

Trip to Sri Lanka  
Thursday March 17, 2016  
Day Seven



This morning I was up at 5:45 am. I got up, showered and got more of my stuff organized for the trip home tonight. Dan was up and joined me by 6:30 am and we had breakfast around 7 am. This has been a nice little routine for the mornings. At 9 am Dan went to settle up accounts with sister Hilda and at 10 am we headed out for some sightseeing and shopping.

Dan's main purpose for being here this time is to meet

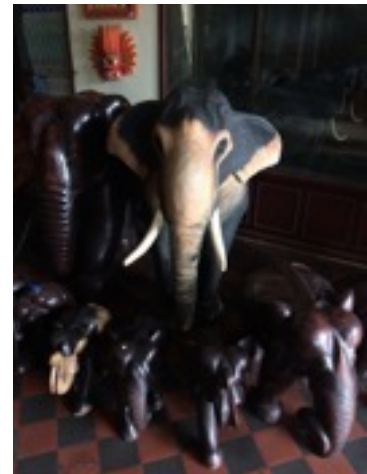
with the board over some issues, but that has meant that I have been mainly in the North of Colombo only. So we had our three-wheeler driver go South — downtown if you will. Actually, it did remind me more of a downtown feel to it. Sister Hilda had instructed our driver to take us to souvenir type shops.



The first shop we went into was Zuzi's. Clearly this was a chain, but it was a bit of a shock to the senses after being with 'real' people for the week. Walking into the store was like a cross between Aeropostale and Hello Kitty. The staff were all stuffed into tight fitting, low rise jeans and pink shirts. Pop music on the speakers and a variety of traditional and boutique products.

We had a look through the various floors for items which might be suitable, but in the end we decided to look elsewhere for gifts. It's always risky buying clothes for

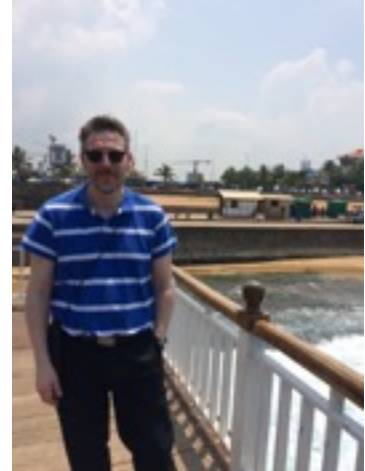
someone else, especially when there is a riot of colours involved. In the end I just didn't want any of the girls to feel disappointed.



So, we jumped back into our cab (who waited for us) and kept going. Once we got to the banking district it was like entering a different place. The buildings were the traditional colonial type; big and sturdy. We came to an official souvenir shop and I was able to find some small gifts for everyone on my list. I also got a cool mug for myself.



Following the shopping we headed to the face of Gaul. This looked to be a tourist site. There were big, beautiful hotels that you might see Bill Gates coming out of and more white people than I have seen in a week! The beach was quite lovely. Dan and I walked down toward the water, grabbed a Sprite to share and walked to the end of the pier — it was very romantic!



The date was short as the sun was hot, so we grabbed me an ice-cream bar and went back to the cab. The ride back felt kind of like a farewell tour of this place which I have come to like very much. Once back we cooled off, grabbed some water and had lunch. Now we'll get packed up and get ready to head out at 7 pm for the airport.

