

## **2.49 The religious intercourse between Sri Lanka and Siam (Thailand) as depicted in Jinakalamali**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The book *Jinakalamali*, the chronicle of Siam, contributes to the study of Sri Lankan history. This book gives many details about the religious intercourse between Sri Lanka and Siam in 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. *Ratanapachcha thero* was the author of it. This book discloses.

1. Enshrining of the Relic in *Seruvila Stupa*.
2. Religious contribution of the kings in the *Anuradhapura* period (Devanampiyatissa to Mahasena)
3. A special Buddhist statue *Seehalapatima* which was brought from Sri Lanka to Siam and the homage it received from the leaders of Siam.
4. Contribution of *Udumbara Mahasami* of Sri Lanka and his followers to develop the Siam religious activities.

Most of the information given in *Jinakalamali* could be proved through inscriptions in Siam. If not for the *Mahavansa* some information given in the *jinakalamali* could not have been correctly understood as they are given in such a shorten form. However the value of *jinakalamali* is that the book reveals the contribution of Sinhalese Buddhist monks to establish Buddhism in Siam.

**Key words :** Religious intercourse, Mahavansa