

**CURRICULUM VITAE**  
**Rohana Chandrajith**  
(as on 30.08.2021)



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**Brief Statement of Research Interest**

My research has mostly involved in the field of environmental geochemistry. I have a special interest in the bridging of disciplines, including the chemical, biological and geological sciences, to address multi-faceted environmental problems including Medical Geology. My current projects include estuarine and freshwater geochemistry and isotope applications in low temperature geochemical processes.

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**1. PERSONAL INFORMATION**

**Full Name** Rajapaksha Liyanarachchige Rohana Chandrajith  
(Rajapaksha L.R. CHANDRAJITH)

**Gender** Male

**Date and place of Birth** 1963 June 10 (Gampaha, Sri Lanka)

**Citizenship** Sri Lankan

**Present Addresses**

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**2. EDUCATION BACKGROUND**

| Degree | Date Obtained | Date enrolled | Institution  | Study area (Major) |
|--------|---------------|---------------|--|--------------------|
| Ph.D.  | 1999.06.19    | 01.09.1996    | Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany | Geochemistry       |
| M.Sc.  | 26.09.1994    | 01.10.1992    | Shimane University, Japan                                    | Chemistry          |
| B.Sc.  | 19.09.1988    | 02.01.1984    | University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka                          | Geology            |

### 3. PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS/FELLOWSHIPS

- \* Fellow of National Academy of Science, Sri Lanka
- \* Fellow of Institute of Geology, Sri Lanka

### 4. CURRENT POSITION

12.09.2008 to date Senior Professor in Geology  
(Teaching in undergraduate and postgraduate level; research; administrative activities at the University)

### 5. PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCES/CAREER RECORD

| from       | To         | Position  | Reason for leaving   |
|------------|------------|---|--|
| 2008 Sept. | 2016 Sept  | <b>Professor in Geology</b><br>University of Peradeniya                                   | Promoted   |
| 2002 Oct.  | 2008 Sept. | <b>Senior Lecturer- II</b><br>University of Peradeniya Sri Lanka                          | Promoted   |
| 1999 Dec.  | 2002 Sept. | <b>Senior Lecturer-</b><br>Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka                           | Resign and accept the position at University of Peradeniya |
| 1996       | 1999 Dec.  | <b>Ph.D. Scholar</b><br>University of Erlangen-Nürnberg                                   | For graduate studies                                       |
| 1994 Oct   | 1995 Sep.  | <b>Lecturer</b><br>University of Peradeniya Sri Lanka                                     | resigned   |
| 1992       | 1994       | <b>M.Sc. student</b><br>Shimane University, Japan   | Completed and returned to home country                     |
| 1990       | 1992       | <b>Assistant Lecturer</b><br>University of Peradeniya Sri Lanka                           | To accept the MSc position at Shimane University, Japan    |
| 1988       | 1990       | <b>Trainee Research Officer/Geologist</b><br>National Aquatic Resources Agency, Sri Lanka | Resigned to accept a position at University of Peradeniya  |

#### Other Positions

2006 Sept- 2007 Dec. George Forster Research Fellowship from Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (Germany); for Postdoctoral Research at University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany (15 Months)

2019 July- 2020 Jan. Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship (Germany); for Research at University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany (6 months)

### 6. RESEARCH FUNDING AND SUPERVISION

#### 7a: Research grants/Equipment awards

| Year    | Granting Agency  | Project title   | Grant Value | Status    |
|---------|--|---|-------------|-----------|
| 2004-06 | National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka<br>(Principal Investigator) | <i>Water quality variation in tank cascade irrigation system: does a segment of flow through Thawalla act as a constructed wetland?</i> | US\$ 9,000  | Completed |
| 2005-06 | Department of Wildlife   | <i>Seasonal variation in the water quality</i>  | US\$ 16,000 | Completed |

