



## A study on how to interpret the cultural information of the kings reflected in the book Mahavamsaya(1)

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Among the chronicles created in Sri Lanka, the Mahavamsaya, a famous genealogy, was written by Mahanama, who lived in the Anuradhapura period under DiksandhaSeneviaPirivena. Consisting of 37 chapters, it contains information about 54 kings from King Vijaya to King Mahasen. From the invasion of Vijaya to the period of King Mahasen, the activities of the kings, cultural information commentary is seen. It is an evident effect that the cultural information of each king is not properly explained through the book. The main objective of this study is to analyze the cultural information of the kings reflected in the Mahavamsaya (1). The sub-objectives of this study are to study the similarity of the discourse on the cultural information of the kings to the information of other sources and that the interpretation of that cultural information can be practically studied. Mahavamsaya(1), Vansattapakasiniya, is confirmed by the information contained in Deepavamsaya. The question that the researcher was interested in is whether the truth and reliable information about the cultural information of the kings from the Mahavamsa is recorded. Qualitative research methodology has been used for this purpose. Fifty people have been contacted for this purpose under purposive sampling. As the primary source, structured questionnaire and five interviews were used through the history departments of Peradeniya and Kelaniya universities. The fact that 11 out of the 37 chapters of the Mahavamsa have been reserved for Dutugemunu Raja Varnan in the Mahavamsa is a break in the balance of the work. It has been mentioned that King Mahasen, who performed excellent service like King Dutugemunu for the development of ...*The king collected his sins as well as his merits*. It can be widely recognized in the commentary on cultural information that only half a chapter has been reserved for King Kavantissa, who dedicated himself to the development of King Dutugemunu's reign and the activities of the Buddha Order. It can be recognized among the study results and findings that in the investigation of the information about King Valagamba, who faced many difficulties in Lakdiva, there is a limited level of cultural information analysis in the Mahavamsa through sourced information such as Vansattapakasiniya and other works, inscriptions and reports of the Department of Archaeology. It can be concluded that the Mahavamsa author has reserved more space in the work for the kings who did many services to the Mahavamsa, and less space for praising other kings who performed great services.

**Keywords:** Mahavamsaya(1), Vansattapakasiniya, Cultural Information, Mahanama Thero, Credible

