## Spatial and temporal patterns in Sri Lankan Christianity

W Varunika Nishani Fernando!

Christianity is a monesthetic religion centered on the life and teaching of Jesus of Nazareth as depicted in the New Testament.

In Sri Lanka, Christianity was firmly established through the western colonial enterprise. However, the impact of socio-economic and political influences of Christianity, in the same form as it was found by the colonizers, can still be identified in Sri Lanka. The objective of this research is to study the spatial and temporal patterns in Sri Lankan Christianity, in the coastal belt of Colombo. Specially, Colombo is selected for this study as it is widely acknowledged that it is an area where Christianity is widely spread. Therefore, this study foregrounds that there are obvious spatial and temporal patterns in effect within the said region with regards to the spread of Christianity. To achieve this objective, the information on the spread and expansion of Christian schools, churches and details regarding the followers of Christianity were employed as parameters.

Key words: Monesthetic religion, spatial and temporal patterns, Christianity, Religions, Sri Lanka-

Department of Geography, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka