

After the *FESTIVAL of DEMOCRACY in SRI LANKA*:

**Dissanayake: The 10<sup>th</sup> President of Sri Lanka: "I am not a magician."**

September 28, 2024

September 28, 2024: Colombo, Sri Lanka: "I am not a conjuror, I am not a magician, I am a common citizen," said President **Anura Kumara Dissanayake** (AKD), in his first address after his nationally televised inauguration. "I have strengths and limitations, things I know and things I don't," **AD D** added. "My responsibility is to be part of a **collective effort** to end this crisis."

**Bimal Ratnayake**, a senior aide of President **Dissanayake** said on Friday, September 28, 2024 that the **National People's Power** (NPP) party would not repudiate the IMF deal. "Our plan is to engage with the IMF and introduce certain amendments," **Ratnayake** said. He added, "We will not tear up the IMF program. It is a binding document, but there is a provision to renegotiate."

September 24, 2024: Colombo, Sri Lanka: New President Calls for Parliamentary Elections. President **AK D** has dissolved Parliament and called for a **snap parliamentary election on November 14, 2024**. Dissanayake's party, the **National People's Power** (NPP), currently **holds only three seats in the 225-member Parliament**. The three MPs from NPP in Sri Lanka's new Parliament of 2024 are: **Harini Amarasuriya**, **Vijitha Herath** and **Laxman Nipunarachchi**, who took the seat vacated by President **AKD**.

Apart from **Amarasuriya**, who was appointed as the Prime Minister by President **Dissanayake**, NPP lawmakers **Vijitha Herath** and **Laxman Nipunarachchi** were sworn in as Cabinet ministers, forming a caretaker government as the nation prepares for a snap parliamentary election, which could happen in late November.

The election of a new Parliament, after **Dissanayake** has dissolved the Parliament, is seen as a strategic effort to gain a majority and implement NPP's policies effectively.

**Dissanayake's** first major challenge will be to act on his campaign promise to **ease the stringent austerity measures imposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) under a relief agreement** with the former Prime Minister **Wickremesinghe**, **after Sri Lanka defaulted on its debt**. **Wickremesinghe** has warned that any move

to alter the basics of the bailout agreement could **delay the release of the fourth tranche of nearly \$3 Bn.**



The Old Parliament Building (built on 29 January 1930)

(Reference: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old\\_Parliament\\_Building,\\_Colombo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Parliament_Building,_Colombo))

During the Election Campaign, **Dissanayake** had promised to ease these measures and **renegotiate the terms of the bailout to provide relief to the public.** However, achieving this will require significant support from Parliament, which he hopes to secure through the upcoming election.

#### NPP's ACTION PLAN:

**DEBT RESTRUCTURING EFFORTS:** Sri Lanka is also in the process of restructuring approximately \$25 Bn in foreign debt. **Dissanayake's** government aims to provide policy clarity and stability to reassure investors and international partners, so that the new administration is able to negotiate favorable terms with bondholders.

**CABINET APPOINTMENTS:** Due to the lack of a parliamentary majority, **Dissanayake** has been unable to form a full Cabinet. Currently, **Harini Amarasuriya** holds multiple portfolios, including justice, health, women, trade, and industries. Another key figure, **Vijitha Herath**, has been appointed to oversee six departments, including foreign affairs, transport, public security, environment, port, and civil aviation.

**Dissanayake** himself retains control over critical ministries such as finance & IMF Sections, defense, and energy.

September 24, 2024: Colombo, Sri Lanka: President **Anura Kumara Dissanayake**, appointed **Dr. Harini Amarasuriya** as the Prime Minister, making her the first woman to hold this position in 24 years.

Prime Minister **Dr. Harini Amarasuriya**: An academic-turned-politician, Dr. Amarasuriya is known for her activism in gender and minority rights. She is the third woman in Sri Lanka's history to serve as Prime Minister, following in the footsteps of **Sirimavo Bandaranaike** and **Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga**. **Dr. Amarasuriya** is a member of the Marxist-leaning NPP coalition.

The other appointments are as follows:

Finance Minister: **Dr. Harsha de Silva**, an economist known for his expertise in economic policy and development.

Foreign Affairs Minister: **Prof. G.L. Peiris**, a seasoned diplomat with extensive experience in international relations.

Health Minister: **Dr. Sudarshini Fernandopulle**, a medical professional with a strong track record in public health administration.



*Dr. Harini Amarasuriya, 54, the Prime Minister from September 24, 2024*

**POLICY PRIORITIES:** Besides Economic Reforms for stabilizing the economy, reducing debt, and attracting foreign investment, measures to improve fiscal discipline, enhance revenue collection, and promote sustainable development may be required by IMF.

**ANTI-CORRUPTION MEASURES:** Tackling corruption is a central focus of the new administration. President Dissanayake has pledged to implement stringent anti-corruption measures, including the establishment of an independent **Anti-Corruption Commission** and the introduction of transparency and accountability mechanisms in government operations.

**FOREIGN POLICY:** China may be more liberal with investments in the Marxist-ruled country. However, whether China would be able to use easier terms and low interest rates, that the World Bank charges is an open question, since the BRI has floundered as the countries of the Global South have discovered high rates of interest on the infrastructure projects, supported by China.

