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**DEVELOPMENT OF A FASHION  
ILLUSTRATION COMMUNICATION  
SYSTEM BASED ON SRI LANKAN  
IDENTITY**

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## Abstract

Mural painting is a visual representation of artistic ideas in drawings, showing distinct features of a specific cultural setting. The evolution of mural paintings in Sri Lanka reflects unique drawing feature developments that took place with various influences of different historical eras.

Fashion illustration is a visual communication system of fashion design ideas through drawing and illustration techniques. Fashion illustration plays a crucial role in fashion designing by attracting the attention of others. Fashion illustrations are changed and modified in order to cater to the needs and expectations of contemporary society.

This research is a study and artistic analysis of drawing techniques of Sri Lankan murals, with focus on the Kandyan and Southern school art styles, to develop an illustration system to communicate fashion ideas to cater to the present context. For this purpose, the existing mural paintings have been studied. The distinct features of Kandyan and Southern school art style are analysed and discussed in detail based on the mural paintings in the main shrine at Gangaramaya temple, Leewella, Kandy and 19<sup>th</sup> century mural paintings in the main shrine at Subodharamaya temple, Karagampitiya, Dehiwala.

The objective of this research is to form suitable drawing concepts from Sri Lankan traditional drawings and utilize those drawing concepts and techniques to modify and develop a fashion illustration system which would cater to the current world requirements.