

Quarterly Tours



Jayatissa Herath

NATIONAL TRUST – SRI LANKA

15 th March 2019

Tour Leader

Arch. Ashely de Vos, Senior Vice President of the National Trust – Sri Lanka, will lead the tour.

Mr. Yohan Ferreira participating in the tour, has volunteered to assist Arch. Ashely de Vos

Travel -

To and from Jaffna - by A/C Intercity Train – Stations and Time (as set out below)

Itinerary

DAY 1 - 15TH MARCH 2019

Train Schedule	Arrival	Departure
Mount Lavinia		05.10 am
Wellawatta	05.18 am	05.22 am
Colombo Fort	05.35 am	05.45 am

Other stops would be at Anuradhapura, Vavuniya, Kilinochchi, Kadidamam and arrival at Jaffna **11.52 am**

12.00 noon -12.30 pm	Leave for Hotel for change and freshen up
12.30 pm – 2.15 pm	Lunch at Valampuri Hotel
3.00 pm – 3.45 pm	Nallur Temple (if possible, to meet the owner Kumaradas Mudalier, his family has administered the temple for close to 350 years)
4.00 pm – 5.30 pm	Jaffna Fort and the Library
5.30 pm – 5.45 pm	Tea at Mangos
6.00 pm – 7.00 pm	Nallur Temple Pooja
7.15 pm – 8.30 pm	Dinner at Valampuri Hotel
9.00 pm	Back to Hotel

DAY 2 – 16TH MARCH 2019

Leave Hotel at 5.30 provided by the Hotel	Breakfast on the way – Packets will be
5.30 am – 6.45 am	Leave to Kuritattuvan Jetty
7.00 am – 7.45 am	Boat Ride to Delft
8.00 am – 12.00 noon	Tour Delft Island by Jeeps – See the hospital, Portuguese Fort, Baobab, Banyan, Quindah Tower, Wild Horses, Sarapidly, Footprint, Old Stables
12.00 pm – 1.00 pm	Return to the Kuritattuvan Jetty
1.00 pm – 2.00 pm	Lunch at Delft Samudra
2.00 pm – 7.00 pm	Afternoon Tour to Kathurugoda, Dambakolapattuna, Keerimalai Hot Springs – A Courtyard House if possible, KKS, Point Pedro, Manlkandu Sand Dunes
7.00 pm – 8.00 pm	Dinner at The Thinnai

DAY 3 – 17TH MARCH 2019

	Pack Bags before leaving for Breakfast
6.30 am – 7.00 am	Breakfast at the Hotel
7.00 am – 12.00 am	Jaffna City Tour (Jaffna Market (Fruit & Fish,) Museum, Jaffna Library, King Sangiliyans Statue, his ruined Palace and the bathing pond, St. Mary's Cathedral, St. John's College etc.)
12.00 noon – 1.15 pm	Lunch at Heritage Hotel – Vegetarian
1.15 pm	Leave for Station – Train arrives at 1.42 and leaves at 1.45 pm

The itinerary planned may change depending on factors such as time and weather. Other information refer Page 26





JAFFNA PENINSULA

NALLUR TEMPLE

Nallur Kandaswamy Hindu Temple is a significant Hindu temple located in Nallur. The presiding deity is Lord Murugan or Kataragama Deviyo in the form of the holy "Vel" in the Sanctum and in other forms namely Shanmugar, Muthukumarswamy, Valli Kaanthar with consorts Valli and Deivayanai and Thendayuthapani, sans consorts in secondary shrines in the temple.

The original Kandaswamy temple was founded in 948 AD. According to the Yalpana Vaipana Malai, the temple was developed in the 13th century by Buwaneikabahu, a minister of the King of Kotte. Sapumal Kumarayana who ruled Jaffna Kingdom on behalf of King of Kotte is credited with building the third Nallur Kandaswamy temple. Nallur served as capital of Jaffna Kings with royal palaces situated very close to the temple. Nallur was built with four entrance gates. There were two main roadways and four temples at four gateways. The present temple was a rebuilding done away from the location of the original old temple. The location of the original temple was occupied by churches constructed during Portuguese period. The old Kandaswamy temple functioned as a defensive fort with high walls. The Nallur city was laid out according to principles of traditional temple town following Hindu traditions. The original temple was located in the place where St. John's church is now located.

The temple what we see today is
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the fourth occasion of erecting the temple in 1734AD during the beginning of Dutch Colonial era by 'Don Juan Ragunatha Maapaana. He was the Shroff in the Katchcheri. A Brahmin known as Krishnaiyar said to be served as the first priest of the temple.

Initially the temple has only two small rooms built out of bricks and rubble with cadjan thatched roof. The 'Vel' was enshrined in the middle.

The administration of the temple is continuously handled by the decedents of late Ragunatha Maapaana Mudaliar and it is by them the temple was raised to its present glory by making additions and developments.