India has come to Sri Lanka's aid without exacting high rates of interest and without the requirement of following any ideological framework. If the Marxist regime were to permit the Research and Spying missions of China's Navy to use its ports, India would feel that the new regime would be an unfriendly one.

**MAIN CHALLENGES AHEAD:** The new ministry in Sri Lanka, led by President **Anura Kumara Dissanayake** and Prime Minister **Dr. Harini Amarasuriya**, may represent a **significant shift towards China**, unless the new Government is sensitive towards Indian perspective.

September 23, 2024: Colombo, Sri Lanka: **Anura Kumara Dissanayake** of the Marxist NPP was sworn in as the President, after the recent elections.



*Anura Kumara Dissanayake, 55, the Marxist Leader of Sri Lanka, being sworn in as the 10<sup>th</sup> President of Sri Lanka*

September 23, 2024: Dissanayake of NPP Leads with 39.52%; 2nd Round of Counting Begins: **Anura Kumara Dissanayake** of the Marxist NPP was leading with 39.52% when the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of Counting Begins.

As none of the candidates for the presidential election secured more than 50 per cent vote, the second preference vote were counted and added to determine the winner.

Voters in Sri Lanka elect a single winner by ranking up to three candidates in order of preference. If a candidate receives an absolute majority, he will be declared the winner.



Ceylon was granted independence on February 4, 1948 as a Dominion with a Governor-General and a Prime Minister, elected by the people.

In 1972, Ceylon declared itself a republic with a non-executive President and changed its name to Sri Lanka.

In 1978 was introduced the Executive Presidency.

## RESULTS of the ELECTION-2024:

#	Name of Candidate	Party	Votes Polled	%age
1	ANURA KUMARA DISSANAYAKE	The <b>National People's Power</b> or <b>Jathika Jana Balawegaya</b> Estd: 2019 (NPP)	5,634,915	42.31%
2	SAJITH PREMADASA	<b>United People's Party</b> or <b>Samagi Jana Balawegaya</b> (SJB)	4,363,035	32.76%
3	RANIL WICKREMESINGHE	IND16	2,299,767	17.27%
4	NAMAL RAJAPAKSA	SLPP	342,781	2.57%
5	ARIYANETHIRAN PAKKIYASELVAM	IND9	226,343	1.7%



*Leader of the Opposition **Sajith Premadasa***

EDITORIAL COMMENTS: **Sajith Premadasa** said at Dehiattakandi, that at no time will **Samagi Jana Balawegaya** (SJB) betray the country, 220 lakh people or the party. Giving the example of **Rwanda** in Africa, he said that although nearly a million lives were lost due to a massive tribal war in **Rwanda** many years ago, today **Rwanda is known as the New Singapore of Africa**. He criticized the likely coalition of **Ranil Wickremesinghe** with **Namal Rajapaksa** by saying that his SJB will not change its policies to be able to work with those, who had occupied positions earlier and who were promising to usher in the kingdom of Saquti in Sri Lanka.

PREMDASA's ERROR in making the COMPARISON with RWANDA: [www.DiGiNews360.com](http://www.DiGiNews360.com) wants to point out to **Sajith Premadasa** that **Prabhakaran**, the late rebel leader, did present his war for a separate country, as a **Tamil vs Sinhala**

war, it was, in fact a campaign for creating a Christian country by the rich proselytizer organizations of USA, on the lines of **East Timor (or Timor-Leste)**. The Catholic Evangelists did not succeed in the face of well-organized Buddhist organization of Sri Lanka. Secondly, the ethnic divide, in Rwanda, among the minority TUTSI tribe (about 14% of population), the majority HUTU tribe (about 85% of population) and the Twa, which are around 1% is much sharper., which make up about 85% of Rwanda's population; the Tutsis, which are 14%; and the Twa, which are around 1%. The ethnic divide has its roots in the Tutsi feudal monarchy rule of the 10th century, under which the Hutus were a subjugated social group. The Sinhalese have suffered no such handicap in the history of Sri Lanka.

---- A BACKGROUNDER on the CONSTITUTION of SRI LANKA ----

The 1978 Constitution of Sri Lanka marks a significant turning point in the country's political history. The key points that outline the importance and historical context of the 1978 Constitution are as follows:

**BACKGROUND and CONTEXT: Pre-Independence Era:** Sri Lanka, formerly known as Ceylon, was under British colonial rule from 1801 until it gained independence on February 4, 1948. During this period, several attempts were made to introduce representative governance, but these efforts were limited and largely controlled by the British.

**POST-INDEPENDENCE DEVELOPMENTS:** After grant of independence, Sri Lanka adopted its first republican constitution in 1972, which declared the country a republic and severed the last ties with the British monarchy. However, this constitution faced criticism **for centralizing power** and **for failing to address ethnic tensions**, particularly between the Sinhalese majority and Tamil minority.