|         |  |  |              |           |
|---------|--|--|--------------|-----------|
|         | Conservation, Sri Lanka<br>(Co- Investigator)                                  | <i>and availability and aquatic faunal and floral diversity in Yala and Wilpattu National Parks.</i>                                   |              |           |
| 2005-06 | Department of Wildlife Conservation, Sri Lanka<br>(Co- Investigator)           | <i>Follow up study of forest die back in Horton Plains National Park.</i>  | US\$ 15,000  | Completed |
| 2004-06 | Department of Wildlife Conservation, Sri Lanka<br>(Co- Investigator)           | <i>Assessment of water quality in the water bodies of Bundala National Park and evaluation of its impact on micro and Macro fauna.</i> | US\$ 17,750  | Completed |
| 2007-08 | University of Peradeniya<br>(Principal Investigator)                           | <i>Cadmium in the geoenvironment of Sri Lanka.</i>   | US\$ 900     | Completed |
| 2008    | Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Germany                                     | <i>Equipment Grant to purchase an Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer.</i>   | Euro 40,400  | Completed |
| 2011-12 | IUCN/GEF- Mangroves for Future (MFF)<br>(Principal Investigator)               | <i>Groundwater vulnerability assessment in the Panama coastal aquifer system.</i>  | US\$ 3,340   | Completed |
| 2012-13 | IUCN/GEF- Mangroves for Future (MFF)<br>(Principal Investigator)               | <i>Spatial and temporal variation of water quality of the Panama Lagoon.</i>   | US\$ 5,513   | Completed |
| 2013-16 | Swedish Research Council -Swedish Research Links Programme                     | <i>Monsoon variability and its impact on terrestrial ecosystems in Sri Lanka during the Holocene.</i>                                  | US\$ 10,7000 | Completed |
| 2013-16 | National Research Council (NRC) –Sri Lanka (NRC 12-102)                        | <i>Chemicogeography of selenium in in Sri Lanka.</i>   | US\$ 60,000  | Completed |
| 2013-16 | University Research Grant<br>(Principal Investigator)                          | <i>Biomineralogical characterization of urinary stones based on composition, morphology, mineralogy and microstructures.</i>           | US\$ 17,800  | Completed |
| 2014-16 | Metrohm AG<br>(Switzerland)  | <i>Voltammeter (Metrohm Model- 797 VA Computrace with a scTRACE Gold electrode).</i>   | US\$ 20,000  | Completed |
| 2014-18 | National Research Council Sri Lanka (NRC TO 14-05)<br>(Principal Investigator) | <i>Comprehensive investigation on chronic kidney diseases of uncertain aetiology in Dry Zone of Sri Lanka.</i>                         | US\$ 352,000 | Completed |
| 2015-17 | Alexander von Humboldt   | <i>Chemical and Isotope Evidence for</i>   | Euro 55,000  | Completed |

|         |   |   |              |           |
|---------|---|---|--------------|-----------|
|         | Foundation, Germany   | <i>Hydrogeochemical Processes in the Karstified Miocene Limestone Aquifers in Northern Sri Lanka.</i>   |              |           |
| 2017-19 | National Institute of Health –USA (with University of Connecticut Storrs) | <i>Identifying Contributing Factors to the Progression of Chronic Kidney Disease of Unknown Etiology in Sri Lanka</i>   | US\$ 358,426 | Completed |
| 2017-20 | National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka                                    | <i>To identify the natural history, clinical manifestation, mortality and morbidity of CKDu patients with two controlled groups.</i>                                      |              | Completed |
| 2019-22 | National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka (NSF-NSFC collaboration)           | <i>Assessment of aquifer quality in relation to chronic kidney disease with unknown etiology in dry zone of Sri Lanka through integrated approach and water chemistry</i> |              | ongoing   |

#### 6b: Supervision of graduate students

| Degree         | Year | Student Name      | Title of the thesis   |
|----------------|------|-------------------|---|
| <b>Ph.D.</b>   | 2019 | RS Diyabalanage   | Chemico-geography of selenium in Sri Lanka  |
|                | 2017 | SAMAIK Senanayake | Development of a water quality index to accrete in the vulnerability of chronic kidney disease of unknown aetiology (CKDu) among the groundwater uses in north central province of Sri Lanka. |
|                | 2017 | KPGW Senadeera    | Assessment of groundwater on epidemiology of chronic kidney disease of unknown aetiology: case study in Uva Province.   |
|                | 2013 | AT Herath         | Evaluation of microbiological and chemical quality of commercially available bottled drinking water in Sri Lanka  |
| <b>M.Phil.</b> | 2021 | S.L. Senaratne    |   |
|                | 2019 | R. Rubasinghe     | Distribution and mobility of major and trace elements in groundwater and soils from different climatic zones of Sri Lanka - implications to human health and agriculture.                     |
|                | 2018 | WAP Weerakoon     | Palynological investigations on Gondwana flora from Sri Lanka: Palaeoenvironmental and palaeogeographic implications.   |
|                | 2016 | HAK Gayantha      | Monsoon variability and its impact on terrestrial ecosystems in Sri Lanka during the Holocene.  |
|                | 2008 | WDK Mahathantila  | Water Quality Variation in Tank Cascade Irrigation Systems in Dry Zone of Sri Lanka.  |
| <b>M.Sc.</b>   | 2019 | RMHA Rathnayake   | Characterization of lubricating oil degradation to predict alterations arises during the service life.  |
|                | 2019 | V Vimani          | Determination of inorganic arsenic in natural water by anodic stripping voltammetry with scTrace gold sensor  |
|                | 2018 | HP Amaratunga     | Hydrogeochemical characteristics of groundwater in Wilgamuwa region: an area with high incidence of chronic kidney disease with uncertain aetiology (CKDu).                                   |

