

## A Content Analysis of Poth Liyamane Anisaṃsa

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### Abstract

*Palm leaves manuscripts were the very famous printed material in the past of Ceylon and other many South Asian Countries. In Sri Lanka, a many of People used to write the knowledge which should be preserved for the future generations, on palm leaves manuscripts. So they have printed their knowledge which they had upon Buddha's Dhamma, literature and grammar of the languages called Sinhala, Pali and Sanskrit etc., Astrology, Ayurvedic Medicine, Esotericism and all valuable knowledge. Today, though we cannot available the full amount of palm leaf manuscripts which was produced by the past people we can use the preserved books among them. Many of books are stored in the libraries of several ancient Buddhist Temples in Sri Lanka. And Some are available at the British Library, London because that books were carried to the British in British Period of Sri Lanka. So, in this study a content analysis is done on a palm leaf manuscript called Poth Liyamane Anisaṃsa which is available at the library of the School of Oriental & African Studies (University of London). The study reveals the benefits of the writing Buddha's Dhamma Book while based on the content of Poth Liyamane Anisaṃsa.*

**Keywords:** *Palm leaf manuscripts, Chirography, Poth Liyamane Anisansa, Book writing*

### Introduction

With the arrival of Arahath Maha Mahinda Thera, Sri Lankans initiated the characteristics of a cavalier civilization of Sinhalese. They could enrich their knowledge by chirography. Sinhalese has preserved Lord Buddha's original preaching by writing that in Palm leaves, in a few languages called Pali, Sinhala and Sanskrit. Because of that, everyone can study that Dhamma by reading the above-mentioned books. All those books refer to the Pali Cannon. They have Printed Dhamma in Palm leaves to enrich the knowledge of all, in Buddha's Dhamma. Professor A.V. Suraweera has mentioned that, many of old palm leaves manuscripts are written about the life of the Buddha and Buddha's Dhamma. We can identify that there are two categories of doers of those old palm leaves manuscripts, by reading those books. One is the author and other is a person who has sponsored the palm leaf manuscript writers to print or write Dhamma in that Books. As a result of that task, both authors and sponsors, were able to print The Dhamma in palm leaves and have aspired to achieve enlightenment. At the end of those books, some authors have mentioned that they may able to collect merit because of their writings. As a result of the observation of the ending sentences of old manuscripts, it is clear to understand that old authors have written books to collect merit, since Gampola period.