**The 1978 CONSTITUTION: Introduction of the Executive Presidency:** The system of **Executive Presidency** replaced the parliamentary system and aimed to create a **strong central leadership**. The Executive President was given extensive powers, including the authority **to appoint the Prime Minister** and **to dissolve Parliament**.

**UNICAMERAL PARLIAMENT:** The new constitution also introduced a **unicameral parliament**, replacing the previous bicameral system.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION: To address issues of fair representation, the 1978 Constitution introduced a system of proportional representation for parliamentary elections. This system aimed to ensure that **minority groups**, including the Tamils, had **better representation** in the legislative process.

AMENDMENTS and REFORMS: 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment (1987): PROVINCIAL COUNCILS: The Thirteenth Amendment introduced a system of Provincial Councils. This amendment aimed **to devolve power to the provinces and address the demands of the Tamil minority for greater autonomy**. It was a direct result of the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord signed in 1987.

17<sup>th</sup> AMENDMENT (2001): **Constitutional Council**: This amendment established a Constitutional Council responsible **for making key appointments to independent commissions**, including the **Election Commission** and the **Public Service Commission** to enhance transparency and accountability in governance.

19<sup>th</sup> AMENDMENT (2015): **Limiting the Powers of the President**: The Nineteenth Amendment was a significant reform aimed **at reducing the powers of the Executive Presidency**. It reintroduced a **two-term limit for the President**, **'reduced the President's ability to dissolve Parliament'**, and **'strengthened the independence of the judiciary and other institutions'**.

IMPACT and LEGACY: **Ethnic Relations**: The 1978 Constitution aimed to create a more inclusive political system. The introduction of Provincial Councils through the Thirteenth Amendment was a step towards devolution, but tensions and conflicts persisted, since even the 1978 Constitution did not fully address the grievances of the Tamil minority, culminating in a prolonged civil war that lasted until 2009.

POLITICAL STABILITY: The executive presidency introduced by the 1978 Constitution has provided strong leadership and political stability, it also concentrated power in the hands of the President, leading to concerns about authoritarianism and the erosion of democratic checks and balances.

ONGOING REFORMS: The constitution has been amended multiple times to address emerging political and social challenges. In summary, the 1978 Constitution of Sri Lanka represents a critical juncture in the country's history, and, it continues to shape Sri Lanka's political and social landscape, highlighting the **complexities of governance in a multi-ethnic society**.



Article 90 of the Constitution sets down the basic provision that every person who is qualified to be a voter is also qualified to be elected as a Member of Parliament unless such a person is disqualified under the specific provisions, enumerated in Article 91. They are:

If the person is the President of the Republic or is a judicial officer or a public officer or an officer of a public corporation as specified in the Constitution (it is to be noted that the disqualification in respect of public officers and officers of public corporations is laid down with reference to the initial of the salary scale attaching to the post held by that person as at 18.11.1970 or on the first date such post was established if the post was established after 18.11.1970. On this basis it is laid down that if the initial salary is more than Rs. 7,200/= per annum the disqualification will apply)

1. If such person is a member of the Police, Army, Navy or Air Force
2. If he has been declared as an undischarged bankrupt or insolvent in terms of the applicable law
3. If such person has an interest in a contract made on behalf of the state or public corporation as may be prescribed by Parliament (it is to be noted that the Parliament has not prescribed the contracts that would attract this disqualification. However, the Supreme Court has held that the relevant disqualification as contained in the previous Constitution will apply)
4. If a person stands nominated as a candidate for more than one electoral district or as a candidate for more than one political party or group for the same district

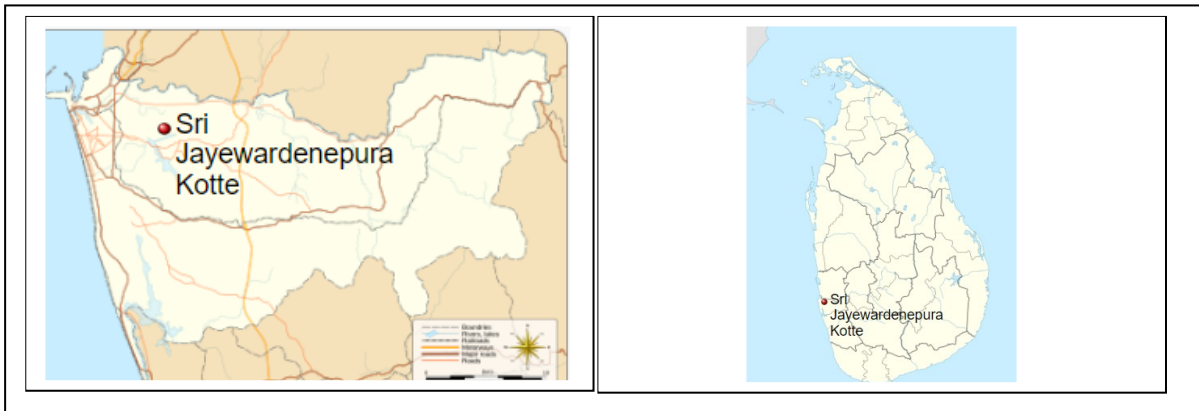
EDITORIAL COMMENT: The first paragraph (above, of Article 91) disqualifies certain senior officers of the Government, as on 18.11.1970 to be a minister. The rationale for this provision may be that these Officers were responsible for mis-management and they were barred from becoming a MP.

