

Dipicting Nature: A Prehistoric Clay Figurine Recovered from the Uva Walave Basin in Ratnapura District

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A terracotta figurine has been excavated at a location identified as an ancient settlement situated in a hamlet called *Uda Ranchanmadama* (URB) of the *Rakvana* electorate. The figurine was in a fragmentary state when it was recovered in the late 2009. It is a sculpture that has two arms projected both sides from a stem like short cylindrical body and finally turned upward. The present sculpture has a single arm remained in tact and the other one has been broken. The tips of these arms are slightly and bluntly pointed. The fabric of the sculpture is medium textured. This sculpture could be compared with a similar object found in *Kayatha* period II dated to 1300 BCE in the peninsula India. URB figuring is radiometrically dated to the 1129 BCE. *Kayatha* figurine was identified as a representation of a bull, and there is a reasonable ground to assign a similar symbolic connotation of the URB figurine. This paper seeks to discuss matters pertaining to its contextual meaning and the artistic expression in a detailed manner

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