

Tamil Nadu – Sri Lanka Trade Relations from 6th Century

AD to 10th Century AD – A Historical Analysis

¹S. Anuzsiya and ²AHF. Hafsa

¹Senior Lecturer in History, FAC, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka

² Department of Geography, FAC, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka

Correspondence: anuzsiya@gmail.com

Abstract

Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka are having trade relations from ancient period till now. The strategic location of Sri Lanka in the Indian Ocean is very conducive for this relationship. This trade relations with Tamilaham fetch a great importance for Tamilaham and Sri Lanka. This period from 6th century AD to 10th century AD need to be analyzed for the trade relations between Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka. Even for the cultural expansion the trade relations are very important reason. These relations are still continuing. The ports in the coasts of Tamil Nadu like Kaverippattinam (Poompuhar), Nagappattinam, Korkai, Alagankulam in the coasts of Tamil Nadu, Urkavaturai and Manthai ports in Northern Sri Lanka had facilitated as a center of these trade development. Through these centers not only the trade relations have been developed but also the cultural contacts have influenced Sri Lanka. The activities of the trade guilds (vaniha kanangal) have analyzed. The coins used for this trade also would be considered as an important source for the trade relations. The rise of Pallava Kingdom and the later Anuradhapura Kingdom were active in this trade relations. The main objective of this article is to analyze the internal and external trade of Anuradhapura Kingdom and the Pallava Kingdom of Tamil Nadu. To write this article, I consulted mainly the secondary sources like books articles and other published articles and website sources.

Keywords: Tamil Nadu, ancient, Indian ocean, trade relations, ports, guilds