



## A Study of the Traditional Knowledge System Developed through Ecological and Social Concepts Existing in Rural Villages

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### Abstract

The world is transitioning to highly advanced social conditions. But there are still many isolated rural villages in the oriental world of Sri Lanka. Several specific characteristics can be seen in those rural villages that are enriched by the unique characteristics of the respective areas, separated from the urban and semi-urban social systems. Therefore, it is timely and important to discuss the ecological and social relations and how people's lives are based on those characteristics in such rural areas. With that background, this research study attempted to study the traditional knowledge system developed through ecological and social concepts existing in Galamudunagama village located in the Hasalaka Divisional Secretariat of the Kandy district of Sri Lanka. The study was mainly based on primary data and was collected using a semi-structured questionnaire, interviews, and participant observation methods. The study conducted a qualitative analysis and according to the study, traditional and isolated ecological values in Galamudunagama and the process followed by people who lived there in water consumption could be well understood. Further, it was revealed how villagers have worked to build a self-sufficient economy as well as environmentally friendly agriculture, and that there is a process connected with the natural environment from birth to death as a social corporation. In addition to that, it was well evident how people are socialized into a system of values unique to the village itself and how they protect the natural environment through an oriental knowledge system. In conclusion, this study recommends promoting the value of traditional knowledge systems available in such rural areas of Sri Lanka without any collapses of ecological and societal values.

**Keywords:** Ecological, Rural, Social, Traditional knowledge system, Values

