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An Analysis on the Adequacy of International Standards pertaining to Protection and Promotion of Cultural Rights and their Incorporation to the Sri Lankan Domestic Law

Although a plethora of international instruments include provisions to enhance civil, political, economic and social rights of people, an unsatisfactory attention is paid to protect and promote their cultural rights. Although the 1966 UN Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural rights includes an emphasis on the preservation of cultural rights of people, a careful examination reveals that this provision refers to the enhancement of both science and culture together. This discloses that at the international level, so far, cultural rights have not been given the due consideration and significance. In Sri Lanka multi ethnic and multi religious people are living together and their cultural identity and diversity have not been well recognized and not sufficiently included to the domestic Law of the country. I wish to discuss the adequacy of international standards pertaining to protection and promotion of cultural rights and their incorporation to the Sri Lankan domestic law.