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**AN EXAMINATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN  
HOUSING POLICY AND OBJECTIVES IN SRI LANKA WITH  
SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE  
ARCHITECTURAL IMPLICATIONS.**



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**A Dissertation**

**Submitted to the Department of Architecture of the  
University of Moratuwa in partial fulfilment of the  
Requirement for the degree of**

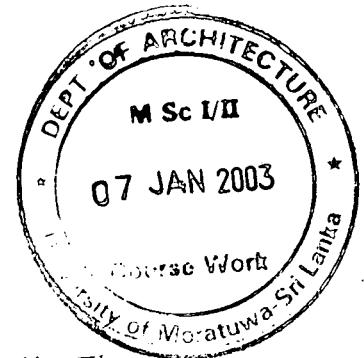


**Master of Science**

**Architecture**

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711.582

**RANATUNGA R.M.P.  
JANUARY 2003**



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*“ My house cannot be someone else’s work of Art,  
Because it is mine.”*

**Irvin Attman in Homes and Homelessness**



## **Dedication**

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**To my parents,  
For the emotional support  
Throughout  
My university  
Life.....**

## Declaration

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I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and that to the best of my knowledge and belief, it contains neither previously published or written by another person nor material which to a substantial extent has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma of a university or other institute of higher studies, except where an acknowledge is made in the text.



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*R. Ranatunga*  
.....

Ranatunga R.M.P.

Date: 02. 01. 2003

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# **An Examination of the Relationship between Housing Policy and Objectives in Sri Lanka with special reference to the Architectural Implications.**

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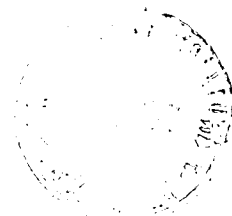
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## **Abbreviations**

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CMC	-	Colombo Municipal Council
HDFC	-	Housing Development Financing Corporation
HHP	-	Hundred Thousand Houses Program
IYSH	-	International year of shelter for homeless
MHP	-	Million Houses Program
NHDA	-	National Housing Development Authority
OMHP	-	One & Half million Houses Program
STP	-	Sustainable Township Program
UDA	-	Urban Development Authority



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## **Preface**

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Architecture is a broad and complex field of study, The problem solving process in Architecture is a vast field and related to aspects such as human needs appreciation and experiences and client requirement, user needs etc.,

Especially Studying Housing Architecture and its related aspects is also vast and complex field to study. Housing and its related activities such as housing policy is very complex to examine. Because housing policy can be addressed by an Economist, Planners, Project Managers or Architects. In this study the main emphasis has been made towards the Architectural aspects of the Housing Policy since only Architects are capable to understand the implication of such a complex subject.

The dissertation at the Master of Science in Architecture Degree would provide the student with an opportunity to exercise his or her skills throughout the academic career in solving the problem of a selected research topic. This would exhibit the skills he or she may gain by achieving excellence in Architectural research and could be considered as the threshold to the profession of Architecture. The academic period during which time the dissertation has to be prepared is very limited since time will have to be spared for lectures and comprehensive design studies. Dissertation implies dedicated research based studies and therefore due to restricted time period it is not possible to submit a comprehensive study, especially in the field of Housing Policy. At the level of M Sc, the research undertaken by me, although limited in certain areas, is yet to the best of knowledge I have presented this paper to cover all aspects of the said policy.

Research is merely a systematic inquiry, while most Architectural practitioners do engage in some form of inquiry in the course of their professional work. What is perhaps lacking is the systematic search that yields generaliseable results. Such an inquiry is essential if we are to create knowledge. In our knowledge economy those who are able to create knowledge holds the key to success.



Architectural research “mere” inquiries into reality. Architectural research must be capable of informing the practice of Architecture. Such a knowledge base will help the profession wean itself away from a near total reliance upon intuitive understanding, historical precedent and personal experience. The Architectural profession will then be able to rely more upon research and scholarship as the basis for its practice.

(C. F. Joroff and Morse, 1984: 15-16)

This research is valid timely and practical orientated and also applied to the Sri Lankan context. This the main reason for selecting this topic mentioned as “ An Examination of the Relationship between Housing Policy and Objectives with special reference to the Architectural Implications.”

The main task of this research was to translate the theoretical aspects of the Housing Policy to a more practical application, so that Architects could understand its implications.



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The importance of the Policy on Housing, identified through this dissertation outlines its practical and Architectural implications. However it is rather difficult at the M Sc level to present an in depth study covering all aspects of the Housing Policy.

As an emerging developing country such as Sri Lanka, it is not possible to ascertain whether the system what could be termed a normal practice for the formation of a Housing Policy, which evolves first with the Political Ideology, then its theory, thereafter the strategies, and thereafter the formation of a Housing Policy is adopted.. It is mainly based on this concept and without any bias that this study is presented to co-relate the relationship between the Housing Policy, its Objectives and with special reference to the Architectural Implications. It is possible to go further than this and identify more implications but due to time limitations it is refrained. The concluding comments and discussions suggest the studying to improve the knowledge in a more measurable manner.

## Abstract

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Housing is for peoples living. It has many interrelated aspects in the context of built environment. The people process of living in a present crucial and critical in the provision of housing. "If provision of shelter is the passive function of the house, then its positive purpose is the creation of an environment best suited to the way of a people, in other words, a social unit of space." In this study express the political philosophy and its interrelated process of practicing.

The first chapter that introduced the connection between the housing policy and its political philosophy on housing. That principal theory, strategy and being a policy.

The second chapter discussed the needs and practices in Sri Lankan housing. Need of the user are not only facer that creating appropriate shelter. That it discusses the how architects caught these essential housing needs on practicing housing.



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In third chapter it will discussion on the relationship between policy, practices and architectural implications by using related examples. Further discuss the merits and demerits of the projects.

Finally it concluded how architects imply to these policy variations and the practicing architecture.

