

# SRI LANKA HERITAGE DAY THE NETHERLANDS

## November 27th, 2008: CIE Heritage Day Sri Lanka Day Report

Thursday the 27th of November 2008 the Centre for International Heritage Activities organised a CIE Heritage Day on Sri Lanka, which took place at the Museum of Ethnology in Leiden. This day was organised to bring the Dutch field of Sri Lanka together to further improve bilateral relations between Sri Lanka and the Netherlands to be able to finish the projects successfully.

The day started with an opening by Her Excellency Mrs. Grace A. Asirwatham, Ambassador of the Sri Lankan Embassy in the Netherlands. She explained how important this day was, since it was 400 years ago when the Dutch were first introduced to Sri Lanka by VOC. She also expressed her gratitude to the CIE for strengthening the relations between the two countries, as cultural activities remain important. Sri Lanka is very grateful that the past has not been left to ruins and that it is one of the priority countries for the Netherlands. The Dutch government has done much, but there is still more to do. Through this day it has been made possible to see achievements and make suggestions to improve projects.

This was followed by four presentations:

- **Mr. Vidanapathirana**, Manager Netherlands– Sri Lanka Cultural cooperation Programme – A Cultural Triangle in the South, Master plan
- **Lodewijk Wagenaar**, curator of Amsterdam Historical Museum – Museum cooperation
- **Harry Boerema**, conservation expert – The city of Galle. A fortified stronghold in restoration
- **Robert Parthesius**, Director of CIE – Maritime Archaeology: the excavation of the Avondster

After the lunch, the afternoon was meant to discuss several points of critique through workshops:

- Academic Cooperation: Archaeology and History
- Capacity building of the (built) heritage sector, Mutual Cultural Heritage

The participants of these workshops made recommendations to improve future cooperation. These recommendations will soon be published on the CIE-website.

In advance, all the participants were given the opportunity to present their projects in Sri Lanka through poster presentations. In the end, twenty-two posters were ready for the exhibition, which gave well-presented detailed images of the projects completed at present.

## Morning Programme – Extensive Report

The Sri Lanka heritage day was held at the Rijksmuseum voor Volkenkunde in Leiden. Robert Parthesius started the day with a word of welcome to the participants and especially to the guest speaker Mr. Vidanapathirana, Project manager of the Netherlands– Sri Lanka Cultural Cooperation Programme and that it was an honour to have her Excellency the Ambassador Mrs. Grace A. Asirwatham, to give the opening speech.

### **Her Excellency, the Ambassador Mrs Grace A. Asirwatham, Opening**

Her Excellency the Ambassador Mrs Grace A. Asirwatham first greeted all participants and continued to say that this was indeed a special day because it was 400 years ago when the Dutch were first introduced to Sri Lanka by way of the VOC and that was the beginning of the relations between the two countries.

The ambassador expressed her gratitude to the CIE for strengthening these relations by organising such a heritage day, as cultural activities remain important. Since the arrival of the British in SL, conservation of the past has been ongoing; thanks to the Netherlands, this has been continued, and SL is grateful that this past has not been left to ruins. The ambassador also said that it is fortunate that SL is one of the priority countries for the Netherlands. The Dutch government has done much, there is more to do, and through this platform, it is possible to see what has been achieved and what not. It is also a possibility to see how to further improve projects and relations between our countries.

The workshops will analyse the details of the projects and how the cooperation is mutual. There are good topics to discuss with the result to produce a good document for the authorities for further cooperation between our countries. Thank you.

### **Robert Parthesius, Introduction**

Robert Parthesius thanks the Ambassador and explains that the intention of the CIE is to use heritage as stepping-stones for cooperation. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> heritage day which the CIE has organised and an important one because SL is on the top 3 of the priority list of mutual heritage. Our relations are like a long marriage with ups and downs. The projects started in the 80's and 90's with working together on maritime archaeology. SL takes their own discipline of heritage management as can be seen by the heritage of the Cultural triangle of the south, which is unique. An open mind is important and sentiments have to be dealt with.

In 2003 there was already a heritage day at the AHM : the restoration of the Church and parts of Galle fort was enlightened upon and that in SL a heritage centre was established. The Dutch field realised that with many people working on the same level, there is a possibility to set up a permanent organisation concerning mutual heritage activities. It was a first step.

### **Mr. Vidanapathirana, Netherlands–Sri Lanka Cultural Cooperation Programme**

The guest speaker was introduced. Mr. Vidanapathirana has come especially from Sri Lanka to give the keynote speech.

