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**ELECTORAL POLITICS IN AN
EMERGENT STATE
THE CEYLON GENERAL ELECTION
OF MAY 1970**

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Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,
São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo

Cambridge University Press

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521153119

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First published 1975

This digitally printed version 2010

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Catalogue Card Number: 74-79136

ISBN 978-0-521-20429-3 Hardback

ISBN 978-0-521-15311-9 Paperback

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To the memory of my beloved father

KANAGASABAI RAJARATNAM WILSON

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By the same author

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Note

Ceylon became known as Sri Lanka in May 1972.

For the purposes of this book, however,
the earlier name has been retained.

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Acknowledgements

The project for an election study on the lines undertaken here could not have been executed but for the interest and encouragement given me by Dr Irving Brecher, the Director, at the time, of the Centre for Developing-Area Studies of McGill University. While I was at the Centre, Dr Brecher kept in touch with me and made useful suggestions, rare for a busy Director and a zealous teacher of economics.

I am deeply grateful to the Centre for not only awarding me a Research Associateship but also providing me with the research expenses for initiating this study. Special thanks are due to Dr Theo Hills, the present Director of the Centre, and to Dr Baldev Raj Nayar, Head of the Centre's South Asia Program, at the time, for their continuing interest in this project. Dr Richard F. Salisbury rendered very useful advice on effecting changes in the manuscript and Dr R. Cranford Pratt gave me the extra fillip necessary for a tired investigator to finalise the manuscript for publication.

The staff of the Centre was indeed helpful, particularly Mrs Ellinor Williams and Miss Ann Greengrove, its past and present Secretaries respectively.

To Rosalind E. Boyd, the most exacting and efficient but kindest of editors, I owe a special debt. She spent long hours reading with enormous patience several drafts of the manuscript, suggested numerous improvements and at every stage kept urging me to complete the task. Jay Bosanquet did a thorough job in the final stages of editing the manuscript at Cambridge.

Deans Cuthbert Amerasinghe and Justin Labrooy of the University of Ceylon helped me to obtain my leave. Dean Thomas J. Condon of the University of New Brunswick gave me a generous subsidy to cover typing and other incidental expenses.

Mrs N.M. Hettiaratchi of the University of Ceylon did an exhausting typing of many drafts. Mrs Rheta MacElwain of the Department of Political Science, University of New Brunswick, did a perfect typescript before it was despatched to the Editor. Miss Inez Whittle of the Centre was responsible for the final version, which she did with care and expedition.

My friends in the University of Ceylon were indeed helpful with their ideas and assistance, in particular, Professors H.A. de S. Gunasekera, Stanley Kalpagé, K.M. de Silva, Mr H.A.I. Goonetilleke, Drs L. Panditharatne, B. Hewavitharana, W. Wiswa Warnapala and Mr N.M. Abdul Cader. Dr Calvin A. Woodward of the University of New Brunswick read through the drafts and offered a number of suggestions.

My students in the University of Ceylon, too many to be mentioned individually, collected election literature for me and obtained responses for my questionnaires. They also attended election meetings to which they were deputed and made detailed notes of important election addresses. I would however like to

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make mention of Messrs K. Wijeratne and D. S. Rupasinghe for translating a great deal of Sinhalese election literature for me. Messrs P. Amarasinghe, E. S. Basnayake, U. E. Perera and P. W. Wickremaratne helped me in other ways.

Dr Brendon Gooneratne and Mr Sarath Amunugama (Director of Information at the time) gave me many valuable cartoons and election posters.

A large number of public servants of all grades provided me with much inside information. For obvious reasons they wish to 'suffer' anonymity. Mr E. F. Dias Abeysinghe, Commissioner of Parliamentary Elections, very kindly sent me his *Report* on the election weeks before it was officially released.

My elder brother, S. J. Wilson, and his students collected useful data on the election campaign in the key constituencies of the Eastern province. My brother also provided me with a useful analysis of electioneering in some of these constituencies.

