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FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES
RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA - MIHINTALE

The Second National Research Symposium on Social Sciences and Humanities (NRSSSH-2023)

"Promoting Multidisciplinary Research for National Development"

Symposium Proceedings

31st October 2023

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
Mihintale - Sri Lanka
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The Second National Research Symposium on Social Sciences and Humanities
(NRSSSH-2023)

'Promoting Multidisciplinary Research for National Development'

Symposium Proceedings

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The Second National Research Symposium
Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

NRSSSH-2023

Symposium Proceedings

Message from the Vice Chancellor

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Communicating this letter for the book of abstracts of the 2nd National Research Symposium on Social Sciences and Humanities (NRSSSH 2023) gives me tremendous pleasure. I would like to start by extending a hearty welcome to all of the delegates and presenters to our university and the symposium.

I firmly believe that this national symposium on social sciences and humanities will provide opportunities for Sri Lanka's fresh and seasoned scholars to present their work and exchange viewpoints with the academic community and general public.

We are living in a time of social and economic crisis. It is the duty of universities and other higher education institutions to use the information they acquire from research to address the nation's pressing problems. Therefore, choosing *"Promoting Multidisciplinary Research for National Development"* as the symposium's theme will enable the nation to use the knowledge gathered from research to address its most pressing national challenges.

It is significant that by putting together this national symposium, the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities has shown the much-needed initiative to support research culture. I would like to thank the dean, the NRSSSH 2023 organizing committee, and the faculty members for their outstanding motivation, perseverance, and hard work in putting this symposium together. I have no doubt that this event will give us a platform to grow our relationships through information exchange and will also give research collaborations the push they need.

This symposium, I hope, will serve as a springboard for creating new concepts for a better future.

Professor (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara
Vice Chancellor
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Message from the Dean

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka played a prominent role in numerous academic events, showcasing the faculty's leadership in impactful research throughout the year 2023.

The second national research symposium marks the seventh academic conference for the faculty, with the primary goal of cultivating stronger connections among academics, researchers, and industry professionals, all collaborating to achieve common objectives. In the pursuit of impactful research, it is essential to recognize that research cannot thrive in isolation. The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities shares this ethos. I am thrilled about the ongoing growth of our shared interests, as they continue to fuel innovative collaborative research initiatives with like-minded partners.

Our faculty includes a companionship of dedicated academicians whose research expands the boundaries of our knowledge and imagination and they have designed teaching and learning processes on the basis of research backgrounds and practical experiences for wide-ranging careers and lifelong learning. Academic Conferences support them to gather scholars and discuss their ideas to find new things and solutions for problems in their disciplines. Thus, this conference hosted by the Faculty of the Social Sciences and Humanities provides contributions at institutional, national, and international levels to the fields of Social Sciences and Humanities. The Conference theme *"Promoting Multidisciplinary Research for National Development"* brightens the above purpose.

On this remarkable occasion, as the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, I would gratefully congratulate all the contributors including the organizing teams, and administration for making this event a reality and especially for researchers and paper presenters on their astonishing achievements.

I wish you all the success.

Professor D. Thusitha Mendis
Dean - Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Message from the Symposium Chair

The Second National Research Symposium on Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

It is with great pleasure, as the Symposium Chair and the Editor in Chief, I write this message for the proceedings of the 2nd National Research Symposium on Social Sciences and Humanities (NRSSSH-2023) organized by the Faculty Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, under the theme of *"Promoting multidisciplinary research for national development."*

Research is new knowledge, and it helps to enhance the innovative skills of society. Regarding this aspect, Universities play a significant role in providing a platform for the academic community to publish their new findings and provide new knowledge to empower the community. NRSSSH 2023 is a golden opportunity for researchers to share their knowledge, experiences, and the outcomes of research and contribute to disseminating valuable, innovative findings to a well-read audience.

On behalf of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, I warmly welcome Professor Shirantha Heenkenda, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura as the Key-note speaker and the other invitees.

NRSSSH 2023 would not have been possible and successful without the generous support of Prof. Sanjeewani Ginigaddara, the Vice-Chancellor of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Prof. D. Thusitha Mendis, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Department coordinators of the Symposium, all academic and non-academic members of the faculty, and all the support received from the administrative staff of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, authors of the papers and review board members. Finally, I welcome all the paper presenters, reviewers, and all participants.

I hope the NRSSSH 2023 will be a successful, productive, interactive, and memorable event in the history of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

Dr. W.M. Tikiri Bandara Wijepala
Dept. of Archaeology & Heritage Management
Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Keynote Speech

The Second National Research Symposium on Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

Dear Vice Chancellor, Conference Chair, Conference Secretary, Deans of the University, Heads of Departments, Presenters, My colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am deeply honored to stand before you today as we come together to explore the theme of promoting multidisciplinary research for national development. First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the university and the organizing committee for inviting me to speak at this prestigious event. Today, we gather not only to celebrate the diversity of knowledge but also to recognize the power that multidisciplinary research holds in shaping the future of nations.

Multidisciplinary research is like a prism, allowing us to see the world from various angles, revealing new insights and innovative solutions. In today's globalized world, challenges and opportunities are complex, interwoven, and ever-evolving. The problems we face often transcend the boundaries of individual academic disciplines, making it imperative for us to work together across traditional boundaries.

As we are aware, Sri Lanka, like many other nations, faces its own unique set of challenges and aspirations. Hence, the theme you have selected is not only relevant but also very timely. Therefore, let us examine this topic in little more detail to see the multiple benefits of multidisciplinary approach. Following are some of them.

- Comprehensive problem-solving: Complex problems often require insights and perspectives from multiple disciplines. By bringing together experts from various fields, the multidisciplinary approach enables a more comprehensive understanding of the problem and facilitates the development of effective solutions. It helps to break down the barriers between disciplines and encourages collaboration, leading to more holistic problem-solving.

