Temple, lying close to Matala.« Shown off are »priceless Buddha statues gifted by Siam, Cambodia, China, Japan, and [literally cited] Myrama (Burma), together with other archaeological artifacts pertaining to old Lanka, as well.«

#### ASGIRIYA "CAVE DWELLING"

A man-made rock-cut chamber ('cave temple').

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Western province: Colombo district: Asgiriya village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°06': E 079°59' / N 7.1°: E 79.98333334° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Colombo; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

A »cave dwelling« (vihara? = group of man-made, rock-cut chambers used for monastic troglodyte dwelling) reports CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 249; 1983: 251) from Asgiriya (note 1) in Colombo district.

NOTE 1: Asgiriya (N 07°06': E 079°59' WGS84) in Colombo district (\*) lies about 23.5 km in a direct line approximately north-east from Colombo (Colombo city: Fort Railroad Station at N 06°56'01": E 079°51'01" WGS84) and west or south-west of Gampaha (\*\*). \* Not to be confused with Asgiriya (N 07°18': E 080°38') in Kandy district, which lies near Kandy (N 07°17'47": E 080°38'06") and about 94 km in a direct line approximately east-northeast from Colombo. \*\*

<[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) lists not only Gampaha (N 07°05'30": E 079°59'39" WGS84) but also Gampaha Alutgama (N 07°06': E 080°01' WGS84), Gampaha Ihalagama (N 07°06': E 080°00' WGS84), Gampaha Medagama (N 07°05': E 079°59' WGS84) and Gampaha Pahalagama (N 07°05': E 079°59').

#### ATTANAGALLA VIHARA

A man-made rock-cut chamber ('cave temple').

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Western province: Colombo district: Attanagala village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°06'43":

E 080°07'58" / N 7.11194444°: E 80.13277778° <www.nima.mil/geonames>

(accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Avissawella or Colombo; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

A certain »Attanagalla Vihara« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 249; 1983: 251) seems to consist of a group of man-made »rock temples« (rock-cut chambers used for troglodyte monastic purposes).

SITUATION: Somewhere in the vicinity of Attanagalla (N 07°06'43": E 080°07'58" WGS84), a village marked as a »place of archaeological and tourist interest« on Survey Department (1977: Road Map) about 25 km in a direct line approximately north-east from Colombo city (Fort Railroad Station N 06°56'01": E 079°51'01" WGS84 <www.nima.mil/geonames> accessed 16.11.2003).

#### AUKANA 'CAVES'

or: Avukana

A group of man-made caves or rock-cut chambers ('cave temple').

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Anuradhapura district: Kala Wewa (Kalawewa) Reservoir area: Aukana (Avukana).

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 08°01': E 080°31' / N 8.01666667°: E 80.51666667° <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

A group of man-made rock temples (rock-cut chambers used for religious purposes) with inscriptions dated to the 1st century A.D. (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 249; 1983: 251).

SITUATION: Somewhere »near« the ancient shrine of Aukana (N 08°01': E 080°31'), and about 4 km from the "bund" (dam) of the Kalawewa "tank" (reservoir, circa N 08°01': E 080°33').

Höhle des

#### BABA CHUZI

see: Cave of →Baba Khuzi

A natural or man-made troglodyte cave, rock shelter (temple cave) or rock-cut chamber ('cave' temple hermitage).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central or Sabaragamuwa province: Kegalle (Kegalla) district or Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagala area.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton or Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: [Ibn] Battuta, Muhammad Ibn-Abdallah Awamiri, ca. 1355 for 1325-1354, edited by Leicht, Hans 1999: 200.

Cave of

#### BABA KHUZI

or: Baba Chuzi

Unexplored and not mapped natural or man-made troglodyte cave, rock shelter (temple cave) or rock-cut chamber ('cave' temple hermitage).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central or Sabaragamuwa province: Kegalle

(Kegalla) district or Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area.  
POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton or Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: [Ibn] Battuta, Muhammad Ibn-Abdallah Awamiri, ca. 1355 for 1325-1354 (edited by Defrémery, C. & Sanguinetti, B.R. 1874-1879; edited by Gibb, Hamilton A.R. 1929 reproduced 1988; edited by Gibb, Hamilton A.R. and Beckingham, Charles F. 1994; edited by Leicht, Hans 1974a, 1974b, 1975, 1982, 1999); Skeen, William 1870 reprinted 1997.

An unspecified troglodyte »cave« (LEICHT 1999: 200) or a »number of grottoes« (GIBB 1929 ed. 1998: 258), associated with a certain Baba Khuzi / Baba Chuzy (note 1), who seems to be a Muslim saint (note 2). Compare the caves of →Baba Tahir, Cave of al- Sibak. IBN BATTUTA (1355 for 1325-1354), according to GIBB (1929 ed. 1998: 258), notes »a number of grottoes« but according to LEICHT (1999: 200) one cave (note 3).

SITUATION: At a difficult to reconstruct location somewhere beyond »a place called "The Old Woman's Hut" which is the end of the inhabited part« on the way from a place called »Kunakar« (see: Cave of →Ustad Mahmud the Lur) and the »Lake of Monkeys« to a certain »Pass of Iskandar« on a route to the »Mountain of Sarandip« (Adam's Peak, Sri Pada, Pidurutulagula N 06°48'30": E 080°29'53": 2242.3 m asl).

CAVE LEGEND: According to GIBB & BECKINGHAM (1994: 853), IBN BATTUTA (1355 for 1325-1354) narrates how »It is related that as a certain traveller was passing by this place the leeches feasted on him. He took no notice and did not squeeze lemons on them but he lost so much blood that he died. His name was Baba Khuzy, and there is a cave there which is called by his name. We continued our journey to the seven caves, then to the pass of Iskandar ...«

NOTE 1: Baba, literally 'grandfather'; affectionate appellation for a male person of any age.

NOTE 2: SKEEN (1870: 176, 227-228 reprinted 1997) needs to be checked.

NOTE 3: Ibn BATTUTA (edited by LEICHT 1999: 200): »Nach... Baba Chuzy ist dort eine Höhle benannt.«

Cave of

#### BABA TAHIR

Unexplored and not mapped natural or man-made sacred troglodyte cave, rock shelter (temple cave) or rock-cut chamber ('cave' temple hermitage).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central or Sabaragamuwa province: Kegalle (Kegalla) district or Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area.

POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton or Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: [Ibn] Battuta, Muhammad Ibn-Abdallah Awamiri, ca. 1355 for 1325-1354 (edited by Defrémery, C. & Sanguinetti, B.R. 1874-1879; edited by Gibb, Hamilton A.R. 1929 reproduced 1988; edited by Gibb, Hamilton A.R. and Beckingham, Charles F. 1994; edited by Lee, Samuel 1829); Skeen, William 1870 reprinted 1997.

One of the troglodyte »caves« (note 1) visited and recorded by the Arab traveller Ibn Battuta some time between 1335-1354 AD. This item, difficult to trace down, is associated with one Baba Tahir (note 2), a Muslim saint.

SITUATION: Somewhere beyond »a place called "The Old Woman's Hut" which is the end of the inhabited part« (note 3) on the way from a place called »Kunakar«

(see: Cave of →Ustad Mahmud the Lur) via one »Lake of Monkeys« on a route to the »Mountain of Sarandip« (Adam's Peak, Sri Pada, Pidurutulagula N 06°48'30": E 080°29'53": 2242.3 m asl).

NOTE 1: This so-called »cave« (templecave?) is possibly a sacred rock shelter or man-made rock chamber. It was recorded as »the cave of Baba Tahir« (BATTUTA edited by LEE 1829: 188), as a »number of grottoes« (BATTUTA edited by GIBB 1929 reproduced 1998: 258), and—in German language—as »die Grotte des Baba Tahir« (BATTUTA edited by LEICHT 1999: 199).

