

Transitions in Ancient Inland Freshwater Resource Management in Sri Lanka Affect Biota and Human Populations in and around Coastal Lagoons

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Supplemental Information

Original Dutch 17th Century Citations and Their Translations in English for Two Areas Currently Named “Bataloaloa” and “Matara” [S1]

Original Dutch Citations

Batecalou: Haar barre is inde winter tyt verstoppt gelyck als alle d'andre van Indien, inde somer tyt houtse een vaem water, heeft int incomen van een eylandtjen dat inde kaart vertoont wort met dit teycken † synde in den omloop ½ legue.

Mature: 20 leguen van syn begryp, na de synde van Paneva, syn qualyck bewoont, waar de krecken of killen van de soutpannen van Valuwe incomen, daer de natuur het sout sonder eenige menschel-ycke arbeyt maackt

English Translations

Batecalou: Its bar is blocked up during winter similarly as all the others in the Indies, and in the summer it holds one fathom of water.

It has at its entrance a little island shown in the plan with this mark †, which is ½ a league in circumference.

Mature: Twenty leagues of its extent in the direction of Paneva are poorly populated. The creeks or channels from the salt pans of Valuwe come in here, and nature forms the salt without any human labor.

Supplemental References

S1. Reimers, E. (1929). Constantine de Sa's Maps and Plans of Ceylon (1624–1628): With an Introduction, Transcripts, Notes and Translations (Colombo: A.C. Richards Acting Government Printer).



Figure S1. Photographic Evidence of the Reduced Discharge of the Walawe River and the Increased Discharge to the Catchment of the Other Rivers under Study (August 2004)

(A and B) Original river bed of the Walawe River; photograph taken from the top of the closed spill gates (B) of the Udawalawe Reservoir (southernmost point). The dry river bed in the photographs is indicative of a strongly reduced discharge.

(C) Man-made channel (at Embilipitiya) diverting fresh water from the Udawalawe Reservoir to the catchments of the Kuchchigal Ara, the Urubokka Oya, and the Kirama Oya. The existence of the channel in itself and its violent freshwater flow are indicative of a strongly increased discharge (see Figure 1 for geographic location).