



Ceylon Cinnamon's recorded history dates as far back as 200 BC in Egypt. The writings suggest that Cinnamon was at that time used for consumption, medicine, offering to gods and in the mummification process by Egyptians. It was highly priced and only used by pharaohs and aristocrats. Around 600BC it also reached the Israelites and subsequently to the Greeks and Medieval Europeans. However the source of this magical spice remained unknown to most of these cultures even by this point.

As a result, fantastical tales spread about its origins about Ceylon Cinnamon which was also recorded by popular authors like Aristotle. One such story says of getting cinnamon from a nest of a mystical giant birds known as the Cinnamologus that lived in high tree tops. The whole point was to zealously guard the valuable monopoly by the Arabian traders.

It was the Portuguese sailor who finally discovered the secret source of cinnamon in the world when they landed in Sri Lanka, also known as Ceylon, in year 1518. Ceylon Cinnamon also was called "True Cinnamon" for the reason that there was a cinnamon substitute from east Asia known as Cassia.

Later the Portuguese monopoly is broken by the Dutch after they invaded to chase the Portuguese and create their own monopoly. Again, the domination of the Dutch ended after they lost wars against the British who then colonised Ceylon and made the best out of it with cashing on crops such as tea, coffee and other valuable spices.

After the independence from the British, the cinnamon trade finally went back to the natives of Sri Lanka, rightful owners of the crop.

*Sri Lanka (Ceylon)*