NOTE 2: Baba, literally 'grandfather'; affectionate appellation for a male person of any age. BATTUTA (edited by LEE 1829: 188) calls Baba Tahir »one of the pious« and BATTUTA edited by GIBB & BECKINGHAM 1994: 852) »a devotee.«

NOTE 3: »... we continued our journey to a place called 'The Old Woman's Hut', which is the end of the inhabited part, and went to the cave of Baba Tahir, who was a devotee, and then to the cave of al- Sabik ...« (BATTUTA edited by GIBB & BECKINGHAM 1994: 852).

BAGAVA LENA

or: Bhagawa Lenna

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural sacred troglodyte cave, rock shelter (temple cave) or rock-cut chamber ('cave' temple).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area: Sri Pada summit.

POSITION: Estimated WGS84 coordinates (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°50': E 080°28' / N 6.83333334°: E 80.46666667° (unspecified coordinate source).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980; Pridham, Charles 1849.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Simon J. Brooks, personal correspondence 1995. An entrance measuring 5 by 2.4 m opens to a single chamber 5 m long (Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 38). This item is possibly identical with the →Adam's Peak Cave (MORGAN 1943 after BASSET 1929).

SITUATION: Under a jutting rock on the eastern side and close to the summit of Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula / Adam's Peak.

CULTURAL HISTORY: The cave attracts many pious pilgrims (Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 38) and may be considered as sort of a religious showcave. Archaeological excavation yielded lithic tools (S.U. DERANIYAGALA 1980: 177). CAVE

DESCRIPTION (PRIDHAM 1849, 2: 616-617): »On the eastern side of the Peak, is the Bhagawa-Lenna, a jutting rock, under which all the four Buddhas are said to have rested ... The native annals record ... the visits of the four Buddhas of the present era... the first of these, Kakusanda, is supposed to have visited the Peak, then called Deiwakuta (Peak of the god), about 3000 years before Christ ... The second Buddha, Konagamma, appeared about 2099 BC and the Peak had even then obtained the name Samanakuta (Peak of Saman—brother and companion in arms of Rama... in 2386 BC) ... The third Buddha, Káasiyapa, followed at an interval of 1100 years, about 1014 BC. The fourth, Gautama ... rested in Bhagawa-Lenna in 577 BC.«

BAGURE GALGE

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural painted cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern province: Amparai district: Wila Oya basin: Bagure area.

POSITION: WGS84 (assumed horizontal precision error  $\pm 10$  km) N 06°37'30": E 081°42'30" / N 6.625°: E 81.70833333° (mere guesswork).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheets: Panama, Yala; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, P.E.P. 1953.

A »rock shelter« (or cave?) containing rock art (polychrome markings) depicting animals inserted, and with numerous symbols.

SITUATION (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1953: 125): At an unspecified location somewhere in the Eastern Province (note 1).

NOTE 1: <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003) lists six distinct trigonometrical stations called "Bagure" in the area (N 06°35': E 081°40' to N 06°39': E 081°46' WGS84) centred on N 06°37'30": E 081°42'30" (WGS84) and thus in the south-eastern corner of Sri Lanka, within the Yala National Park, and in the area where the districts of Amparai, Hambantota, and Monaragala meet on the Survey of Sri Lanka sheet "Yala" (one inch series).

BALLAWALABOKA GALGE

or: Ballawaha Boka Cave

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped troglodyte cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Danigala hills area: Nilgala village: Ballawalaboka (Ballawaha Boka).

POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980; Sarasin, Fritz & Sarasin, Paul 1908.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995: Personal correspondence.

A rock shelter of dubious nature, unrecognised characteristics and unknown size (note 1) is situated at an unspecified distance north of one »Nilgala« village (note 2) at the southern end of a certain »Danigala chain of hills« (note 3). ARCHAEOLOGY: Excavation (SARASIN & SARASIN 1908) yielded historical findings.

DERANIYAGALA (1980: 155) needs to be checked.

NOTE 1: The »Ballawaha Boka Cave« of Brooks (1995 Mss, item no. 12).

NOTE 2: »Nilgala village« (Brooks 1995 Mss, item no. 12) is not identified unless it corresponds to one of the places called Nilgala listed on <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003): Nilgala (village) N 07°11': E 081°22' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-03; Nilgala (village) N 07°19': E 080°47" (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-02; Nilgala (hill) N 06°42': E 081°16' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-07.

NOTE 3: »Danigala chain of hills« (Brooks 1995 Mss, item no. 12) is not identified unless it has something to do with the village of Danigala N 07°15': E 081°23' (WGS84 <www.nima.mil/geonames> accessed 16.11.2003) on AMS sheet NB44-03.

BAMBARABOTUWA CAVE

→Beli Galge ( Bambarabotuwa )

A natural sacred (?) cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagala area: Pelmadulla: Bambarabotuwa Forest Reserve.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974: 244, 1983: 246.

BAMBARAGALA SHELTER

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Balangoda: Diyavinna - Uggalkaltota / Ukgal Kaltota escarpment / ridge area: Tanjama village: Bambaragala / Bambara Gala.

POSITION: Everest 1830 coordinates (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°38'30": E 080°50'30" / N 6.64166667°: E 80.84166667° (DERANIYAGALA 1943: 101).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Haputale; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Deraniyagala, P.E.P. 1943; Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

A 750 metre wide (yep!) and 40 m wide but shallow rock shelter in the Balangoda - Ukgal Kaltota / Uggalkaltota escarpment area (note 1). Archaeological excavation yielded potsherds, quartz artefacts, rubbing worn pieces of graphite and mica, ashes, animal remains and a few lithic tools. DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. (1943: 101): »Bambara Gala« or »Bambaragala« (Rock of Cliff Bees, *Apis dorsata*) is »... a large rock about 1.5 km long, 500 m high, and located at about N 06°38'30": E 080°50'30" [note 2]. It is about one kilometre to the west of Tanjama village which is about one kilometre to the south-west of the village of Tanjan Tanna [Tenna] lying north of the escarpment on the Balangoda and Ukgal Kaltota [Uggalkaltota] road. The ascent is steep, and from a distance the only space available for prehistoric man up on the rock shows as a gash running parallel with its base and extending along the median third of its length. The approach to this gash is narrow and precipitous, and on arrival there the overhang above the visitor is at a height of about 40 m. On this roof are numerous combs of the 'Bambara' bee, *Apis dorsata*, from which the rock derives its name. It is necessary to travel for about three quarters of a kilometre along the 'gash' in the rock which is littered with heavy, angular, desquamated blocks and large 'bambara' combs fallen off the roof before a site capable of accommodating man is reached. At its extreme end, the gash narrows down and gives place to a series of narrow, terrace-like, rocky ledges which retain small pockets of dust and decomposing rock, disintegrated into a sand-like consistency. This is the only section providing adequate shelter for man from sun and rain, but the accommodation is scanty. A suitable terrace ledge about 1.5 m wide and 8 m long was selected for excavation.«

NOTE 1: Other sites in the area are →Budugala Caves, →Diyavinna Cave, →Kurugala Cave, →Lunu Galge and →Udupiyan Galge.

NOTE 2: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) positions the "RK" (rock?) Bambaragala at N 06°27': E 081°01' (WGS84) and the "TRIG" (trigonometric station) Bambaragala at N 06°32': E 080°59' (WGS84).

BATADOMBA LENA

or: Batadomba-lena, Batadombalena, Batatomba Lena, Batatomba-lena, Batatombalena

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural troglodyte cave in gneiss (BROOKS 1995b).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagala area: Kuruvita / Kuruwita: Batadomba village: Batatota mountain.

POSITION: Unspecified map datum probably Everest 1830 coordinates (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°48'50": E 080°22'23" / N 6.81388889°:

E 80.37305556° (STRINATI & AELLEN 1981): 300 m asl (STRINATI & AELLEN



1981).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

SPELEOMETRY: Length: Estimated 24 m. Vertical range:  $\pm 12$  m (+12m / -0m).

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Brooks, Simon J. 1995b; Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983; Deraniyagala, P.E.P. 1943, 1953; Deraniyagala, S.U. 1987, 1992, 1998 published 1998, 2001b, 2002; Kennedy, Kenneth A.R. et alii 1986; Possel, G.L. 1988.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995.04, personal correspondence. COMMUNICATOR: Eckrich, Michael 1984.

