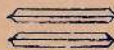




Kandy  
Historical Pageant  
1937  
**SCENE**  
THE  
SIGNING OF THE  
TREATY OF 1815.

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# CAST.

## ENGLISHMEN :

1. **His Excellency Lieut.-General Robert Brownrigg, Governor and Commander-in-Chief** in and over the **British Settlements and Territories** in the **Island of Ceylon.**
2. **James Sutherland,** Deputy Secretary to Government.
3. **J. D'Oyley,** Chief Translator to Government.
4. Captains, Ensigns, etc.
5. Modeliar of His Excellency's Gate, **Abraham De Saram.**
6. Buglers.
7. Ceylon Light Dragoons, **Major Kelley's** Division.

## SINHALESE CHIEFS WHO SIGNED THE TREATY :

1. **Ehelepola Nilame.**
2. **Molligoda,** First Adigar and Dissawe of Seven Korales.
3. **Pilametalawwe** *alias* Kapuwatte Second Adigar and Diyawadana Nilame and Dissawa of Suffragam.
4. **Pilametalawwe** Dissawe of Four Korales.
5. **Monerawila** *alias* Keppetipola Dissawe of Uva.
6. **Ratwatte** Dissawe of Matale.
7. **Molligoda** (younger) Dissawe of Three Korales.
8. **Dullewe** Dissawe of Walapane
9. **Millawa** *alias* Dunuwila Dissawe of Welassa and Bintenne.
10. **Galagama** *alias* Mullegama Dissawe of Tamankada.
11. **Galagoda** Dissawe of Nuwara Kalaviya.

**PRIESTS PRESENT :**

1. **Kobbekaduwe Rajaguru Maha Nayake**  
**Maha-Himiyananwahanse** of Malwatte.
2. **Wariapola Nayake Isthavira.**

**OTHER CHIEFS PRESENT :**

1. Mampitiye Maha Lekam Mahatmeya.
  2. Kadigamuwe Mahabadde Nilame.
  3. Mattamagoda Nanayakkara Lekam Mahatmeya.
  4. Madugalle Gajanayaka Nilame.
  5. Amunugama Uda Gabada Nilame.
  6. Ehelepola Basnayake Nilame, Maha Devale.
  7. Wegodapola Haluwadana Nilame.
  8. Mampitiye Ratemahatmaya, Udu Nuwara.
  9. Weliwita Ratemahatmaya, Tumpane.
  10. Millewe Ratemahatmaya, Harispattuwe.
  11. Amunugama Ratemahatmaya, Dumbara.
  12. Moladande Ratemahatmaya, Hewaheta.
  13. Pilametalawwe Ratemahatmaya, Yati Nuwara.
  14. Bambaradeniye Liyana Rala *alias* Korale of  
Udu Nuwara.
  15. Kiribathkumbure Korale of Yati Nuwara.
  16. Mathgamuwe Maha Lekam Pinda Karaya.
  17. Dumbara Mannana Maha Dureya.
  18. Madige Mohandiram.
  19. Kotalbadde people.
  20. Handabadde people.
  21. Kuruwe people.
  22. Madige people.
  23. Mohottalas.
  24. Koralas.
  25. Vidanes.
- A vast concourse of people.

## SCENE I.

The Court Yard in front of the Wedehitine Mandapaya (Shrine) of the **Dalada Maligawa**. Music is heard inside the shrine.

The Governor, Mr. Sutherland, Mr. D'Oyley, Ehe-lapola Nilame, Keppetipola Dissawe, Pilemetalawwe Second Adigar, Molligoda First Adigar, Millawe Dissawe, and Madugalle Gajanayake Nilame settle the final points of the Treaty to be signed next day.

## SCENE II.

Compound adjoining the **Audience Hall**.

A detachment of soldiers march up and a Captain tries to hoist the British Flag (this incident took place before the Treaty was signed.) Wariyapola High Priest hurries up and prevents it saying that this could not be done till the Treaty was signed.

**D'Oyley** rushes up from the Palace and saves the situation by ordering the Captain to desist and says that the agreement was to hoist both the **Royal Ensign** and the **Sinhalese Flags** together after the signing of the **Treaty**.

*(Evidence before Royal Commission.)*

## SCENE III.

**Place :** The great **Audience Hall** in the Palace.

**Time :** 3 p.m. on the **2nd March, 1815**.

This extract from the Government Bulletin of 3rd March, 1815, gives a full description of what took place :—

*Extract from the Government Bulletin of 3rd March, 1815,  
on the Convention.*

“The political and civil arrangements consequent on the great change which has been effected here, were interrupted for eight days by the absence of Mr. D'Oyley, in attendance on the King, during which period no conference of any moment took place. On his return the communications with the Chiefs were renewed, and yesterday was appointed for a Convention of the contracting parties.

