**Unitary Kingdom**

**11th Century**-Inscription by the Sinhala raja Parakramabahu the Great and its regarding ship wrecks and taxes on Urathota(Kayts). According to Dr. Karthigesu Indrapala, the editor of this inscription and a former Professor of History of the University of Jaffna, "the fact that this edict was issued not by any subordinate official but by the king himself, shows that the monarch was in supreme control of the northern most region of the island".1

**12th Century**- Candrabanu the Javaka's attempts are spoilt at gaining a footing in Sinhale with their expulsion from the North by the Sinhalese King. There are apparent record's, which confirm that the Pandyan King had sent assistance to the Sinhalese for this action.2

**1236/1270**-Parakrama Bahu II, who finally rid the country of these foreign forces.3

**1359**-Medavala inscription, which describes Martanda Mudalis' of Yapanaya as a 'Perumal' or 'Sub-Ordinate' ruler, while the Sinhala king at Gampola is described as 'Vikramabahu Chakravarti Svamin'. Thus ''**THE DE JURE RIGHT OF VIKRAMABAHU TO THE SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE WHOLE ISLAND IS RECOGNIZED BY THE TREATY**''.4

**1447/1450**-Prince Sapumal, an adopted son and a general of King Parakramabahu VI of Kotte, subdued the unrest by the Mudali classes in the region in 1447-1450 and was later appointed by Kotte as the governor of the Yapanaya region. According to records seen by the Portuguese, he re-populated the barren Yapanaya with the Sinhalese of Kotte Kingdom.5

**1517**-Treaty between King Dharma Parakrama Bahu and the Portuguese Lawrence d'Almeida, confirms the all area's incl Jaffnapatnam, as apart of the Kotte Kingdom.6

**1580**-Dharmapala's Donation Treaty to the King of Portugal**;**

*The states over which the King of Kotte claimed suzerainty were the Kingdoms of Sitawaka, of the {Seven) Korales, of Candea or the hill-country, and of* ***Jaffna****, and also the principality of the Four Korales There also were various* ***Vanniyarships****, who were bound bo by tribute to the king of Kotte. These were the two* ***Panamas****; Yala; Wellewaya Kosgama; Wellassa;* ***Palugama; Batticaloa; Kottiyar; Trincomalee: and Puttalam****. This last and Yala were held by several Vanniyars, Palugama by two, the others by one each. In the kingdom of Kotte itself were three Disawas, one over Matara, one over the Adikariya of Denawaka with the Agras or gem-pits of Sabaragamuwa. and one over the Adikariya of Nuwarakalawiya, the country forming the western half of the present North Central Province and stretching according to our document from Puttalam to Mannar. Apart from this last Adikariya or jurisdiction, the immediate possessions of Kotte are given as 221 korales, which included the south-west corner of the North-Western Province, with a small excepti n the whole of the Western and Southern Provinces as far as the Walawe River, and that part of the Ratnapura District to the south of the Kalu-ganga with the great villages Gilimale and Bambarabotuwa. The small exception referred to is the half of Hewagam Korale, which belonged to Sitawaka.7*

**1593**-The Portuguese state quite clearly that Jaffnapatnam is under the rule of King Rajasinhe I.8

**1609**-Letters from the States-General of United Provinces, and Prince Maurice, sent by Marcellus de Boschhouwer to the Emperor of Ceylon. These letters dated **Sept, 15th, 1609**. Confirm that Rajasinhe is indeed, very much in charge of Trinco, Jaffna, Mannar, Chilaw, Batecalo and Cotiarama.9

**1611, July 16th**-The King assembles all under his domain, to try work out a war plan on retaking Punte-Gale and Walane. All regions are represented incl Jaffna and all areas of the East.10

**1612, May 11th**-Rajasinhe, gives the Dutch his permission to build a fort at Cottirama(Kottiyar), south of Trincomalee.11

**1613, March 16th**-Under the Command of the Nephew of the Prince of Ouva, as Admiral, and Wandige Nay Hammi as Vice-Admiral. Set sail a fleet of battle ships from Cottiarama, against the Portuguese. These ships returned on the 6th May, 1613. With a bounty of more than 600,000 Livers plus a Portuguese ship.12

**1613, Aug 18th**-All under the Kings command, were ordered to meet, due to worsening health of the King. Represented were all regions incl Jaffna and all regions of the East.13

**1613, Aug 19th**-The Royal Patent to invest the two Princes (Ouva & Migonne), with the Administration of the Empire was read in the Assembly**;**

Cenuwieraat by the Grace of God Emperor of Ceylon, King of Candy, Settevaca, Trinquenemale, Jafnapatnam, Settecorles, Mannar, Chilaon, Panua, Batecalo, Palugam and Jaele; Prince of Ouva, Dennevaque, Passadon Corle, Velaren, Coromale, Mewatre and Ventane; Duke of Willegamme, Cale, Ody and Jattenore; Earl of Quatre Corle, Harkepatte, Odegodascary, Craiwitty and Batagedre. Peace to all those that read these Presents.14