An impressive entrance (12 m wide, 8.5 m high) at the side of an about 60 or 90 m long rock shelter above a ledge gives access to a single chamber (15 m wide, 12 m high, 24 m long) in gneiss, dark in the end.

SITUATION 1 (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1943: 102): The site is reached by ascending for about 1 km from the village of Valanduré (also: Walandure, note 1) along the Vitané Kandé Āla, a tributary to the Kuru Ganga (note 2). The cave opening suddenly looms out of the mountain face above the trees on the left bank of the stream. A kilometre north-east is the peak Sudagala Kanda. The approach is steep and water drips from the overhanging ledge of rock into the valley, generally without falling upon the ledge which widens after a distance of about 60 m, to form the platform at the cave entrance.

SITUATION 2 (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. (1953: 129) positions Batadomba Lena at about N 06° 46': E 080°23' near Kuruvita (note 3) and in the mountains of the Sri Padhe (Adam's Peak) massif (note 4).

SITUATION 3 (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974; 1983: 154): The »highly impressive caves« at »Eratne« (note 5) and »Batatota« (note 6) lie »12 miles« (19 km north along the road) from the RH (Rest House) at the »Gem Capital« Ratnapura (N 06°40'58": E 080°23'57" WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

SITUATION 4 (CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 241; 1983: 243) recommends to travel 2.2 km on the Kuruvita - Eratne road to the Ekneligoda Walauwa (note 7), near which a track turns off to the right (south?). This track is motorable for about 1.5 km and the approach continues as a 5 km long footpath.

SITUATION 5 (Michael Eckrich 1984, personal communication) recommended to leave the motorable track, turn to the south and climb a bit.

SITUATION 6 (Simon J. Brooks 1995 Mss, item no. 5): At an imposing position at the base of a large cliff on the south flanks of Adam's Peak and some 5 km from →Batatota Lena. The cave lies some 5 km from Kuruvita near the small village of Batadomba (apparently the Ekneligoda Walauwa of CEYLON TRAVELLER), from where a footpath is followed up the through the forest to an open glade. Some 20 walking minutes from "Batadomba" (Ekneligoda Walauwa?). the cave entrance lies at the base of a large cliff.

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1 (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1943: 103; 1953: 103): Entrance (12 m wide and 8.5 m high) to 20 m long chamber.

CAVE DESCRIPTION 2 (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1953: 129): A spacious cave with a long overhang to the left / west of its entrance forming a shelter about 100 yards (90 m) long.

CAVE DESCRIPTION 3 (BROOKS 1995b): Entrance (12 m wide, 8.5 m high) to a solitary chamber (15 m wide, 12 m high, 24 m long) in gneiss.

CULTURAL HISTORY - human use, troglodyte dwelling: The only structural features found in prehistoric context in Sri Lanka are the rubble footing of a wall at →Beli

Lena (Kitulgala), dated to circa 16,000 BP, and a rubble terrace wall at Batadomba Lena in an undated horizon which might correlate with Stratum 7b dated to circa 26,000 BP. The latter, situated at the rear end of one of the subsidiary shelters attached to the main cave, and it appears to have been a retaining wall (of at least two courses) which served to support an earth terrace abutting against the back of the cave for levelling off an occupation floor: »The terrace at Batadomba-lena has a direct parallel in the manner in which the present floor of the main cave has been levelled by a Buddhist monk who was resident at the site until 1968« (DERANIYAGALA 2002: 28-29). ARCHAEOLOGY (note 8): Batadomba Lena is of the important archaeological sites in Sri Lanka. P.E.P. DERANIYAGALA (1943: 102-110) reports early archaeological excavation. P.E.P. DERANIYAGALA (1953) and the CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 241, 1983: 245-246) notes human skeletons of the pre-historic Udupiyan tribe (*Homo Sapiens Balangodensis*), pitted stones, bones, bone implements and remains of extinct animals. S.U. DERANIYAGALA (1987) reports »geometric microliths definitely older than 12,000 years [note 9]. This was corroborated ... in Batadomba cave at Kuruvita [which yielded] excellent and numerous microliths –lunates, triangles and trapezoidals– from well defined stratigraphic contexts which have provided a very consistent series of radiocarbon dates on charcoal ... ranging from 28,500 to 11,500 BP.« S.U. DERANIYAGALA (1987: 105) notes the human remains [note 10] excavated from Batadomba were too fragmented for proper analysis. POSSEHL (1988: 172) lists five uncalibrated radiocarbon datings 27,700  $\pm$ 2090 BP, 15,390  $\pm$ 610 BP, 12,770  $\pm$ 470 BP, 11,200  $\pm$ 330 BP, 12,500 to 10,500 BP. KAJALE (1989) undertook an archaeobotanical study of mesolithic plant exploitation. DERANIYAGALA (1996 published 1998; 2001b) notes the early evidence of anatomically modern man in →Fa Hien-lena (ca. 37,000 BP) is followed by →Batadomba-lena 31,000 and 18,000, →Beli-lena 16,000, Fa Hien-lena 6'900, the open-air site Bellan-bandi Palassa 6,500 and Fa Hien-lena again 4,800 BP. Unchecked literary source: KENNEDY et al. (1986) on biological anthropology of upper pleistocene hominids from Batadomba Lena and Beli Lena.

NOTE 1: Walandure N 06°46': E 080°23' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NOTE 2: Kuru Ganga N 06°54'01": E 080°17'37" (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NOTE 3: Kuruwita N 06°46'45": E 080°22'07" (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NOTE 4: Deraniyagala's »Sri Padhe« is positioned under the titles Adams Peak, Siri Pada and Sri Pada at N 06°48'30": E 080°29'53" (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> 16.11.2003).

NOTE 5: »Eratne« (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1965a: 143; CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 241; 1983: 154, 243) is not identified unless it is a short form of Eratnagoda, the village near N 06°48': E 080°22' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> 16.11.2003).

NOTE 6: Batatota N 06°50': E 080°22' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> 16.11.2003).

NOTE 7: Ekneligoda N 06°47': E 080°23' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> 16.11.2003).

NOTE 8: KENNEDY et al. (1986, on biological anthropology of upper pleistocene hominids from Batadomba Lena and Beli Lena) needs to be checked.

NOTE 9: DERANIYAGALA, S.U. (2001b) »Such geometric microliths have

traditionally been considered the hallmark of the Mesolithic period as first defined in Europe. The earliest dates for the geometric microlithic tradition in Europe are around 12,000 BP. Hence it came as a surprise when such tools were found as early as 31,000 BP at Batadomba-lena, 28,000 BP at two coastal sites in Bundala and over 30,000 BP at Beli-lena. Sri Lanka has yielded evidence of this sophisticated technological phase over 19,000 years earlier than in Europe. However this apparent anomaly has been resolved by the discovery of geometric microliths in various parts of Africa, such as Zaire and southern Africa, from contexts in excess of 27,000 BP, thereby suggesting that Europe was late in manifesting this techno-tradition due to as yet undefined reasons.« DERANIYAGALA (2002: 4): »A series of 10 radiocarbon dates [on charcoal] from Batadomba-lena... range from 31'000 to 13'000 cal BP.« NOTE 10: DERANIYAGALA (2002: 54) reports over 33 individuals (ca. 31,000 to 18,000 BP) from Batadomba Lena.

#### BATATOMBA CAVE

→Batadomba Lena

A rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area: Kuruvita / Kuruwita: Batadomba village: Batatota mountain.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

#### BATATOMBALENA

→Batadomba Lena

A rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area: Kuruvita / Kuruwita: Batadomba village: Batatota mountain.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

#### BATATOTA LENA

or: Batatota-lena, Batatotalena, Stripura Cave; or: Dahayya-lena?

Partly explored but not mapped natural cave and fabulous tunnel in gravitationally dislocated boulders.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area: Kuruvita / Kuruwita: Batadomba village: Batatota mountain.

