

AN EXAMINATION OF THE  
INFLUENCE OF CHANGES IN ATTITUDES  
TOWARDS RELIGIOUS PRACTICE  
ON CHURCH BUILDINGS

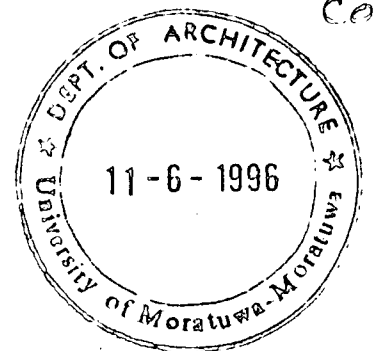
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A Dissertation Presented  
Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka  
for Master's of Science Examination in Architecture

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## **ABSTRACT**

## ABSTRACT

Place of worship was the predominant space in religious activities. Its character and spatial quality grew to define the ideal 'House of God' to maximally encourage people in their primary objective in the act of worship. Architecturally, the form, shape, environmental quality and character had to express the 'Ideal'. The size, material and the abstract form grasped by the mind of the worshippers depended on the socio-cultural, environmental and technical forces.

The foregoing dissertation looks into the exemplification of the above mentioned factors in the Christian 'House of God' as the church establishment was based on the conceptions of the religion, liturgical guidance and social aspects.

The spiritual values of divinity and its essence was expressed through these manifested volumes to the worshipper. The church has surely continued the essence in different ways, while facing many an external force and change. Those forces were mainly originated by the Christian communities by means of their attitudes towards practice of the religion.

The forces that stood above the rest made possible certain changes in attitudes towards religious practice. These primarily centred upon the supernatural beliefs, socio-cultural scenario and the theological imperatives. The environmental and technical forces also played their respective roles within the time framework.

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