**1638**-Dutch signed a deal with the Sinhalese King to have berthing rights for their ships in all harbours on the East coast, Trincomalee and Batticaloa during the monsoon rains, proving that the Eastern costal regions belonged to the Sinhalese.15

**1661, April 29th**-Etipola Seneviratne Rajaguru Kumarasinghe, Dissawe of Matale. Retakes the Trimangala Kotuwa(Fort Trincomalee).16

**17th century**-The Dutch VOC was engaged in a war of attrition with the King of Kandy, who had close ties with Ceylon's Buddhist population. There was a narrow tongue of land at Elephant Pass; a fort was built to guard the border with the king's territory. Elephants captured on Ceylon were herded past here to Jaffna to be sold in India, hence the name Elephant Pass.17

**1672**-The port of Trincomalee and the whole of Kottiyar Bay, were granted to the French by Rajasinhe II.18

**1766**-The [Dutch-Sinhalese Treaty in 1766](http://www.jaffnahistory.com/Eastern_Province/Links/DutchKandian_Treaty_1776.html)(Clauses 3, 5, 6 & 16) and the English-Sinhalese Treaty in 1815 (when total sovereignty was ceded to the British) easily illustrate that the East and the inland parts of Jaffna, were completely under Sinhalese sovereignty.

Clauses**;**

*3. And of all the shores not then occupied by it, to wit on the West from Kaimelle (Maha Oya) to Jaffna district, and on the East from the border of that district to the Waluwe River, to a width of one Singhalese mile more or less, as may be most convenient from the position of hills and rivers;*

*5. The Coy to recognise the King as Sovereign of the rest of the island;*

*6. The Coy for love of peace to restore all the lands recently captured, except the shores;*

*16. Such timber to be delivered at Trincomale and Battikaloa as the Coy may need;*19

**1778**-The gifting of near enough of the whole of what is today considered as the Eastern Province to the French. These incl the Ports of Kottiyar, Batticalao and Trincomalee.20

**1873**-Ceylon Administration Report**:**

*1795-6, British forces, took from the Dutch a narrow strip of territory boarding the coast with a fort, but the whole of the interior of Ceylon remained under the rule of a native raja until 1815.*21

**1836**-The Unitary Kingdom is spilt into Provinces. The consequences of which, we are still able to see**!**

**References:**

1. Urathota Inscription of Parakramabahu the Great. Kept at the Colombo Museum.
2. **Mahawamsa & Pandyan Records.**
3. **Mahawamsa.**
4. Medavala inscription.
5. Father Francisco Negaro, the head of the Franciscan order in Ceylon 1600AD. His writings are found in The Temporal and Spiritual Conquest of Ceylon by Rev Fernao De Queyroz.
6. Lisbon Archives.
7. **Lisbon Archives &** a short history of Lanka by W Codrington, chapter VI.
8. Temporal and Spiritual Conquest of Ceylon by Rev Fernao De Queyroz.
9. **The Hague &** Description of the Great and Most Famous Isle of Ceylon by Philip Baldaeus(Original Translation 1672).
10. **The Hague &** Description of the Great and Most Famous Isle of Ceylon by Philip Baldaeus(Original Translation 1672).
11. **The Hague &** Description of the Great and Most Famous Isle of Ceylon by Philip Baldaeus(Original Translation 1672).
12. **The Hague &** Description of the Great and Most Famous Isle of Ceylon by Philip Baldaeus(Original Translation 1672).
13. **The Hague &** Description of the Great and Most Famous Isle of Ceylon by Philip Baldaeus(Original Translation 1672).
14. **The Hague &** Description of the Great and Most Famous Isle of Ceylon by Philip Baldaeus(Original Translation 1672).
15. **The Hague &** Description of the Great and Most Famous Isle of Ceylon by Philip Baldaeus(Original Translation 1672).
16. It has been written by Mohotty Mudaliyar of the Galle Atapattu, Mr. F.E. Gooneratne and with further reference to the Matale Kadaimpotha (Governemnt register of events and land boundaries before 1815), compiled by Nayarepola Alahakoon Mohottala and the Kadaim Potha handed to the National Museum Colombo, by H.C. Bell, Archaeological Commissioner and with the aid of old ola documents preserved at the Government Archives.
17. **Dutch Archives &** Generale missiven van gouverneurs-generaal en raden aan Heren XVII der Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie.
18. **French Emissary, De La Haye 1672.**
19. The [Dutch-Sinhalese Treaty in 1766](http://www.jaffnahistory.com/Eastern_Province/Links/DutchKandian_Treaty_1776.html).
20. **French Archives.**
21. **1873**-Ceylon Administration Report.