

## An academic study about the incestuous connections depicted in the Sinhalese folk -lore

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Folk-lore means the inherited mass of knowledge that is conveyed oral from generation to generation. Sinhalese Folk-lore means the hereditary oral mass of knowledge which displays their cultural and social identity. Incestuous connections this means sensual relationship between blood relatives and such relatives are as follows: Mother, father, brothers, sisters, mother 's sister, father's brother, mother 's sisters' children and father's brothers' children.

According to the Sinhala Buddhist culture it is a great unwholesome act to conduct sexual relationships with such people.

Main objective of this study is to explore the reasons for inclusion of such strictly confidential and private matters Sinhalese folk -lore.

The secondary data on folk-lore have been used as the major methodology of research.

It was found that description of these type of unlawful connections, though they are thoroughly disgraced and refused by the accepted norms of society, are included in Sinhalese fables, tales and poetry etc. For examples

The birth story of King Vijaya.

The myth of the origination of Vaddhas.

The story of zGiri DeviZ

The fabulous story of zNaga Meru AlaZ ( The yams that killed the sister )

zKiri Meniketa Kiyu kaviZ ( Verses recited to Kiri Menike )

The incidents of incest became popular by their inclusion in the folk lore. However they have been described in an ironic manner.

**Key words:** Folk-lore, Incest, Blood relations, Social identification, Sexual relationship

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