My friend Denzil Peiris, one of Ceylon's ablest journalists, covered all the meetings of Dudley Senanayake and allowed me the use of his diary and notes. He spent long hours with me giving me his own observations of Senanayake's electioneering. My former student, Philip Fernando, now a skilled journalist, did the same for Mrs Bandaranaike and made available to me his extremely useful diary and his impressions of her election campaign. The leading LSSP theoretician and editor of the left-wing weekly *The Nation*, Hector Abhayavardhana, gave me the benefit of his views and experience of the election.

My wife and children were patient with me while I spent the early hours of the morning and late evenings during the better part of 1970–1 on this project.

Fredericton, N.B.
1973

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Abbreviations

ATM	Adanga Tamil Munnani (the Tamil Front that cannot be suppressed)
BLPI	Bolshevik Leninist Party of India
BSP	Bolshevik Samasamaja Party (the Bolshevik Equal Society Party)
CP	Communist Party (Moscow)
CWC	(Indian) Ceylon Workers' Congress
DMK	(Ceylon) Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (Dravidian Progressive Front)
DWC	(Indian) Democratic Workers' Congress
FP	(Tamil) Federal Party
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
IDA	International Development Association
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ISF	Islamic Socialist Front
JVP	Jathika Vimukthi Peramuna (Sinhalese) National Liberation Front
LPP	Lanka Prajathanthrawadi Party (Ceylon Democratic Party)
LSSP	Lanka Sama Samaja Party (Ceylon Equal Society Party)
MEP	Mahajana Eksath Peramuna (People's United Front)
PLF	Popular Liberation Front
SLFP	Sri Lanka Freedom Party
SLFSP	Sri Lanka Freedom Socialist Party
SMP	Sinhala Mahajana Peramuna (Sinhalese People's Front)
SMS	Sinhala Maha Sabha (the Great Council of the Sinhalese)
TC	Tamil Congress
TSRP	Tamil Self Rule Party (Thamil Suya Aadchi Kadchi)
TUF	Tamil United Front
UF	United Front (Samagi Peramuna)
ULF	United Left Front
UNP	United National Party
VLSSP	Viplavakari (Revolutionary) Lanka Sama Samaja Party

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Glossary of Sinhalese and Tamil terms

<i>ayurveda</i>	native medicine
<i>balaya</i>	power
<i>bhikku</i>	Buddhist monk
<i>buth</i>	food
<i>dagoba</i>	a huge dome-shaped Buddhist shrine usually storing a relic of the Buddha or one of his important disciples
<i>feec</i>	foreign exchange entitlement certificate
<i>goigama</i>	farmer/cultivator caste (Sinhalese)
<i>govi peramuna</i>	farmers'/cultivators' front
<i>govi rajas</i>	farmer/cultivator kings
<i>hartal</i>	a general stoppage of work
<i>itti haal</i>	sticky rice
<i>jalaya</i>	water
<i>kachcheri</i>	office of government agent
<i>kantha balamandalayas</i>	women's organisations
<i>kantha peramunas</i>	women's fronts
<i>kantha samithiyas</i>	women's associations
<i>karaiyar</i>	lit. 'frequenter of the coast', i.e. fisherman caste (Ceylon Tamil)
<i>karawe</i>	fisherman caste (Sinhalese)
<i>maha nayake thero</i>	Chief High Priest (Buddhist)
<i>mammoty</i>	spade
<i>mukuwar</i>	fisherman caste (Ceylon Tamil)
<i>nindagam</i>	feudal land tenure
<i>Pacha Bahu</i>	'Great Liar'
<i>panpiti yugaya</i>	age of wheat flour
<i>pawul balaya</i>	family power
<i>perakum yugaya</i>	era of prosperity
<i>poya</i>	days of religious significance to the Sinhalese Buddhists, coinciding with the waxing and waning of the moon
<i>prakashanaya</i>	statement
<i>radalaya</i>	feudalist
<i>saiva vellala</i>	Saivaite Hindu cultivator caste (Ceylon Tamil)
<i>salagama</i>	cinnamon peeler caste (Sinhalese)
<i>sama samaja</i>	egalitarian
<i>samadhi</i>	monument
<i>sangha</i>	Buddhist clergy
<i>siam nikaya</i>	Siamese sect (Buddhist)
<i>swabasha</i>	vernacular
<i>vellala</i>	farmer/cultivator caste (Ceylon Tamil)

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Map 1. Ceylon: provincial and district boundaries.

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