

**MELBOURNE CHAPTER
CEYLON SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA**

Report of Meeting held on:

**Sunday, 2nd April 2023, 5.00pm at ASH-WOOD HALL
21a Electra Avenue, Ashwood**

Speaker: Jayantha Perera (Architect)

Topic: A Synopsis of Sri Lankan Architecture: from the early days to the present

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From the time of Kuveni and the kingdom of Vijaya, with the glimpses of Thambapanni, the wattle and daub houses, the ancient architecture of Anuradhapura-Polonnaruwa period and its relationship to Buddhism. The Hindu influence and the Kandyan and Kotte kingdoms. The colonial influences - the blend of Portuguese, Dutch and British Architecture and the Moor or Mughal connections. Post Victorian, Dominion and Soviet Eastern bloc influence was followed by the modern movement in architecture in Sri Lanka led by the three greats Bawa, Minnette and Valentine. With foreign aid Chinese and other Asian buildings emerged leading into the current architectural practices and the green sustainable movement.

Includes a description of the profession of Architecture in Sri Lanka – The beginnings, the formation in 1957 of the Ceylon Institute of Architects, the connection with the RIBA, the incorporation of the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) in 1967 by an act of Parliament. This led to several amendments and today is considered the most prolific professional body related to the construction industry. Uniquely the registration board is also under the SLIA.

Architect: Jayantha Perera

is a Chartered Architect who graduated from the University of Moratuwa. Currently the Vice Chairman of the Green Building Council of Sri Lanka and a Member of the World Green Building Council, working on sustainable architecture. In an era of technological advancements as well as economic and social challenges, architect Jayantha Perera, President of CCISL (Chamber of Construction Industry of Sri Lanka) brings with him vast expertise in the industry, to guide the CCISL in a new direction. Archt. Jayantha Perera has close to five decades of experience in the construction industry and is a passionate advocate of steering the industry towards greater heights by promoting the use of efficient technology and sustainable practices. In 2014 the President of SL gave Jayantha an “The Award of Eminence” issued by the ICTD for his lifetime of services.

Hemal Gurusinghe

