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M.A.THESIS IN LINGUISTICS

**USAGE OF ENGLISH LEXICAL  
BORROWINGS ON LEGAL DOCUMENTS  
WRITTEN IN SINHALA LANGUAGE**

**With Special Reference to Selected Legal  
Documents**

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## **Abstract**

Language Borrowing has got a prominent place in contemporary world since its influence in changing the structure of a particular language. In the process of Language Borrowing, Lexicon is the mostly affected aspect of a language. Therefore, Lexical Borrowing has become one of the most significant ways of acquiring new linguistic elements to a particular language in order to enrich the vocabulary related to that particular language.

When "Language Borrowing" and the field of "Translation" are taken into consideration it is noticeable that there is a great affinity between the two fields. Language Borrowing can be used in a translation to fill the voids in target language whenever there are not equivalent terms in target language to imply the given message of the source text. In this sense, Language Borrowing can be defined as a widely used word formation method that is highly productive in the field of Morphology.

This particular study attempts to analyse the usage of English Lexical Borrowings on legal documents written in Sinhala language. This research is conducted with special reference to Sinhala and English versions of selected legal documents such as Deeds, Acts and Ordinances. The data was collected through the method of observation and afterwards collected data was analysed quantitatively and qualitatively.

The results of this research reveal that the appearance of English Lexical Borrowings upon legal documents written in Sinhala language has become an unavoidable factor which has been greatly affected in changing the structure of Sinhala language.

**Keywords:** Language Borrowing, Lexical Borrowing, Lexicon, Translation, Morphology, Deeds, Acts, Ordinances