According to article 44 of the Sri Lankan Constitution, **a person must be a Member of Parliament (MP) to be appointed as a Cabinet Minister.** However, there are positions such as **Non-Cabinet Ministers or State Ministers**, who are not part of the Cabinet but still hold ministerial roles. These positions can be held *by MPs as well as non-MPs*, but they **do not have the same level of authority as Cabinet Ministers.**

---- A Brief BACKGROUNDER on the Parliament BUILDING of SRI LANKA ----

(Reference: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old\\_Parliament\\_Building,\\_Colombo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Parliament_Building,_Colombo))

**Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte**, commonly known as Kotte, is the legislative capital of Sri Lanka. Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte is located adjacent to the urban area of Sri Lanka's de facto economic, executive, and judicial capital, Colombo. Jayewardene.



The MAP.1.

The New Parliament buildings were built on reclaimed land, after a massive lake was formed by dredging the marshlands (shown in green color) around the **Diyawanna Oya** (i.e. The Royal City, encircled by a black line).

The literal meaning of **Diyawanna Oya** is “Parliament Lake”. In the 16th century CE, it was understood as the Royal City.



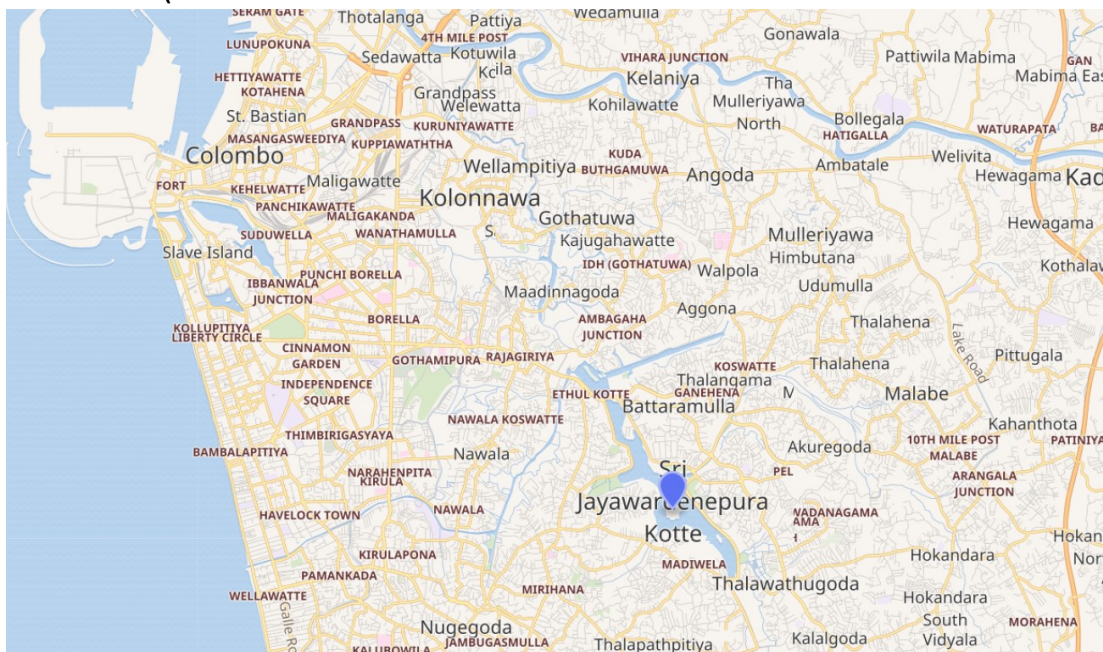
The MAP.2. Map of Kotte (1557–1565)

The new parliamentary buildings were built on **Duwa**, a 50,000 m<sup>2</sup> (12 acre) island in the centre of the lake. The island (off Baddegana Road (the horizontal, unnamed road), in the left part of Pita Kotte) had been used as a recreation and brawling spot for Portuguese soldiers in the last days of Kotte era, alcohol being banned from the Royal City.

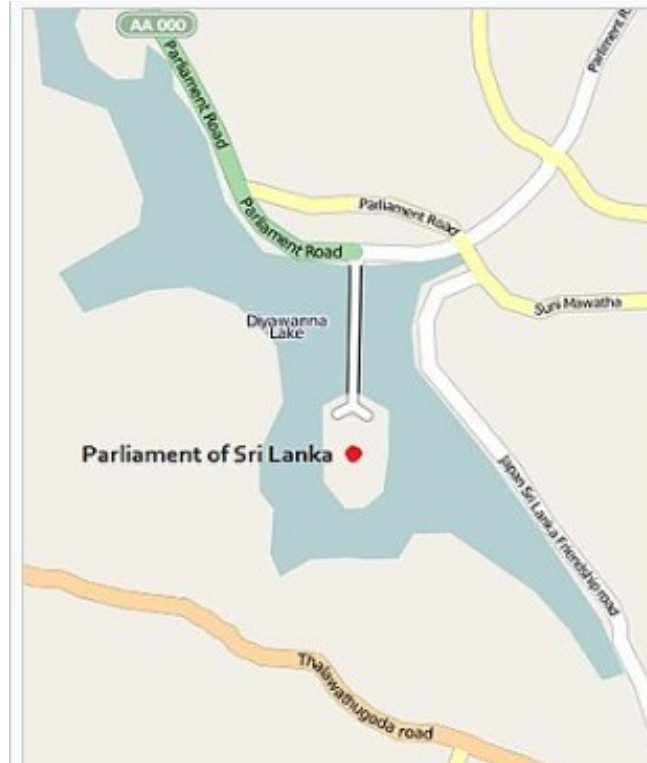
On 29 April 1982, the new parliamentary complex was declared open by the former President J. R. Jayewardene.

