

INVESTIGATION ON THE GOD STORIES AND MYTHS OF SRI LANKAN SOCIETY DURING THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD (BY LITERARY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOURCES)

SWSG. Wijerathna¹, PWPH. Samaranayaka²

In the study of the history of Sri Lanka, the period of the Polonnaruwa Kingdom and its surrounding period or 12th 13th A.D. centuries and its surrounding period is generally considered the medieval period. In the investigation about the social condition of this period, there is the possibility of revealing information through the literary source and archeological source. A significant number of different beliefs and faiths that took root in the society of Sri Lanka during the medieval period can be identified in common. What were the God stories and myths of Sri Lankan society during the medieval period? Is the problem of this research. The aims are also to in this research, the investigation into how the ideas of God stories and myths have existed since the past, the manner in which superstitions and deities were rooted in the society of Sri Lanka during the medieval period and how form they implemented of practice on those God stories and myths, and impact on the society during later societies medieval period. The non-field method was used this research and according to the qualitative research method, the library research method was used to collect data by using primary and secondary sources, analyze the data and draw conclusions. When investigating Sri Lankan society during the medieval period, it is highlighted that mainly Buddhism and related rituals, sacrifices, etc. were rooted in the society and in addition, the concept of superstitions and deities, although not as much as Buddhism, was also highlighted. Evil eye and Evil mouth, Dream Fruit, Astrology, and Kalpa Vriksha Belief It can be recognized how various beliefs such as Hell and Heaven, as well as Shakra, Vishnu, and Shiva, Saraswati, Ananga, Vishwakarma, Surya, Chandra, Rahu, Jupiter, Earthly Woman, Asuras, and Yama, were rooted in society. Especially due to the impacts of Hinduism in the society of this country, it is clearly recognized that various ideas, beliefs and practices are formed in the society of this country and how these impacts later societies in a direct and indirect way.

Keywords: Medieval period, Myths, God stories, Society, Impacts

¹ *Postgraduate Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Peradeniya. gayand02i83@gmail.com*

² *Postgraduate Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Peradeniya.*