- Innovation and creativity: When individuals from different disciplines collaborate, they bring their unique perspectives, knowledge, and methodologies to the table. This diversity of thinking promotes creative and innovative ideas that may not have emerged within a single discipline. The multidisciplinary approach fosters cross-fertilization of ideas and encourages the exploration of new approaches, leading to breakthroughs and advancements.

- Tackling complex challenges: Many challenges faced by society, such as climate change, public health crises, or sustainable development, are multifaceted and interconnected. Addressing these challenges requires an understanding of their

social, economic, environmental, and technological dimensions. The multidisciplinary approach enables the synthesis of knowledge from different disciplines, allowing for a more comprehensive analysis and effective solutions to complex problems.

- Improved decision-making: Decision-making is often enhanced through a multidisciplinary approach. By considering diverse perspectives, potential risks and benefits can be evaluated more thoroughly, leading to better-informed decisions. Incorporating insights from various fields helps to identify potential unintended consequences and optimize decision-making processes.

- Enhanced research and knowledge creation: The multidisciplinary approach promotes cross-disciplinary research collaborations, which lead to the generation of new knowledge and insights. It encourages researchers to transcend the boundaries of their respective fields, fostering innovation and the discovery of new connections. This interdisciplinary research can uncover novel approaches and lead to breakthrough discoveries.

- Real-world applicability: Many real-world problems do not neatly fit into a single discipline. The multidisciplinary approach recognizes the complexity and interconnectedness of real-world challenges and aims to bridge disciplinary boundaries. By considering multiple perspectives, the solutions and outcomes derived from the multidisciplinary approach are often better suited for real-world application.

- Personal and professional growth: Engaging in multidisciplinary work can broaden individuals' horizons and expand their knowledge base. It encourages intellectual curiosity, adaptability, and the development of a diverse skill set. By working with experts from different disciplines, individuals can gain new insights, learn new methodologies, and enhance their problem-solving abilities.

The above are some of the diverse ways in which multidisciplinary approach can help us. However, we cannot satisfy ourselves with the above theoretical arguments alone. We need to see the practical application of multidisciplinary approach in real world situations. Therefore, let me cite some of the areas and disciplines that have benefitted from the multidisciplinary approach.

One such main area is Healthcare. For instance, the treatment of complex diseases like cancer requires not only a multidisciplinary team ranging from oncologists to pathologists, but also comprehensive treatment plans. The successes we have achieved so far in healthcare sector can largely be attributed to such multidisciplinary efforts.

Another area is Urban Planning and Architecture: Urban planners, architects, engineers, environmental scientists, sociologists, and economists work together to create sustainable and livable spaces. By incorporating various perspectives, they consider factors such as aesthetics, functionality, environmental impact, social dynamics, and infrastructure requirements.

Environmental Science is another: Environmental challenges, such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution, demand a multidisciplinary approach. Scientists from fields such as ecology, climatology, biology, geology, and policy collaborate to understand complex environmental systems and develop strategies for mitigation and conservation. This multidisciplinary approach helps in assessing the impacts of human activities on the environment and identifying sustainable solutions.

An emerging field where multidisciplinary approach can largely be seen is Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (AI): Data science and AI involve the integration of knowledge from computer science, mathematics, statistics, and domain-specific fields. Experts from these disciplines collaborate to develop advanced algorithms, predictive models, and data-driven insights. By combining expertise, they can extract valuable information from complex datasets and apply it to various domains, including healthcare, finance, marketing, and transportation.

Renewable Energy is yet another: The development and implementation of renewable energy technologies require a multidisciplinary approach. Engineers, physicists, chemists, environmental scientists, and policy experts collaborate to optimize energy generation, storage, and distribution systems. This approach considers technical feasibility, environmental impact, economic viability, and policy implications to promote the transition to sustainable energy sources.

An example from industry where multidisciplinary approach is increasingly applied is Product Design and Innovation: Engineers, designers, marketers, psychologists, and anthropologists work together to create user-centric and marketable products. By incorporating diverse perspectives, they can understand user needs, design aesthetically appealing products, and ensure functionality, usability, and emotional appeal.

Finally, when we examine our own field of Education, we see how a multidisciplinary approach enhances learning experiences. Educators, psychologists, curriculum developers, and technologists collaborate to design curriculum frameworks, instructional strategies, and educational technologies. By considering cognitive, social, emotional, and technological aspects, they create effective and engaging learning environments.

These examples illustrate how the multidisciplinary approach is applied across various fields to address complex challenges, foster innovation, and achieve comprehensive solutions. We notice its crucial role in fulfilling societal, industrial, educational, and technological needs of the people. Then, what about humanities and social sciences? No doubt, humanities and social science education at the university level which started with the establishment of the Ceylon University College in 1921 has had a chequered trajectory. Yet, a reflective enquiry reveals to us that these two disciplines have always helped humanity by providing a broader understanding of the world in which we live, largely due to the emphasis on multidisciplinary approach in the recent past. Therefore, let us briefly examine its application in humanities and social sciences also.

In the humanities, disciplines such as history, literature, philosophy, art, and linguistics can be combined to explore various aspects of human culture, expression, and thought. For example, a historical event like Renaissance could not have occurred without the integration of arts and science thereby fostering a more holistic understanding of the world, driving innovation, and contributing to the cultural and intellectual revival of the

period. Similarly, a holistic view of humans and their environments throughout history would not have been possible if not for the integration of knowledge and methodologies from various disciplines such as history, ecology, geography, and even literature.