Two and a half years have passed since May 2006 when 5.6 million euro was the start of the heritage program. Now the work is almost completed. 95% of the funds have been used and 18 projects have already been realised. By 2009, this will be completed and this is on line with the program statements. In 1999, the mutual heritage joint policy statement was the starting point of which Robert P. was part of through the project of the MAU. By 2004, this was almost completed but the tsunami washed away much of the items. Now the Maritime Museum will be established and it is the intention to display the recovered objects.

One of the projects is to renovate the Dutch Commissioners house, which is in one of the eastern provinces. It is an example of the long ties between our two countries which have many cultural relationships, also connected to architecture. It is the intention to further

strengthen these relationships. The ongoing programs in the southern area are the protection of tangible heritage. The objectives are to conserve and preserve the diversity of the area; to obtain employment for local people and to strengthen the cooperation.

A development program was formulated:

1. Renovation of the Dutch warehouse in Galle. In the past, the British made some improvements and after the local government used it for offices. The aim is to restore it to the original state as it was during the Dutch period. Now, the roof, the wooden floors, stairways, windows etc. have been renovated and the building will be further exploited to make it into Maritime Museum. Mrs Gosselink has been very helpful with advice and in the coming 4 months, it should be completed.
2. The Galle ramparts project. The fortification of Galle where 200 families live has a length of 200 km. Some parts have been destroyed by the tsunami and now some have been restored but other parts are more complicated and more funding is needed to complete the restoration.
3. Katuwana: the Dutch fortress has long been neglected. The site was full of government buildings, which now have been removed, and parts renovated. For example, the gateway has been returned to its original state, there is now an information centre, and the area is opened to the public.
4. Matara: the drawbridge was completely damaged and has now been restored with local carpenters. The buildings inside have been renovated but the museum could not be refurbished due to lack of funds.
5. Matara Church: this 3000 year old building was also affected by the tsunami but is now also nearly restored except for the roof which is a problem.
6. The houses inside Galle fort: of the 300, it was planned to renovate 60 and now 54 have been completed.
7. Urubokka dam: this was built by the Dutch to divert water to districts lacking water. The renovation has been completed.
8. Kataragama museum: this lies more to the east of the country and is an important gathering place for all religions. Here, it is intended that it should be a meeting place for mutual understanding for each other's religion. Many old religious items have been collected and the museum was opened last month.
9. The 30,000 records in the national archive are very important as mutual heritage. It is intended to translate them into English and to publish them so they can be used by those teaching Cultural Heritage.
10. A database is being established for the registration of tangible and intangible heritage. Data will be collected from 3 regions and a cultural atlas will be produced.

The goal is also to strengthen mutual relations with the Netherlands, Great Britain, and Portugal. The Master Plan will be completed by December 2009. The CCF custodians of the NE cultural triangle and the south triangle have been badly affected by the tsunami but now it has luckily improved.

Mr. V. expressed his sincere thanks to the Dutch government for their financial and technical support which has been arranged by the CIE. He thanks the CIE for organising this heritage day and many thanks to Harry Boerema, Roel de Jong, Jan Wittesema, Martine Gosselink and

Albert van Dijk and many others. Also, thanks to the Netherlands Embassy in Sri Lanka and to the Embassy of Sri Lanka here in the Netherlands for strengthening the mutual support of the two countries.

Robert Partesius thanks the guest speaker for his extensive explanation and adds that these projects are the result of the efforts of many people.

The next speaker was Lodewijk Wangenaar, curator of the Amsterdam Historical Museum and well-known in Sri Lanka.

### **Lodewijk Wagenaar, Museum Cooperation: capacity building and training**

LW starts his talk by telling about a trip he made on an open field trip, filled with people and objects travelling on a bumpy road for 40 kms to visit the village of Tombo which is known for its pottery. The intention was to order pots from the pottery families for the museum in Colombo. He explained that museum objects are in fact dead objects and it is necessary to link them with the real life. Objects were once made by people and so directly connected to people and the best way to understand this is to return to the source of the object. The objects of today are identical to those of decades ago. It is necessary to revitalize the objects, to understand the social change of the local area. In that village the pottery workshops, the family, the countryside gave the picture.