**Junius Richard Jayewardene** (17 September 1906 – 1 November 1996), was a Sri Lankan lawyer and statesman who served as Prime Minister of Sri Lanka from 1977 to 1978 and as the second President of Sri Lanka from 1978 to 1989. He was a leader of the nationalist movement in **Ceylon** (now “*Sri Lanka*”) who served in a variety of cabinet positions in the decades following independence. A longtime member of the **United National Party** (UNP), he led it to a landslide victory in 1977 and served as Prime Minister for half a year before becoming the country's **first executive President under an amended constitution**.

The MAP.3. of KOTTE: The marshes in the MAP.2. were drained out to create the Parliament Lake, as shown in the MAP.3. The island of DUWA on which the Parliament House, the new President House and other administrative offices have been built, consists of the Royal city within the defensive walls and the left part of Pita Kotte (as shown in the MAP.2. of the MAP.3).



The MAP.3. The DUWA



The MAP.4. The Kotte

The New Parliament was inaugurated on 29 April 1982.

---- A BACKGROUNDER on the BUDDHIST ASSOCIATIONS of Sri Lanka ----

According to traditional Sri Lankan chronicles such as the **Mahavamsa** and the **Dipavamsa**, Buddhism was introduced into the island in the **3<sup>rd</sup>** century BCE after the **3<sup>rd</sup> Buddhist Council** by the elder **Mahinda** and by the elder nun **Sanghamitta**. According to the **Sri Lankan chronicles**, both were children of the **emperor Ashoka**.

In Buddhist literature, 'the elder' is used as a kind of title before a name as a mark of respect.

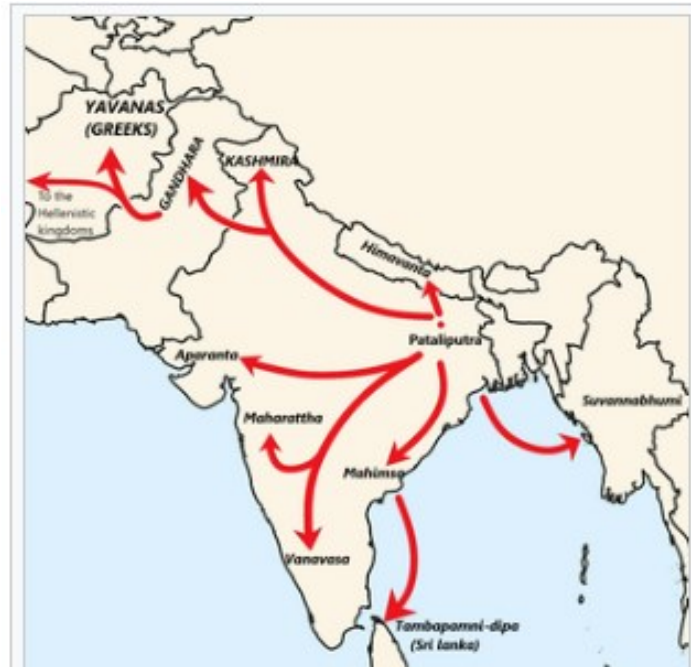
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE of **Sri Lanka Maha Bodhi Society**: The **Young Men's Buddhist Association** (YMBA) has been present in Sri Lanka since 1898.

The **World Fellowship of Buddhists** (WFB) is an international Buddhist organization, founded in 1950 in **Colombo, Ceylon** (present-day **Sri Lanka**). Initiated by **Gunapala Piyasena Malalasekera**, representatives from 27 nations participated in the inaugural function.

There are many other functional organs of the **Sri Lanka Maha Bodhi Society**.

- The Society provides resources for a study of history of Buddhism in Sri Lanka.

- It also works to promote study of the vast literature of Buddhism.



The MAP.5.: *Spread of Buddhism from Pataliputra, the capital of King Ashoka*

---- EXTENSIVE LITERATURE of BUDDHISM ----

The Pāli Canon falls into three general categories, called **pitaka** (from Pali piṭaka, meaning "basket", referring to the receptacles in which the palm-leaf manuscripts were kept).