POSITION: Unspecified map datum probably Everest 1830 coordinates (approximate horizontal precision error  $\pm 5$  km) N 06°48'15": E 080°22' / N 6.80416667°: E 80.36666667° (STRINATI & AELLEN 1981): 290 m asl (barometric).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

SPELEOMETRY: Length: Estimated 50 m. Vertical range: Not known.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Aellen, Villy; Sket, Boris & Strinati, Pierre 2001; Brignoli, Paolo Marcello 1972; Brooks, Simon J 1995b; Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983; Cooray, P. Gerald 1967; Deraniyagala, P.E.P. 1965a; Deraniyagala S.U. 1980, 2002; Eckrich, Michael 1984; Kukla, Jiri 1958; Pages, Jean 1977; Siffre, Michel 1975 1975; Strinati, Pierre & Aellen, Villy 1981; Silhavy, Vladimir 1974 for 1973; Szymczakowski, Wacław; Villiers, A. 1970.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995, personal correspondence.

COMMUNICATOR: Eckrich, Michael 1984.

A »fairly large« cave entrance (unidentified dimensions) in gneiss gives access to an estimated 60 m of cave passage and two chambers (BROOKS 1995b; Brooks 1995

Mss, item 20) with plenty of breakdown, bats and a thick guano deposit (Michael Eckrich 1984, personal communication). It contains a »large« (unidentified size) subterranean lake of cold, clear water which STRINATI & AELLEN (1981) regarded as a »siphon« (sump, diving spot).

SITUATION 1: KUKLA (1958) positions the cave in Batatota mountain (note 1) north of Ratnapura.

SITUATION 2: DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. (1965a: 143) places »Batatota-lena« under a large rock of this name on the road from Kuruvita (note 2) to Eratne near »Sri Pàdhé« (Adam's Peak).

SITUATION 3 (CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974; 1983: 154): »Highly impressive caves« at »Eratne - Batatota« lie at a distance of »12 miles« (19 km north along the road) from the RH (Rest House) at the »Gem Capital Ratnapura« (N 06°40'58": E 080°23'57" WGS84).

SITUATION 4: CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 244) recommends to »proceed on the Kuruvita-Eratne road for about 6.5 kilometres until a rubber estate is reached. Turn right into a track through the estate. The cave lies about a mile along the track. The final stages involve a slight climb.«

SITUATION 5: STRINATI & AELLEN (1981: 459) estimate a position somewhere between the coordinates N 06°46'30": E 080°21' and N 06°50'00": E 080°23' (without map datum, possibly Everest 1830 coordinates).

SITUATION 6: BROOKS (1995b; personal correspondence 1995 no. 20) positions the cave at the foothills of Sri Pada / Adam's Peak, and some 5 km from —>Batatombalena. It is found by taking the fair weather road from Kuruvita village up through the forest for 5 km towards Batatota village. From this point a footpath is followed steeply up through the forest, passing some houses, beyond which the path becomes very vague. The cave entrance lies at the base of a large and high cliff. Assistance from local people is useful in finding this cave.

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1958: KUKLA (1958: 169): »Mysterious Stripura Cave in Battatota mountain ... is more than 55 m deep [apparently in the sense of "horizontally" deep] and most probably the biggest one« (on the island of Ceylon).

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1974: CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 244; 1983: 246): »A fairly large subterranean lake of cold, clear water« where passage can be seen to continue underwater (sump & diving spot). This passage is believed to lead to another stretch of water beyond the main lake and thence by a fabulous tunnel to another cave mouth opening from the further side of the ridge.

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1981: STRINATI & AELLEN (1981: 459) report from »Stripura Cave« a narrow entrance at the base of a cliff to some 50 m of horizontal passages in between of gravitationally dislocated boulders: »Entrée étroite au pied d'une paroi de rocher. Grotte horizontale formée par une succession des passages parmi des blocs éboulés.«

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1995 (BROOKS 1995b; Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 20): Batatota Subterranean Cavern.— The entrance to this large cave consists of a gash at the base of a large cliff. From the entrance the floor drops steeply downwards to enter a larger chamber some 15 m in diameter and 5 m high. On the far side of which a 10 m by 3 m triangular passage can be followed for 20 m to where a slippery descent over guano covered boulders enters a second chamber some 12 m across and 5 m high, beyond which a smaller triangular breakdown passage can be followed for 21 m to reach the end of the cave. A rift / sloping bedding along the right hand wall of this final passage drops to water. SPELEOLOGY: The cave contains nearly 70 m of passage and appears to be largely formed by breakdown following a

fissure system in the gneissic rock (BROOKS 1995b; Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 20).  
CAVE POTENTIAL: BROOKS (1995b) and Brooks (1995 Mss, no. 20) reports a promising diving spot »... [the] final passage drops to water (sump) where passage can be seen to continue underwater« and contradicts his own observation by stating that »... there are no prospects for further extension.«

CULTURAL HISTORY - Archaeology: In 1940 the cave was archaeologically excavated (S.U. DERANIYAGALA 1980: 172).

CAVE CLIMATE: Temperature 24°C (22.01.1970, STRINATI & AELLEN 1981).

CAVE LIFE: Michael Eckrich ( 1984, personal communication) reported many bats (Chiroptera) and a thick guano deposit. S.J. Brooks (1995 Mss) noted a small colony of bats. STRINATI & AELLEN (1981) collected bats (Chiroptera: Hipposideros sp., Rhinolophus sp.), Chilopoda, spiders (BRIGNOLI 1972: Nesticus aelleni), Opiliones (SILHAVY 1973, 1974: Arachnidae, Opiliones, Biantidae, Phalangida), Acaria, Collembola, Diplura (PAGES 1977: Japygida: Parindjapy aelleni), Orthoptera, Hemiptera (VILLIERS 1970: Hem. Hetero. Reduviidae), Coleoptera (SZYMACZKOWSKI 1972: Ptomaphagus longitarsis). AELLEN, SKET & STRINATI (2001: 1978) list Arachnida: Opiliones: Biantidae: Biantes aelleni Silhavy 1974; Arachnida Araneae: Nesticidae: Nesticus aellani Brignoli 1972; Arachnida Araneae: Ochyroceratidae: Merizocera sp.; Insecta: Diplura: Japygidae: Parindjapyx aellani Pages 1977; Insecta: Hemiptera: Reduviidae Emesinae: Bagauda strinatii Villiers 1970; Insecta: Coleoptera: Cholevidae: Ptomaphagus longitarsis Portevin Szymczakowski 1972.

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1940: Archaeological investigation (S.U. DERANIYAGALA 1980: 172). 1970.01.22: Pierre Strinati and Villy Aellen visited "Stripura Cave near Kuruvita", explored and collected cave life (STRINATI & AELLEN 1981: 459).

NOTE 1: Batatota N 06°50': E 080°22' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NOTE 2: »Eratne« (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1965a: 143; CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 241; 1983: 154, 243) appears to represent a short form of Eratnagoda N 06°48': E 080°22' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).  
BELI GALGE

→Beli Galge ( Bambarabotuva ), →Beli Galge ( Dikmukalana )

A natural cave in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1987.

The Beli Galge yielded human skeletal remains which were too fragmented for proper analysis (DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 1987: 105). BROOKS (1995 Mss item no. 15 after DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 1980: 156, 172) recorded one »Beli-Galge Cave« (Beli Cave Cave), noted some aspects of the →Beli Galge (Dikmukalana) but notes an »entrance measuring 10m x 3m and penetrating for some 5/6m [rather "5 or 6 m" than five sixths of a metre]. The cave is formed in gneiss. Archaeologically excavated (1908 to 1910) to yield significant human skeletal remains and deposits of at least 2.1m.« One or the other Beli Galge (at Bambarakotuva? or at Dikmukalana, north of Balangoda?) is reported to have ... (S.U. DERANIYAGALA 1987: 105).  
+ + + + Identity of Beli Galge at Dikmukalana of HARTLEY Bambarakotuva of DERANIYAGALA a) the entrance faces nearly due west [1911: 197] opens westward [1943: 110] b) entrance width 16 m [1943: 10] c) entrance height 6 m [1943: 10] d) depth of the "shelter" 24 m [1911: 197] 21 m [1943: 10] b) faunal remains mouse deer, Tragulus meminna [1911: 200] »mouse deer [2002: 32].«

BELI GALGE ( Balangoda )

→Beli Galge ( Dikmukalana Tea Estate ) or: Beligal-ge

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Dikmukalana Tea Estate.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Hartley, C. 1911.