LW also said that a new course at the university of Kalagna was open to people who already have jobs in the museum or archive world for a better understanding of the items of the past. However, the practical side is important: objects are part of the country and its history, even when they are from the Dutch period. It is interesting how people look back at their history and they should be trained to do this. His aim is to set up a full museum course of history and its presentation.

Most important is the making of an exhibition: how to write the texts, the PR organization, how to display, and use modern techniques to tell a story. The past 7 years of giving courses has only slowly influenced the museum presentation and administration in SL. It is important that experts come to SL to teach but then also to be paid as locals.

LW finishes with: "Work like locals, be paid like locals, and behave like locals."

### **Harry Boerema, The city of Galle. A fortified stronghold in restoration**

The last guest speaker was Harry Boerema whose first invitation to SL was in 1999 to give advise on the renovation of the drawbridge at Matara.

HB explains the layout of Galle, built on a peninsula and surrounded by reefs. Two bastions however, do not have reefs to protect them and have been heavily damaged. On the north side there are massive ramparts built for land attacks. The town plan is rectangular and has been declared a UNESCO world heritage site. The Dutch reformed church stands at the highest point and was restored in 2002–2004. The west wall has a window from 1830, the British period and was in a very bad state. There was no knowledge of stained glass in SL and a Dutch firm was asked to come to give a training course. During the renovation, the influences of the British period were respected and due to some existing panels, it was possible to reconstruct it. The restoration was carried out with local experts.

Next, HB explains the renovation of the Dutch warehouse and the problems. The roof dating from 1800's has a large system with spans, which were put in about 1860. However, due to climate, rust occurs and the steel needed to be renovated. However, old steel needs to be belted as it was originally done but inside the renovation was done by welding.

The floor beams with reinforced concrete were put in at that time but again there are rust problems because of the contact of metal with lime.

The lack of gutters and rain pipes on the outside roof has drastically affected the plaster on the outside walls. The plaster has been renovated but there are still no gutters, which will again affect the plaster. Moreover, the restored plinth under the windows splashes up the rainwater, which will be hazardous in the future.

HB explains the renovation of the Akersloot Bastion, which has partly collapsed due to heavy seas, and 100 tons of material has been lost. The proposal is that an artificial wave barrier of stones be built in front of the bastion.

The star bastion has a large gap due to a previous collapse. After a thorough investigation by experts, it is the intention to level the rock base before building a massive wall to fill up the gap. This is problematic because explosives could cause further damage. Therefore, a chemical method has been suggested.

The Black fort dates from the Portuguese period, when coral was used. The Dutch used local stones from local quarries for building. There are several prison cells, which have collapsed and need restoration.

HB's first job was at the fort at Matara to restore the drawbridge. First, a temporary bridge was built and in 2007, an exact replica was made, done to the smallest detail. The local master carpenter must be praised for such a good job!

Robert Parthesius then explains in short the project of the Avondster.

## **Report Workshop 1: Academic Cooperation, Archaeology and History**

### **Participants**

Bastiaan Korner (Moderator) – Art Gallery

Hanna Leijen (reporter) – CIE

Fleur Kaldenberg (reporter) – CIE

Alicia Schrikker – Encompass, Historical Programme Leiden

Barbara Consolini – AWAD, Netherlands Institute for Heritage

Nadeera Seneviratne – Student Encompass

Nandana Chutiwongs – Former curator National Museum of Ethnology

Mara de Groot – RACM

Menno Leenstra – CIE, freelance researcher

Sjoerd van der Linde – University of Leiden, development aid, archaeology heritage management

Clara Brakel – Project North – Sumatra, archaeology

Sieny Engelsman – Historian  
Albert van den Belt – Research VOC history  
Alexandra van Dijk – CIE, archaeologist  
Charles van Schelle – CIE, board  
Rami Isaac – NHTV  
Gerda Theuns – Art historian South and SE Asia (Abbia)  
Christine van der Pijl– CIE

### ***Topic***

Academic knowledge is the fundament for many heritage projects. But in the executive phase it often plays a minor role while the connection between field and university strengthens both the practical input as well as the academic output. Therefore more attention should be paid to academic cooperation. It is a necessary ingredient for capacity building and in the future better academic cooperation is needed to succeed. What are the experiences with this cooperation and what can the Dutch Heritage field recommend to improve academic cooperation between Sri Lanka and The Netherlands and between field and university?

During the workshop issues and questions should be discussed, such as: Who is related to Sri Lankan universities, research in or on Sri Lanka, and what are the challenges within academic cooperation and how to improve it according to the Netherlands. Or is there no improvement necessary?

