

Sinhalese Ola Collection

2010-023

Finding aid prepared by Karen Lea Anderson Peterson and Ian Terrell

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

July 20, 2011

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives
2010-10-27
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Summary Information

Repository	Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives
Title	Sinhalese Ola Collection
Date [inclusive]	1570-1820
Extent	1.0 Linear feet
Condition	Items are fragile.
Language	Sinhalese
Realia [Box]	1
Container	

Scope and Content

The collection consists of three Sinhalese olas or book manuscripts, and accompanying description cards.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives 2010-10-27

Revision Description

2011-5-18

Restrictions on Access

The collection is open to the public. No special equipment is needed to access the materials.

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Custodial History

McGill University staff, Pamela Miller and Dr. Richard Virr, Head and Curator of Manuscripts, Rare Books and Special Collections responded to an inquiry regarding the origin of the olas: "Dr. Casey Wood collected hundreds of olas during his travels in the 1920s in South Asia. He was, of course primarily interested in medical texts but he also acquired many other texts as well. Dr. Casey was a generous donor to McGill and many if not most of his collection of olas is held here, however, he gave examples (usually three) of medical olas to many of the medical libraries in North America. Your example would be the result of this distribution. As far as I know, there is no list of the institutions / libraries that received olas from Dr. Wood, this would be an interesting project. A definitive study of Dr. Wood and his collecting is a subject that awaits its scholar." Probably the the property of a Ceylon "Verdala" or native doctor.

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- handwritten
- leaf, palm

Personal Name(s)

- Weeks, John E., M.D.
- Wood, Casey Albert, M.D., LL.D.

Subject(s)

- traditional medicine
-

Preferred Citation

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives: Sinhalese Ola Collection

Collection Inventory

"The Preparation of Pills and Other Drugs" (ca. 1570)

"The Yogasatakaya" is a collection of notes on malaria, typhoid, pneumonia, etc. and prescriptions for their treatment. 1820

"Yaksha Raja Thilay" or "King Devil Oil" (no date) contains a recipe for the oil, and instructions for administration, including chants.