BELI GALGE ( Bambarabotuwa )

or: Beligalge, Beli-galge

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural rock shelter in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: "Badullé Äle" (Badulla ) area: Bambarabotuwa (Bambarabotuwe, Bambarabotuwegkanda, Bambarakotuva) village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°40': E 080°36' / N 6.66666667°: E 80.6° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003): 475 m asl (DERANIYAGALAYA, P.E.P. 1943: 110).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983; Deraniyagala, P.E.P. 1943.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995.

The archaeologically important (note 1) Beli Galge (Snail Cave) in gneiss near the village of Bambarabotuwa (note 2) consists either of a west facing entrance (16 m wide, 6 m high) to 21 m long cave (DERANIYAGALAYA, P.E.P. 1943: 110) or of a 10 m wide and 3 m high opening to a 5 to 6 m deep rock shelter (Brooks 1995 Mss no. 15).

SITUATION 1 (DERANIYAGALAYA, P.E.P. 1943: 110) places his »Beli galgé« at »Bambarakotuva in the Ratnapura district, and at an elevation of about 475 metres« and close to a stream called »Badullé Äle [note 3].«

SITUATION 2 (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 244; 1983: 246): At the foothills of Adam's Peak / Sri Pada, and in the Bambarabotuwa Forest Reserve north of Pelmadulla (note 4). Approach, however, is easier from Ratnapura (N 06°40'58": E 080°23'57"), through Welawatte, Batewela and Gerandiella north of the main Ratnapura - Pelmadulla road.

SITUATION 3 (Brooks 1995 Mss, item no. 15): 25 km east of Ratnapura.

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1 (DERANIYAGALAYA, P.E.P. 1943: 110): »The cave mouth, which is 16 m wide, opens westward and the cave extends eastward for a distance of 21 m, the roof is about 6 m above the floor and continues northward from the cave mouth as an overhanging ledge. The villagers affirm that Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy excavated the floor about 40 years ago, and a man who assisted him stated that the earth was then about 4 metres deep at the cave mouth. Ten years ago a planter, who considered the earth useful as manure, also removed quantities.«

CAVE DESCRIPTION 2 (Brooks 1995 Mss, item no. 15): XXX needs to be added.

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1908, 1909 or 1910?: Ananda Coomaraswamy excavated archaeologically (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1943: 110). 1930, circa: A planter removed quantities of cave deposits, considering this earth useful as manure (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1943: 110). 1940, circa: P.E.P. DERANIYAGALA (1943: 110) investigated archaeologically.

NOTE 1: According to DERANIYAGALAYA, P.E.P. (1943: 110), the original bedding was too badly disturbed to ascertain the sequence but recorded numerous flakes of

quartz and shells of *Acavus*: »Sifting the earth brought to light flakes of quartz and chert [stone tools], lumps of graphite, a few bone points, quantities of bones of small animals, and shells of aquatic snails of the genus *Tanalia*. The most important discovery was the eighteen macroliths obtained superficially ...« .

NOTE 2: Bambarabotuwa (also: Bambarabotuwe, Bambarabotuwegkanda) at N 06°40': E 080°36' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) which lies at a linear distance of 20 km east of Ratnapura (N 06°40'58": E 080°23'57" WGS84?).

NOTE 3: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) positions the mouths of the streams Badal Ela N 06°02': E 080°14'; Badulla Oya N 06°00'25": E 080°32'42"; Battulu Oya N 06°50': E 080°33'; and Botale Ela N 06°43': E 080°10'.

NOTE 4: Positions (WGS84) after <[www.nima.mil/geonames/](http://www.nima.mil/geonames/)> accessed 16.11.2003): Batewela N 06°41': E 080°33', Gerandiella 1 N 06°40': E 080°35', Gerandiella 2 N 06°44': E 080°40', Pelmadulla N 06°37'28": E 080°33'07", Welawatte / Wewelwatte N 06°42': E 080°33'.

BELI GALGE ( Dikmukalana )

or: Beligal-ge near Balangoda

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not actually surveyed (not mapped) natural cave in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Dikmukalana Tea Estate.

POSITION: WGS84 (approximate horizontal precision error  $\pm 5$  km) N 06°42': E 080°35' / N 6.7°: E 80.58333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003): 475 m asl (P.E.P. Deraniyagala 1943: 110).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

SPELEOMETRY: Length: Estimated 30 m. Vertical range: Not known.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Deraniyagala, P.E.P. 1943; Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980, 1987; Hartley, C. 1911; Kennedy, Kenneth A.R. et alii 1986.

The Snail Rock House at Dikmukalana (note 1) is possibly identical with the cave at →Bambarakotuwa (note 2), is cave with a west facing entrance (10 m above a stream) to a first, 24 m long chamber (note 3) which extends, getting lower and past a bend, into a second chamber which ends in a rift too narrow to enter.

ETYMOLOGY: The Sinhala "Beli Galge" (Hartley's "Beligal-ge") means Snail Shelter (but is a cave) and is literally translated into "Snail Rock House" (beli = snail; gala = rock, stone; ge = house, home). HARTLEY 1911: 197) says it has »been the custom among the neighbouring peasants to dig in the soil for the water-snail shells, from which the cave takes its name, and which they burn for chunam [burned lime] to accompany their betel.«

SITUATION (HARTLEY 1911: 197): At a travelling distance of »12 miles [19 km] north of Balangoda and close to the tea estate of Dikmukalana.«

CAVE DESCRIPTION: HARTLEY (1911: 197) found the cave placed in a most advantageous position for inhabitation: »... scooped out of a solid and almost perpendicular cliff of gneiss and some 30 feet above a small rivulet, to which there slopes steeply a bank or talus of earth overgrown with trees. The front of the caves faces nearly due west; and at its southern extremity it plunges almost at right angles 79 feet into the rock. From this point it shallows rapidly, until after a considerable inward bend, forming a second recess in the rock, it grows even narrower, and finally tapers into nothing. The rock roof is lofty in the deeper parts, and the floor of dust strewn with boulders slopes gently downward to the northern end. Although no drip ledges has been cut, the cave seems absolutely dry within; a small wall of rough

stones and earth has been built from the southern end some little distance northward; and the drip from the cliff face falls entirely clear of the interior. In fact no more comfortable cave for inhabitation can well be imagined.« ARCHAEOLOGY (note 4): Excavation yielded lithic tools (HARTLEY 1911: 197-200) and »... the late Mr. Parsons carried out a small excavation near the southern end, in the course of which he found some human bones and other remains now in the [Colombo?] Museum« (note 5).

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1900, circa: »... the late Mr. Parsons carried out a small excavation near the southern end.« 1910.08.11-13: C. HARTLEY (1911: 197-200) engaged six men and undertook a partial "exploration" (read: archaeological excavation).

NOTE 1: Dikmukalena (estate) N 06°42': E 080°35' <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003), and, according to HARTLEY (1911), about 20 km north of Balangoda (N 06°38'57": E 080°40'20").

NOTE 2: Both Beli Galge at Dikmukalana Tea Estate (HARTLEY 1911) and →Bambarakotuva (P.E.P. DERANIYAGALA 1947; S.U. DERANIYAGALA 1980, 1987) are characterised by west facing entrances (HARTLEY 1911: 197: »faces nearly due west «; P.E.P. DERANIYAGALA 1943: 110: »opens westward«) and by yielding, on archaeological excavation, the faunal remains of mouse deer, *Tragulus meminna* (HARTLEY 1911: 197, 200; S.U. DERANIYAGALA 2002: 32).

NOTE 3: HARTLEY (1911: 197) records a length of »79 feet« or 24.08 m.