In the social sciences, which include disciplines like sociology, psychology, anthropology, political science, and economics, a multidisciplinary approach allows for a more comprehensive understanding of human behavior, societies, and societal issues. For instance, studying a social issue like poverty may involve analyzing economic factors, understanding the psychological impact on individuals, examining cultural and sociological factors, and exploring political and policy dimensions.

Hence, by adopting a multidisciplinary approach, researchers and scholars can leverage the strengths of different disciplines to address complex questions and generate more holistic insights. This approach encourages collaboration, encourages critical thinking, and promotes a broader understanding of the subjects being studied. It also opens up opportunities for interdisciplinary research, where scholars from different fields work together to tackle complex problems that require expertise from multiple disciplines. Overall, by embracing multidisciplinary research, we unlock the potential to address these challenges comprehensively and accelerate our development.

Once again, let me extend my deep appreciation for the opportunity to address this distinguished gathering. Your dedication to advancing knowledge and promoting the exchange of ideas across disciplines is truly commendable. It's through events like these that we can continue to push the boundaries of human understanding and work collaboratively to find solutions to the challenges of our time. Thank you for your attention, and I look forward to the exciting discussions and collaborations that will undoubtedly emerge from the rest of this conference.

Thank you!

Prof. Shirantha Heenkenda
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AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDY BASED ON METAL ARTIFACTS REPORTED FROM PROTO - HISTORIC BURIALS IN THE DRY ZONE OF SRI LANKA

D. Thusitha Mendis[1], Janeena Nonis[2]

Most of the proto-historic burials in Sri Lanka are located in the dry zone and Andarawewa-Galgamuwa, Palippothana, Wahalkada, and Janakapura can be identified as some burials that clearly dated to the mentioned era in association with excavations. The aim of this research is to investigate the metal usage of proto-historic people in the dry zone of Sri Lanka through the findings of mentioned archaeological sites. With regards to the studies based on metal objects retrieved from these burial complexes, the metal consumption (iron, copper, and steel) of the middle basins of Malwathu Oya, Mee Oya, Yan Oya, and the upper and lower basins of Ma Oya, in 5th - 3rd century BC can be recognized significantly. According to the archaeological research based on Andarawewa megalithic burial site (conducted in 2017), it belonged to the 491 BC - 366 BC time period. A chisel was found among the metal objects recorded from this site and as stated by the analysis, it was identified as a pure steel artifact. Therefore, even though there are countless proto-historic metal objects, retrieved from various environments and contexts in Sri Lanka, the oldest steel manufacturing features can be seen in Andarawewa (500 BC); in the middle basin of Mee Oya, the north-central zone of the country. Furthermore, the megalithic burial complex in Palippothana in Kahatagasdigiliya divisional secretariat, Anuradhapura district, also can be defined as an important context when considering the archaeo-metallurgy of Sri Lanka. Iron rods, copper rods, steel blades and many metal objects were recorded from the excavation propagated in 2020 and they belonged to the ancient people who lived in this area in 369 BC - 165 BC. An excavation based on the megalithic burial site in Wahalkada; located in the middle basin of Yan Oya - Anuradhapura district was conducted in 2018 and steel blades, and copper objects dated to 420 BC were retrieved from the field activities. Moreover, the most important details related to the proto-historic metal usage in the dry zone of Sri Lanka can be identified also through the steel chisels and objects found in the megalithic mortuary complex in Janakapura; located in the lower basin of Ma Oya, Mullaitivu.

Keywords: Proto-historic Period, Metal Objects, Megalithic Burials, Chisels

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AN EXPERIMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE RECONSTRUCTION OF BLACK AND RED WARE POTTERY

D. Thusitha Mendis[1], Chandana Rohana Withanachchi[2], Chanaka Adhipaththu[3], Indika Ruwan Kumara[4], HGKN. Bandara[5]

Black and Red Ware pottery is found in proto-historic archaeological contexts in the Indian region including Sri Lanka. These pottery wares were used in Sri Lanka from the 10th century BC to the 3rd century AD. Archaeological studies have confirmed that these vessels were produced in ancient times for burial rituals and various domestic uses. This experimental archaeology of the technique used in the creation of this pottery, which features a black interior and red exterior, was conducted through research. This BRW pottery ware, which was used in this country two thousand five hundred years ago, was recreated and studies were conducted on its burning technology. In this research, it was clear that the composition of the clay used for the creation of Black and Red Ware is important for the finish of the pottery. The percentage of sand in the clay used to create these pots was about twenty percent, which prevents the pottery from bursting and increases the strength of the pottery. In the design of the body of this pottery, its thickness should be determined according to the utility. Prepared pottery is kiln- dried before firing to completely remove water vapor. The kiln set up for firing the pottery was heated with sticks. The steam-removed pot was filled completely with a tenth and then placed inside the kiln, and the fire was lit on top of the folded pot. Since the amount of oxygen inside the pot is reduced due to placing the pot in the hand and lighting it on fire, the combustion causes the pot to turn black due to more carbon binding inside it. Also, during the combustion of the wood piled on the surface of the bowls, it could be recognized that the outside of the bowl became red because the bowl received good oxygen. The archaeological research of this experiment enabled the production of time-bleached pottery with a fine finish, which enabled the identification of the ancient firing technique.

