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ABSTRACT

There is no enough evidence to identify accurately the magnificence of art and architecture during the Anuradhapura period. But the glories of ancient Polonnaruwa are not lost and there are enough remains of monuments to get an idea of its former grandeur. The art of the Polonnaruwa period has been affected by Mahayana and Hindu influences and the technology and natural causes during the period.

This research on Polonnaruwa sculptures is a study of identifying the characteristics of ancient edifices and other monuments built at that period. Furthermore, I intend to assess the structural, technical and artistic identity of the Polonnaruwa sculptures. Also I aim to analyse the information so far gathered on Polonnaruwa sculptures, by scholars and come up with my own definitions.