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## CO-ANOMALIES AMONG ANCIENT SRI LANKAN AND AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL CEREMONIES

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### ABSTRACT

The foundation of economy of hydro-based civilization was agriculture. Both the ancient Sri Lankan society and African society belonged to that. The main cultivation of the Sinhalese was paddy and that of tribal people was yam cultivation. Agriculture was the main economic as well as the basic food supply for both the parties. The pleasure gained by a flourished harvest was a sensitive emotion for both Sinhala farmer and tribal farmer. After harvesting, offering the first portion to the Lord Buddha and the other gods was the Sri Lankan tradition. That is why the people are conducting the Aluth Sahal ceremony. In the tribal society also they offer a portion of their harvest to the gods before consuming those. It was known as the 'New Yam Ceremony'. They conducted this ceremony to show their respect and loyalty to the goddess 'Ani'. There are a lot of similarities among these two parties in worshiping the gods and as well as the customs practiced before conducting this ceremony. The tribal people fulfilled their purposes on both the economic and religious sections by conducting the New Yam Ceremony. However, in Aluth Sahal ceremony it does not happen this way. Now, it is revealed that though the ancient Sri Lankan community and African tribal people belonged to two continents, to two countries and to two cultures, there are similarities as well as dissimilarities in agricultural purposes.

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