

Kandy

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Kandy has been the capital of the Kingdom of Kandy from 15th century to the 19th century. At that time Kandy was known as 'Senkadagala'. The Kingdom of Kandy was also known as 'Kande Uda Pas Rata' - the country of the five regions in the hills. These five regions were Udunuwara, Yati Nuwara, Dumbara, Hewaheta and Harispattuwa. They were the most important administrative regions of the Kingdom of Kandy at that time. However, the boundaries of the Kingdom of Kandy were changing from time to time depending on the influence it could wield at various times. Of course at the beginning of the kingdom of Kandy, its boundaries extended up to the western coast from Trincomalee to Paanama.

The kingdom of Kandy at that time was self sufficient in food. Their agriculture was divided into two types - 'Goda' - meaning agriculture in the uplands, which could not be converted to suit paddy cultivation and 'mada' - on the mud meaning the land which could be covered with water and meant for Paddy cultivation. Therefore the agriculture consisted mainly on paddy cultivation and other crops the people wanted for their subsistence.

Usually every family had a large garden around the residence; here they cultivated domestic crops like pepper, nutmeg, yams, vegetables, coconut etc, a part of which was used for domestic consumption and a part of it was sold to buy or exchange for other necessities.

The capital city of Kandy was a natural fortress. It was encircled by various 'durgas' - obstacles to enter the city. These durgas were 'giri Durga' - mountains, 'wana durga' - forests, and 'jala durga' - water. This meant that an invader had to cross forests, mountains and rivers to enter Kandy. It was these natural elements which saved the kingdom of Kandy from the Portuguese, Dutch and even the British. The fall of the kingdom of Kandy into the hands of the British was solely due to the assistance they got from the disgruntled elements inside the kingdom of Kandy and not due their military strength.

- The Dalada Maligawa (Temple of the Tooth)
- Kandy Lake
- Pulleyar Kovil (Hindu Temple of Pulleyar)
- Getambe Viharaya (Getambe Buddhist Temple)
- Esala Mangallaya (The Ritual of July/August)
- Karthika Mangallaya (Karthia Ceremony)
- Aluth Sahal Mangallaya
- Upasampada (Higher Ordination) Ceremony
- Bahirawa Kanda (Mount of Bahirawa)

- Degal Doruwa Viharaya (Degaldoruwa Buddhist Temple)
- The place where the Last King of Kandy was caught by the British
- Gadaladeniya
- Lankathilaka
- Embekka Dewalaya .
- Embekke Ambalama
- Dawson Tower
- Meda Maha Nuwara Raja Maha Viharaya.
- Road Museum at Pilimatalawa