Arumuga Maapaana Mudaliar, the seventh in the chain of custodians erected the first bell tower and the sanctum interalia with many other improvements around 1890s, and it is said to be the golden era of the temple. The Sanctum was paved with granite in 1902.

The present is the tenth custodian namely Kumaradas Maapaana Mudaliar who is also responsible for many improvements made to the temple to make it the largest Hindu temple complex in the country taking it to present splendour. The annual 'Thiruppani' is also an introduction by the present custodian.

The temple has four Gopuram and six



bell towers along the fortified walls making it a kind of citadel in Nallur.

The main entrance of the temple is facing east and there is a ornately carved five-storey tower known as Gopuram erected according to Dravidian Architecture. In the circumambulatory path, there are shrines for Lords Ganesh, Palliyarai, Sandara Gopalar, Goddess Gajavalli, Mahavalli, and Sooriyan with consorts and vairavar.

The holy pond and Thadayudhapaani shrines Poonthottam (the holy garden) are located in the southern part of the temple.

Nallur kovil is the epitome of punctuality, order and neatness, which provides a model for all Siva temples. Maintenance of strict discipline is highly admired and revered by the devotees.

JAFFNA FOR AND THE TOWN

The Dutch fort is situated on the south side of the Jaffna peninsula within modern Jaffna's city limits (90 40'0" N; 800 0' 0" S). To the immediate east of the fort is an undefended historic settlement. Both the fort and the historic town are located at the water's edge of the lagoon.

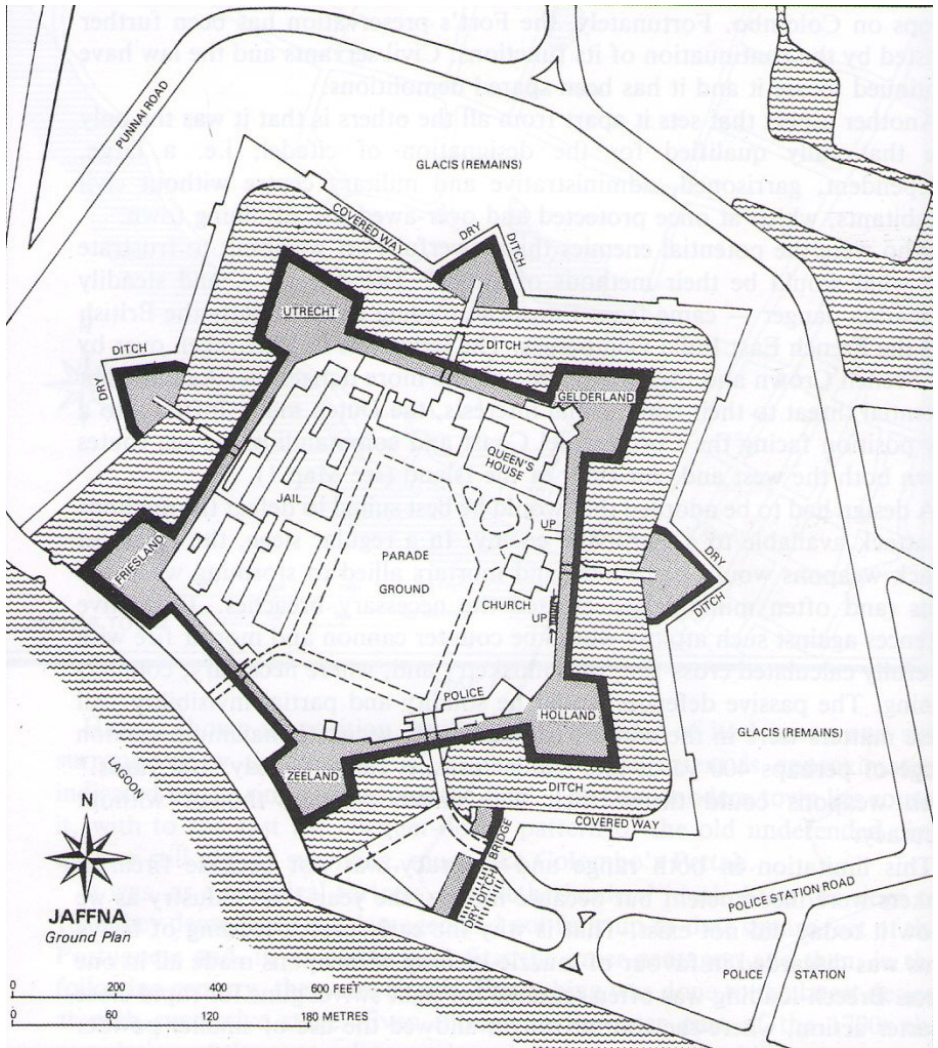
The Portuguese erected a fort in Jaffna and laid out a residential town beyond its walls, and they remained in their hands for the next four decades. The Dutch accounts during their expeditions to capture Jaffna under the command of Rijckleff van Goens indicate that residential town was devoid of any fortifications. It had several Roman Catholic churches and spacious monasteries. Phillipus Baldeaus, the Dutch predicant and the celebrated historian and writer, describes a thanks giving service held in the ex-Dominican church located to the west of the town. His account and the illustration of the Jaffna fort (made in 1672 after leaving the island in 1665) during Dutch invasion vividly describes the Portuguese fortifications. According to him, "the fort was not be taken by storm, owing to the unusual height of its walls, nor was it to be effected by mines owing to its rocky soil, nor was it to be levelled with the thundering of our cannons owing to the triple thick walls". The oldest extent Dutch map of the Jaffna town dating from 1658 and made by the Batavian map maker further confirms its substantial fortifications defending a square

fort with corner bastions. Baldaeus further mentions that it was larger than the fort in Batavia.

