1-21-6-705, Takanodai, Nerima-ku,

 Tokyo, 177-0033, Japan

 Tel/Fax: +81-3-3996-8140

 Email: sarers-1@jcom.home.ne.jp

 20, June, 2023

To: Prof. Anura Manatunga,

Director General of Archeology

Department of Archaeology

Sir Marcus Fernando Mawatha,

Colombo 7, Sri Lanka

Dear Sir

 To begin with this letter let me first introduce our organization. The NPO South Asian Ruins Exploration and Research Society (SARERS), Tokyo Japan, has been established in 2008. The main purpose of this society is to study unexplored or unresearched ancient ruins in South Asia, and also to protect those ancient monuments.

 The proposed expedition is in fact the sixth in a series of visits to Sri Lanka by NPO-SARERS team, carrying out field studies of ancient ruins in the jungle areas. The first expedition was dispatched in 2009, the second in2010, the third in 2011, the forth in 2013, the fifth in 2016,and sixth in 2018.

In addition, we have seven times researches of ruins in Sri Lanka with the cooperation of your Department, from 1973 to 2003, as Hosei University’s expedition team before than that.

 Reports on discoveries and activities of these expeditions have been published here in Japan and well-received, especially among the scholars specializing in the field of South Asian studies.

The main purpose of this year’s proposed expedition is to dispatch the joint exploration team with your Department and to carry out joint survey in the unexplored ancient ruins in Tirikonamadu Nature Reserve. As far as our knowledge goes, no serious archaeological research activities have ever been done in this area.

 We strongly wish to organize the above mentioned exploration team. We are ready to take part in a joint expedition team for the purpose of exploring the area within the Trikonamadu Nature Reserve (research area: see Guide Map) during ten days starting on 7 until 16, August this year. We regret that we could not get support from any fund, so we will be on our own expenses.

 With the above, we would like to organize joint research team with your Department, and carry out archaeological activities. If you are kind enough to provide us an official certification letter，it is highly appreciated.

 Enclosed here is an outline of the proposed expedition. We ask your consideration for our request and are very much looking forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

 Respectfully Yours,

 Masahito SAKAI (Director General)

**The Prospectus for the Exploration to Sri Lanka 2018**

 By NPO South Asian Ruins Exploration and Research Society

**1. Purpose**

 Joint research on unexplored ruins in Tirikonamadu Nature Reserve

**2. Itinerary**

**Period**:

 7 August to 16 August, 2023

**Area of Exploration**

 Tirikonamadu Nature Reserve Kompanachchi (Mahaweli River Basin)

**Schedule:**

 4. Aug. Depart, Colombo for Galge via Buduruwagala by chartered bus

 7. Aug. Joint research on Yala National Park (to 24 Aug.)

19. Aug. Complete the exploration; departure for Colombo

　　　　　　（＊If the research ends soon, the schedule will be faster）

**3. Expedition Members**

1) Masahito SAKAI (Team Leader)

2) Yayoi MATSUYAMA (Team Sub-Leader)

3) Shinya SUZUKI

4) Atsushi SAKAGUCHI

5) Keiichiro SUGANUMA

6) Koichiro MAEKAWA

7) Ryohei BAMBA

8) Fuga YAMAGUCHI

9) Rino TOMIZAWA

10) Daiki KATSUMATA

 11) Takahito YUKIMURA

12) Shotaro YAMAZAKI

13) Kyoichiro KOBAYASHI

14) Jotaro SOTOKAWA

15) Ayane KATAYAMA

16) Daiki TAKIKAWA （Reporter）

**4. Headquarters’ of Expedition team**

 NPO South Asian Ruins Exploration and Research Society (SARERS)

 1-21-6-705, Takanodai, Nerima-ku, Tokyo, 176-0021, Japan

 Home page: http://npo-sarers.org/

**BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON EXPEDITION MEMBERS**

**１）Masahito SAKAI**　(Mr.)

Date of Birth: 22th November 1956

Occupation: Director, Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Busou

Exploration Experience:

1976 Expedition to Eurasia and Africa

1985 Expedition to Sri Lanka to study archaeological ruins in the jungle area

1993 Expedition to Sri Lanka to study archaeological ruins in the jungle area

2016 Expedition to Sri Lanka to study archaeological ruins in the jungle area

**２）Yayoi MATSUYAMA** (Miss.)

Date of Birth: 13th March 1972

Occupation: Former Teacher of Elementary School, Chigasaki-shi；Master of Education

Personal History and Exploration Experience:

1997~99 Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers in Sri Lanka, Japanese language teacher

2001~02 NGO volunteer work in Sri Lanka, Vajira Sri Rehabilitation Children’s Home