*The Pali Canon, written on thin slices of wood (called **a palm-leaf manuscript**) or bamboo. The **leaves** are kept together by thin sticks, and the scripture is covered in cloth and kept in a box.*

**Theravada Buddhism** is the largest and official religion of Sri Lanka, practiced by about 70% of the population as of 2012. Practitioners of Sri Lankan Buddhism can be found amongst the majority **Sinhalese** population as well as among some **minority ethnic groups**. Sri Lankan Buddhists share many similarities with South-

East Asian Buddhists, specifically **Myanmar** Buddhists and **Thai** Buddhists due to traditional and cultural exchange.

**Theravada Buddhists** of **Sri Lanka** have promoted the study and preservation of Buddhist literature. Most of the Bhikkus and the Thai scholar **Payutto** agree that the canon is traditionally known as the **Tipiṭaka** ("*three baskets*").

The first two Groups - namely **Vinaya Piṭaka** and **Sutta Piṭaka** – are the ones, approved at the **1<sup>st</sup> Council**, soon after Buddha's nirvana.

THE FIRST COUNCIL of BUDDHISM: The first Buddhist Council was held just after Buddha's nirvana, and presided over by **Mahākāśyapa**, one of his most senior disciples, at a cave near Rājagṛha (today's Rajgir in the State of Uttar Pradesh, India) with the support of king Ajatashatru. Its objective was to preserve the **Buddha's sayings** (called “suttas”) and the **monastic discipline or rules** (called “Vinaya”). The Suttas were recited by **Ananda**, and the Vinaya was recited by **Upali**.

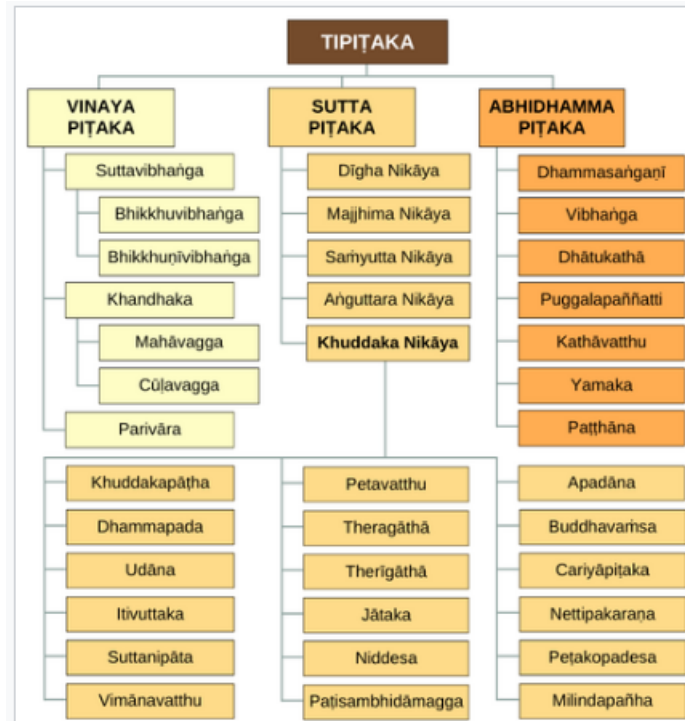
The **three pitakas** are as follows:

1. **Vinaya Piṭaka** ("*Discipline Basket*"), dealing with rules or discipline of the sangha.
2. **Sutta Piṭaka** ("*Sutra/Sayings Basket*"), discourses and sermons of Buddha, some religious poetry; the largest basket.

**P.A. Payutto**, as many Bhikkus have argued earlier, that much of the Pali Canon, particularly the parts 1 and 2 above, dates back to the time period of the **Buddha** (563 – 483 BCE). The Vinaya Pitaka and the Sutta Pitaka are often termed as Early Buddhist Texts.

3. **Abhidhamma Piṭaka**, treatises that elaborate Buddhist doctrines, particularly about mind; also called the "*systematic philosophy*" basket.

The Abhidhamma Pitaka, however, is a strictly Theravada collection and has little in common with the Abhidhamma works recognized by other Buddhist schools. It is based on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Buddhist Council meeting held at Pataliputra in the Magadha Empire. It was under the patronage of **Emperor Ashoka** in 250 BCE. The Third Buddhist Council was presided over by **Moggaliputta Tissa**.



*The structure of the books considered canonical within the Pali Tripitaka. The Theravāda school generally only recognizes the Pali Tripitaka and rejects the authenticity of other Tripitaka versions.*



*Standard edition of the Thai Pali Canon*  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pali\\_Canon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pali_Canon)

The Theravāda ("Elders") is a branch of the **Vibhajjavāda** ("Doctrine of Analysis", "the analysts") school, which was a division of the **Sthāvira Nikāya**, one of the early Indian Buddhist schools.

The Vibhajjavāda doctrines were agreed upon during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Buddhist Council held around 250 BCE under the patronage of Ashoka and the guidance of the elder **Moggaliputta-Tissa**. A record of their doctrinal position survives in the **Kathavatthu** ("Points of Controversy"), a refutation of various opposing views of various schools at the time.

The Vibhajjavādins, fueled by Mauryan patronage (as can be seen in Ashoka's edicts), spread throughout South Asia, forming different groups and communities. In South India, they had an influential center at **Avanti**, as well as being active in **Andhra**, **Vanavasa** (in modern **Karnataka**), **Amaravati** and **Nagarjunakonda**.

