

Symbols, Art and Architecture in Regional Cultures - A Study on Sri Lankan Mosaic Art
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Abstract: This research paper principally attempts to describe about Sri Lankan Mosaic art which has great significance from art historical, archaeological and historical aspects. The methodology of this research paper consists with field research and library survey methods. A piece of art work created by placing coloured segments of tiles, porcelain, glass, stone and mineral in a pattern to create a picture is called as Mosaic art. Mosaic art tradition has extended history from BCE and in the world it is developed in various periods according to the subject and features. Mosaics are limited among the art historical sources in Sri Lanka and provide a rich context of art. In Sri Lanka, Mosaics can be seen at Karagampitiya Subodharamaya, Maduwanwela Walauwa, Vijayananda Viharaya-Galle and few other places near the coastal area. Animal figures, floral figures, geometric shapes, some objects and decorative motifs were illustrated from the Mosaic art tradition. Sri Lankan Mosaic art can be considered as art historical, archaeological and historical evidence which provide details about artistic features, techniques, symbolism, cultural combinations and trade relationships. According to the principal objective; introduction to Mosaics, historical background of Mosaic art, special features, foreign influences, present situation, reasons for weathering of mosaic designs in Sri Lanka and the importance of safeguarding Sri Lankan Mosaic art are describe through this research paper.