Keywords: Black and red ware, production technique, reconstruction, experiment

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THE INVESTIGATION IS BEING CONDUCTED ON WHETHER THE TWO BEHETH ORUWA IDENTIFIED IN MIHINTHALE WERE USED FOR ARAGAHA SWEDA

DBI. Priyadharshani[1], D. Thusitha Mendis[2]

There are matters regarding historic hospitals mentioned in stone inscriptions and mahawansa in Sri Lanka. According to them kings and other individuals had patronized medical services. Among those, a few main items are installations of hospitals, dispensaries, avenues of revenue for hospitals, supply of medical equipment and medicine, wages and allowances for doctors, etc. It is mentioned that there were hospitals for bhikkus as well as for other people. The hospital that was established near the temple complex of the Mihinthalaya divulged important information regarding medical services that were available in ancient Sri Lanka. The king 2nd Sena 853-887 AD and the king 4th Mihindu 952-972 AD were the kings who maintained the hospital. The hospital site is good evidence of the medical system prevailed at that time. Among these items, the Two "beheth oruva" (medicine bath bed) is one major item. It is a type of fomentation method according to the Ayurveda medical system. The 14th chapter of Charaka Samhita sutras Tana explains in detail about sweating therapy. Avagaha Sweda is one of the sweating therapies among the sweating therapy. It is used for improving sweating in the body. After sweating body becomes light removing poisons from the skin. Not only that, after sweating treatment, it reduced body fat also. Avagaha means submerged or body sink in the medicated liquid. It may be medicated oil, or medicated herbal decoction like that. Special Beheth Oruwa is needed for this treatment. The size of Beheth Orwa and the use of liquid depends according to the patient's health condition. Physicians should choose the type of liquid and size of the tub. Patients can lie down or sit to take this treatment. This treatment should stop as soon as perspiration to avoid dehydrating the patient. Avagaha Sweda is commonly described for the treatment of vata-related diseases (neurological diseases) and the person who is to be given Avagaha Sweda is given a massage with herbal oil. After applying the oil, the body should be kept in the liquid portion. As mentioned in Ayurveda a wide range of medicated liquids used in Avagaha Sweda Vata Shaman or pain-reducing herbal decoction can collect for Beheth Oruwa. According to diseases such as back pain paralysis conditions or any neurological problem, utility liquid may be changed. We can believe that the two medicinal Beheth Oruwa seen in Mihintale may have been used for such treatments.

Keywords: Beheth Oruwa , Aragha Sweda, Liquid portion, Harble

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AN INVESTIGATIVE STUDY OF THE HISTORICAL INFORMATION REVEALED IN THE PRE - BRAHMI INSCRIPTIONS FOUND IN THE RAJAGALA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF AMPARA DISTRICT, SRI LANKA

BMC. Madhusanka Bandara[1]

Archaeological sources play an important role in the study of Sri Lankan historical context. Accordingly, in the investigative study of the facts mentioned in the archaeological sources, a lot of information related to a broad contextual history is revealed and the Rajagala forest located in the village of 'Rajagalathenna' in the Ampara district of the Eastern Province has been identified. The main problem of this research study was to identify the historical background revealed by the Pre-Brahmi inscriptions found at the Rajagala archaeological site. Also, identifying the Rajagala archaeological field, identifying the pre-Brahmi inscriptions found in the archaeological field, and studying the Sri Lankan historical background revealed through those inscription sources can be stated as the primary objectives of this research. The research method used in this research study was the qualitative research method. Accordingly, data was collected under the participatory observation method using the field study method. Also, while conducting this research, secondary literature sources were also studied. In analyzing the data related to the research, an automated analysis method was used. Accordingly, through the classification of the sources of inscriptions found in the Rajagala archaeological field, inscriptions referring to the religious history of this country can be identified. Accordingly, the cave ashrams granted to the monks by the princes are also mentioned. Also, the caves donated by 'Parumuka', 'Gamika' to the monks, the caves donated to the monks by ordinary people, the names of various people, positions, names of caves, caves etc. are many sources of inscriptions. Thus, it seems that a lot of historical information about this country is revealed through these inscription sources. An inscription confirming the visit of Mihindu Maharahat to Lakdiwa, which is considered an important milestone in Sri Lankan Buddhist history, has also been found. Moreover, the facts that confirm the accuracy of the facts found in the literary sources about the 'Mahindagamana' can be identified with this Rajagala Pre-Brahmi script. Among the personal names included in the Rajagala pre-Brahmi inscriptions, the personal names 'Devanapiya, Gamini, Lajjitissa, Abhaya Tissa, Buddhadatta, Tissagutta, Nandika' and the titles 'Raja, Maharaja, Gamika, Upasika' have been identified. Also, many cave names and rock names are recognized. Thus, as a whole, through this research study, the information mentioned in the Prag Brahmi inscriptions found in the Rajagala archaeological field is confirmed by literary sources, which confirms the accuracy of the information and it can be concluded that there is a lot of information. It is revealed that it can be identified in the historical context of this country.

Keywords: Archaeological sources, Cave names, Inscriptions, Mahindagamana, Pre-Brahmi, Rajagala

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THE USAGE AND TECHNOLOGY OF STONE TOOLS FROM THE BEGINNING TO THE END OF PREHISTORIC TIME IN SRI LANKA

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Sri Lanka's human history can be classified into three periods: the Prehistoric era, the Proto-Historic era, and the Historical era. Archaeological findings reveal that the earliest evidence of Prehistoric human settlements dates back to 125,000 years ago in Sri Lanka, where stone tools were utilized for daily consumption needs. This research emphasizes the importance of future exploration and knowledge in the Evolution of Human Stone Tool Usage and Technology in Sri Lanka's Prehistory, highlighting the need for specific approaches and systematic reporting of past research implications. This study aims to understand how Prehistoric humans used technology in their daily lives, crafted stone tools based on their needs, and adapted to changes through human evolution. Secondary sources such as reports, magazine extracts, and internet web pages were used for data collection which cannot be subjected to post-revisions. Focusing on the results of this overall research work, it can be understood that there are several key implications. The stone tools like "Flake Stone Tools", "Core Stone Tool", "Discoidal Choppers" found from the "Rathnapura Soil Starta", surrounding places and outside areas like, "Kuruwita", "Gonapitiya", "Malwana", "Ruwanwella" where Sri Lanka's oldest Prehistoric stone tools are found - used by them with remarking significant evidences that can be used to prove their incredible intelligence. Such as, "The Sri Lankan Homo Sapiens Man modified the 'Hammer Shaped Stone Tools', 'Sharp-edged stone tools' presented by highly carnivorous Homo Neanderthalensis Man, acoording to their omnivorous food habitat."

