

revolution from Mauryan to Lambakartas led to changes in political context, therefore, new group of patrons for heterodox Buddhism were beginning to emerge.

Keywords: Gaṇapati, head of gatas, Hindu sculpture, non-Buddhist deities, Mihintale Kataka Ctiya

¹Senior Lecturer, Department of Archaeology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, dr.chandima@gmail.com