The sound military defensive system established by the Portuguese at Jaffna fort compelled the Dutch to realize that a prolonged siege was the only alternative to capture the fort. The siege that continued for three months causing much havoc with disease and starvation, made the remaining Portuguese who assembled after the fall of Colombo to surrender to the Dutch in June 1658. With the fall of the Jaffna, the last Portuguese stronghold, their occupation in the Island came to a virtual end.

After being captured, the Portuguese fort was provisionally restored by the Dutch. But they undertook a complete re-building programme of the fort from 1665 by demolishing the Portuguese fort in order to make it into a larger fort. The new defense works, which has a pentagonal layout with corner bastions, were completed in 1680, but the buildings and other facilities within the walled enclosure were finally completed only in around 1710. Unlike the Dutch forts at Galle and Colombo, which were fortified towns, the Jaffna Fort had an almost exclusively military and administrative function.

The Dutch showed a greater importance than the Portuguese in the northern region, especially in Jaffna. They recognized commercial potential in the pearl fishery, the textile industry and the export of



Dutch Fort of Jaffna

elephants. The densely populated Jaffna town and its hinterland made them derive a substantial income from personal taxes. This was also their most successful district for religious conversions and proselytization in the Island. The Dutch laid out a town (Burgher town) for commercial and residential purposes at the same location where the Portuguese established their residential settlement. The Dutch took over the large number of Roman Catholic churches established by the Portuguese, built new ones, and trained Tamil predicants. Jaffna became the head quarters of the Northern commandment of the Dutch VOC, which extended over the whole of Island's northern region, from the south of Mannar in the west to Mulaitivu on the east coast. Built facing the coromondal coast, the Jaffna fort also commanded the sea routes down both the west and east sides of the Island.

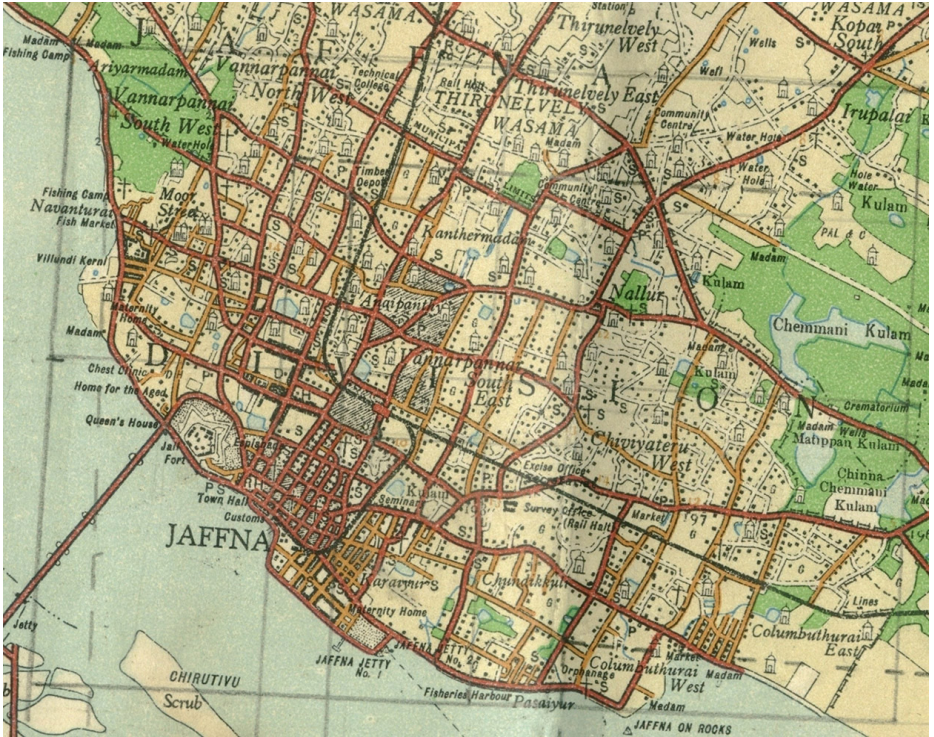
Jaffna fort was further strengthened with outer defence works comprising of a covered way, the glacis and four ravelines. These works commenced in early 18th century were only completed in their entirety in 1792. Despite such sophisticated defence works, the inadequate garrison (as the Dutch concentrated their troops on Colombo), they felt the impossibility in resisting the advancing British forces and the Jaffna fort was surrendered to the British without firing a shot in 1795, only three years after its final completion. The fort thereafter remained in the British

hands till 1948, when independence was granted to the Island.

