

Katharagama Esala festival of Sri Lanka.



This Age-old tradition of Esala festival is still celebrated with great enthusiasm for fifteen days. The traditional belief is that the festival celebrates the joy of marriage between God Katharagama and his bride Walli Amma. The Esala festival is celebrated in area such as Katharagama, Kandy and Devinuwara. In Sri Lanka month of July is also called as Esala and month is dedicated to deities. The Maha Devale of Katharagama organizes three main procession s called Bak Maha Perahera, Esala Perahera and Il Maha Perahera. The peacock dance became known as Kavadi Attam, which is performed during the procession is honour of God Katharagama. This dance has become the essential part of the rituals. The peacock dance, Kavadi dance carrying the images of the Gods in processions which are highlight of the Katharagama Esala celebrations. As the time passed the pilgrims have made a habit to decorate the sticks with peacock feathers.