



SRI LANKA : GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, RELIGION AND CULTURE









- The country is now known in Sinhala as Śrī Laṅkā and in Tamil as Ilaṅkai.
- In 1972, its formal name was changed to "Free, Sovereign and Independent Republic of Sri Lanka".
- Later, on 7 September 1978, it was changed to the "Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka".
- As the name Ceylon still appears in the names of a number of organisations, the Sri Lankan government announced in 2011 a plan to rename all those over which it has authority.



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Source	Name
Mahavamsa (epic poem)	Tambapaṇṇĩ
Hindu Mythology	Lankā ("Island")
Sangam literature	Eelam
Chola rule	Mummudi Cholamandalam
Ancient Greek geographers	Taprobanā or Taprobanē
Persians and Arabs	Sarandīb
Sanskrit literature	Simhaladvipa
Portuguese Empire	Ceilão
British crown colony	Ceylon





Ancient City of Sigiriya (UNESCO/NHK)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AJYyp_t4NEc

Suggested viewing time from 00: 00 - 01: 00 minutes

RAVANA'S PALACE SRI LANKA

The ruins of the capital built by the parricidal King Kassapa I (477--95) lie on the steep slopes and at the summit of a granite peak standing some 180m high (the 'Lion's Rock', which dominates the jungle from all sides). A series of galleries and staircases emerging from the mouth of a gigantic lion constructed of bricks and plaster provide access to the site.



JANAKI HARANA : VERSION OF RAMAYANA IN SRILANKA- LITERATURE



Srilanka Ramayana

JANAKIHARANAM
OF
KUMARDASA
(CANTOS I-V)
with
a Sanskrit commentary
ВҮ
Shastree Narayan Vasudera Nigudhar
AND
English Notes, and Translation
ВҰ
K. M. Joglekar, M. A.
The Oriental Publishing Co.
BOMBAY
1908.





Kohomba Kankariya

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=scoDyVhr6w4

suggested viewing time 00: 00 – 01: 00 minutes

In this ritualistic dance the one story tells about Sita and her three sons and the story of Vishnu incarnating as Rama under an inauspicious aspect of Saturn . The malefic planet, and in order to avert its evil effects, he left his queen, Sita, and taking the guise of an elephant passed the seven unlucky yers in the forest.





Traditional Dances of Sri Lanka

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9I6yTBBTrE

Suggested viewing time Entire video

One of the elements that make Sri Lanka truly unique is the traditional dancing. Keep watching to find out more about the different styles of dance!





Top 10 Musical Instruments in Sri Lanka

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxGfeLtF194

Suggested viewing time Entire Video





Rūkada Nātya, traditional string puppet drama in Sri Lanka

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=djs46NO-dZU

Suggested viewing time is 07: 30 – 08: 30 minutes

UNESCO: Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity - 2018

URL: https://ich.unesco.org/en/RL/01370

Description: Rūkada Nātya is a type of drama performed using string puppets to provide entertainment and convey moral messages to village communities. Rūkada Nātya is performed by family groups connected with the lineage known as Gamwari, living around three southern coastal towns. Themes are chosen from folktales, Buddhist stories, ancient literature, historical narratives and trivia with humorous anecdotes and puppeteers make their own wooden puppets and prepare handwritten scripts. A small band provides musical accompaniment, and performances, which are community events, convey important worldviews and core values.

Country(ies): Sri Lanka © Duration: 00:09:34 - Support: - (0137000003)





- Janaki Harana is the Srilankan version of Ramayana in Sanskrit Language.
- Scholars noticed that Srilankan Ramayana has the influence of both Valmiki Ramayana and Kalidasa's Raghuvamsha (Indian Sanskrit Drama) ..
- In his "Survey of Sanskrit Literature", C. Kunhan Raja Ph.D. says:

"In language, in the metres that he adopts, in the descriptions, in the entire technique of the epic,he is quite original in his presentation of the theme.....He must have been a great scholar and grammarian".

- Shastree Narayana Narayana Nigudkar comments on Kumardasa as "..usage of some words like Bihara can be taken as an indication, though very slightly, of the then flourishing condition of Buddhism .."
- C.E. Godakumbura, in his Ramayana in SriLanka and Lanka of the Ramayana, talks about the folk version 'Kohomba Konkariya' ritual dance drama relating to Sita and talks about Janaki Hrana in Sanskrit and also Buddhist influence on Ramayana story line.
- Ramayana and its characters and morals and values are a part and parcel of Srilankan Culture.





- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prince_Vijaya
- https://books.google.com.my/books?id=NgeTtWkD0VkC&pg=PR23&source= gbs_toc_r&cad=3#v=onepage&q=srilanka&f=false
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_in_Sri_Lanka
- Ravana's Kingdom: The Ramayana and Sri Lankan History from Belowhttps://books.google.com.my > books -- Justin W. Henry,
- https://wepa.unima.org/en/sri-lanka/
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kumaradasa
- Youtube links for videos
- Wikimedia commons for photos and images
- https://archive.org/details/janakiharanamofk00kumruoft/page/n9/mode/1u p?view=theater





THANK YOU

