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Prof. Samitha Manawadu holds a Bachelor of Science (Built Environment) in Architecture from the University of Sri Lanka, Katubedde Campus (1977), a Master of Science in Architecture (1982) from the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, and, a Doctor of Engineering in Architectural Engineering (1992) from the Kyoto University, Japan. He followed the Master of Science program in Architectural Conservation of Monuments and Sites (1983-1984) at the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, and the Course of Study on Japanese Culture and Language (1987-1988) at the Osaka University of Foreign Studies, Japan.

His research interests are in the fields of Conservation of Historic Monuments, Vernacular Architecture, Cultural Landscape, History of Cities, and Historic Cultural Routes. He was the Director of the Master of Science in Architectural Conservation of Monuments and Sites program and the Director of the Postgraduate Studies in Architecture at the University of Moratuwa. He was the Director-Conservation of the Wayamba Cultural Quadrangle Project, Central Cultural Fund, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage; and, the Senior Vice-president of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Cultural Itineraries, responsible for the Asia-Pacific region.

Professor Samitha Manawadu served as the Professor of Architecture (2003-2011) and as the Senior Professor of Architecture (2011-2019) at the University of Moratuwa. Since 2019, he has been the Emeritus Professor of Architecture at the University of Moratuwa. He was the Head of the Department of Architecture at the University of Moratuwa in 2003 and 2005-2008. He has teaching experience of 37 years. At present, he is the Chair Professor at the Department of Architecture, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Sri Lanka.

Prof. Samitha Manawadu is a Professional Architect with 47 years of experience. He designed one of the most renowned buildings in Colombo: the Lotus Tower. He was the Design architect of several University Faculties, Administrative Complexes and National Schools. He worked for a leading consultancy firm in Helsinki, Finland (1984/1985); and, a Japanese Consultancy Firm (1988) as the Conservation Architect.

Prof. Samitha Manawadu was the Merit Award recipient of the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Award for Conservation of Historic Buildings (2010); Kyoto Shinbun Cultural Award (1991); Japanese Monbugakusho Award (1987); and, Japan Society for the Promotion of Sciences Award (2003). He received the Outstanding Research Award for 05 years at the University of Moratuwa, between 2010 & 2015.

Prof. Samitha Manawadu has been invited as a Resource Person for workshops/Seminars by several Foreign Universities including Kyoto University, Japan; Peking University, China; Nanjing University, China; Catholic University of Leuven; Fusan University of South Korea, Catholic University of Bandung; NED University of Engineering and Technology, Pakistan; and, CEPT University of India etc.

His research has been published in numerous National and International Journals. Some of the selected publications are as follows.

- Manawadu, S. (2018) Rainwater Harvesting and Eco-systems - Lessons from the History; International Conference on Water Security through Rainwater Harvesting, November 2018, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Manawadu, S. (2017) Resurrecting the Capital City of Mudukondapola; National Archaeological Congress, Dept. of Archaeology, Colombo.
- Manawadu, S. (2017) Use of Lidar Based 3D Mapping in Documenting Archaeological Sites: Quest for Resurrecting Lost City of Mudukondapola; Construction Today, CIOB, Colombo.
- Manawadu, S. (2017) Historic Maritime Traffic and Its Impacts on Spread of Buddhism in Sri Lanka; International Academic Conference in Chengdu, Sichuan, China; Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences; Symposium on the Land of Abundance and Silk Road.
- Manawadu, S. (2016) Adaptive Reuse as a Strategy for Conservation of Dungeons; Conservation of Moon Bastion of the Rampart of Galle Fort; National Archaeological Congress, Colombo
- Manawadu, S. (2016) Historic Maritime Traffic and its Impacts on Sri Lankan Art & Architecture; International Conference on the Grand Canal & Maritime Silk Road, Nanjing, China
- Manawadu, S. (2016) Myths, Beliefs, and, Transformation of Sri Lankan Buddhist Monastic Living Environments; MAAN International Workshop on Buddhism & Contemporary Living Environments over Asia; Kyoto University, Japan.
- Manawadu, S. (2015) Restoration of Gunpowder Magazine of Galle Fort: With Special Reference to Moon Bastion; Sri Lanka ICOMOS Workshop on Preservation of Historic Monuments.
- Manawadu, S. (2015) Understanding Heritage Significance of the Cultural Sites; ICOMOS workshop on Writing Statement of Significance.
- Manawadu, S. (2014) Impacts of Maritime Silk Road on Transformation of Sri Lankan Culture; Beijing Forum 2014, China and the World: Tradition, Reality and Future; the Silk Road: Exchanges, Dialogues, and Cooperation Cross Civilizations, Peking University, Beijing China
- Manawadu, S. (2013) Green Architecture Concepts Embodied in Sri Lankan Traditional Architecture and its Dynamism; International Symposium Arsapex 2013; Parahyangan Catholic University, Bandung, Indonesia.
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- Manawadu, S. (2010) Ancient Pilgrimage Routes in Sri Lanka as Extensions of Silk-Road. International Conference on Historical Religious and Cultural Routes, Madrid, Spain.

- Manawadu, S. (2009) Re-enlivening of Historic Quarter of a World Heritage City; Revitalisation of the residential district of the fort of Galle, Sri Lanka. Professor Shuji Funo Felicitation Volume, Shiga Prefectural University, Japan.
- Manawadu, S. (2008) A Social Conservation Approach for Preservation of Living Heritage in the World Heritage City of Galle; (Private Houses Rehabilitation Project); Faculty of Architecture Research Symposium., Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Manawadu, S. (2008) Preservation of Cultural properties of the Fort of Galle, Sri Lanka; A paper submitted to the International Conference on the Cultural Itineraries of ICOMOS. Burgos. Spain.
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