



**THE NATIONAL TRUST – SRI LANKA**

**“Heritage Values of the City of Kandy from its residents’ perspective”**

by

**Kapila D. Silva, PhD, AIA(SL)**

**The Monthly Lecture Series No: 161 of the National Trust**

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 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/@nts19627>)

The concept of "heritage" is inherently subjective, reflecting the diverse ways in which people connect with their past, culture, and identity. What one person or group considers their heritage can differ significantly from another's perspective. Based on the findings of a research study, this presentation discusses how the residents of the City of Kandy, Sri Lanka, are inclined to view the heritage values of the city. The cultural significance of a historic place is usually defined by the articulation of the heritage values of a place. Experts on a place's history and culture usually define these values, based on architectural, artistic, archival, and archaeological facts of the place. How the local community may understand the value of that historic place could be quite different from this theoretical and academic process of defining heritage values of a historic place. Such a difference in the way a community appreciates heritage values could have a significant impact on the conservation and management of heritage as well as on the socio-economic development of the place. The residents' definition of heritage values of Kandy and the use of such perspective on the heritage-led development of Kandy will be discussed in the presentation.



**Kapila D. Silva** is a Professor of Architecture, Associate Dean, School of Architecture and Design, University of Kansas, USA. He previously taught at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee where he received his doctorate in architecture and the University of Moratuwa where he received professional architectural education. His research focuses on global heritage conservation related to UNESCO's World Heritage Program.

**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. Further information can be obtained from the Trust Office Tel.0112682730/ 0719566929