

Asoka Bandarage

# CRISIS IN SRI LANKA AND THE WORLD

Colonial and Neoliberal Origins: Ecological and Collective Alternatives

This book provides a broad picture of Sri Lanka's on-going political and economic crisis as the culmination of several centuries of colonial and neo-colonial developments. The book presents the Sri Lankan crisis as an exemplification of a broader global existential crisis facing more and more debt trapped countries, especially in the post-colonial Global South. The book's in-depth case study raises important questions pertaining to sovereignty and political and economic democracy in Sri Lanka and the world at large.

The book also explores the emergence of the crisis in the context of the accelerating geopolitical conflict between China and the USA in the Indian Ocean. It ponders if the debt crisis, economic collapse and political destabilization in Sri Lanka were intentionally precipitated to the advantage of the Quadrilateral Alliance (USA, India, Australia and Japan).

Moving beyond geopolitical rivalry, the book juxtaposes Sri Lanka's political-economic crisis with the broader ecological crisis of climate change and sea-level rise. The book concludes with a consideration of the ethical dilemmas behind the debt and survival crisis in Sri Lanka and across the world. It points out a range of social movements and initiatives in Sri Lanka and the Global South which subscribe to collective and ecological alternatives and a Middle Path of sustainability and social justice.

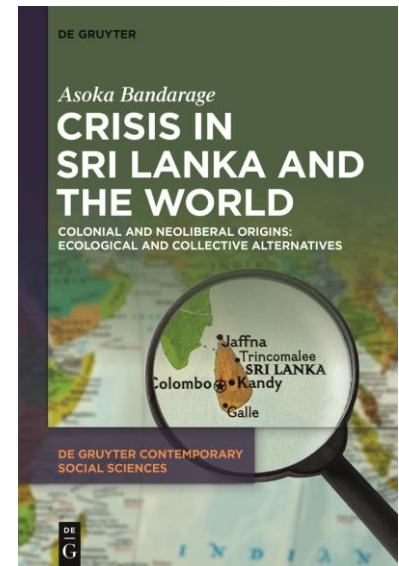
**Asoka Bandarage**, California Institute for Integral Studies, San Francisco.

"In this well-written, well-researched scholarly text, Asoka Bandarage brilliantly combines a detailed historical analysis of the political and economic crisis in Sri Lanka and a global ethical perspective pertaining to similar crises elsewhere in the world."

**T. Lalithasiri Gunaruwan**, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

"A very useful analysis providing depth and background to understanding the current Sri Lankan economic crisis. Bandarage goes well beyond the standard tropes of 'policy errors' or culture/identity-based explanations, to locate the Sri Lankan experience in the wider context of profit-, technology- and finance-driven globalization."

**Jayati Ghosh**, Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA



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**Of interest to:**

Scholars and students of Politics, History,  
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