

Vasanthan Koothu in Functionality Even without Space: A Study based on Vasanthan in Kattuvan Region

Selvarasa Ragaventhana
sventhan123@gmail.com

This study examines how the Vasanthan Koothu (Veerapathirar Vasanthan drama), which was performed as a ritual at the Kattuvan Veerapathirar temple in Jaffna district, is still functioning today without the performance space (space). Space is important for the ritual of an ethnic group and their associated rituals. However, the question of research is how Vasanthan Koothu has survived to this day. What are the ritual status features of Vasanthan Koothu as questions of this study? What is the performance space like in Vasanthan Koothu? How is change of space possible? While this study is carried out using the characteristic methodology, information on it has been obtained from texts and artists. The extent of the study appears to be centred on Jaffna. 1. Discovering the ritual nature of Vasanthan Koothu and the connection between Vasanthan Koothu and the rural way of life. 2. Revealing the importance of Vasanthan Koothu's performance space. 3. The purpose of the study is to find a way to retain the performing arts without the space. The purpose of this study is to identify realistic techniques that will sustain the existence of the performance art form in the context of a community leaving its place. Research Problem Performance space is important for ritual worship. Kattuvan Vasanthan Koothu is a ritual performed at the Veerapathirar Temple in Kattuvan village. The Kattuvan area has been declared a High-Security Zone by the government due to the war situation for the last thirty years, and the people there have been displaced and temporarily settled in various places in Jaffna. In this context, the main issue of this study is how the villagers of Kattuvan, who lived in a state of a different part of Jaffna where the Vasanthan Koothu performing community was not in their habitat and could not go to the temple, have retained their performing arts to this day. Research methodology While the qualitative method was used in this study, first-level information was obtained through interviews with Kattuvan Vasanthan Koothu artists and villagers. The literature has been used as evidence for secondary data.

Keywords: High-Security Zone, Space, Veerapathirar Temple