



## An Investigative Study of Historical Information Revealed by Epigraphically Sources on the Protection of Human Rights in Ancient Sri Lanka.

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### Abstract

For any state to evolve forward with a vision of sustainable development, the freedom of man and even animals must be secured. In a society without freedom, new ideas, thoughts, social development processes, etc. cannot be seen. It seems that when people lose their freedom, their contribution to the state and society gradually decreases. That is, in order for people to freely contribute to society, their freedom must be established. Thus, when freedom is secured, their rights are also secured, so they get the opportunity to live a good and fair life in accordance with the law. Accordingly, it seems that the past rulers have made efforts to secure the freedom of humans as well as animals as much as possible. That is evident in the factor of human rights protection revealed through the source of inscriptions. What historical information is revealed through the epigraphic source about the protection of human rights in ancient Sri Lanka? The main problem of this research is to investigate. Identifying human rights, securing human rights and studying the information revealed through documentary sources about securing human rights can be stated as the basic objectives of this research. The research method used here was the qualitative data collection research method. Also, the secondary source was studied and this research was done under the theoretical method by using books, newspapers, magazines and libraries. Preservation of previous customs can be identified as an important provision taken for the protection of the human rights of the old Sri Lankan man. The later ruler did not have any right to break the customs and traditions socialized by the rulers before his reign. He was able to implement his state policy while respecting the previous customs. This is confirmed by the inscription of King Kasub V belonging to the Anuradhapura period. Also, the rights of the individual to live in the society and the rights of animals to live through the cane tablet letter and the *Kaludiya Pokuna* inscription, the rights to escape from violence and arbitrary imprisonment, detention, punishment and subjection to penal laws affecting the past and individual universal justice. Through this research analysis, it was revealed that a lot of information about Badulu Tam's letter and the method of securing children's rights and property rights are revealed through many old epigraphic sources. Thus, in the analysis of data in this research, it can be finally concluded that much information about many human rights declared by various constitutions in modern times was secured by the past rulers using historical sources.

**Keywords:** Human Rights, Sources of Desire, epigraphic sources, Child Rights, Property Rights.