NOTE 4: Unchecked references: DERANIYAGALA, S.U. (1980: 156, 172); HARTLEY (1913, 1914); KENNEDY et al. (1986).

NOTE 5: HARTLEY (1911: 197) reports Dr. Pearson identified the faunal remains of Madras langur (*Semnopithecus priamus*) and mouse deer, *Tragulus meminna*.

BELI LENA ( Athula )

or: Belilena, Beli-lena, Maniyangama Cave, Snail Cave

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Western province: Colombo district: Avissawella:

Maniyangama: Athula.

POSITION: (if at at Maniyangama itself), WGS84 (approximate horizontal precision error ±5 km) N 06°56': E 080°14' / N 6.93333334°: E 80.23333333°

<[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1987, 1992, 2002;

Kennedy, Kenneth A.R. et alii 1986.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, S.J. 1995.

The small cave or rock shelter called Beli Lena (note 1) is of great archaeological importance.

SITUATION: Somewhere in the vicinity of Athula (note 2) near Maniyangama (N 06°56': E 080°14' WGS84)

CULTURAL HISTORY: Archaeological excavation (note 3) of Snail Cave yielded not only mesolithic deposits (DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 1980), which were radiocarbon dated to ca. 7'400 uncalibrated BP (DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 1987: 101) and to 8'230 cal BP (DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 2002: 5) , but also upper Pleistocene hominid remains but these were too fragmented for proper analysis (DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 1987: 105). So far, I have not seen KENNEDY et al. (1986) on the biological anthropology of upper Pleistocene hominids from Batadomba Lena and Beli Lena.

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1971: »Gunaratne« (or so) excavated archaeologically



(Brooks, S.J. 1995 Mss).

NOTE 1: The Beli Lena (literally: Snail Cave) at Athula near Maniyangama (DERANIYAGALA, S.U.) has also been recorded under the titles Beli-lena Athula (DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 2002: 5) and Beli-lena Maniyangama cave (DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 1987: 101).

NOTE 2: Athula is not identified.

NOTE 3: Beline Lena is said (S.J. Brooks 1995 Mss) to have been excavated by one »Gunaratne« (not identified) in 1971.

BELI LENA ( Kitulgala )

or: Kitul Gala Belilena, Beli-lena, Kitulgala Cave

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Kegalle (Kegalla) district: Kitulgala village: »Ing Oya« (Ingoya) estate.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°00': E 080°26' / N7°: E 80.43333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheets: Hatton, Kandy; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

SPELEOMETRY: Length: Approximately 12 m. Vertical range: Not known.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1987, 1992, 1996 published 1998, 2001b, 2002; Kajale, Mukund D. 1989; Kennedy, Kenneth A.R. et alii 1986.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995 no. 4.

The Beli Lena at Kitulgala consists of two chambers forming a »very extensive« cave, which is »perhaps one of the five largest caves in Sri Lanka« (DERANIYAGALA 2002: 29). The entrance being some 20 m across and extending into the hill for some 12 m. The shape of the entrance lead Brooks (1995 Mss no. 4) to believe in a so-called »solutional erosion« of a mineral filled cavity / pocket in the gneiss.

ETYMOLOGY: The Singhala "beli lena" translates into »Snail Cave«.

DERANIYAGALA (1996 published 1998, 2001b, 2002: 4) calls this item »Beli-lena at Kitulgala« or, in short, »Beli-lena.«

SITUATION: At a travelling distance of 38 km east of Colombo (KAJALE 1989: 269) and somewhere within one »Ing Oya« or Ingoya estate (note 1) near the village of Kitulgala (note 2). ARCHAEOLOGY: Archaeologically excavated by W.H. Wijepala (1983) over several seasons. DERANIYAGALA S.U. (1987: 100) reports numerous geometric microliths (lunates, triangles, trapezoidals) were excavated from »Kitulgala Belilena cave.« KAJALE (1989) undertook an archaeobotanical study of mesolithic plant exploitation. DERANIYAGALA (1996 published 1998; 2001b) notes the early evidence of anatomically modern man (note 3) in Sri Lanka is earliest in →Fa Hien-lena (ca. 37,000 BP), followed by →Batadomba-lena 31,000 and 18,000, →Beli-lena 16,000 (note 4), Fa Hien-lena 6,900, the open-air site Bellan-bandī Palassa 6,500, and Fa Hien-lena again 4,800 BP. The dating is based primarily on radiocarbon assays on charcoal, checked independently against thermoluminescence dating in the case of Beli-lena. DERANIYAGALA, S.U. (1996 published 1998, 2001b, 2002: 4-5): »Such geometric microliths have traditionally been considered the hallmark of the Mesolithic period as first defined in Europe. The earliest dates for the geometric microlithic tradition in Europe are around 12'000 BP. Hence it came as a surprise when such tools were found as early as... over 30'000 BP at Beli-lena. Sri Lanka has yielded evidence of this sophisticated technological

phase over 19'000 years earlier than in Europe. However this apparent anomaly has been resolved by the discovery of geometric microliths in various parts of Africa, such as Zaire and southern Africa, from contexts in excess of 27'000 BP, thereby suggesting that Europe was late in manifesting this techno-tradition due to as yet undefined reasons.«

CAVE LIFE: The tree snail *Acavus roseolabiat* at "Kitulgala cave" from circa 12'500 to 10'500 BP indicates that the climate since the last Würm periglacial at circa 15'000 in the Wet Zone, more precisely in the lowland Wet Zone of Sri Lanka, was similar to that of today (S.U. DERANIYAGALA 1987: 102).

NOTE 1: Ingoya, estate N 07°00': E 080°26' <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) on sheet NB44-02.

NOTE 2: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) lists three suitable "Kitulgala" entries (WGS84): N 07°05'00": E 080°29'00" Kitulgala EST = estate (Ing Oya Estate?); N 07°00'00": E 080°24'00" Kitulgala EST = estate (Ing Oya Estate?); N 06°59'40": E 080°24'41" Kitulgala PPL = populated place.

NOTE 3: KENNEDY (1986) needs to be checked for aspects of biological anthropology concerning upper Pleistocene hominids from Batadomba Lena and Beli Lena..

NOTE 4: DERANIYAGALA (2002: 54) lists over twelve individuals (ca. 16,000 BP) excavated from the Beli Lena at Kitulgala.

BELI LENA ( Maniyangama )

→Beli Lena ( Athula ) or: Belilena, Beli-lena

A natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Western province: Colombo district: Avissawella:

Maniyangama: Athula.

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1987: 101.

BENDIYA GALGE

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Henebedda (Henebadda, Henebedde) village: Bendiya.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°16': E 081°26' / N 7.26666667°: E 81.43333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-03.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995: Personal correspondence.

One of two unspecified caves or rock shelters of dubious nature and unknown size (an upper and a lower one) are situated near a certain »Henebedda« village (note 1). Both caves were occupied till 1911 by Veddah people and yielded historical findings in addition to prehistoric lithic tools (DERANIYAGALA 1980: 157).

NOTE 1: »Henebedda« (DERANIYAGALA 1980: 157) appears to correspond to Henebadda / Henebedde N 07°16': E 081°26' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

BENDIYA GALGE 2

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Henebedda (Henebadda, Henebedde) village: Bendiya.

POSITION: Estimated WGS84 coordinates (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°16': E 081°26' / N 7.26666667°: E 81.43333333° (unspecified coordinate source).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-03.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995.

One of two –an upper and a lower one– unspecified caves or rock shelters of dubious nature and unknown size is situated near a certain "Henebedda" village (note 1). Both caves were occupied till 1911 by Veddah people and yielded historical findings in addition to prehistoric lithic tools [S.U. DERANIYAGALA 1980: 157; Simon J. Brooks, personal correspondence 1995].

Cave at

BERUWELA

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave in laterite.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Western province: Kalutara district: Beruwela village.

POSITION: Estimated WGS84 coordinates (approximate horizontal precision error ±2500 m) N 06°28': E 079°58' / N 6.46666667°: E 79.96666667° (unspecified coordinate source): 0 m asl (±5 m).