Keywords: prehistoric era, stone tools

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AN ANALYSIS OF HOW WORLD REVOLUTIONARY TRENDS INFLUENCED ON SRI LANKAN POLITICAL MOVEMENT (A HISTORICAL STUDY)

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In 1796, the British captured coastal areas from the Dutch and subsequently, in 1815 the entire Island was under them. The geographical location of our country is vital to maintaining their authority in other colonial countries in Asia. The main objective of the British rulers here was to gain economic benefits through different ways. Under their rule economic, political, and cultural freedom faded. To rebuild our nation, the national movement played a significant role, and their activities were influenced by the national freedom movements of other countries especially India, America, France, Myanmar, Japan, Italy, Ireland and China were prominent. Activities of powerful political activists in India and anti-British propaganda policies,1215 Magna Carta Movement, 1688 Bill of Rights Declaration, American Independence, French Revolution, Thoughts of thinkers Joseph de Valera Concepts and thoughts are useful of Sri Lankan leaders. Later, a political reform movement was vehemently influenced by contemporary world situations. Therefore, it is obvious that the political movement fostered through several foreign revolutionary trends. Though there are several research available on the Ceylon political movement so far no one has conducted a serious study on the trends of foreign influences in this area. This research will be helpful for future research students who are engaging in studying national movements. The aim was to identify how the Sri Lankan political movement fostered and the various foreign ways that influenced the Sri Lankan political movement. This research has been conducted through qualitative research method. It is expected to collect data from primary and secondary sources and from scholars who are engaged in this area. Furthermore, to gain constitutional reforms and forward their demands, the above-mentioned political movements were immensely helpful. They got encouragement through this national movement by patriotism, self-confidence, organization, and radicalism.

Keywords: British, National Buddhist revivalism, National movement, Political movement

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GEOARCHAEOLOGY OF RAJAGALA CAVE MONASTERY, EASTERN SRI LANKA

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The Rajagala archaeological site is a Rock Shelter Buddhist monastery constructed during the king Lajjitissa period, (119-109 BC). The entire monastery had been developed on a small hill of a mountain range running Northeast-Southwest direction. The aim of this research was to study the geoarchaeological background of the site. During the field visits, geological background including petrology, pedology and geomorphology were studied based on their physical properties such as types of minerals, texture, and morphological features. In addition, special attention was made to the study of rock quarrying and carving and different developments of rock shelters by measuring the sizes of shelters and wedging holes and the shapes of shelters and wedging holes. The results revels that the bed rock geology of the entire monastery characterizes with high grade, metamorphosed granitic rocks known as Granitic Gneiss of Vijayan Complex. The monastery consists of more than 100 rock shelters converted to Buddhist meditation centers. Both bed rock shelter and boulder rock shelters are dominant. The quarrying has been done by applying wedge quarrying technique characterized by the oval shape wedging holes specific to Anuradhapura period. The natural rock shelters had been converted to meditation centers, temples with shrine rooms and monk residence. Natural springs appeared at those shelters and had been used to take the cooling effect evidencing for the knowledge of ancient people on the behavior of groundwater and bed rock geology. The developed rock shelters show the curtaining of rainwater by constructing drip ledges and further it is well noted the enlargement of the interior morphology of the shelter by removing some parts of the rocks. Hence the Rajagala archaeological site is the first to be recorded as a place with strongly reshaped rock shelters by humans. The applied plasters to the shelters seem mostly clay and lime and material identification is needed. In conclusion, it can be noted that this ancient built environment resulted by excellent understanding of nature specifically geology and geomorphology.

Keywords: Rajagala Buddhist monastery, Geoarchaeology, Rock shelters, quarrying techniques

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AN INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY STUDY ON COLOMBO FORT, MARADANA RAILWAY STATIONS AND DEMATAGODA RUNNING SHED

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Archeology is a subject with a multidisciplinary approach. Industrial archeology can be identified as an innovative approach that has recently emerged. One of the main areas where this subject is intertwined with Sri Lanka is railway transport. Even though research has been done on the historical development of railway transportation since it was introduced to Sri Lanka, there are no industrial archeological studies of railway stations and running sheds. The research problem of this study is to identify industrial archeological features that are currently in use or not without changing the basic form at these sites. The objective of this research is to study the industrial archeological features identified in selected places, the history of Colombo Fort and Maradana Railway Stations, as well as the architectural features, and present the facts in an investigative and explanatory way. Research methods in the field of archeology were used for this research, while primary sources, secondary sources, and field study data were used. The data obtained were presented through descriptive methods, photographs, and sketches. After the analysis of the data, it was possible to identify that many of the early industrial archeological heritages are still in use, and those that have been abandoned are in an unsafe condition. A Victorian-based local architectural pattern can be identified in both railway stations, where the main windows, which are built using bricks, are a major characteristic. Specially, Fort railway station has been built by following the structure of the Manchester Victorian railway stations of Great Britain. A number of civil and mechanical industrial archeological features could be identified at the study sites during this research. The conclusion of this research is that the railway department should initiate an urgent program to protect the industrial archeological heritage that has fallen out of use due to modernization.

