



PAKISTAN SRI LANKA

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The High Commission of Sri Lanka in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

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Sri Lanka needs to explore Pakistani markets

The Sri Lankan business community is apparently sitting on a gold mine, without exploring or exploiting, where the huge Pakistani market is concerned. Ms Mariam Saeed, Charge d' Affaires, Pakistan High Commission



MAJOR MARKETS
market research

in Sri Lanka, speaking on "Potential areas for further development of Trade and Investment between Sri Lanka and Pakistan" at the seminar 'Maximizing Benefits of Pakistan - Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement' (PSFTA) pointed at a tremendous lot of trade and investment activities that could be promoted between the two countries under PSFTA and that it is an opportune time for exporters and manufacturers of Sri Lanka to penetrate this market. Addressing the seminar arranged by Sri Lanka Pakistan Business Council, she said the Pakistan market is massive and a huge market with 180 million consumers and noted that trade between the two countries have definitely increased after Sri Lanka Pakistan FTA. She explained as to why the true potential has not been realized now, attributing it to business people not properly understanding the process.

Sri Lanka gets first boxing gold

Manju Wanniarachchi won Sri Lanka's first Commonwealth Games gold medal in boxing in 72 years but British fighters dominated the first session of the final day of the competition.

The 30-year-old knicker factory worker from Kandy beat Wales' Sean McGoldrick in the bantamweight division, sparking wild celebrations at the Talkatora Indoor Stadium.

He was the only non-British winner in the first five of 10 fights, in which Northern Ireland claimed two gold - their first since 1994 - and England and Scotland one each.

Wanniarachchi was awarded the fight for being the most aggressive boxer after he and 18-year-old McGoldrick were locked at 7-7 on points after the third round.

His manager Dian Gomes told AFP: "It's a great victory for us after 72 years





Duty to repay gratitude to flood victims in Pakistan - Gen Weerasooriya

Pakistan made a large contribution to Sri Lanka when the tsunami tragedy occurred. Even four months after the tsunami the people of Pakistan donated Rs. 20 million to Sri Lanka for relief work, General Srilal Weerasooriya, former Sri Lankan High Commissioner to Pakistan said. He was addressing a ceremony to hand over relief assistance from Sri Lanka to the flood victims in Pakistan. The former envoy said, after the tsunami tragedy the Pakistani people who came to the Sri Lankan High Commission office in Islamabad generously contributed to the tsunami victims. Weerasooriya said that the Pakistan Government extended military assistance to Sri Lanka since 1983. Thousands of Sri Lankan soldiers were trained in Pakistan. It is our duty and time to repay our gratitude to the flood victims in Pakistan, he said. Pakistan High Commissioner in Sri Lanka, Mrs Seema Baloch praised the timely assistance from Sri Lanka to help the flood victims in Pakistan.

Mr. D.W. Jinadasa assumed duty as Consul General, Consulate General of Sri Lanka in Karachi

Mr. D.W. Jinadasa, an Officer of the Sri Lanka Commerce Service assumed duty as Consul General in the Consulate General of Sri Lanka in Karachi on August 09, 2010.



Mr. D.W. Jinadasa has worked in the Sri Lanka Missions in Brussels, London, Chennai, Dubai and Kuala Lumpur as the Head of the Commercial Section.

Mr Jinadasa is a Graduate of Economics and has participated in several regional and international conferences under the Trade and World Trade Organisation.

Six Members of Youth Delegation Visit to Islamabad for Peace and Harmony



Six members of Youth Participated at the Conference in Islamabad namely, Mr Sameera Rajapaksha, Mr A A N D Sampayo, Mr K K J Fernando, Miss K Makenthiran, Miss Sayuri Finishiya.

These Members represent the National Youth Services Council of Sri Lanka. The Members from Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh also participated this event.

Pakistan's tallest and shortest men visit to Sri Lanka

Hundreds of curious people thronged to have a glimpse of Pakistan's tallest and the shortest men who are on visit to Sri Lanka.



Television footages showed the shortest man running between the tallest man's legs much to the joy of the onlookers.

The duo, who are Pakistani nationals, were returning from Malaysia where they had gone to promote Pakistani culture and were special invitees for the independence day celebrations on August 31.

The shortest man Ali Zaman is 39 inches in height. His wife is five feet tall. The tallest man Haq Nawaz is 7' 8" in height and has two brothers and two sisters, all of whom are normal in height. A resident of a village near Bahopur close to Punjab, Zawaz consumes 16 rotis, 12 eggs and four litres of milk for breakfast.