“Of the Treaty you will be enabled to judge, as it will be published. It comprises, though in a very summary way, the heads of a constitution carefully adapted to the wishes of the Chiefs and people, and with a more particular degree of attention to some prejudices, the indulgence of which was plainly understood to be a *sine qua non* of their voluntary submission to a European Power.

“The preservation of the religion of Boodhoo was the first; the other (hardly inferior in their estimation) was the recognition and continuance of their local institutions. I say nothing of their laws, because I should find hard to say what they are. Customs, however they have, and established gradations of authority, and even known forms of justice; though the latter, for a long period, have been out of use. A general re-establishment of all these is the basis of the civil and judicial articles of the Treaty.

“Early in the afternoon preparations were made for holding the conference in the great Audience Hall in the palace; but the Governor declined using the adjoining room, where the King usually sat on occasions of ceremony, and chose to be placed within the hall, at the upper end, with his back to the door of that room, which is divided off by a screen.

“The troops composing the garrison of Kandy, with the corps of Ceylon Light Dragoons, and the addition of Major Kelly's division, now here on his march to Colombo, returning to Point de Galle, were drawn up at 3 o'clock in the great

square before the palace, where they remained while the Adigars and principal Chiefs passed, and a part formed a lane to the door of the hall.

“Ehelepola, late Adigar, who has declined official employ, preferring to remain in retirement, and soliciting only the title of “The Friend of the British Government,” entered first and alone. He was received with particular marks of favour and kindness by His Excellency and seated in a chair on his right hand.

“Molligodde, acting on the occasion as first Adigar, then came forward, leading in the Dissaves of Provinces and other principal Chiefs, about twenty in number. The Governor rose up to receive them, and (with Ehelepola) continued standing throughout the conference.

“A scene not less novel than interesting was here presented in the state and costume of the Kandyan court, with an English Governor presiding, and the hall lined on both sides with British Officers.

“The Conference began with complimentary enquiries on the part of the Chiefs, which were graciously answered by the Governor, and mutual enquiries made. His Excellency then thanked the Dissaves for attention shown to the troops in their various routes through the country towards the capital; which gave occasion to the Chiefs to observe, that they considered them as protectors, and that, by the arrival of His Excellency and the army, they had been rescued from tyranny and oppression.

“The Governor observed, he was gratified with having been the means of their deliverance; he assured them of full protection, in their persons, their property, and all their rights; and added that while he had the honour of holding the administration of the Island, it would be his study to make them experience the blessing of His Majesty’s benign government.

“It was then intimated to the Chiefs, that a paper had been prepared, expressive of the principles on which the participation of His Majesty’s government was offered to their acceptance, and that it was about to be read, which they requested might be done.

“The Treaty was then read in English by Mr. Sutherland, Deputy Secretary to Government and afterwards in Cingalese by Modeliar of His Excellency's gate, Abraham De Sarani. This important document was listened to with profound and respectful attention by the Chiefs; and it was pleasing to observe in their looks a marked expression of cordial assent, which was immediately declared with great earnestness.

“His Excellency's part of their conference was communicated to Mr. D'Oyley and by him to Molligodde Adigar, who declared it aloud to the audience. A chief of venerable and commanding aspect was the organ of the assembly, whose person and countenance was equally striking. His figure, the tallest present, was erect and portly; a high and prominent forehead, a full eye, and a strong expression of natural vivacity, tempered with the gravity of advance age, marked by a long, full, and graceful white beard; and the whole, combined with his rich state dress, formed a subject for a portrait truly worthy of an able hand. His name was Millaawa, Dissave of Godapola. He was a great favourite of the King, and remained with him till a late period. This Chief collected the sentiments of the assembly generally in silence, but with occasional explanations, and delivered them to the Adigar with the concurrence of the rest.

“Ehelepola, though not ostensibly engaged in the conference, took a marked interest in every part of it. His carriage was distinguished by a courtly address, politeness, grace, and ease; and he was evidently regarded by the assembled Chiefs with a high degree of deference and respect.

“After the Treaty was read in Cingalese, the Adigar Molligoda, and the other Chiefs proceeded to the great hall where the Mohottales, Coraals, Vidaanes, and other subordinate headmen from the different Provinces were attending, with a great concourse of the inhabitants; and the headmen being called on by the Adigar to range themselves in order according to their respective districts, the Treaty was again read by the Modeliar in Cingalese; at the conclusion of which the British Flag was hoisted for the first time and a Royal Salute from the cannon of the city announced His Majesty George the Third Sovereign of the whole Island of Ceylon.”

“Dated Kandy, 3rd March, 1815.”