Keywords: Industrial archeology, Railway transport, Industrial revolution, Running shed, Archeological heritage

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A RESEARCH STUDY ON SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF 17TH CENTURY SRI LANKA THROUGH THE ARTY - CRAFTY OF THE TAMPITA VIHARAS OF THE NORTH CENTRAL PROVINCE

DMWK. Dissanayake[1]

Tampita Vihara, Temple on Pillars, is a distinctly unique type of image Shrine house found in some ancient Buddhist temples all over Sri Lanka during the colonial period of 17th Century. There are more than two hundred identified Temple shrines on pillars at present. Most of these Temples on Pillars are found in South, North West, Western Province, Sabaragamuwa, Central, and North Central Provinces of Sri Lanka. This Research confines its exploration around the North Central Province (NCP). There are fifteen Tampita Vihars out of which ten Viharas have been newly founded in the above area. Exploring about these Tampita Viharas will pave a good way to understand the ancient Sri Lankan art and architecture, Social Cultural Anthropology and technological and creativity status of ancient designers and craftsmen of the colonial period of 17th Century AD. The study exposes qualitative and quantitative, analysis of Social Anthropological data is used in this study. The study can be considered as survey research which uses the selected Tampita Viharas in NCP for socio-anthropological and ancient technological findings. Therefore, the mixed research method was used as the research methodology for this research. There, interviews such as Chief Reverends, traditional Architectures, and contemporary Leaders of the Villagers were conducted for this research. Also, data was collected to confirm the originality of the research by following the observation method through the videos included on the Research Papers, internet websites related to the Tampita Vihara. This study exposes qualitative and quantitative, analysis of Social Anthropological data is used in this research study. In the Ancient Buddhist society existed at the time, the ancestral craftsmen made various types of visionary creations about art. They created high-end advanced architectures. In these Tampita Vihara ancient creations, a special image of Buddhist temples in Sri Lanka is presented: a building with wooden platforms and walls supporting a timber framed roof perched on raised stone pillars or stumps. As per the recorded data, the origin of these temples on pillars started with the Madawala Tampita Viharaya which is the oldest in the central province.

Keywords: Ancient Monastery complex, Tampita Vihara, Art, Architecture, Social Cultural, Anthropology

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AN INVESTIGATIVE STUDY OF THE PRACTICES OF PREHISTORIC MAN IN SRI LANKA

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About fifty years after Lamarckism that the environment affects the form and organization of animals, Charles Darwin's ideas about human evolution based on natural selection began to emerge. Through this, the characteristics of human settlement began throughout the world. Among the special features of human cultural evolution, a special space is reserved for behavior methods and the aim of this investigation is to study the burial of the dead among the behavior methods of prehistoric humans. Prehistoric man has used various behavioral methods in burying the dead under several circumstances and the identification of those behavioral methods is the research problem of this research. For this, archeological remains found through archaeological excavations, secondary sources, and the internet as a tertiary source were used to present the information. Prehistoric man has used various methods to bury his relatives and friends when his relatives and friends died, among which burial is the main one. This is confirmed by the evidence from places like Pahiyangala cave. Thus, a special feature that can be identified in the burial of dead bodies is the burial of the dead body in a trap. Also, after the first time the bones were put in the corpses and the meat was melted, the relevant bones were taken to the pile and coated with red colored stones. Meanwhile, the rough edges and protruding parts of the skull found in Ravana Ella area were leveled and one side was coated with red colored stones. The manner of burial can be identified. The burial behavior of prehistoric man has been developed in connection with the environment. There, they buried the dead with their heads facing west. It is possible that they tried to symbolize death by placing their heads in the direction of the sunset. Even in the present. Through being able to see this ritual, it is clear that the burial rituals of prehistoric man have come to this day.

Keywords: Prehistoric Man, Abhichara, Master Stone, Trap, Burial

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DISTRIBUTION OF PALEO COASTAL SEDIMENTS FROM AKURALA TO INDURUWA, WESTERN COAST OF SRI LANKA

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Inland paleo coastal deposits up to Akurala were recorded indicating high sea levels in 6000 BP in Sri Lanka. The study is to find out the distribution of the paleo coastal deposits further North from Akurala along the western coast of the country. Hence the examined study area was a 25 km stretch from Akurala and Induruwa. The research was mainly based on the field observations to identify the distribution of paleo coastal deposits, their field characteristics and the characteristics of deposits. Found fossil shells were also identified to genus level. Based on the field observations geographical distribution was mapped using ArcMap 10.8. The texture of the sediments found were physically analyzed by sieving. The results reveal that the paleo coastal deposits are well deposited 2km inland from the present coast. The deposits are characterized with paleo beach rocks, precipitated paleo calcretes, paleo coastal sands, fossil shells and corals. The spatial distribution of the deposits show that those were located at an elevation of less than 20 m and dominantly spread in low elevated paddy fields and marshy areas which should be paleo lagoons. The paleo beach rocks and calcretes are located at a depth of 0.5 m while extending further down to depth of 1.5 m mixing with coastal sands and fossil shells. The marine and coastal shell species found in the study were Meretrix sp., Gafrarium tumidum, Donax deltoides, Donax faba, Bullia vittata, Cerithidea sp., Morula sp., Pythia plicata, Terebralia palustris, Purpura persica, Cypraea moneta, Littoraria undulata and Trochus radiates. As per the radiocarbon dates by Katupotha (1995) the deposits found at Akurala area are old as 6170 ± 7020 BP and 5350 ± 80 BP, hence those deposits found in the study area should also be formed during the same period.