After these questions and hopefully fruitful conclusions, attention should be paid to the future and its upcoming initiatives: What is a good starting point of cooperation, research, the preservation of archives, and how can we strengthen the relations to ensure capacity building. Regarding ownership we should discuss the concept dual parentage in terms of joint responsibility.

### **Related Projects:**

- A Cultural Triangle in the South
- Avondster
- Dutch Colonialism, Migration and Cultural Heritage: East en West
- Dutch Period Museum
- Galle Harbour project
- Private House Conservation programme: "Purawara Pubuduwa
- TANAP: Towards a New Age of Partnership

### **The Workshop**

#### *Forms of education in Sri Lanka– language and scholarships*

Alicia Schrikker is invited to tell something about the academic cooperation within Encompass, which is a follow– up of the TANAP project (Towards A New Age of Partnership). The purpose is to make an inventory of the ancient VOC– documents. The only problem is that unfortunately there are not many applications from Sri Lanka. There should be continuity of Dutch history and Asian history to Sri Lankan students.

From the Sri Lankan side it seems that there is more attention on the British period, and this is probably due to the language. The Encompass program includes however an intensive course

in Dutch language and 17<sup>th</sup> century Dutch for the study of ancient Dutch archives. Translating Dutch archives into English would have a broader scope in research, but the idea of research is to study the original material.

It seems that there are a lot of scholarships on history, but it might be necessary to have scholarships in archaeology as well.

Gerda Theuns remarks that the facilities on South East Asia archaeology is decreasing at Leiden University.

Sjoerd van der Linde remarks that this is true, however more attention is given to the theory of capacity building and culture and development and the role of archaeology in this.

According to Albert van den Belt and his experience through National Archives in Sri Lanka, it is very difficult to learn Dutch. It also takes a lot of time and money. Dutch is a very difficult language and the Sri Lankans do not have much time to study, because of the long travels they have to make. The best idea is to implement a study, which will take 2 or 3 years, by expanding the Encompass programme.

#### *Database*

Christine van der Pijl-Ketel noticed that there are gaps in Sri Lankan libraries, while Dutch universities try to get rid of some of their collections. Books are a very important tool for studying that must not be underestimated. A problem however in the study of the VOC-period is that many books on the subject are in Dutch.

Nandana Chutiwongs remarks that besides more literature exchange between professionals for lectures or workshops on Sri Lankan universities would be important.

#### *Fundings – Where does Academic Cooperation start?*

It seems that in Sri Lanka there is always a lack of funding. Cooperation always requires funding and in these times, universities are not willing to spend their small budget on cooperation.

Charles van Schelle finds that only small money is necessary. There is only budget needed for hotels and flights. Maybe universities of the Netherlands or the Embassy are willing to fund that to facilitate. If it is a good project, institutes are always willing to fund it.

#### *Needs of Sri Lankan population*

The biggest problem in cooperation with Sri Lanka seems that it takes a lot of time to receive the money from the Sri Lankan government. So if you want to make a change, a start should be made by Sri Lankan authorities.

According to Rami Isaac, we should start by making a list of needs and wants of the Sri Lankan population. CIE could intermediate between the needs of Dutch universities and universities abroad.

Sri Lanka should learn even more how to appreciate their cultural heritage, because it is part of their own culture. Nandana Chutiwongs points out that there already exist many types of cooperation between The Netherlands and Sri Lanka. It is important however, to understand all aspects of heritage. We should broaden the study, and focus not only on the Dutch Period but

also on ancient history from India, the whole history of the country. There is a competition between the broad history of Sri Lanka and the Dutch Period history.

From the Dutch side we should not push too much towards the Dutch Period, but we need to combine a broader package of heritage with art history, architecture, history and archaeology. The Dutch Period and artefacts are never as important to the Sri Lankans as the ancient history of the country. However, interest in the Dutch Period is increasing now and we could use this a format to stir up other activities.

Menno Leenstra points out that there are also needs in the field of conservation. We need to think about how to make the monuments sustainable within the community. To get more interest, we should involve the locals.

Rami Isaac remarks that it is a very difficult but interesting question. For instance in Cambodia there is more money now for conservation and preservation of monuments. In Sri Lanka there should also be implemented a project for students in research in cooperation with the CIE. They could research management plans on how to create their own tourism. You have to look for a starting point to create sustainability. An integration of heritage, culture and tourism is very important for sustainability.

