



## **Paleo-tsunamis in Sri Lanka and in the Maldives**

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After the terrible December 26, 2004, mega-tsunami event in the Indian Ocean much attention has been attracted to tsunami events. In connection with extensive sea level studies in the Maldives and a short visit to Sri Lanka, a number of paleo-tsunami events have been recorded. In Sri Lanka we have field evidence of a paleoseismic event dated at about AD 200-400. A legend from the same time, talks about a disaster and a huge wave from the sea, sounding like a tsunami. In the Maldives, we have records of one pre-2004, modern event, and past events dated at 1733 (multiple evidence plus historical record), around AD 1550, around AD 1215, and around 4350 BC. The Maldives offer excellent possibilities for the establishment of long-term Indian Ocean Tsunami Chronology (IOTC), which seems urgently needed for meaningful tsunami hazards assessment.

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