



CHARACTERISTICS OF MULTICULTURAL NATURE THROUGH THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH OF THE JETAVANARAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE IN ANURADHAPURA, SRI LANKA

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The Jetavanarama is located in the world heritage city of Anuradhapura consisting of the gigantic stupa and the Buddhist Vihara complex and was constructed by King Mahasena (274-301AD). At present, Jetavanarama site is vital for many multidisciplinary archaeological investigations. The Jetavanarama history goes back to the Mesolithic period, according to the scientific research excavations and explorations carrying out after 2000 AD, which reveals the details for the Jetavana and Pre-Jetavana Periods.

The Buddhist temple was built at the end of the century 4th century AD with reference to the historical and literary; and archaeological sources. Cultural factors relating to the prehistory, protohistory and early history are represented by the pre-Jetavana period. Further, various multicultural evidence included the Pre-Jetavana era. It is not only Buddhism, but other religious and philosophical evidence also have been revealed from the literary and archaeological sources.

Evidently, many factors could be identified concerning Jainism and Hinduism in the pre-Jetavana period, before constructing the Buddhist temple complex. During the Jetavana and post-Jetavana periods, the Theravada and Mahayana Buddhist features have been emerged in relation to the archaeological and scientific research.

The scientific subjects like archaeo-zoology, archaeo-botany, palynology, sedimentology, geochemistry, including geographical information systems and remote sensing application were applied for the multidisciplinary research, that reveals the ancient cultural landscape and the multicultural nature of the Jetavanarama site.

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