|      |                   |  |
|------|-------------------|--|
| 2018 | HMC Ekanayake     | Assessment of the occurrence of dental fluorosis in relation with groundwater fluoride in the Galewela area.                     |
| 2017 | DND Liyanage      | Evaluation of causative factors of chronic kidney disease of unknown etiology of Monaragala district in Sri Lanka                |
| 2016 | EG Rosairo        | Implications of climate on water stress and water quality variations in Daduru Oya basin, Sri Lanka.                             |
| 2016 | D Chathurangani   | Biogeochemical investigation of a mountainous river catchment in the tropical highland of Sri Lanka.                             |
| 2016 | US Yapa           | Mineralogical, geochemical and depositional characteristics of residual, eluvial and alluvial gem deposits in Kolonna, Sri Lanka |
| 2015 | JMH Kumara        | Occupational Hazards related to anaesthetists  |
| 2013 | RMNP Rathnayake   | Carbon sequestration capacity of <i>Rhizophora mucronata</i> (lam.) and community perception towards mangrove afforestation.     |
| 2013 | AAC Priyantha     | Some geochemical aspects of tsunami affected soils in south western coast of Sri Lanka-Present status                            |
| 2013 | A Manjceevan      | Hydrogeochemistry of areas with endemic chronic kidney disease with uncertain etiology in Vavuniya District                      |
| 2012 | HMAGB             | Hydrogeochemical aetiology of unidentified Chronic Kidney Disease (CKDu) - a study from Mahamilakulam, Vunniya                   |
| 2012 | Thilakerathne     | Determination of mercury content in fish marked in Sri Lanka   |
| 2012 | HWG Nimali        | Hydrogeochemistry of groundwater from two dry zone regions of Sri Lanka  |
| 2010 | HMJMK Herath      | Application of statistical techniques in the interpretation of stream sediment data of some rivers in Sri Lanka                  |
| 2007 | A Pragalathan     | Fabrication of grinding wheels using locally available minerals  |
| 2005 | RMLC Karunatilake | Mechanistic modelling of arsenic retention on natural red earth in simulated environmental system                                |
| 2005 | MS Vitanage       |  |

## 7. AWARDS, PRIZES AND HONOURS

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 2006-2007 | George Forster Research Fellowship from Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (Germany);   |
| 1999-2018 | The President's Research Award (Sri Lanka) <b>12 times</b> from 1999 to 2018   |
| 2012      | National Research Council, Sri Lanka Merit Award for Scientific Publications   |
| 2016      | Ananda Coomaraswamy Medal from the Geological Society of Sri Lanka (awarded considering the contributions to the advancement of geology of Sri Lanka)  |
| 2018      | National Awards for Science & Technology Achievements for Excellence in international collaboration for advancement of S&T (National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka)  |
| 2018      | Committee of Vice-chancellors and Directors (CVCD) Excellence award -Most outstanding Senior Researcher in Sri Lanka in the field of Physical Sciences (life time award) (the highest award can be obtained by a academics in Sri Lanka) |

## 8. OTHER ACADEMIC MERITS

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| 2005-2006  | <b>Board Member-</b> Health Emergency Disaster Management Training Centre, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya |
| 2010 -2014 | <b>Coordinator-</b> MSc in Disaster Management, Postgraduate Institute of Science  |
| 2010- 2016 | <b>Editor in Chief-</b> Ceylon Journal of Science  |
| 2016- 2019 | <b>Head-</b> Department of Geology, University of Peradeniya   |

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 2017         | <b>Keynote Speaker-</b> Annual Academic Sessions of University of Ruhuna Sri Lanka   |
| 2000 to date | <b>Referees for Journals</b><br>Paddy and Water Environment (Springer);<br>Journal of Hazardous Material (Elsevier);<br>Geoderme (Elsevier);<br>Journal of African Food Science;<br>Journal of National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka;<br>Hydrological Processes (Elsevier);<br>Environmental Geology/Environmental Earth Sciences (Springer);<br>Journal of Food Composition and Analysis (Elsevier);<br>Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (Elsevier);<br>Catena (Elsevier);<br>Chemosphere (Elsevier);<br>Science of the Total Environment (Elsevier);<br>Environmental Geochemistry and Health (Springer);<br>Journal of Hydrology (Elsevier);<br>Groundwater for Sustainable Development (Elsevier);<br>BMC Nephrology |

## 9. SCIENTIFIC IMPACT OF RESEARCH

### Publications:

#### H-Index (Google) – 30

Books- 1 (International Publisher)  
Dissanayake CB, **Chandrajith R** (2008) Introduction to Medical Geology- Focus on Tropical Environment, Springer, Heidelberg, 297 pp (ISBN 978 642 00484-1).

2 (Local)

Book chapters - 8 (International Publishers)

Articles in journals (peer reviewed publications) - ~125

Research Communications- over 140

Research Gate: [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Rohana\\_Chandrajith](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Rohana_Chandrajith)

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=kd7r8CUAAAAJ&hl=en>