

# Galle—An Image of a Local Commercial City in Sri Lanka—

by Takashi TOMOSUGI

To describe a city, even etymologically, is essentially important, but very difficult to achieve in terms of human geography. A description, or an integrated study among specialized disciplines, though somewhat neglected in general, functions as the starting point as well as the final goal for human sciences, too. This paper is written on the basis of my field surveys conducted in 1984 and 1986 at Galle in the Southern Province of Sri Lanka. The main themes described are as follows.

## 1. Urban Landscape

The urban landscape which has been constructed over a long course of time is an unwritten text to be interpreted both at explicit and implicit levels. The features which constitute Galle city, such as business and residential areas, hill and sea sides, architectures and streets are scrutinized. They are all economic and mental reflections of human activities on their milieu since time immemorial, but especially since the Portuguese era.

## 2. Classification of commercial activities

## 3. Family Genealogy

## 4. Religious ceremonies and merchants

## 5. Aftermath of the ceremonies

## Epilogue