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RESEARCH ABSTRACTS

Towards an approach for conservation of two dimensional artifacts in digital technology

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Conservation is considered as a science that describes the interdisciplinary study of protection of various areas such as art, architecture, and other cultural works through the use of scientific methods. It is a known fact that there are several types of valuable artworks in Sri Lanka which are needed to be conserved for the archeological aspect of next generation. It has been observed that various techniques are used for conservation of those artifacts in most of the places like Colombo museums, some historical temples in Sri Lanka. In this paper, conservation techniques which are used for historical resources are going to be identified using existing literature. With the help of survey done in the Colombo museum conservation unit, it was able to identify that there are some factors of deterioration such as climate, chemical and biological that affect for two dimensional artworks. Therefore, main techniques used by them is controlling the effect of those factors to the artifact. Another important thing is applying any technology to ensure the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (the Venice Charter 1964). Furthermore, author would focus the concept of digital preservation that refers to the management and maintenance of digital objects so that they can be accessed and used by future requirements. In the case study of digital photos of Bellanwila Temple taken by Lal Hegoda, large mural paintings have been segmented to many rectangular parts to capture and store them in digital media without damaging the existing quality of the artifact. In the future, these techniques are going to be deeply analyzed theoretically and technically for the purpose integrating digital technology for conservation of two-dimensional murals in the Sri Lankan context.

Key words: conservation, preservation, digital technology, two dimensional artifacts, cultural resources