During British administration, they maintained the defence works as it is, and the buildings within the walled enclosure without much alteration. The Burgher town of the Dutch was expanded with necessary infrastructure and new buildings to cater British administration. During British administration, the Tamil community was permitted to re-build Hindu Shrines and other places of worship. The major Hindu shrines in the Jaffna region are therefore of recent origin.

Sri Lankan Government took charge of the fort after independence, and it was in excellent condition until the civil war that erupted in 1983. Even after more than 325 years after the Dutch build this fort, both Sri Lankan Army and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) saw the strategic importance and the military value of the fort to defend and control Jaffna peninsula. The Dutch fort is declared as a Protected Monument under the Antiquities Ordinance, which is administered by the Department of Archaeology. At present Sri Lanka army is looking after the security of the fort.

Located to the east of the fort was the undefended historic Burgher town for merchants, sailors, free Burghers and privileged natives and other Asians (such as Moors, Chetties, and Malays). The Dutch laid out the town in the mid-17th century with shop-houses as the residential cum



**JAFFNA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AREA
ROAD NETWORK**



Source : Jaffna Municipal Council

market centre over the foundations of the earlier Portuguese settlement. It was meant for elite dwellings and activities related to commercial trade. The streets were laid out in grid pattern which reflects the Dutch orderliness in their town planning. It presents a clear rectangular street layout where streets running in east-west and north-south direction. The town's building mass consisted of low-rise buildings, mostly fronted to the streets with rear gardens. It reflects a town plan to achieve optimum in productivity and to maximize trade opportunities, expected from the occupants of this town. This chequer-board pattern of the town with its streetscape reveal striking similarities with those of such other coastal port cities as Colombo and Negombo among others.

The fort is the only surviving example in Sri Lanka, where its inner defences has a geometrically regular pentagonal layout. Moreover this is the only example in the Island, where outer fortifications consisting of glacis, ravelins and covered way are to be seen. It is designed and constructed for both active and passive defence. The active defence involved counter cannon and mortar fire with calculated cross fire, plus musketry and where necessary, counter-mining. The double line of defences created by the inner pentagon (ramparts and the bastions) and the outer fortifications (the glacis and the ravelins), the deep and wide moat between these two lines of defenses, the bare interior of the

triangular ravelins are also purposely designed to achieve this objective. The defensive device of small oblong projections of the covered way that are cut into the glacis was to provide flanking musketry fire along the parapets and cross fire with the ravelins.

The number of gun embrasures associated with the bastions of the inner pentagon and the outer fortifications is about 140. Such a large artillery commitment was fulfilled by a combination of cannons and musketry with necessary infantry to fire it. The solidity of the fortifications and the partial invisibility (the unseen troop movements along the covered way from one part of the fort to threatened points, the ability to fire over the top with adequate cover etc.) are the passive defensive means of this fort. This splendid fort was, therefore, designed and built to frustrate and to defeat the methods of attack available to the European trading rivals, mainly the British and French East India companies.

Heydt's comments on the Jaffna Fort even before the construction of its outer fortifications are as follows: "This fortress, except for one Bastion (Zeeland), is throughout correctly laid out according to the rules of Military Fortifications, and provided with good ordinance, and has such lovely and high walls, that truly nothing can be criticized". With regard to the pentagonal layout and other defensive means adapted by the Dutch, W. A. Nelson in his book

titled 'The Dutch Forts of Sri Lanka' (1984) remarks that 'the object of all these arrangements was to obtain the greatest effective fire power combined with adequate but not excessive size - while keeping the enemy at a distance. This object was achieved principally by arranging the works so that not a single foot of ground within the effective range could escape being fired upon, if possible from several directions at once'. Nelson goes on to declare that 'it was, as a technical fort, the Netherlander's ideal..... everything was done to the latest design at each successive stage..... final result was the strongest fortress in the East, the perfect defensive design in the days of powerful and destructive solid shot artillery of limited effective range. In Britain, fully comparable places are to be found only at the towns of Berwick , at Fort George near Inverness, at the citadel of Plymouth at Tilbury Fort on the Thames approaches to London.....Another aspect that sets it (Jaffana Fort) apart from all the others is that it was the only one that fully qualified for the designation of citadel, i.e., a large, independent garrisoned, administrative and military centre without civil inhabitants, which at once protected and over-awed the adjoining town. There are many fine artillery fortifications from the same period around the Indian Ocean. Yet it is doubtful whether in its technical perfection and its completeness, Jaffna can be surpassed'.

