

**MICRO STUDIES ON THE PATTERN OF SITE DISTRIBUTION
ALONG THE UPPER MAHA OYA VALLEY**

C. Rambukwella

This is a continuation of the research conducted on the Environmental archaeology of the archaeological sites situated along the Upper Maha Oya valley.

An approximate number of 100 archaeological sites from the Upper Maha Oya and its fringe areas were mapped. In addition, the whole valley was also carefully mapped for future studies. The main thrust of the research work concluded this year was directed at:

- (a) Understanding the locational pattern in micro regions;
- (b) Understanding the dynamics related to regional connections.

The first of these indicated some useful patterns related to the micro location of sites and the significance of micro clusters. These apparently had a variation during different chronological periods.

The regional connection indicated the possible significance of the Upper Maha Oya as an extremely important link-zone connecting primary catchments of three major river systems, in addition to giving access to the Bay of Bengal.

The program for 1989 is expected to substantiate some of these Historical - archaeological findings with a greater amount of data from environmental studies.