Late Pleistocene-Early Holocene environmental history inferred from palynofacies records on the master core segment 5 in the Horton Plains, Central Sri Lanka

by
Mirihanduwa Vithanage Tharaka Chathuranga

A thesis submitted to the Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology, University of Kelaniya in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

Abstract

Radiocarbon-dated multi-proxies (*e.g.* pollen, spores, micro charcoal and thermally matures) found from the three samples on the master sequence in the Horton Plains, Central Sri Lanka indicate changes in palaeo-vegetation, climate and anthropogenic activities from the late Pleistocene to the early Holocene (15,800-10,110 cal yrs BP). Development of the UMRF has been progressed in association with climatic amelioration during the late Pleistocene environment. Humid climatic condition has prevailed during the early Holocene. Evidence for anthropogenic and natural impact (i.e. burning and clearance) on the montane landscape was found during the late Pleistocene and early Holocene.