**Consulate General of India**

**Hambantota**

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**Press Release**

**07th September 2018**

**International Workshop and Lecture Series on Recent Advances in Indian History and Archaeology and Sri Lanka- South India Relations**

**The Consulate General of India, Hambantota, in collaboration with Department of History and Archaeology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Ruhuna,** organized an “**International Workshop and Lecture Series on Recent Advances in Indian History and Archaeology and Sri Lanka- South India Relations”** on September 5th & 6th, 2018 at the University premises in Matara. The inaugural session was graced by Mr. Prem Kumar Nair, the Consul General of India in Hambantota, Prof. Gamini Senanayaka, Vice Chancellor, Univ. of Ruhuna as the chief guest, Dr. Siran Deraniyagala, Former Director- General of Archaeology, Sri Lanka, Prof. Sudharshan Seneviratne, Emeritus Professor of Archaeology, University of Peradeniya and Dr. Upali Pannilage, Dean of the Faculty of H&SS

2.         The **lecture series and the workshop on Lithic Knapping were conducted by eminent panel of academics from India comprising of Prof. K. Rajan, Deptt. of History, Pondicherry University, Puducherry, Dr. Shanti Pappu, Founder/Secretary of Sharma Centre for Heritage, Culture and Education in Chennai, Dr. V. Selvakumar, Dept. of Maritime History & Marine Archaeology, Tamil University, Thanjavur and Dr. Kumar Akhilesh, Director, Sharma Centre for Heritage, Culture and Education, Chennai. They were joined by Dr. Nimal Perera, former Astt. Commnr., Deptt. of Archaeology and Dr. T.R. Premathilaka, Director of Post Graduate Institute of Archaeology, University of Kelaniya**

3.       About 150 participants comprising of students, professors / lecturers from the universities all over Sri Lanka, including University of Jaffna, South Eastern University, University of Kelaniya, University of Peradeniya, University of Colombo, Sri Lankan Archaeology Department, Central Cultural Fund and National Museums attended in this **lecture series and the workshop. This was the first time such a workshop in stone knapping was held in Sri Lanka. The participants appreciated the efforts of the Consulate in sponsoring the event and requested that this type of interaction be made an annual feature for the benefit of students and teachers of Archaeology & History in Sri Lanka.**

Attachments:

Photographs of the event

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**N.B. Please be kind enough to carry this press release in your Daily/weekend editions.**