Keywords: Inland paleo coastal deposits, High sea level, Beach rocks, Fossil shells, Coastal Sand

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STATUS OF WOMEN IN ANCIENT SRI LANKA AS DEPICTED FROM SIHALAVATTHUPPAKARANA

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Sihalavatthuppakarana was written by Dhammanandi Maha Thero of the Pattikotti Vihara in the Kantakasolapattana. According to some scholars, this was written in the 3rd century CE. Sihalavatthuppakarana provides facts about the social, religious, and economic situation in ancient Sri Lanka. The objective of the research is to examine the status of women in ancient Sri Lanka according to the facts revealed from Sihalavatthuppakarana. The research question is, "Does Sihalavatthuppakarana reveal the facts about the status of women in ancient Sri Lankan society?". This study was based on a qualitative research approach and used library observation for primary and secondary data sources. Sihalavatthuppakarana and other relevant sources were used. The data were analyzed qualitatively. According to Sihalavatthuppakarana, laywomen in ancient Sri Lanka could engage in religious activities such as offering food and clothes to Buddhist monks. There were Buddhist nuns during the period. Unmarried girls had to take permission from their fathers to become Buddhist nuns. Some women used to do religious activities with their husbands. Some parents used to arrange suitable marriages for their children. Sometimes women had to give a dowry to their husbands' side. The story of Pindapata Visuddhi describes a husband and wife who mortgaged their daughter to get money. According to the facts, women couldn't make decisions only based on their preferences in some matters. But women could engage in various activities, and they played key roles in society as nuns, mothers, etc. It can be concluded that they might have had an important place in society as revealed by Sihalavatthuppakarana.

Keywords: Sihalavatthuppakarana, Ancient Sri Lanka, Status of Women, Laywomen, Buddhist Nuns

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SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INFORMATION REVEALED BY THE NEW EXCAVATION AT ADICHANALLUR PROTO-HISTORIC SETTLEMENT IN SOUTH INDIA

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Adichanallur is an important urn burial site belonging to the proto-historic period, located in the Thuththukudi district of Tamil Nadu state in South India. A new excavation was done here in 2004 and the final report was released in 2021. The objective of this research is to bring out the social and cultural information revealed in its burial patterns, pottery, copper tools, bones, and plant remains. For this, non-field study methods such as libraries, and internet studies were used to provide information. When examining the burial pattern, they belonged to 3 eras: the lower, middle, and upper phases. Redware, and black and redware potteries are mainly found here. Funeral items were buried with the bones as well as separately. There are two methods: primary burial (the whole body is placed in the urn) and secondary burial (only a few bones representing the body are buried with the grave goods). A nude female figure on a clay lid fragment found here may represent the mother goddess. A small number of copper objects and many iron objects have also been found. The examination of the bones found here confirms that the Dravidian people have lived here with various human races such as Mongoloids, Australoid, Negronis, and other human races. In terms of religious beliefs and population composition, there seem to be similarities between the Indus Valley Civilization and this settlement. In conclusion, this research uncovers many important social and cultural information about the protohistoric community at Adichchanallur.

Keywords: Adichchanallur, Proto-historic settlement, new excavation, social and cultural information

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A STUDY ON ANCIENT TEMPLES LOCATED IN KEGALLE, WHICH ARE REVEALING INFORMATION ABOUT THE REIGN OF KING WALAGAMBA

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According to most of primary texts that has written about ancient Sri Lanka, the reign of King Walagamba was belonged to the Anuradhapura era. It is 103BC to 89-77BC. King Walagamba had faced too many challenges, because of his enemies, even he had to hide. Most of time, his enemies were Tamil rulers who overthrown him from his throne. When studying about the history of king Walagamba, there are many places in the country where he has hidden from his enemies and most of that places were located in Kegalle and suburbs. The problem that reasoned to do this research was that finding and identifying what are the religious places located in Kegalle and suburbs where king Walagamba has used to hide from Tamil rebellions. There has been reported in ancient texts that king Walagamba has used religious places to hide. because tamil rebels has not much believed that a king will use that kind of places to hide and Buddhist monks has helped him to fight against Tamil rulers and rebels for uniting the country. It is believed that temples built based on caves like Alawathura, Ganegoda, Katarangala, Salgala, Mathule Alulena are few of that kind of places located in Kegalle. Because these temples have enough archeological evidence to confirm. Apart from those places, there are rumors, which lead someone to believe that King Walagamba has used other locations to hide or any other purposes. However, that belief has only built on people's rumors and there are no existing or acceptable evidences for now. The importance and aim of this research is to reveal the truth of ancient temples located in Kegalle and prove the information about the reign of King Walagamba using the places where he was hiding. The historical research methodology has used to do this research.

Keywords: Ancient temples, King Walagamba, Anuradhapura era

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AN ANALYTICAL STUDY ON THE TACTICS IMITATED BY THE DUTCH IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE KANDYAN COURT: METHOD OF CORRESPONDENCE

OGSA. Ruwanthika[1]

The kingdom of Kandy maintained diplomatic relations with three European nations. Among them, Holland, which has been more successful in diplomatic affairs than any other Europeans, has strategically exchanged letters with Kandy and compensated great results. The distance between the states, the expenditure of unlimited wealth, and the risk of life can be termed as obstacles to communication for the state rulers this time in conducting diplomatic relations. Therefore, correspondence is used to forward the message of the concerned ruler to the recipient without undergoing any editing. Accordingly, it is important to recognize the utility of correspondence as a diplomatic method between different languages and cultures. This study has been conducted through the historical research method by referring sources, for the purposes of interpreting what diplomacy is, identifying the tactics used by the Dutch in correspondence, and identifying the results that arose from following those tactics. Diplomacy is the art and process of dealing between nations. In correspondence, the Dutch used "brief" and the royal court "Kaidapana" to refer to letters. The strategy used by the Dutch for these letters is to address the contemporary ruler in an appreciative manner. Accordingly, the Dutch used praise like "invincible emperor of supreme power, as the clear-shining Sun lifts the dark Clouds and the mist of the Earth" to address the king. Through those strategic methods, Dutch obtained successful results, such as obtaining permission to peel Cinnamon and transporting Elephants through the highlands. From these examples it appears that praising the ruler had to be done reluctantly by locals as well as foreigners. But it seems that the Dutch realized that it was more effective to be at peace with the Kandyan king to achieve their goals and strategically played a subservient role to the king. As they reported to their government, that role has been played only for their own benefit.

