Nation, Constitutionalism and Buddhism in Sri Lanka

SUB Hamburg A/600043

Roshan de Silva Wijeyeratne



Contents

	Acknowledgements	xiii
	Introduction: Sri Lankan nationalism and the presence of the past: towards a hermeneutic perspective	1
1	The Mahāvamsa as history and the pre-history of state formation	13
2	The cosmology of Buddhism, the Pāli chronicles and the ontology of evil	24
3	Textual practices, Sinhalese Buddhist consciousness and dissonance	46
4	Galactic polities, cosmography and Buddhist sovereignty	59
5	The transformation of Sinhalese Buddhist consciousness in its colonial and postcolonial relation	78
6	Independence, land, citizenship and the cosmic order	101
7	Sinhalese revolutionaries, linguistic nationalism and Buddhism reimagined	117
8	Cosmology, constitutionalism and the Tamil other	135
9	Centralization, decentralization and the cosmology of Buddhism	155
0	Conclusion: rethinking community in Sri Lanka	193

Notes Bibliography Index 197 225 242