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Weapons Store

As one enters the Dutch Fort in Jaffna through the main gate, the first chamber on to the right is identified as the space where weaponry and gun powder was stored. The main material stored here was charcoal and Sulphur. They were finely milled and mixed to make gunpowder on the spot. Another ingredient needed for manufacturing of gun powder was saltpeter and Sulphur which was brought from elsewhere. Every bastion was supplied with sufficient quantity of gun powder, bullets, bombs and grenades and the balance was kept in the store. The roof and the side walls are covered with a thick layer of coral and lime-plaster in order to protect the stock from any possible fire.

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Queen's House

The main building located to the east in the Jaffna Fort was the Governor's residence. In the ground plan prepared by J. C. Torzee in 1698 refers to this building as Commandeurs Lodgement. This building would have been constructed few years after the Dutch occupation of Jaffna in 1658 and later subjected to additions and modifications. At the time Torzee made his ground plan, the building appears to have

been completed. The next ground plan was made by Martinus Leusecam in 1720 indicates no noteworthy change or alterations. The next available ground plan of the fort has been prepared by De La Lustriere and De La Goupilliere in 1787, almost at the end of the Dutch administration where this building is marked as Maison de Commandeur (Mansion of the Commandeur). Therefore, it is certain that this building had been right throughout the Dutch administration reserved for the Commandeur. It has four large rooms in the front wing and a large reception hall to the west. There was a central courtyard and smaller rooms in the quadrangle may have been occupied by the rest of the staff and slaves in the household. After the British took over the Fort in 1796 brought no considerable changes to the building but was named after the 'King's or Queen's House' who was then on the throne. The British got this ready-made building by which they saved wealth and energy. It was subsequently occupied by the Sri Lankan Military forces during the 30 year war. At the time, the building suffered substantial damages by militant attacks and finally along with other buildings

was abandoned.

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Dutch Church

The Dutch Reformed Church in Jaffna is the oldest of the existing edifices of that denomination in Sri Lanka. It is stated that it was built during the tenure of office of Commandeur Adam van der Duijn (c. 1706). In Torzee's drawing dated 1698 indicates 'A Cross Church recently commenced to construct its walls and major part of construction over.' This means that the building was then under construction. The architect and builder of this edifice Martinus Leusecam who was a Surveyor by profession in the service of the Dutch East India Company in Jaffnapatnam simultaneously held the position of Onderkoopman or Junior Merchant. Leusecam himself produced a ground plan of the fort in 1720 where without any remarks he says just 'The Church' as its construction work was completed.

The church was built with simple materials and little attempt using the model of a Greek Cross with wide central area giving seating capacity for a congregation of approximately 600 at a time. The church existed in such a good state of preservation

due to its substantial and massive structure. The walls were about five feet thick built of rubble and coral stone having a covering of lime mixture. The floor was paved with rectangular stones of two feet square. The pillars, arches, pediments of the doorways are made of imported thin yellow bricks. The inscribed plaque over the main entrance gives the date 1706, nevertheless, the older building would have been on this site as there were tombstones carrying the dates 1766, 1672, 1673, and 1693. The sketch included in the work of German Traveller Johan Wolfgang Heydt in 1733 gives an indication as to how the building looked like at that time. C. Stiger had made another water colour drawing in 1760 preserved in the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam shows that no significant changes in the appearance of the church.

Since taking over by the British in 1796, the church was virtually ignored and the last Dutch clergy in-charge left in 1812. The building was handed over to the Government in July 1872. The tradition has that it was in a neglected state and dangerous in condition and as a result it was taken over by the Archaeological

Department in 1960.

The latter part of the 30 years civil war, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam occupied the fort and the church, along with a number of other key buildings, were demolished in an attempt to stop the Sri Lankan Army gaining control of the site. Currently, the remains of the walls are a heap of debris. Some parts of the historic tombstones are now rescued at the church in Batticaloa.

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Inner Bastions

The objective of construction of the fortifications was to make a man-made artificial obstacles that can be placed in the way of attacking forces in warfare. Most of the seventeenth century Dutch forts followed a general pattern in respect of many technical and architectural aspects, i.e. one similar to the other. When the site of Jaffna fortifications is concerned several modifications were inevitably brought into the general pattern as the time went on. The Jaffna Fort is located on a flat and easily accessible land from both the sea as well as the land sides. The application of the European concept therefore, became easier. The Fort, is designed 'concentric', that is, all the defenses

had a common centre and was designed to meet an enemy attack from any direction. The inner and the most powerful fortress was surrounded by at least three rings of walls and barriers. The walls in the center core are designed in the shape of pentagon placing a bastion in each corner. Their heights varied from 40 to 50 feet. The outer wall known as 'curtain', possibly made more formidable by ditch filled with sea water. There were elaborate groupings inner bastions and from which fire could be aimed in several directions. They were named after well-known provinces in The Netherlands, namely, Zeeland, Holland, Gelderland, Utrecht and Friesland. These bastions were accessible through a ramp from inner compound which are to be seen even today.

