

GEOMORPHOLOGY
OF THE
JAFFNA PENINSULA

By

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ABSTRACT

Studies pertaining to some aspects of the Geomorphology of the Jaffna peninsula have been attempted earlier. E.J. Wayland's 'The Miocene of Ceylon' (part I) 1923, deals with the broader aspects of the geomorphology of the miocene stretch. There are also references to certain scattered limestone features by others.

In the present study an attempt has been made to investigate the geomorphological features of the Jaffna peninsula. This study of features embraces, in addition to those evolved on the sedimentary miocene limestone, others as sandunes formed by wind action and coastal types caused by the action of waves.

The introduction, in this study deals with the background information relating to the Jaffna peninsula. Chapter I deals with the physical aspects. Particular reference is being made to theories relating to the probable origin of the area. The Second chapter is mainly devoted to the study of the geomorphological features evolved on the underlying limestone. Reference has also been made to the cycle concept. The Third chapter deals with coasts of the Jaffna peninsula. The Fourth chapter is devoted to a detailed study of underground water, the problems consequent on excess draft and the methods of solving them. The Fifth chapter deals with soils, both evolved on the limestone and transported, and also with the associated landuse pattern. In the Conclusion the changes affecting the already evolved geomorphic features have been dealt with. These changes have been found to be largely due to man's interference with the nature made features.