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## ABSTRACT

The pre-historic site at Hakbelikanda was discovered during an archaeological survey carried out in the area near the inter climatic zone of the central river basin of the Ma Oya. This is the first instance where a systematic research of this nature was carried out in this area. The present researcher has published an abstract regarding this site in *Annual Research Symposium, 2002 - Abstracts of Presentations* which was published by the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Kelaniya in 2002. The first ever broad research on Hakbelikanda was carried out in 2003, using the surface analysis method. In 2002, 2003, the Department of Archaeology has compiled brief records on a few pre-historic sites in Hakbelikanda area.

A complex of three caves and a few caves in the vicinity have been identified as pre-historic sites and pre-historic remains were discovered in the form of stone tools and cave arts. According to the established time sequence on Sri Lanka, this site can be dated as being belonged to the period between 10,000 BP to 500 BC. However, mere remains found on the surface are not sufficient for arriving at a final conclusion on the pre-historic time period of the site. Since it appears that the main cave complex had not been used after the initial stage it can be concluded that important evidence may well be buried under the ground in these cave areas. Therefore, excavations should be further carried out as the second phase of the research on the Hakbelikanda pre-historic site. A subsequent study may lead to some modifications of the findings of the present study.