

An archaeological perspective on the Damunupola village

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

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

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

The main aim of this paper is to discuss the Damunupola-monastery's slab inscription and its contents, as well as the ancient and modern surroundings of this place through available archaeological evidence.

Key words: Archaeology, Damunupola- Sri Lanka, Inscriptions, Kegalla District-Sri Lanka, Satara Koralya- Sri Lanka

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