## **Contents**

Acknowledgements	vii
Preface	ix
Introduction	xii
1. Women of the Early Period: Ideas and Activism	1
2. From Ideas to Institutions	35
3. The UN Decade for Women: Its Significance	70
4. Women's Engagement in Civil Society: Activism	127
in the Periphery	
5. War Zones in the East and North of Sri Lanka	158
6. The Plantation Economy: Its Manifestations in the Movement	198
7. Women in Collective Protest Movements.	219
Notes	275
Bibliography	276
Annexures:	
1. Visual Representation of Women's Activism	286
2. Social Welfare Groups in the Eastern Province	291
3. Organisations and Persons Interviewed	291
4. On the Franchise Movement	298
5. Women for Peace	299
Index	303