

INTEGRATING LESSONS FROM ANCIENT SRI LANKAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INTO CONTEMPORARY SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES (A HISTORICAL STUDY BASED ON INSCRIPTIONS FROM THE ANURADHAPURA PERIOD)

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The main objective of sustainable development is to continue current development processes, conserving resources for future generation's necessities. To accomplish 17 development objectives socially, economically, and environmentally, a three dimensional process plan has been included in the 2030 sustainable development plan. When achieve sustainable development in all disciplines must pay attention to the development of attitudes, the application of technology, social justice, eco-friendly resource consumption. The objective of this research was the identification of ancient sustainable development and the importance of applying it to modern sustainable development. The research method utilized during the survey is qualitative research and the information obtained via inscriptions in the Anuradhapura period has been analyzed using the historical comparative method of study. During this research, it has been identified that knowledge for development is already in the ancient Sri Lankan knowledge system. It has been identified that a qualitative education system which is a pre-necessity for sustainable development existed here, according to the Mihintala inscription. As well main sociological concepts such as social stratification, social organization, protection of human rights, and peace and security has revealed according to the Kondawattawan and Wewalketiya inscriptions. And concepts of food security, environment, and water resource management have been identified through the Anuradhapura slab inscription, the Wessagiriya inscription, and the Badulla pillar inscription. In conclusion, ancient Sri Lankan sustainable development concepts have effectively affected and aided modern sustainable development concepts.

Keywords: Ancient Knowledge, Anuradhapura period, Epigraphy, Sustainable development

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