A lot of students do their thesis outside the Netherlands after BA. So maybe it is possible to start a strong cooperation between NHTV and the CIE.

Sjoerd van der Linde responded that as far as the academic approach goes, the development of an integrated university programme is an important step to take. However, the system in The Netherlands works in a way that only one university gets money for a graduating student. An integrated programme of different universities is held back by the financial system.

Gerda Theuns points out that a first important step is for the different departments at Leiden University that could work more closely together. She also finds that we need a Holland House in India, near Sri Lanka as some kind of platform. This will focus the intention and the possibility to reach all kinds of people.

The NUFFIC is setting something up now, so maybe a combination is possible.

Regardless of the discussion on academic cooperation with Sri Lanka the recommendation is made that an expert meeting will be organised for the different cultural and heritage organisations in The Netherlands that are developing a database on a specific subject. Gerda Theuns remarks that an inventory should be made about the several database projects and experience of these projects should be shared.

## **Report Workshop 2: Capacity Building in the built heritage sector**

### **Participants**

Frits van Dulm (moderator), CIE

Fleur Cools (reporter), CIE

Harry Boerema, Conservation specialist  
Deborah Stolk, CER  
Yppie Attema  
Peter van Dun, ICOMOS  
Dick ter Steege, Urban Solutions  
Mr. Vidanapathirana, Project Manager Sri Lanka Netherlands Cultural Cooperation  
Roel de Jong, Bureau Wassenaar: Dutch Warehouse advisor  
Jan Wiertsema, Research  
Miranda Vos, 2002–2004 maritime archaeology  
Klaas van Slooten, Foundation for development cooperation, SOSVelsen (Twinning:  
Velsen, IJmuiden)  
Anouk Fienieg, CIE: Masterplan for the South Sri Lanka.  
Jeroen–Louis Martens, Bilateral relationship Netherlands Sri Lanka Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs

### ***Topic***

Capacity building is the main goal for projects under the Dutch Cultural Fund. It guarantees the sustainability of projects by embedding them in the original knowledge structures. But is this theory also the experience in the projects that are carried out in Sri Lanka? What can we do from the Netherlands to improve the level and sustainability of training? Who is who?

After these questions and hopefully fruitful conclusions, attention should be paid to the future and its upcoming initiatives: What is a good starting point of capacity building and bringing it to a higher level? And how can we strengthen the relations to ensure capacity building? Regarding ownership we should discuss the concept dual parentage in terms of joint responsibility.

### **Related Projects:**

- A Cultural Triangle in the South
- Urubokka Dam site
- Matara Fort
- Dutch Warehouse
- Dutch Reformed Church Matara
- Dutch Reformed Church Galle
- Ramparts of Galle Fort
- Katuwana
- Dutch Hospital
- Dutch Period Museum
- Galle Harbour Project
- Kataragama Museum
- Private House Conservation programme: “Purawara Pubuduwa”
- TANAP: Towards a New Age of Partnership
- TAP: Technical Assistance Programme

### **The Workshop**

*The implication of Capacity Building– Ask or give?*

Harry Boerema begins by saying that there are a lot of arguments in terms of advising in

projects. He explains the example of the Dutch Warehouse, which was in a very bad shape. Not only did he give advices in terms of conservation, but also on how to make a meeting point of the place. But we do have a commitment. For instance, we need to know exactly how to deal with the restoration and development according to the Charter of Venice of 1984, 1984, which stand for the maintenance of history when restoring. However, there is a tendency to go back to the Dutch Period and erase the English Period. How can a new function in a building mean new aspects and adjustments for the new function and at the same time conserve the historical aspects? The argument of the Department of Archaeology is is not to add any new elements to a building.

Dick ter Steege arguments that according to his own opinion capacity building means knowledge exchange and transfer to local people, also in the design and planning stage.

Jeroen-Louis Martens asks if all the plans/ projects are really “demanded driven”? Most projects should be demanded driven. Not just from the Dutch side. Did the Sri Lankan side ask or did you give? There is a renewed policy: ‘grenzeloze kunst’ There is one million euro to divide over eight priority countries. There is one million for the National Archive, ICN. The requirements are: awareness, education, capacity building. These are the natural elements of project development. It is important to preserve: it is part of their heritage and cultural identity. Then people will ask for renovation, restoration. Also, integrated planning is part of the requirements as well as new use of buildings. They are not dead stones.