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Gun Points

The entire Fort consists of five bastions named after well-known provinces in The Netherlands, namely, Zeeland, Holland, Gelderland, Utrecht and Friesland. All bastions are almost equal in size and each had been provided with four gun embrasures. W. A. Nelson surmises that these would have certainly required large quantity of artillery and

according to his calculation approximately 140 guns have been placed. At the time of capturing the Jaffna fort from the Portuguese in 1658, their rectangular fortress constructed with perishable material needed to be reconstructed to suit the needs of the Dutch. They opted to use the contemporary European military architectural tradition and turn into a shape of pentagon. The five sides were selected as the suitable measurements even though they are geometrically with slight variations. The five connected ramparts would have provided necessary protection to the building and goods inside. The length of a side depended on the number of men, probably 100-200 at a time. More space was required if for a large garrison but in this case lengths of ramparts would generally found most suitable. Free passage from one part of the fort to another was important. Each bastion was provided with four gun points to face a regular siege or attack by weapons. The cannons and mortars used for storming when the gun points create necessary breaches. Any severe attack could be defended with counter cannon and mortar fire with

carefully calculated cross-fire together with musketry.

* **Outer Bastions**

The years after 1765, the Jaffna fort extended its fortifications outwards with defense works beyond the wet ditch. The new work consisted of four ravelins, three clearly visible and one is embodied in the main gate. Further on, a dry ditch with covered way by glacis. The outer bastion or the ravelin is a bare triangular construction affords an interior to have a support fire from the inner circuit bastions. The parapets of the ravelin is lower than the inner ramparts which enable the musketeer to fire over the top. All these arrangements have been made to safeguard the fort from increasing danger from the European trading rivals, the British and the French who were hanging around in the Indian Ocean. The ravelin guns, being placed so far forward, might perhaps have been vulnerable to, say, night raids across the glacis, from which they were separated only by the narrow dry ditch in the foreground. This is a serious measure thus arranged that not a single foot of ground within the effective range could escape being fire upon, if possible from several directions at

once, all cover within bear land.

* **Guard Room**

The remains of the building where former Police Quarters (British) was housed facing the interior of the gateway within the central enclosure, would have been the Guard Room for the Dutch military personnel. Once Tree-lined roadways run round the four acre central area that was used as the garrison parade ground. These have been largely demolished beyond recognition.

* **Bell Tower**

A common feature in any Dutch fortress is belfry. The belfry of the Jaffna fort is erected on the Holland bastion which is in fine state of preservation apart from the missing bell. The bell fixed here not only sounded the hours but also called the congregation of the Dutch Reformed Church for religious services at the church. It was generally placed in a prominent location, as here, on a bastion overlooking the entrance so that they could also be used as alarm bell.

* **Moat**

The moat or the broad ditch filled with water, covering the land side of the Jaffna

fortification provides a preliminary line of defense. The Commandeur of Jaffna, Hendrick Zwaardecroon at the time of its construction records in his memoir in 1697 that the fortifications of the castle has been completed except the moat which was being dug and has advanced to a stratum of rocks peculiar to Jaffna. The biggest obstacle at the time was to dig the moat round the ramparts to a proper depth without causing damages to the foundations of the fortress. It took long time to dig the moat as they had to employ special uliyars or native servicemen from Jaffna. On the completion, the moat was filled with water from the lagoon and maintained the water level always between 4 to 5 feet deep. The banks of the moat was reinforced with lime stones or what the Dutch referred to as coral stones. Two water mills were constructed basing on a design sent from the headquarters of the Company in Amsterdam. The water mills were driven

* **Main Entrance**

As you enter the fort from

the main gate which is a ravelin, near the Holland Bastion to the inner circuit is made accessible by the bridge over the ditch bearing the date 1680. The original two-leafed gates are still in position. Their outer faces are covered with long iron spikes to deter war elephants from breaking them in with their heads. Over the gate once stood a very tall bell-arch, indicated in one of Steiger's paintings, in the form of the free-standing drawbridge. When the Dutch designed the outer gate and the entrance to ravelin they had built a dry land across. The Commandeur of Jaffna, Hendrick Zwaardecroon further states that during his time a strong draw bridge was constructed at the entrance to the fort over the moat. Thus the structure of the fortifications were completed to the latest design by the first decade of the 18th century as one of the strongest forts in the East.

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Well

Water to drink and firewood for fuel are two of the most important things when thinking of the defence strategies for safeguarding of the fortress. Writing on this issue, Commandeur Zwaardecroon states that

the water found within the fortress is drinkable in case of emergency. Therefore, not only one well couple of wells were required. This arrangement for water supply within the fortress found in other Dutch fortifications in the country including Galle and Colombo.

* **Guards Accommodation**

Room

Referring to the Jaffna fort Commandeur Zwaadecroon states in his memoir that 'Jaffnapatnam must be looked upon as a place of great importance, and must therefore be well guarded in the interests of the Company'. Especially because of its undisputed possession of the Company, and no one has any claims to urge to it. We therefore, must rule the place using unlimited power'. The ultimate result was to maintain an average of not less than 250 soldiers in reserve for the protection of Jaffnapatnam. This guard room was sufficient enough to provide accommodation to large number of soldiers.

