

(Thesis)

190
225

UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA
FACULTY OF ARTS
26 APR 1999
SENIOR ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

ලුඩවිග් විටගන්ස්ටොන්

සහ

ආගමික විශ්වාස පිළිබඳ සංකල්පය

LUDWIG WITGENSTEIN

AND

CONCEPT OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

දිසානායක මුදියන්සේලාගේ අනෝමා දිසානායක

වන මා විසින් දර්ශන විෂය

පිළිබඳ දර්ශනපති (M. Phil) උපාධිය සඳහා

ඉදිරිපත් කරනු ලබන

පර්යේෂණාත්මක ස්වාධීන නිබන්ධනයයි.

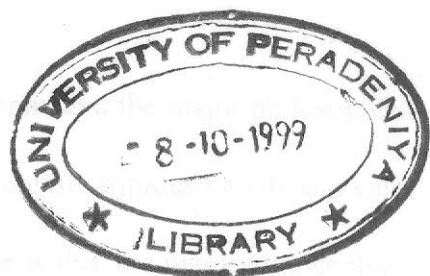
1994/ 95

උපදේශක : මහාචාර්ය ඒ. පී. ඩී. කලන්සූරිය.

522221

සංකීර්ණය

(ABSTRACT)



Many believe that the tendency of moral degradation visible in the contemporary society can be eliminated by spreading religious beliefs and values widely. Those who do not agree with this view argue that ethical aspects are based on value judgement which are neither true nor false. Moreover, the non-existence of universal religious patterns on the other hand emphasises that such beliefs are based on personal assessment rather than objective facts.

Given this context the main issues raised in the thesis are as follows : Is it possible to consider religious beliefs enwrapped in value judgement as the scientific hypotheses? If not, what other category to which they be incorporated? Again, what are the problems that may spring forth by mixing these two logically different categories.

The bases of the thesis are the techniques in Linguistic Philosophy which are moulded by one of the most influential philosophers of the English speaking world in the twentieth century, namely, Ludwig Wittgenstein.

Towards accomplishing this limited goal the major philosophical paradigms of Wittgenstein together with the environment of life in which Linguistic Philosophy sprang up are also incorporated.

Firstly the background of Linguistic Philosophy and the major philosophical paradigms of Wittgenstein are considered. Secondly the nature of religious beliefs and value judgements in terms of the conceptual techniques that come within the major philosophical paradigms are discussed.

Thirdly, Wittgenstein's concept of mysticism and scientific hypotheses are dealt with since he made use of them in his philosophical discussions.

Finally the problem of practical significance of religious concept together with ethical development in modern society in more elaborate form are incorporated to assess their influence.