Frits van Dulm explains the unique aspect of Sri Lanka, which is that they are far ahead in development. Dual parentage is coming from Sri Lanka. Up till now all projects were done on demanding.

Anouk Fienieg also answers that it was a request for assistance. There were clear demands for projects. The first request was from Sri Lanka and then advice from the Netherlands followed. What to do with the advice? They have the ownership. It is not clear what kind of balance this is. According to Dick ter Steege we should not only give advice, but also add value. We should be more aware of what the deliberations are, more involving the people. Add something, a quality that you can recognize as an addition to a building. Historical additions to a building should be part of the development and the restoration.

Anouk Fienieg highlights that capacity building in Sri Lanka is different from other priority countries. Not only requiring specific expertise from the network. This is a higher level of capacity building. How can we secure this kind of capacity building

According to Jan Wiertsema we should talk to the engineers of Sri Lanka. There is a good relation and we can export the materials. The Sri Lankan people have been trained by a Dutch firm in order to maintain the skills that have been transferred.

#### *Status of Awareness- Objects*

Mr. Vidanapathirana starts explaining that awareness has been created for a long time. For instance, with the renovations of the private houses of Galle, they tried to modernise the houses. Now there are 300 houses to be conserved like the old houses. There is a big demand

of that type of conservation. Starting point is re-using historical objects. At present there are no government buildings around the fort, covering the site of the fort. The structure has been replaced in order to clear the view, so you can see the place from the outside. The budget from the government is small, but before there was no budget at all for maintenance. Budgets are now raised locally by tourist money and the maintenance is not just depending on government.

The Galle Heritage Foundation is a semi-governmental organisation, which tries to create awareness.

Peter van Dun argues that the elements of political commitment and public awareness were already there. Elements that play an important role in integrated conservation are: improving living standards, re-using old and new buildings.

They do not see it as their own heritage, but as colonial. It is interesting at local sites to use the strength of locals. Conservation and preservation is not about individual monuments but about improving local conditions.

It is important to form own ideas on historical heritage. How do we interpret and transfer ideas.

#### *Cooperation with architects*

Frits van Dulm says that Sri Lanka has excellent architects. Mr. Vidanapathirana reacts that archaeology and architecture are indeed popular subjects in the school system and at universities.

Yppie Attema describes that the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies organised a symposium in the nineties in Rotterdam for architects and town planners from Sri Lanka and the Netherlands. The Sri Lankan participants came with their own material.

But Peter van Dun finds that tourism is not the idea of restoring, what they want is good living conditions. The level of students in architecture is high. But how to plan and re-use old architecture? Conservation and preservation needs to have a social and economical impact. You have to look at the economical feasibility. You need to keep funding if you are only doing maintenance.

Monuments can raise money as well as be a tourist attraction, also by renting it out. By making monuments profitable through for example social housing and not transform them into museums.

Dick ter Steege finds that you should be wondering what your target group is, what kind of capacity building? You need hands on skills. There are different kinds of capacity building:

- Transfer skills
- Transfer skills in the field of management
- Educational level

You have to make choices, priorities because of the amount of money.

#### *Goals of Heritage programme– Tourism: Sustainability, mix of living, influx of investment*

Mr. Vidanapathirana explains that the goals of the heritage programme for the Sri Lankan government are to improve cultural tourism and gain more income for the area.

Harry Boerema implies that the economic aspects of for example the Church restoration are

not from entrance money, but they generate income by putting a box by the entrance. A large amount of money is generated in this way.

According to Jeroen-Louis Martens decision makers in tourism should be invited in order to show the best way to earn money.

We can find a good example in the Triangle, where a lot has been done with tourism. Dick ter Steege mentions that, even though tourism is going down partly because of the civil war and the consular advice against all travel to the north or east of Sri Lanka, we are not only depending on the tourist aspect, we should wonder what it can generate economically. You should look at local economical development to make monuments self-supporting. Re-using the buildings for tourism is not just the only way. The buildings we see today are there because it is still functioning.

### **Workshop 3: How mutual is Mutual Cultural Heritage?**

*Dual parentage – equality*

Anouk Fienieg explains that you can only apply the term dual parentage, when there is equality.

The legal responsibility is of the country itself. The cultural and the moral responsibility we can share. But is it interesting for them to preserve and what to preserve?

Harry Boerema mentions that Sri Lanka chooses themselves in these matters. In Sri Lanka they talk about the Dutch Period, not Dutch history.