## THE KANDYAN TREATY OF 2<sup>nd</sup> MARCH, 1815.

The text of the Treaty ran as follows:—

“At a Convention held on the Second day of March, in the year of Christ 1815, and the Cingalese year 1736, at the Palace in the city of Kandy, between His Excellency Lieut.-General Robert Brownrigg, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the British Settlements and Territories in the Island of Ceylon, acting in the name and on behalf of His Majesty George the Third, King, and His Royal Highness George, Prince of Wales, Regent of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, *on the one part*, and the Adigars, Dissaves, and other principal Chiefs of the Kandyan provinces on behalf of the inhabitants, and in presence of the Mohottales, Coraals, Vidaanes, and other subordinate headmen from the several provinces, and of the people then and there assembled *on the other part*, it is agreed and established as follows:—

I.—That the cruelties and oppressions of the Malabar ruler, in the arbitrary and unjust infliction of bodily tortures and the pains of death without trial, and sometimes without an accusation or the possibility of a crime, and in the general contempt and contravention of all civil rights, have become flagrant, enormous, and intolerable, the acts and maxims of his government being equally and entirely devoid of that justice which should secure the safety of his subjects, and of that good faith which might obtain a beneficial intercourse with the neighbouring settlements.

II.—That the Rajah Sri Wickreme Rajah Sinha, by the habitual violation of the chief and most sacred duties of a Sovereign, has forfeited all claims to that title or the powers annexed to the same, and is declared fallen and deposed from

the office of king! his family and relatives, whether in the ascending, descending, or collateral line, and whether by affinity or blood, are also for ever excluded from the throne, and all claim and title of the Malabar race to the dominion of the Kandyan provinces is abolished and extinguished.

III.—That all male persons being or pretending to be relations of the late Rajah Sri Wickreme Raja Sinha, either by affinity or blood, and whether in the ascending, descending, or collateral line, are hereby declared enemies to the government of the Kandyan provinces, and excluded and prohibited from entering those provinces on any pretence whatever, without a written permission for that purpose by the authority of the British Government, under the pains and penalties of martial law, which his hereby declared to be in force for that purpose ; and all male persons of the Malabar caste now expelled from the said provinces are, under the same penalties prohibited from returning, except with the permission before mentioned.

IV.—The dominion of the Kandyan provinces is vested in the Sovereign of the British Empire, and to be exercised through the Governors or Lieutenant-Governors of Ceylon for the time being, and their accredited Agents, saving to the Adigars, Dissaves, Mohottales, Coraals, Vidaanes, and all other chiefs and subordinate native headmen, lawfully appointed by authority of the British Government, the rights, privileges, and powers of their respective offices, and to all classes of the people the safety of their persons and property, with their civil rights and immunities, according to the laws, institutions, and customs established and in force amongst them.

V.—The religion of Boodhoo as professed by the chiefs and inhabitants of these provinces, is declared inviolable, and its rites, ministers, and places of worship are to be maintained and protected.

VI.—Every species of bodily torture, and all mutilation of limb, member, or organ, are prohibited and abolished.

VII.—No sentence of death can be carried into execution against any inhabitant except by the written warrant of the British Governor or Lieutenant-Governor for the time being, founded on a report of the case made to him through the accredited Agent or Agents of the Government resident in the interior, in whose presence all trials for capital offences are to take place.

VIII.—Subject to these conditions, the administration of civil and criminal justice and police over the Kandyan inhabitants of the said provinces is to be exercised according to established forms, and by the ordinary authorities, saving always the inherent right of Government to redress grievances, and reform abuses in all instances whatever particular or general where such interposition shall become necessary.

IX.—Over all other persons civil or military residing in or resorting to these provinces, not being Kandyan, civil and criminal justice together with police shall until the pleasure of His Majesty's Government in England may be otherwise declared, be administered in the manner following:—

X.—Provided always that the operation of the several preceding clauses should not be contravened by the provisions of any temporary or partial proclamation published during the advance of the army; which provisions, in so far as incompatible with the said preceding articles are hereby repealed.

XI.—The royal dues and revenues of the Kandyan provinces are to be managed and collected for His Majesty's use and the support of the provincial establishment, according to lawful custom, and under the direction and superintendence of the accredited Agent or Agents of the British Government.

XII.—His Excellency the Governor will adopt provisionally, and recommend to the confirmation of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, such dispositions in favour of the trade of these provinces as may facilitate the export of their products, and improve the returns, whether in money or in salt, cloths, or other commodities useful and desirable to the inhabitants of the Kandyan country.

The signatories to the Convention were:—

**Sir Robert Brownrigg**  
**James Sutherland**  
**J. D'Oyley**

**Ehelepola Adigar**  
**Pilame Talawwe 2nd Adigar**  
**Pilame Talawwe Dissawe**  
**Ratwatte Dissawa**  
**Molligoda Dissawa**  
**Dullewe Dissawa**  
**Millewe Dissawa**  
**Galagama Dissawa**  
**Galagoda Dissawa**



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