

NON - ALIGNMENT : A CASE STUDY OF SRI LANKA'S
FOREIGN POLICY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO

1 9 7 0 - 1 9 8 2

THESIS SUBMITTED FOR
THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
FACULTY OF ARTS
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO
(SRI LANKA)

UCLIB



420598

BY

WADU MESTRIGE KARUNADASA
(B. A. HONS ; LL. B : M. A. LONDON)

1 9 8 8 SEPTEMBER

CR

420598



A B S T R A C T

The main objective of this research is to enquire into the factors which governed Sri Lanka's foreign policy during the period 1970-1982. In addition to this, it also enquires into the factors which influenced Sri Lanka's foreign policy in the pre - 1970 era.

The first part of the thesis, which deals with the historical origins and evolution of Sri Lanka's foreign policy attempts to identify the basic concepts and influences exerted by both internal and external factors in shaping the independent and non-aligned character of a foreign policy.

The second part of the thesis, which is the main study, attempts firstly, to make a comparative study of the non-aligned policy followed by the two successive governments during 1970-1982.; secondly, to present a case study of a small state behaviour in international politics. The six chapters in this part designed to reveal one important theme. That is Sri Lanka's interest in non-aligned politics was governed more by economic factors rather than political. In the argument it was said that it was this factor which drew Sri Lanka to the mainstream of non-aligned politics.

In the light of this fact, Sri Lanka's role within the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and her contributions to the NAM are examined to make an appraisal of Sri Lanka's commitments to the Third World cause. Finally, non-alignment in Sri Lanka's foreign policy is viewed as a strategy followed by the successive governments as a means of overcoming the problems of economic development.