The English are preserving monuments in the Commonwealth and this is more development aid based. But the English have less feelings of guilt in comparison to the Dutch because of our slavery history once we were a colonial nation. Sri Lanka was never a Dutch colony.

In Indonesia, when the minister mentioned mutual heritage, it was an academic and political statement, before that it was called colonial heritage, overseas heritage to get money. It had an academic background.

Yppie Attema follows that the importance of the past is an academic discussion. The political and moral responsibility of dual parentage is awareness of mutual heritage.

Jean-Paul Corten argues that the main issue is influencing decision makers on a political level by officials on the spot.

## **Recommendations and Conclusions**

### **Workshop 1: Academic Cooperation, Archaeology and History**

#### **The Workshop**

*Forms of education in Sri Lanka– language and scholarships*

Alicia Schrikker is invited to tell something about the academic cooperation within Encompass, which is a follow-up of the TANAP project (Towards A New Age of Partnership). The purpose is to make an inventory of the ancient VOC– documents. The only problem is that unfortunately there are not many applications from Sri Lanka. There should be continuity of Dutch history and Asian history to Sri Lankan students.

From the Sri Lankan side it seems that there is more attention on the British period, and this is probably due to the language. The Encompass program includes however an intensive course in Dutch language and 17<sup>th</sup> century Dutch for the study of ancient Dutch archives.

Translating Dutch archives into English would have a broader scope in research, but the idea of research is to study the original material.

It seems that there are a lot of scholarships on history, but it might be necessary to have scholarships in archaeology as well.

Gerda Theuns remarks that the facilities on South East Asia archaeology is decreasing at Leiden University.

#### *To learn from Sri Lanka*

- A programme of Dutch language and 17<sup>th</sup> century Dutch is still needed
- Understand the whole history of Sri Lanka, integrate heritage, culture and tourism
- Do not only focus on the Dutch Period: The Dutch Period and artefacts are never as important to the Sri Lankans as the ancient history of the country

#### *Changes for the future*

- Embassies and universities need to be more active
- Implement a 2 or 3 year–study of Dutch language, like Encompass
- Need for better education in the Dutch language and more documents, archives and historical books should be translated in Dutch, English and even Singha.
- An inventory / database of the people involved in the Netherlands, and their functions.
- Need for a broader package of scholarships of heritage with art history, architecture, history and archaeology
- Make a list of needs and wants of the Sri Lankan population, with the CIE as intermediary
- Broaden the study: Sri Lanka should learn how to appreciate their cultural heritage, because it is part of their own culture.
- Conservation of monuments: involve locals to increase interest
- Integration of heritage, culture and tourism
- Funding by universities and other institutes
- Expertise to make inventory of archives, books and other documents
- Cooperation programme in the field of teacher and student exchange at universities and a library book programme between Dutch and Sri Lanka universities is suggested to fill up missing links. (NHTV and/ or NUFFIC)
- An inventory should be made about the several database projects in The Netherlands and experience of these projects should be shared in an expert meeting.

#### **Workshop 2: Capacity Building in the built heritage sector**

How to secure knowledge of the built heritage? What can we do from the Netherlands to improve the level and sustainability of training and capacity building?

- During the workshop, there were positive reactions on the relations between the Netherlands and Sri Lanka.
- The unique aspect of Sri Lanka is that they are far ahead in development. Dual parentage is coming from Sri Lanka. Up till now, all projects were done on demand.

- What is the counterpart doing? There are different kinds of capacity building: skills transfer in the field of conservation management; skills transfer and knowledge exchange about integrated conservation – historic infrastructure for a complete approach.
- Some Dutch experts experienced high expertise from the counterpart. It was easy to exchange knowledge. It is important to have more projects in the follow-up to secure the knowledge and skills development that has exchanged.
- It is important to start at the professional level by influencing and advising the decision makers and the professionals.
- How do you restore and what kind of restoration values is used? In integrated conservation it is important to conserve new added historical values to buildings as well. In the Charter of Venice it is not allowed to remove historical additions and changes. This view needs to be discussed with the counterpart.

### **Workshop 3: How mutual is Mutual Cultural Heritage?**

Ideas on mutual and dual heritage are an academic discussion. You need public *awareness* to get everybody involved. The legal responsibility is of the country itself. We can share the cultural and the moral responsibility.

The reason for the Sri Lankan government for the heritage program is to improve cultural tourism and gain more income in the area.