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Cooray, P. Gerald 1967.

What seems to be a wave-cut sea-cave in laterite is said to be visible in a photograph (note 1) showing: »A headland and small bay in laterite, Beruwela. Note the intensive erosion and the small cave in soft laterite at the foot of the cliff« (COORAY 1967, plate 10, figure B, opposite page 73).

NOTE 1: With the photocopy of COORAY (1967) which I got, no »small cave in soft laterite at the foot of the cliff« is discernible.

BEZODNEJ STUDNE pri Puttur

→Tidal Well ( Puttur )

A natural pothole cave with sink and spring.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern province: Jaffna district: Puttur (Putur, Putturu, Potoor, Potur) village area.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Jaffna; AMS sheet: NC44-10.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Mitter, Pavol 1979a: 155.

BEZODNEJ STUDNE pri Putur

→Tidal Well ( Puttur )

A natural pothole cave with sink and spring.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern province: Jaffna district: Puttur (Putur, Putturu, Potoor, Potur) village area.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Jaffna; AMS sheet: NC44-10.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Mitter, Pavol 1979b: 178.

BHAGAWA LENA

or: Bagavalena

Explored but not mapped natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: Kurunegala (Kurunaegala, or Seven Korles) district: Galagedera village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°32': E 080°08' / N 7.53333333°: E 80.13333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Dandagamuwa; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

An unspecified cave or rock shelter called »Bagavalena« (Bhagava Lena) is said to be situated somewhere near Galagedera (N 07°32': E 080°08' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) in Kurunegala district (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 254; 1983: 256).

#### BHAGAWA LENNA

→Bagava Lena

A modified natural sacred troglodyte rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area: Sri Pada summit.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Pridham, Charles 1849, vol. 2: 616-617.

Cave of the

BITTER ORANGE

or: Orangengrotte

Unexplored, lost and not mapped natural or man-made troglodyte cave, rock shelter or rock-cut chamber.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central or Sabaragamuwa province: Kegalle (Kegalla) district or Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area.

POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton or Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: [Ibn] Battuta, Muhammad Ibn-Abdallah Awamiri, ca. 1355 for 1325-1354 (edited by Defrémery, C. & Sanguinetti, B.R. 1874-1879; edited by Gibb, Hamilton A.R. 1929 reproduced 1988; edited by Gibb, Hamilton A.R. and Beckingham, Charles F. 1994; edited by Leicht, Hans 1974a, 1974b, 1975, 1982, 1999); Skeen, William 1870 reprinted 1997.

One or several unspecified »grottoes« (note 1) are situated (note 2) at a difficult to reconstruct location somewhere near the »Grotto of al Isfahani« beyond the »Pass of Iskandar« on a route from a place called »Kunakar« (see: Cave of →Ustad Mahmud the Lur) via the »Lake of Monkeys« and across a certain »Pass of Iskandar« on the way to the »Mountain of Sarandip« (Adam's Peak, Sri Pada, Pidurutulagula N 06°48'30": E 080°29'53": 2242.3 m asl).

NOTE 1: SKEEN (1870: 227-228 reprinted 1997) needs to be checked. Ibn BATTUTA (edited by GIBB 1929 reproduced 1998: 258) has »A number of grottoes.«

NOTE 2: Ibn BATTUTA (edited by GIBB & BECKINGHAM 1994: 853): »At the same place [as the Grotto of al- (→) Isfahani] is the Cave of the Bitter Orange and the Cave of the Sultan and close by is the darwaza [a Persian word: threshold, entrance] of the mountain, that is the place of access to it.« Ibn BATTUTA (edited by LEICHT 1999: 200): »... oberhalb des Teiches "Taufplatz der Heiligen" liegt ... auch die Orangengrotte und die Sultansgrotte, die den Zugang zum Berg darstellt.«

'Caves' at

BOWATA ( Butawa, Buthawa )

or: Lunuatu Galge, Lunuatugalge Cave

A man-made rock-cut chamber ('cave' temple).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Southern province: Hambantota district: Yala National Park area: Butawa (Buthawa (Bowata) village: Lunuatu Galge (Lunuatugalge).

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°31': E 081°30' / N 6.51666667°: E 81.5° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Yala; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Parker, H. 1909.

WEBSITE: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003.

About three (or more?) unspecified »caves« at »Bowata« (Butawa, Buthawa) contain inscriptions (rock art). This appears to correspond to →Lunuwatu Galge, which is one of the eight Sri Lanka "CAVE" (note 1) entries (note 2) listed on

<[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) and <[www.wayhoo.com](http://www.wayhoo.com)> (accessed 25.05.2004).

SITUATION 1: According to the entrance coordinates N 06°31': E 081°30' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003), Lunuwatugalge lies at an

apparently representative location on the border where the districts of Hambantota (Southern Province) and Monaragala (Eastern Central Province) meet in the very

centre of the →Yala National Park (note 3). SITUATION 2 (PARKER 1909: 453): At an unspecified location somewhere in the vicinity of »Bowata« (PARKER 1909) or Butawa, Buthawa (note 4), a place »in the extreme south-east of Ceylon.«

CULTURAL HISTORY - rock art (epigraphy): PARKER 1909: 453 reproduces and translated inscriptions »found by Mr. [Hugh] Nevill, and published without facsimiles in the Taprobanian« (vol. 1, pages 52 ff). PARKER (1909: 453 inscription 81): »This cave of the Great Beautiful/ is made by Maha - Tissa the Noble, son (of) the samana ...« PARKER (1909: 454 inscription 82): »(The cave of) Abhi Anuradhiya, daughter of the Noble Abhaya, son (of) King Uttiya, (son of) the samana (monk) Tedapana - Tissa.«

NOTE 1: <[ftp://ftp.nga.mil/pub/gns\\_data/Designations.html](http://ftp.nga.mil/pub/gns_data/Designations.html)> (accessed 28.05.2004): »cave(s): An underground passageway or chamber, or cavity on the side of a cliff.«

NOTE 2: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) lists the »CAVE« entries Dagaba Caves N 06°36': E 081°23' NB44-07 Henanegala Cave N 07°35': E 081°17' NB44-03 Itikala Caves N 06°34': E 081°44' NB44-07 Lunuwatugalge Cave N 06°31': E 081°30' NB44-07 Lunuhinda Cave N 07°40': E 080°39' NB44-02 Mulagama Cave N 07°15': E 081°29' NB44-03 Talaguruhela Rock Caves N 06°34': E 081°29' NB44-07 Viharegala Rock Cave N 06°39': E 081°39' NB44-07 .

NOTE 3: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) positions (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-07 the »PRK« (park: an area, often of forested land, maintained as a place of beauty, or for recreation) Yala National Park not only at N 06°25': E 081°30' and and N 06°32': E 081°41' but also at N 06°35': E 081°33' and the »RFS« (forest reserve: A forested area set aside for preservation or controlled use of species or products) Yala National Park N 06°37': E 081°23' (WGS84).

NOTE 4: »Bowata« (PARKER 1909) is the »Buthawa« (Survey Department 1977: Roas Map of Sri Lanka). <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) positions (WGS84) at N 06°19': E 081°28' Butawa Lewaya (lagoon) N 06°20': E 081°28' Butawa Wewa (reservoir) N 06°19': E 081°29' Butawa Lewaya (forest) N 06°19': E 081°29' Butawa Point (point = a tapering piece of land projecting into a body of water).

BUDDAMAHELA "ROCK CAVE"

A man-made rock-cut chamber ('cave temple').

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Monaragala district: Westminster Abbey ridge area: Siyambalanduwa: Buddama.

POSITION: WGS84 (approximate horizontal precision error ±5 km) N 07°02':

E 081°29' / N 7.03333333°: E 81.48333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-03.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

A man-made, rock-cut chamber ('cave' temple used for religious purposes).  
SITUATION (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 252; 1983: 254): At the village of Buddama (N 07°02': E 081°29' WGS84? <www.nima.mil> 16.11.2003), which lies north of Siyambalanduwa (N 06°54': E 081°33') and some 20 km west of Westminster Abbey (N 07°02': E 081°32') on the road to Baduluwela (N 07°05': E 081°26') in the Sellaka Oya Sanctuary.