2009 Expedition to Sri Lanka to study archaeological ruins in the jungle area

2010 Expedition to Sri Lanka to study archaeological ruins in the jungle area

 2016 Expedition to Sri Lanka to study archaeological ruins in the jungle area
 2018 Expedition to Sri Lanka to study archaeological ruins in the jungle area

**３）Shinya SUZUKI** (Mr.)

Date of Birth: 22th April 1983

Occupation: Assistant　Professor (General Subjects), National Institute of Technology, Tokyo College； Master of Arts

Personal History and Exploration Experience:

2003～2007　The Excavation at Kaman-Kalehöyük in Turkey

2003～2012　Expedition to Turkey to study archaeological ruins in Central Anatolia

 2018 Expedition to Sri Lanka to study archaeological ruins in the jungle area

 2022 Three-dimensional measurement survey of ancient hydraulic facilities

４）**Atsushi SAKAGUCHI**(Mr.)

Date of Birth: 14th March 1974

Occupation: Management of the exploration bar "bar Morrlü"

Exploration Experience:

1996　bonze Xuanzang Route Western Area Traversing Expedition Sub Leader (1996).

５）**Keiichiro SUGANUMA** (Mr.)

Date of Birth: 4th August 1990

Occupation: Book editor,TAKESHOBO Co., Ltd.

Exploration Experience:

2010 Expedition to Sri Lanka to study archaeological ruins in the jungle area

2011 Expedition to Sri Lanka to study archaeological ruins in the jungle area Team Leader

**６）Koichiro MAEKAWA** (Mr.)

Date of Birth: 8th May 1996

Occupation:Work for Digitalpark Corporation

Exploration Experience:

・Surveying of Minami-Izu Tunnel Site.

・Mt.Tsurugidake in the Northern Alps.

・Mt. Yarigatake in the Northern Alps.

**７）Ryohei BAMBA**  (Mr.)

Date of Birth: 15th April 1996

Occupation: 3rd year student, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Waseda University

Exploration Experience:

・Serch of yamapicarya-cat in Iriomote island

・Exploring of underground HQ of Imperial Japanese Navy in Izu-Niizima island

**８）Fuga YAMAGUCHI** (Mr.)

Date of Birth: 16th January 2001

Occupation: 4th year student, Department of Arts and Letters, Meiji University

Exploration Experience:

・Traversed the Tateyama mountain range and the Simono-corridor Trail in the Northern Alps.

・Exploration of sulfur mine remains in Tsumagoi Village, Gunma Prefecture.

**９）Rino TOMIZAWA** (Miss.)

Date of Birth: 3th October 2002

Occupation: 3rd year student, Faculty of Lifelong Learning and Career Studies, Hosei University

Exploration Experience:

・Akagisawa stream climbing

・Mt.Tengu in yatsugatake in the snow season

10）**Daiki KATSUMATA**(Mr.)

Date of Birth:28th November 2000

Occupation:3rd year student, Faculty of Letter,Keio University

Exploration Experience:

・Hitch-hiking between Tokyo and Osaka

・Ecological survey of invasive alien species in the Kasumigaura water system

11）**Ryuto** **YUKIMURA**(Mr.)
Date of Birth: 21th September 2002
Occupation: 3rd year student, Department of Law, Hosei University
Exploration Experience
・Yakushima Historical Site Survey
・Kurobe River Trekking

12）**Shotaro YAMAZAKI** (Mr.)

Date of Birth: 26th December 2002

Occupation: 3rd year student, Department of Geography Hosei University

Exploration Experience:

・Ise Jingu Shrine on foot from Tokyo

・Akaishi Mountain Range Traverse

13）**Kyoichiro KOBAYASHI**(Mr.)

Date of Birth:18th August 2003

Occupation: 2ed year student, College of Arts, Rikkyo University

Exploration Experience

・Investigation of the Pacific War ruins in south Chiba prefecture

・Unpopulated island survival

14）**Jotaro SOTOKAWA** (Mr.)

Date of Birth:  2003/6/29

Occupation: 2nd year student, Department of social safety , Kansai University

Exploration Experience:

・Yakushima Miyauradake mountain climbing and environmental survey

15）**Ayane KATAYAMA** (Miss.)

Date of Birth: 30th April 2003

Occupation: 2nd year student, Department of Culture,Media and Society ,Waseda University

Exploration Experience:

・Caving on "osawa's bear cave" and "paper lantern hole", survey of old crossing road on Iriomote island

16）**Daiki TAKIKAWA** (Mr.)

Date of Birth:  7th March 1991

Occupation: Photographer (The Mainichi Newspapers Co., Ltd.)

Exploration Experience:

2010 Expedition to Sri Lanka to study archaeological ruins in the jungle area

2012 Expedition to Venezuela to study lore about great monkey in the jungle area

2015 Expedition to Venezuela to study lore about great monkey in the jungle area

**Map of Research area**

**(Trikonamadu Nature Reserve)**