* **Rampart**

A strong rampart was necessary to respond any artillery confrontation with the enemy. Therefore, ramparts began to be built

with much thicker walling and perhaps a lower profile, one of earliest examples Jaffna Dutch fort commenced building in or around sixteen sixties. By the first decades of the 18th century, the solid masonry walls began to be replaced by earthen banks, sometimes faced with stone, which were better able to withstand the impact of shot; the earth being obtained from the ditch which was dug in front of the rampart. At the same time, these ramparts began to be formed into triangular projections called bastions which allowed the guns mounted on them to create zones of interlocking fire. The exterior front face of the rampart often faced with limestone or granite. Interior surface of the rampart very often retained with a masonry wall or a grassy slope.

* **Emergency Gate**

When the inner ring of ramparts and bastions were completed as the stage one the second stage was to extend the defense line with four ravelins and a parapet wall. Out of four except inner gate ravelin, the other three were connected to the rampart across the moat by way of an emergency gate for the soldiers to escape and retreat backwards to

inner defense line. They are constructed crossing the moat by filling with earth their remains are still to be seen.

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Prison

The term prison is generally used to describe building that incarcerate people for longer periods of time, such as for many years, while the term jail is more often used to describe institutions focused on confining people for shorter periods of time (e.g. for shorter sentences or while waiting for trial/

sentencing). As far as the space of this building is concerned it is supposed that the building designed for long term confinement including those imprisoned after a judgement and perhaps captives and those who banished from other territories in Asia under the control of the Dutch.



DELFT ISLAND

Delft is a small remote island located away from Jaffna peninsula. Deft Fort built by Portuguese, Ancient Baobab tree and how Palmyra toddy and craft are made can be experienced there. And also wild Ponys are grazing can be seen. In addition to that Sarapiddy, Foot print, Old stables and the hospital can be seen.



KADURUGODA VIHARA AT KANDARODEI

Kadurugoda vihara is located in a small hamlet known as Kandarodei in Chunnakam. It is one of the few Buddhist temples remaining in Jaffna peninsula. The history of this vihara goes back to King Devanampiyatissa of Anuradhapura period. Theri Sangamitta arrived Dambakolapatuna with a sapling of Sri Maha Bodhi and travelled to Anuradhapura through this particular area. It is believed that this viharaya is built by a prince of the Shailendra Dynasty of the Sri Vijayan kingdom. There are about twenty stupas and a number of foundations in the vihara premises. The smallest stupa is about 8 feet in diameter and the largest is about 23 feet. These

stupas possess unique features that cannot be found elsewhere in Sri Lanka. They were built using grey colour coral stones with making distinguish pattern of small holes. They do not possess Hataras kotuwa or Devata kotuwa above the dome.

DAMBAKOLAPATTUNA

Following the arrival of Buddhism to Sri Lanka Theri Sangamitta, the daughter of the Emperor Ashoka of India, came to Sri Lanka with a sapling of Sri Maha Bodhi. Theri Sangamitta is believed to be landed at Dambakola pattuna.

Although there is no evidence of ancient structures at this place, a temple was built later to commemorate the arrival of Theri Sangamitta with the sapling. The temple built in this location has become one of the key Buddhist landmarks in the northern peninsula.

OTHER SITES, ATTRACTIONS AND IN GENERAL

The harbour at Kayts, the largest of the Jaffna islands, is the most ancient haven for ships in the north, and, according to legend, is where one of the three Magi bearing gifts for the infant Jesus came from. It is also believed that the ships of King Solomon traded here for apes and peacocks. The Tamil inscription of Parakramabahu the great of the 12th century found at another Jaffna island of Nainathivu (Nagadeepa) also provide evidence of a flourishing harbour of a Jaffana island during Polonnaruva period of Sri Lanka's history.

The Dutch also re-named all the Jaffna islands after the Dutch cities and towns: Amsterdam (Karaitivu), Leiden

(Kayts), Rotterdam (Analaitivu), Middleburg (Pungudutivu), Haarlem (Nainativu) and Delft (Neduntivu). Most names are now in disuse except Delft, which is still popular

Jaffna's natural characteristics range from semi-deserts of sand dunes reaching heights of 12-15 meters at Manalkattu to numerous expanses of water. The waterscape offered by the Jaffna lagoon, which is dotted by several islands is outstanding; the outriggers and catamarans of flamboyant colours that are sailing in the lagoon make a beautiful picture on the calm blue waters. The long stretches of unspoilt, secluded beaches (like Casuarina beach and Kalmunani point near Jaffna,