Yapahuwa - A kingdom of Ancient Lanka

An ancient fortress and capital built in 1301, approximately 145 km. from Colombo, Yapahuwa is a rock rising to a height of 90 metres. There are many traces of ancient battle defences, but the biggest showpiece is its ornamental stairway. The steps of this stairway are narrow and need to be manoeuvred sideways. According to historians this may be a form of defence as the steps can neither be ascended or descended hastily. Thus it paved the way for those at the top to arm themselves against an enemy onslaught.



At the top of the stairway is a large stone doorway flanked by thick walls and two exquisitely carved windows. During early excavations one window was found in fragments while the other called the Sivumeduru Kawuluwa (perforated palace window) is well preserved. At present it is in the archaeological museum situated at the entrance to the rock fortress. This marvellous piece of work is a slab of stone four feet seven inches thick, while the mouldings within are three inches in thickness. It's surface is punctured with 45 circles through which light once entered the hall.

The first archaeological excavation at Yapahuwa was carried out by H.C.P. Bell, the first Archaeological Commissioner in Sri Lanka (1810 - 1811). A special monument had been discovered during that time. According to the reports magnificent types of palace entrances were found by H.C.P. Bell during his excavations.

During the recent excavations carried out by Dr. Senarath Dissanayake, Yapahuwa has had pre-historic (from 1,000 B.C. to 500 B.C.) or early historic (from 500 B.C. to 200 A.D.) human settlements and it was the earliest settlement to be found on a rock. According to available evidence it had been a more urban settlement than a rural one.





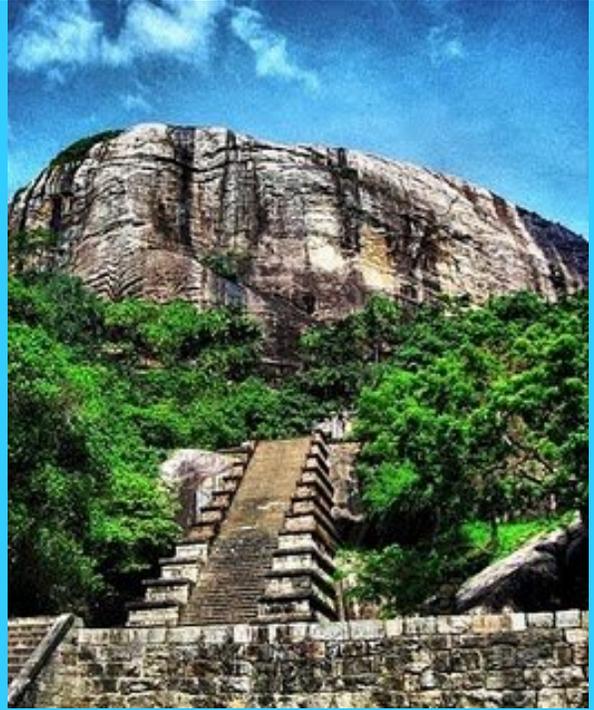
The latest archaeological excavations at Yapahuwa reveal that the kingdom had close diplomatic relations with China during the 13th century.

Early excavations reveal that several Chinese ceramics were found which were among the finest ceramics found in the country.

A large number of celadon pottery parts and a large number of Chinese coins too were found. During H.C.P. Bell's excavations he had also found 12 Chinese coins.

The history surrounding Yapahuwa is fascinating. Yapahuwa was first occupied by the Chief Subha to defend it against South Indian forces penetrating Southwards.

Thus the rock was named after Subha; Subhapabata in Pali and Yapahuwa in Sinhala. A South Indian ruler Arya Chakravarthi stormed the citadel of Yapahuwa paving the way for shifting the capital to another site. This fortress capital of the Sinhalese kings when abandoned was inhabited by Buddhist monks and religious ascetics.



The relics were carried away from the temple to South India by the Pandyans and then recovered in 1288 A.D. by Parakramabahu III (1287 - 1293) who temporarily placed them in safety in Polonnaruwa. The Pandyans left Yapahuwa but in the mid 16th century, the Portuguese marched in. They demolished most of the buildings and Yapahuwa was in ruins.

A special note of thanks is due to former Principal, Yapahuwa Maha Vidyalaya W. Abeysinghe for his guidance throughout the tour.

How to get to Yapahuwa: Colombo

- Kurunegala - Puttlam road - Padeniya junction - Daladagama junction - Maho town - Morogallagama road - Yapahuwa.