

A HISTORICAL STUDY ON THE KANDYANS' WEAPONS AND ARMORS

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During the early stages of human evolution, the most basic human need was protection, and food and accommodation were secondary needs. The main reason for this was the threats posed by external predators. Over time they developed create various protection methods (instruments) and physical objects. Moreover, security became a political necessity and it has been a decisive factor as far as the existence of states is concerned. Therefore, security system was important for the rulers to protect their states, power and people. Protection is the lifeblood of a country. Therefore, there are also special security organizations in place. In the course of Sri Lankan history, protection mechanisms associated with different periods can be identified. The research also studies the use of weapons by Kandyans during the Kandyan period, particularly at the times of uprisings. The research examines the technical and non-technical weapons used against the Portuguese, the Dutch and the English. These include swords, bows, and arrows, which are traditional tools and technical weapons. The objective of this research is to explore how the weapons and armors were used in the Kandyan period. Different sources were used for this research. However, the lack of related sources is a limitation for his study. However, since conflicts between the upcountry and outsiders have occurred during the Kandyan period, we can conclude that there should be a sufficient amount of details on Kandyan weapons and armors.

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