



THE NATIONAL TRUST – SRI LANKA

“The prince Balaina (A son of VI Parakramabahu?) and his Clan in China and Taiwan”

by
Prof. Gamini Ranasinghe

**The Monthly Lecture Series No: 165 of the National Trust
Wednesday 30th October 2024 at 6.00 pm
at the Auditorium of the College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka,
No. 6, Independence Avenue, Colombo 7.**

(For those who join online: <https://www.youtube.com/live/PV9oZo7cltw?si=0U1BE1HI30ZFMj8R>)

Prince Balaina (A son of VI Prarakramabahu?) was an ambassador to the Chinese court from the Kotte Kingdom of Sri Lanka. There are very limited sources on the prince, who disappeared six hundred years ago. Fortunately, numerous pieces of evidence related to him have been found in China and Taiwan. The prince came to public attention following the discovery of several tombstones in Quanzhou in 1996. At that time, a family was identified as members of the Sri Clan. Various research projects have confirmed that the tombstones belong to a Sri Lankan prince named Balaina and his clan. In a short period, records of the royal home, temples, written documents, and family members related to the Sri Clan have been documented in China and Taiwan. This lecture will focus on the life story of the prince and his clan over the last six centuries.



Prof. Gamini Ranasinghe is a Professor of Archaeology at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and the former Director General of the Central Cultural Fund (CCF). He is a writer and public communicator with expertise in maritime archaeology. His current research focuses on the Sri Clan in China, Taiwan, and Sri Lanka, Heritage management and ethno archaeology.

The National Trust – Sri Lanka conducts monthly lectures generally on the last working Thursday of each month. The lectures are open to the members and the general public.

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