

CHIEF OF THE BARDS: KING VIJAYABAHU

After King Mugalan

After King Mugalan died, a succession of kings ruled Sri Lanka, starting with his own son, Kumaradasa. There was a lot of unrest in the country after his death, which lasted for a few hundred years. The unrest was settled at times by a few kings, namely Agbo I and Agbo IV, but for the most part the situation in the island was unfavourable.

Vijayabahu I

Sri Lanka was finally brought to a stable position by King Vijayabahu I. He made Polannaruwa the capital city (until then, Anuradhapura had been favoured as the capital of the island) and took measures to protect it.

Vijayabahu I built several tanks in an effort to improve agriculture. Many viharas and Buddhist schools were also built during his time. This period in time showed great advances in literature, the king himself being a great poet and being called the "Chief of the bards".