



An Empirical Study of the Contribution of Anuradhapura Abhayagiri Museum in Educational Information Compilation.

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Abstract

The golden period of the Anuradhapura period, which marks a unique juncture in the history of Sri Lankan Buddhism, can be identified as the period belonging to the Abhayagiri Vihara. Abhayagiri Vihara became a center of the Buddhist education system in ancient times. Accordingly, the form of the Buddhist education system that existed in the Sri Lankan society at that time can be identified through the Abhayagiri Museum. What is the contribution of the Anuradhapura Abhayagiri Museum to the Buddhist education information collection? The research problem here is to investigate whether. The purpose of the research was to study the contribution made by the Anuradhapura Abhayagiri Museum in the compilation of Buddhist education information. The participant observation method and interview method were used under the qualitative data collection method to collect the data related to the research. Also, the secondary source was studied and this research was done by analyzing the data under practical method and theoretical methods by using books, newspapers, magazines, and libraries. Compilation of information for educational needs can be pointed out as one of the main functions of a museum. Accordingly, a lot of important information could be identified about the nature of the Buddhist education corporation that existed in contemporary society. Through this field research, we found a lot of information that cannot be seen in any other museum in Sri Lanka, including the history of Sri Lankan Buddhist paintings, the history of primitive cave paintings, the technology of constructing ancient Buddhist buildings in Sri Lanka, the technology of constructing Padhanagarh and Pabbata Viharas, the technology of constructing Buddhist stupas, and the Buddhist architecture of ancient Sri Lanka. Anuradhapura Abhayagiri Museum also revealed a lot of rare information about many Buddhist-inspired works of art including architecture. It was also revealed that the inspiration of Buddhist education has been received in the construction of all these creations. Thus, in the analysis of the data in this research, it can be finally concluded that the Abhayagiri Museum makes a unique contribution to the work of collecting information for Buddhist education that is not done by other museums in Sri Lanka.

Keywords: Abhayagiri Temple, Compilation of Information, Buddhist Education, Painting, Padhanagarh

