

A Study of Various Dynasties Associated with Sri Lankan Statehood (From the Beginning to the End of the Kandyan Kingdom)

S. W. S. G. Wijerathna¹ P. W. P. H. Samaranayaka²

Abstract

When we talk about the political history of Sri Lanka there is an important place given to the beginning and the evolution of the Kingship. Also another importance is given to different dynasties which are connected with the kingship. The Rulers who came to power in Sri Lanka after king Devanampiyatissa had hold different of these dynasties. By building up the tradition of acquiring the Kingship, these so called Kingship went forward under these dynasties. It is clear from the facts revealed in the Mahavamsa and inscriptions that the kingship was hereditary according to this system during the latter period of the Anuradhapura period. The purpose of this research is to inquire about the main dynasties that worked in connection with the government in this country from the early stages to the end of the Kandyan kingdom and how they worked to maintain relations with the government as well as the political, economic, social, religious and cultural effects of that activity. When conducting this research, qualitative research methodology, which is mainly used for sociological research, is used. The library research method is mainly used to collect data, before where more attention is paid to the research that has been done in this regard. While analyzing the data, the qualitative research methodology is followed and then the conclusions are drawn. Inquiring about the various dynasties related to Sri Lankan statehood, how the statehood began and evolved in this country and how a tradition of people from the same generation coming to power in connection with the statehood provides a context for this research. Also from the early stages of the Anuradhapura Kingdom, the lineages such as Maurya, Lambhakarna, Manavamma, Kalinga, Pandya, Dambadeni, Gampola, Raigama, Udarata and Nayakkar, who struggled to gain state power from the early stages of the Anuradhapura Kingdom, as well as the actions of those lineages in this country Political, economic, social, religious and cultural impacts are also studied. Through this research, it is possible to explain the activities of various dynasties related to the statehood of this country from the early stage to the last stage of the Kandyan kingdom and it can be identified that many political, economic, social, religious and cultural results of that activity were left in the history of this country.

Keywords: Kingship; King; Genealogy; Relationship; Effects

¹ *gayand02i83@gmail.com*

² *piyumisamaranayaka17@gmail.com*