Thondamannar, Senthankulam and Keeramalai) are ideal for sunbathing, swimming and water skiing, as well as for sailing. A drive along the causeways linking the chain of Jaffna islands (like Kayts, Karaitivu and Pungudutivu) is rewarding for the beautiful sunset it affords with austere Palmyra palms stand silhouetted against the glorious sky. Other islands like Nagadeepa and Delft are reachable only by ferry. Such a natural setting to Jaffna with its considerable water front has the potential to be developed as the "Venice of Asia". Delft, about 32 Km, south- west of the Jaffna peninsula is the outer most inhabited island. Its shore line is unique in that coral rock stands out on the beach and out at sea above the water, having peculiar and fantastic formations. Its beaches are unspoilt and the waters are shallow. It is rich in natural habitat, where one could hear the cries of sea birds, neighing of ponies, mooing of cattle, bleating of goats, and the boom of the surfs with a mix of gentle whisper of the wind. To a visitor interested in bird watching, the Jaffna islands will prove fascinating, with considerable presence of grey partridge, curlew, plover, ring dove, Indian courser, great stone plover, reef heron, lapwings, egrets and many more. It also offers fascinating bio- diversity.

The culture of the Jaffna peninsula has been moulded by its harsh climate, and by the protean Hindu religion, its mythology and legend. The well at Puttur, which the inhabitants believe

as bottomless, is some 45 meters deep and legend has it that Rama, the hero of Epic Ramayana of Indian fame, stopped here and plunged his arrow into the soil, whence water came spurting out and he quenched his thirst from this spring that never dries. The island Kayts, according to legend, is said to be the location, from which one of the three Magi came bearing gifts for the infant Jesus. It is also believed that ships of king Solomon traded at the Kayts' harbour.

There are several Hindu temples of outstanding architectural characteristics in the peninsula, of which those at Nallur in the mainland and Nagapoosani Kovil at island Nagadeepa are the most popular. Hindu religious festivals have an atmosphere all its own. It is a feast of music, dance and colour. The last day of the festival is marked by a colorful procession.

There are numerous heritage sites dating from the pre- Christian time to colonial era. The Buddhist site at Kantarodai near Chunnakam dates from pre- Christian times to about the 12th century A.D. Sangalitoppu at Nallur was the residence of the provincial rulers of Jaffna, before the advent of Portuguese. Several remains including an ornamental entrance arch to the palace complex, depicting colonial influence, still survives.

Despite the Jaffna fort, which is the major heritage attraction of the peninsula, there are several

monuments and sites of the colonial era. The island of Delft has monuments (like its castle) that still reflect Portuguese characteristics in a skeletal form. There are smaller Dutch forts at Elephant Pass, Kayts, Pooneryn and at the small islet of Hammenhiel. The remains of the Dutch church, with its Portuguese origin still stands at Chankani. Considered as architecturally, the only one of its kind in the Island, it was constructed of coral masonry with its foundations going back to 1640's.

Apart from such cultural attractions, Jaffna peninsula is also a place of pilgrimage. The fresh water spring

on the beach at Keeramalai are said to contain healing water and is a popular pilgrim destination. The island Nagadeepa is said to have been hallowed by a visit of the Lord Buddha. The Sinhala Buddhists from south visit the Buddhist temple in this island to pay homage to their Master. This island is also a popular pilgrim destination of the Hindus, and the Hindu temple of Nagapoosani and the Buddhist temple that stand side by side in this island showcase the religious tolerance. Katchchativu and Palaitivu are popular destinations of Christian pilgrimage where Catholics from Sri Lanka as well as from neighbouring India come there in thousands.

Travel Details

By Train, Coach, Boat and Jeeps

A small to medium size duffel bag/case can be carried in the luggage compartment of the bus for each participant.

As you will be travelling by boat to Delft you are advised to take a tablet of Avomin (makes you sleepy) or Dom Peridot. Please obtain necessary medical advice and follow the advice of their own doctors.

All participants should bring a wide brimmed hat, dark glasses, comfortable walking shoes and a small umbrella for an emergency and Toilet paper if required.

A small bag to carry shoes, to save leaving them a round. Jaffna is conservative so please dress appropriately and use aa sarong to cover shoulders/legs when visiting the kovil.

Accommodation & Meals

The participants will stay at Heritage Hotel / Villa in Jaffna. Yohan will provide information on room allocations.

15th March 2019

Breakfast: Please bring your own breakfast

Lunch: Buffet at Valampuri Hotel (Rice & curry with chicken, eggs and crabs)

Dinner : Valampuri Hotel (Fried Rice, Chappathi, Devilled Mushroom, Vegetable Kurma, Chicken & Fish)

16th March 2019

Breakfast : Heritage Hotel – Jaffna : Vegetarian packs will be provided

Lunch : Buffet at Delft Samudra Hotel

Simple Sri Lankan cuisine has been organised to

accommodate both veg and non veg

Dinner : At The Thinnai

17th March 2019

Breakfast : Heritage Hotel – Jaffna (Vegetarian meal)

Lunch : Buffet at Heritage Hotel (Vegetarian meal)

Guidelines

The guidelines of conduct are also shared with participants. Please familiarise yourself with the same. Guidelines of conduct, assists in working together to make the tour a success.

**Acknowledgements and credits
for text, information, layouts and Photographs:**

Dr. Nilan Cooray
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