

Foreign Influence of the Frescos in Sri Lankan Catholic Church Paintings

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The objective is to find out whether the Catholic churches in Sri Lanka have the foreign influence. In this research studied only important cases of particular Catholic paintings in Sri Lankan churches including wall paintings, ceiling paintings and stained glass.

Foreign Catholic Church art culture arose in Rome. After the legalization of the Catholic religion with the Milan's act Byzantine art culture was started by Romans Jewish and Alexandrians. These new painting techniques which were arisen in the revolution period in Europe came to Sri Lanka. At first that culture was not mixed with Sri Lankan art culture. Paintings which were in Modara St Jem's Church were the best example for that proceed. From this research we was able to categorize Catholic church paintings to five groups according to traditions and chronology.

This research illustrates that the revolution period after the Byzantine period are the excellent periods. During these times the masterpiece was longed. But that culture was unable to come to Sri Lanka. If we compare these two we can see downfall of the Sri Lankan Catholic art Culture. But Sri Lankan Catholic art culture was arose with the Sri Lankan culture. End of this research, identified that there are both foreign and local characteristics in Catholic paintings..

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