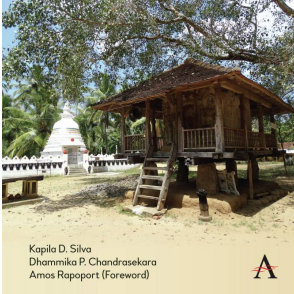




THE TĀMPIĀVIHĀRAS OF SRI LANKA

Elevated Image-Houses in
Buddhist Architecture



Kapila D. Silva
Dhammika P. Chandrasekara
Amos Rapoport (Foreword)



The Tāmpi āvihāras of Sri Lanka

Elevated Image-Houses in Buddhist Architecture

By Kapila D. Silva and Dhammika P. Chandrasekara, Foreword by Amos Rapoport

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Focuses on the distinctive āmpī āvihāra tradition of Buddhist architectural practice from pre-modern Sri Lanka, richly illustrated with photographs and drawings

The *āmpī āvihāras of Sri Lanka* focuses on one distinctive Buddhist architectural practice from pre-modern Sri Lanka – the construction of Buddha image-houses on elevated wooden platforms supported by stone pillars.

Key selling points

- The subject of this book – the *āmpī āvihāras* – is a distinctive type of Buddha Image-houses constructed during the thirteenth and nineteenth centuries in Sri Lanka.
- *āmpī āvihāras* have never been thoroughly studied and published in English either in Sri Lanka or anywhere in the world. Therefore, this is the very first time the subject has been carefully and deeply studied and written about.
- The book is richly illustrated with photographs and drawings of *āmpī āvihāras*. In the Part 2 of the book, there are illustrations of fifty of existing and unique *āmpī āvihāras*.
- The book narrates the story of *āmpī āvihāras* from a multidimensional perspective that involves architecture, anthropology, archaeology, art history, geography, history, sociology, and theology. Consequently, it appeals to a vast array of enthusiasts of these disciplines as well as for scholars in Asian studies, South Asian studies, Sri Lankan studies, and Buddhist studies.

Contents

Illustrations; Acknowledgements; Foreword by Amos Rapoport; 1 Introduction; Part I The āmpīāvihāra Tradition; Chapter 1 The Tradition of Buddha Image-Houses in Sri Lanka; Chapter 2 The āmpīāvihāra Design; Chapter 3 The Evolution of āmpīāvihāras and Their Variations; Conclusion; Part II Illustrations of Selected āmpīāvihāras; Introduction; Central Province; North Central Province; North Western (Vayamba) Province; Sabaragamuva Province; Southern Province; Ūva Province; Western Province; Bibliography; Appendix: A List of āmpīāvihāras in Sri Lanka; Index.

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