

## **Challenges to the preservation of biodiversity in Sri Lanka: An ethical study based on Eppawala case**

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### **Abstract**

Ethics is the study and practice of actions that contribute to the well-being of humans, societies, and the natural world. There is a lot of concern and considerable moral arguments about ethical issues of biodiversity in the literatures. This study were carried out to explore, understand and to preserve biodiversity in Sri Lanka based on ethical perspective. Literature review showed that sustainable development and various human activities are most acute threat to sustaining biodiversity. Developmental activities has been carried out without concerning of the protection of the biodiversity. The major issues are deforestation of forests, over exploitation of natural resources, climate change, urbanization, and pollution of soils, air and water. Due to the loss of biodiversity, it affects the well-being of humans, the natural world and environmental sustainability. Therefore, this study mainly analyze ethical norms, principles and moral goals and moral virtues for respect and care biodiversity. Inductive and deductive methods as well as content analysis were used in order to strengthen rational moral arguments. Further instrumental value and intrinsic value also discussed. Apart from the argument, the case of Eppawala also analysed. Further secondary resources were used in relations to biodiversity and this study took more attention on the case law on the Bulankulama vs. Min. of Industrial Development (Eppawala Case), S.C. Application No. 884/99 (F/R). The discussion part, anthropocentrism and ecocentrism were critically discussed based as moral philosophy perspectives. Deontology and virtue are used as a tool to debate in the relation of humanity and the environmental challenges. In concluding part, the paper provides some ethical recommendation for necessity of prevention of biodiversity

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