**Nagarjunakonda** (meaning "**Nagarjuna Hill**") is a historical town, now an island located near Nagarjuna Sagar (a lake, created through Nagarjuna Dam, built from 1955-67) in Palnadu district of the Indian State of Andhra Pradesh. During the 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> century CE, **Nagarjuna**, the founder of the **Mahayana school of Buddhism**, taught at the ancient university, which attracted students from as far as **China**, **Gandhara**, **Bengal** and **Sri Lanka**. It is 160 Km West of another important historic site, the **Amaravati Stupa**.

**Amarāvati Stupa**, a ruined Buddhist stūpa at the village of Amaravathi, Palnadu district, Andhra Pradesh, India, was probably built in phases between the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE and about 250 CE.

The name **Amaravathi** is relatively modern, having been applied to the town and site after the **Amareśvara Liṅgasvāmin** temple was built in the 18<sup>th</sup> century CE.

The ancient settlement, just next to the modern Amaravathi village, is now called **Dharanikota**. The original name, used when the site was most active, was "**Vijayapuri**".

The monument was not called a stūpa in ancient inscriptions, but rather the **Mahācetiya** (or the "*great sanctuary*"). The stupa, or **Mahācetiya**, was possibly founded in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE, in the time of Asoka. The **Mahācetiya** was enlarged beginning in about 50 CE.



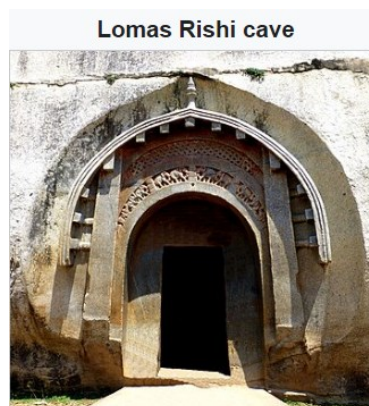
With the construction of the Nagarjuna Sagar dam, between 1955-67 CE, the site of archaeological relics at Nagarjunakonda was submerged. The archaeological relics have been excavated and transferred to an island in the **lake**.

Art historians regard **the art of Amaravati** as one of the **three major styles or schools of ancient Indian art**, the other two being the **Mathura style**, and the **Gandharan style**.



A model of the original stupa, as reconstructed by archaeologists. Largely because of the maritime trading links of the East Indian coast, the Amaravati school or Andhra style of sculpture, had great influence on art in South India, Sri Lanka and South-East Asia.

**Note:** The Nāgārjunakoṇḍa (sometimes Nāgārjunikoṇḍa) site in Andhra Pradesh is not to be confused with the Nāgārjuna (or Nāgārjuni) caves near the Barabar Caves in Bihar.



*The Design of the GATE in the Barabar Caves in Bihar, India*  
(Reference of Tambapaṇṇiya and Tāmraśāṭiya: <https://tinyurl.com/3cmax6ur>)

-- RELATION between the ANCIENT NAME of **Sri Lanka** and the BARABAR CAVES, **India** –  
(Reference of Tambapaṇṇiya and Tāmraśāṭiya: <https://tinyurl.com/3cmax6ur>)

- THERIYA fraternity and the **Vibhajyavādin** SCHOOL: The earliest list of Buddhist schools, extant in versions of the treatise attributed to Vasumitra, as stated by in his account by **Bhavya** or **Bhāviveka**, in Pali and in several other related forms, does not distinguish groups among the different Theriya/Sthāvīrīya fraternities.

It is only in the lists preserved in the **Tarka-jvālā** attributed to **Bhavya** that we first find a group of schools explicitly designated as **Vibhajyavādin**.

- TIBETAN language creates a RELATION BETWEEN **Vibhajyavādin** and **Tambapaṇṇaka**: Among the list of Schools by Bhavya is a school whose name is **Tāmraśāṭiya** (restored (from Tibetan)).

The article at <https://tinyurl.com/3cmax6ur> uses epigraphic evidence to confirm that Bhavya's usage and meaning of **Tambapaṇṇi** and '**Tambapaṇṇakas**' were part of the Theriya tradition and linked to the Vibhajjavādins.

The final part of this article concludes that a variant form of the name **Tambapaṇṇi** which would be **Sanskritized as Tāmravarṇya or Tāmraśāṭiya** has given rise to explanations of the meaning as 'red-coloured' or 'copper-coloured'.

