The Road to the Stone Chamber
Sage Mahinda met King Tissa, the beloved of the gods, on the peak of the mountain at Mihintale. The king listened to the sermons delivered by the Sage and became a Buddhist. Thousands of men and women also embraced Buddhism.
This happened about three hundred years before the birth of Christ. Some became monks and lived in caves in deep meditation.

Some monks who lived in the caves and meditated became *arahants*. They went from village to village delivering the message of the Buddha for the good of the many.
In a temple at Wattārama near Dēwālegama off Polgahawela lived an arahant by the name of Maliyadēwa.

He went from village to village advising rural folk on how to lead a good life.