

# TOOTH RELICS: THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION IN DENTISTRY

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### **ABSTRACT**

The spiritual dimension is an interesting issue in clinical dentistry at present. The belief of holy tooth is a specific phenomenon reflecting the symbolization of acceptance of important of human tooth. The belief of tooth relics is rooted among Buddhist practitioners. Here, the authors discuss on the tooth relics which is an interesting spiritual dimension in dentistry.

**KEYWORDS:** Tooth, Relics, Dentistry, Spiritual.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The spiritual dimension is an interesting issue in clinical dentistry at present. The belief of holy tooth is a specific phenomenon reflecting the symbolization of acceptance of important of human tooth. The belief of tooth relics is rooted among Buddhist practitioners. Here, the authors discuss on the tooth relics which is an interesting spiritual dimension in dentistry.

# TOOTH RELICS AND TOOTH RELICS PAGODA

Tooth relic is specific Buddhist belief. According to the Buddhist legend, the holy relics after holy burning of Lord Buddha body. The important relics include the specific tooth relics which appeared as diamond teeth. According to the legend, the four canine tooth relics are the main tooth relics. Of 4 tooth relics, only some still exist in our earth according to the Buddhist legend.

Nevertheless, there are several Buddha tooth relics temple around the world. The most famous

is at Candy, Sri Lanka. The other less famous sites are at Myanmar, China, Singapore and Thailand. Those sites become the place where millions of Buddhists visit for pay homage and set as pilgrimage site.

### **DISCUSSION**

Tooth is an important organ of human. Actually, tooth is a bone. Due to its important in digestive system, the specific care of tooth is needed. The specific clinical science namely dentistry is widely practiced around the world. The spiritual aspect in dentistry is interesting. The belief of tooth relics is a good example. This is an actual symbolization. Whether the tooth relics are real bone or not have never been proven but tooth relics are still the holy things and become actual spiritual dimension in clinical dentistry [1]. This is similar phenomenon to the famous Turin shroud of Christians [2].

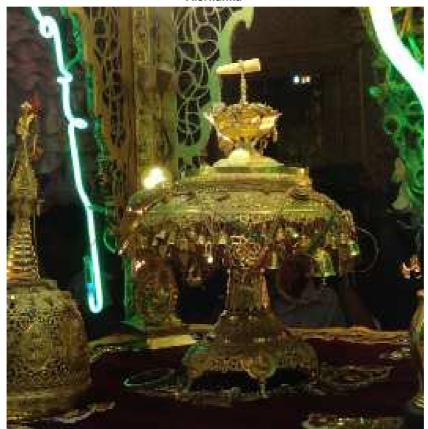
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Figure 1.Famous tooth relics temples around the world

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None**

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