#### BUDDHANAGEHELA 'CAVES'

A man-made rock-cut chamber ('cave temple').

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Anuradhapura district: Padaviya Tank.

POSITION: WGS84 (approximate horizontal precision error  $\pm 5$  km) N 08°53': E 080°46' / N 8.88333334°: E 80.76666667° <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

A group of five man-made rock temples (rock-cut chambers used for religious purposes) reported CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 249; 1983: 251) from Buddhanagehela, an outcrop of rock (near N 08°53': E 080°46') that lies a little over 8 km north of the embankment of the Padaviya tank (N 08°48': E 080°45' WGS84 <www.nima.mil/geonames> accessed 16.11.2003).

#### BUDU GALLENA

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Budu.

POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Horana, Hutton, Rakwana, or Ratnapura.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Simon J. Brooks 1995

A small cave or rock shelter called »Budu Gallena« (Brooks 1995 Mss, item no. 33).

SITUATION: At an unspecified location somewhere (note 1) in the vicinity of Ratnapura (N 06°40'58": E 080°23'57" WGS84).

CULTURAL HISTORY - archaeology: Excavation yielded stone tools (S.U. DERANIYAGALA 1980: 177].

NOTE 1: In case »Budu Gallen« (Brooks 1995 Mss) is a place name, there are the ruins of Budugalge N 06°48': E 081°20' (WGS84 <www.nima.mil/geonames> accessed 16.11.2003) on sheet NB44-07

#### BUDUGALA CAVES

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural troglodyte caves, rock shelters or rock-cut chambers ('cave' dwelling, 'cave temple'), probably in granite.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Balangoda: Diyavinna - Uggalkaltota (Uggal Kaltota, Ukgal Kaltota) escarpment / ridge area: Kaltota: Budugala village.

POSITION: (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°37'55": E 080°52'25" / N 6.63194445°: E 80.87361111° (unspecified coordinate source): 450 m asl (estimated).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Haputale; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983; Wilson, Jane M. 1988.

The Budugala caves, which include the Budugala Cave Temple (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1983: 154, 247) and an unspecified number of »small decorated rock shelters« (WILSON 1988: 23) of dubious nature, contain unspecified »decorations« (medals? speleothems? rock art? cave paintings?) and were used in the 2nd century by Buddhists as troglodyte monastic dwellings and meditation retreats and nowadays are »only a monument to the past« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974, 1983: 154). Nearby lies →Kurugala Cave and the →Jailani Muslim shrine.

SITUATION 1 (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: ###, 1983: 154): At a walking distance of »two miles« (about 3 km) from »MP 14« (mile post 14, kilometre 22.526) on the road from Balangoda (note 1) to Uggal Kaltota (note 2).

SITUATION 2 (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 245; 1983: 247): »At the very bottom of the escarpment about two miles [3 km] from Kaltota, which is where this part of the road from Balangoda ends« or, perhaps, ended in the 1980ies. Budugala is reached via a track (motorable in dry weather) along an irrigation channel. The cave entrances in the massive Kurugala rock (note 3) are clearly visible from this track.

NOTE 1: There is not only a Balangoda N 06°38'57": E 080°40'20" (WGS84) but also an Upper Balangoda N 06°39': E 080°41' (WGS84), both on AMS sheet NB44-06.

NOTE 2: Uggal Kaltota (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1983: 154) or Ukgal Kaltota (WILSON 1988: 23) and Uggalkaltota N 06°39'13": E 080°52'32" (WGS84 <www.nima.mil/geonames> accessed 16.11.2003), on AMS sheet NB44-06.

NOTE 3: Kurugala N 06°49': E 080°04' (WGS84 <www.nima.mil/geonames> accessed 16.11.2003): 366 m asl (or »1,200 feet« CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 245; 1983: 247) or »150 m« (above the plain? WILSON 1988), on AMS sheet NB44-06.

BUDUGALGE ( Kumbukkana )

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped man-made rock-cut chamber ('cave temple').

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Monaragala district: Kumbukanna: Budugalge.

POSITION: WGS84 (approximate horizontal precision error ±5 km) N 06°48': E 081°20' / N 6.8°: E 81.33333333° <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Buttala; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

A ruined man-made »cave temple« of the vihara type is reached by turning south at Kumbukanna (near N 06°48': E 081°18', about half way between Wellawaya and Monaragala) and proceeding for about 8 km to the end of the road. The rock-cut chamber lies about 1.5 km beyond the end of the road (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 253; 1983: 255) and is suspected to have been used for religious, troglodyte monastic purposes.

BULAWATTE CAVE ( Pelmadulla )

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area: Pelmadulla village.

POSITION: (If at Pelmadulla village itself), WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°37'28": E 080°33'07" / N 6.62444445°: E 80.55194445° <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995: Personal correspondence.

An unspecified cave or rock shelter yielded, archaeologically excavated, stone tools (stone celt, adze).

SITUATION (Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 25 after DERANIYAGALA 1980: 174): At an unspecified location somewhere in the vicinity of the village of Pelmadulla (N 06°37'28": E 080°33'07" WGS84).

Caves at

BULUTOTA

or: Balutota

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Balutota (Balutota) village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°26': E 080°39' / N 6.43333333°: E 80.65° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Rakwana; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995.

One, two or more unspecified caves or rock shelters are situated in the hillside somewhere in the vicinity of one village of »Balutota« (Brooks 1995 Mss) or Bulutota (N 06°26': E 080°39').

CULTURAL HISTORY: Archaeological excavation yielded stone tools made from chert and quartz (Brooks 1995 Mss, item no. 35, 36, 37 after S.U. DERANIYAGALA 1980: 177).

BUTKANDA " Cave 1 "

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Butkanda (Buthkanda) village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°23': E 080°41' / N 6.38333333°: E 80.68333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheets: Rakwana, Timbolketiya; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995c.

The first of three unspecified caves or rock shelters (Brooks 1995 Mss no. 35, 36, 37 after ).

SITUATION: Somewhere in the hillside near the village of Butkanda / Buthkanda (note 1).

CULTURAL HISTORY - archaeology: Excavation yielded stone tools made from chert and quartz (DERANIYAGALA 1980: 177).

NOTE 1: Buthkanda, Butkanda N 06°23': E 080°41' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

BUTKANDA " Cave 2 "

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Butkanda (Buthkanda) village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°23': E 080°41' / N 6.38333333°: E 80.68333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed



16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheets: Rakwana, Timbolketiya; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995c.

The second of three unspecified caves or rock shelters (Brooks 1995 Mss no. 35, 36, 37 after ).

SITUATION: Somewhere in the hillside near the village of Butkanda / Buthkanda (note 1).

CULTURAL HISTORY - archaeology: Excavation yielded stone tools made from chert and quartz (DERANIYAGALA 1980: 177).

NOTE 1: Buthkanda, Butkanda N 06°23': E 080°41' (WGS84

<[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

BUTKANDA " Cave 3 "

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Butkanda (Buthkanda) village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°23': E 080°41' / N 6.38333333°: E 80.68333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheets: Rakwana, Timbolketiya; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995c.

The third of three unspecified caves or rock shelters (Brooks 1995 Mss no. 35, 36, 37 after ).

SITUATION: Somewhere in the hillside near the village of Butkanda / Buthkanda (note 1).

CULTURAL HISTORY - archaeology: Excavation yielded stone tools made from chert and quartz (DERANIYAGALA 1980: 177).

NOTE 1: Buthkanda, Butkanda N 06°23': E 080°41' (WGS84

<[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

BUTTALA CAVE

→Katugaha Galge; →Meminnahela Galge; Cave of →Yudaganawa

A natural troglodyte rock shelter or cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Monaragala district: Buttala village: Meminnahela ridge.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980: 155; Sarasin, Fritz 1931: 46.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995c, no. 8.#