- The NAME of **Sri Lanka** DERIVED from BUILDING at ANURADHAPURA CAVES, SIMILAR to the CAVES in BIHAR, **India**: As similar caves were built in Sri Lanka (at Anuradhapura), they also started to become known as the Tambapaṇṇiya (Sanskrit: Tāmraśāṭiya, Tāmraparṇīya). The name refers to a red copper-like colour. **The name Tāmraparṇi also became a name for Sri Lanka itself.**

- In the prose version of a story, stated in **Dīpa-vaṃsa**, there are three passages in **Nalāṭadhātuvaṃsa, Ras** and **Sih**, which probably refer to **Ceylon**.
- To this can be added a passage in **Sah** and **Ras** referring to the **Tambapaṇṇi cemetery**.
- In the two **vaṃsa** works, the town of **Tambapaṇṇi**, constructed by **Prince Vijaya** is described. To be precise, the more detailed (but much later) **Mahāvāṃsa (VI 47)** account states that **Vijaya** landed in Laṅkā in **Tambapaṇṇi-dīpa** or **desa**. After the episode of the destruction of the

yakkhas, **Prince Vijaya** spent some days in the **yakkha city** and then went from there to **Tambapaṇṇi**. He constructed the town of **Tambapaṇṇi** and lived in it.

- The **ORIGIN** of the **NAME**: When **Vijaya's** party landed, they sat down, resting their hands on the ground. Their hands were reddened by the dust and so that region got the name of "*Redhand*" (**tamba-pāṇi**); **the island** was subsequently named after that.

---- **A Brief Note on BUDHHA's LIFE** ----

1. **Buddha Purnima** (563 BCE) is celebrated by followers of all Indic religions in Nepal, Bangladesh, and India.
1. After 6-years of seeking true spiritual knowledge from various Masters in the jungles, in the areas of Eastern India, bordering Nepal, **at the age of 35 years, while meditating under a tree, Buddha received enlightenment.**



*Bodh Gaya, Bihar State, India: The Mahabodhi Tree at Mahabodhi Temple*

2. The **1<sup>st</sup> sermon** and establishment of the **Sangha**:



*Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh State, India:*

*The Dhamek Stupa at the site of the the 1<sup>st</sup> sermon of the Buddha, where he taught the Four Noble Truths to his first five disciples.*

3. The **Buddha**, from the age of 35 to 80, travelled continuously for teaching his message. He was always accompanied by his disciples, who went on recording his sermons and the happenings in his life.

The vast area of his travels had many **kingdoms** and many **Janapadas** (*"cities, ruled by citizens' democratic system"*).

After the first 20 years of his teaching career, **the Buddha** slowly settled in **Sravasti**, the capital of the **Kingdom of Kosala**, spending most of his later years in this city.



The MAP.6.: The parts of **India**, **the Buddha** may have visited.

4. **Parinirvana** ("entry to nirvana") in the year 483 BCE at **Kushinagar**, the State of Uttar Pradesh: In his 80<sup>th</sup> year, the **Buddha** undertook a months-long journey that would take him and his disciples from **Rājagṛha**, through **Pāṭaliputta**, **Vesāli**, **Bhoganagara**, and **Pāvā** (present-day Fazilnagar), to their final destination at **Kuśinagara**.

At **Pava**, Chunda, the smith, invited the **Buddha** for a meal in his mango grove. The **Buddha** fell sick after the meal. After the meal, the **Buddha** crossed the **Kakkuttha River** (now called the Khanua River) and completed his journey to **Kuśinagara**, which was about 20 Km from **Pāvā**. Soon after his arrival in **Kushinagar**, the **Buddha** attained **Parinirvana** (means a death, which united Buddha with God and released him from the cycle of birth-death-rebirth). After the **Buddha's cremation**, a stupa was erected in **Pāvā** at the place of the **Buddha's Parinirvana**.

---- ABOUT THAI SCHOLAR of BUDDHISM: P.A. PAYUTTO ----

**Prayudh Aryankura Payutto** (b. 12 January 1938), is also known by his current monastic title, **Somdet Phra Buddhaghosacariya**.

**Somdet Phra Buddhaghosacariya**, is a well-known Thai Buddhist monk, an intellectual, and a prolific writer. The name “*Prayudh Aryankura Payutto*” would remain constant despite any changes in his name-rank within the Buddhist order. (Reference: <https://wbu.world/writings-on-buddhism/prayudh-payutto-writing/>)



***Prayudh Aryankura Payutto, a Thai Buddhist monk,  
An awardee of UNESCO Prize for Peace Education***

The CURRENT MONASTIC Title of **Somdet Phra Buddhaghosacariya** was awarded to **P.A. Payutto**, when he was appointed to the **Sangha Supreme Council** in 2016. Over his monastic career, **Payutto** has been known by, and

published under different names - **Phra Srivissuddhimoli** (1969); **Phra Rajavaramuni** (1973); **Phra Debvedhi** (1987); **Phra Dhammapitaka** (1993); and **Phra Bhramagunabhorn** (2004), as a different name was given on every promotion in the monastic order.

“**Phra**” is a Thai-language word used as a prefix denoting holy or royal status. It is used in Thai royal ranks and titles.

Payutto has lectured and written extensively about a variety of topics related to Buddhism, including the position of women in Buddhism and the relationship between Buddhism and the environment.

He was awarded the **1994 UNESCO Prize for Peace Education**.

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**Note:** Please read “Tepid Growth in 2023, says IMF; HIGH PRICES causing GREATER SUFFERING and MORE DISTRESS” dated October 21, 2022 at <https://diginews360.com/model-slams-brands-using-fur-in-fashion-after-walking-off-photoshoot/> .

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