

Henry de Mel
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THE IMPACT OF THE CITY OF COLOMBO ON IT'S
SUBURBS: A CASE STUDY OF KOLONNAWA

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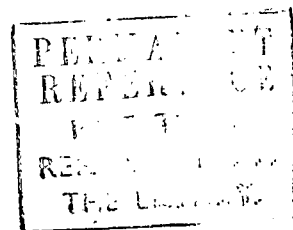
THE DISSERTATION

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SYNOPSIS

This study is an examination and analysis of the impact of the city of Colombo on its suburbs. In Sri Lanka the fringe of the city of Colombo developed rapidly and spectacularly especially since the Second World War. Suburbanisation is not an independent process but is intertwined with urbanization and urban growth. Thus in this paper, in order to comprehend better the emergence and growth of the suburbs, it is viewed in the wider context of urbanization in Sri Lanka. The evolution and the vicissitudes of the city of Colombo are then examined and its influence on Kolonnawa and its suburbs is assessed and analysed.

Chapter One - Suburban Development -An Historical Overview

An overview of suburbanisation on the global plane, spanning over ancient, medieval and modern times in the Developed and Developing Countries is offered. Special reference is made to Sri Lanka. Factors that affect suburbanisation are identified.

Chapter Two - The City of Colombo and It's Suburbs

Sri Lanka's distinct pattern of urbanization is examined. The dominance of the wet zone and within that, of the Colombo District is spotlighted. The most eminent urban centre of this district - the City of Colombo and it's evolution is then inquired into. It's primate status and the overspilling of it's functions and developments into it's outskirts is investigated and analysed. A definition of the suburbs of the city



of Colombo is given and past metropolitan planning efforts are reviewed.
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Chapter Three- Growth of Kolonnawa 1940-1982

The research findings of the case study of Kolonnawa are presented. The changing land use pattern in favour of urban uses is highlighted. Kolonnawa's growth as an immediate suburb of the city of Colombo is documented and established.

Chapter Four - Impact of the City of Colombo on the
Development of Kolonnawa

The growth and development of Kolonnawa is analysed. The role of decentralization policies and the impact of the city of Colombo on suburban growth are further analysed. The impact is analysed through an examination of the linkages with the city of Colombo.

Chapter Five - Planning Guidelines for Kolonnawa
and Other Suburbs of Colombo

Goals and Objectives for Kolonnawa and the other suburbs are formulated.

Proposals are then recommended. Kolonnawa, it is proposed, should be developed by linking it to the city of Colombo.

Chapter Six - Conclusion

A resume and conclusions are furnished. The conclusion is that the city of Colombo had made a strong impact on it's suburbs. Factors affecting suburbanisation in Sri Lanka, appear to be similar to those of Developed Countries.

ABBREVIATIONS

- CGR - Ceylon Government Railway
CTB - Ceylon Transport Board
LB - Local Board
MC - Municipal Council
TC - Town Council
UC - Urban Council
UDA - Urban Development Authority
UK - United Kingdom
USA - United States of America



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