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THE DEVELOPMENT PATTERN
OF
BUDDHIST MONASTIC RESIDENCES IN SRI LANKA



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A B S T R A C T

The development pattern of the Monastic Residences in Sri Lanka denotes the layouts, Architecture and the activities of the monastery.

The First Chapter of this book gives an introduction to previous research works and finally links my interpretation of the term 'Saṅghārāma', which is a monastic residence. The development from eremitical to cenobitical life is explained.

The Second Chapter deals with the historical significance of Anurādhapura. The political as well as the religious importance is dealt with.

The Third Chapter deals with the development of various types of monasteries. The gradual development of Caves, non-Systematic types and systematic types as well as Padhānaghāra Monasteries are dealt with.

The Fourth Chapter is limited to various types of residences as Ārāma, Āvāsa, Kuti, Vihāra, Pāsāda and Parivena. The Service buildings such as Bhattasālā, Arogyasālā, Pokkharani, Jantāghara and Vaccakuti are dealt with, with special emphasis on Architecture and Utility.

The Fifth Chapter deals with the activities of the Monastery. The various functions of the monks are discussed and furthermore, how the Monastery became an economic centre is also dealt with.

The Conclusion gives a picture of inter-relation between the residential developments and activities of the monastery.

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