Keywords: Brief, Correspondence, Diplomacy, Dutch, Kandy

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AN ANALYTICAL STUDY OF THE GEOPOLITICAL FACTORS INFLUENCING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE POLITICAL CENTER OF THE "ATADASRATA" KINGDOM AT "UDUNDORA" DURING THE 12TH CENTURY AD IN ANCIENT ROHANA

Thusitha U. Dissanayaka[1]

This research investigates the geopolitical factors that influenced the establishment of the political center of the "Atadasrata" Kingdom at "Udundora" during the 12th century AD in Rohana. After the death of King Vijayabahu I (1050–1110 AD), political turmoil led to the division of Sri Lanka into four political centers, namely Rajarata, Dakkhinadesha, Dolosdahsrata, and Atadahasrata. The administrative and political center of the Atadahasrata Kingdom was established at Udundora, known today as Galabedda Archaeological Site, which belongs to the Siambalanduwa Divisional Secretariat in Monaragala district. Most previous historical studies on the establishment and displacement of political centers have predominantly focused on political factors; thus, It has been difficult to identify the most accurate historical picture. The multidisciplinary approach employed in this study facilitates the analysis of the complex interplay between geography, politics, and socio-economic factors, shedding light on the broader context in which the administrative center was established. Through historical analysis and spatial examination, the study identifies Udundora as an ideal location due to its geographical attributes within a protected area. Its situated in the wet zone of Sri Lanka's intermediate climate zone, the region consist abundant water sources, such as the Hadaoya, which originates from Maragala Mountian. Furthermore, the presence of ancient temple ruins, inscriptions, and archaeological evidence throughout the area suggests long-term habitation, including a sizable population during the historical period. The agricultural potential of the region, coupled with its strategic position for trade with both the eastern and southern ports of the kingdom, further enhances its economic significance.

Keywords: Geopolitical factors, Political center, Atadasrata Kingdom, Udundora, Rohana

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A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON PREGNANCY HEALTH LITERACY BETWEEN ANCIENT SRI LANKANS AND MODERN SOCIETY IN NUWARA KALAVIYA

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This comparative study examines the pregnancy health literacy of ancient Sri Lankans and the modern society of Nuwara Kalaviya. Pregnancy health literacy refers to the understanding, evaluation, and knowledge required to effectively engage with healthcare professionals regarding the well-being of pregnant women and those around them. Inadequate health literacy in this context can result in undesired pregnancies, abortions, maternal deaths, and infant mortality. To investigate the state of pregnancy health literacy in modern society, this research draws on literary sources such as Mahavamsa, Saddharmalankara, and SararthaSangraha, as well as inscriptions. Additionally, A field study was also conducted in several traditional villages of Nuwara Kalaviya. The purpose of this research is to find out the measures that can be taken to increase the health literacy of modern pregnant women in Nuwara Kalaviya through traditional knowledge. Rituals such as 'Gab Perahara' and recitation of 'Angulimala Piritha' were performed to seek blessings for pregnant women. Historical records indicate the existence of dedicated hospitals for pregnant women since the reign of Pandukabhaya. Kings such as Dutugemunu and Buddhadasa bestowed gifts upon pregnant women and midwives. Dietary practices during pregnancy focused on consuming nourishing foods while avoiding hot, cold, and bitter items. Pregnant women were provided with nutritious food, including white awara, al rice, king mee, cow's milk, jackfruit, and plantains. The community actively contributed to the well-being of pregnant women, and special offerings were made to them, considering them as 'Doladuka'. However, recent field studies reveal a significant lack of pregnancy health literacy among women. Many problems have arisen due to an improper diet and early or middle-aged pregnancies. Factors such as malnutrition, poor postnatal hygiene, and family or community behavior have degraded women's mental and physical health. In this study, it was found that the traditional knowledge revealed through ancient literature and folk consciousness can be used to increase the sexual and pregnancy literacy of women in Nuwara Kalaviya.

Keywords: pregnancy health literacy, ancient Sri Lanka, Nuwara Kalaviya, modern society, sexual literacy

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INVESTIGATION ON THE GOD STORIES AND MYTHS OF SRI LANKAN SOCIETY DURING THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD (BY LITERARY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOURCES)

SWSG. Wijerathna[1], PWPH. Samaranayaka[2]

In the study of the history of Sri Lanka, the period of the Polonnaruwa Kingdom and its surrounding period or 12th 13th A.D. centuries and its surrounding period is generally considered the medieval period. In the investigation about the social condition of this period, there is the possibility of revealing information through the literary source and archeological source. A significant number of different beliefs and faiths that took root in the society of Sri Lanka during the medieval period can be identified in common. What were the God stories and myths of Sri Lankan society during the medieval period? Is the problem of this research. The aims are also to in this research, the investigation into how the ideas of God stories and myths have existed since the past, the manner in which superstitions and deities were rooted in the society of Sri Lanka during the medieval period and how form they implemented of practice on those God stories and myths, and impact on the society during later societies medieval period. The non-field method was used this research and according to the qualitative research method, the library research method was used to collect data by using primary and secondary sources, analyze the data and draw conclusions. When investigating Sri Lankan society during the medieval period, it is highlighted that mainly Buddhism and related rituals, sacrifices, etc. were rooted in the society and in addition, the concept of superstitions and deities, although not as much as Buddhism, was also highlighted. Evil eye and Evil mouth, Dream Fruit, Astrology, and Kalpa Vriksha Belief It can be recognized how various beliefs such as Hell and Heaven, as well as Shakra, Vishnu, and Shiva, Saraswati, Ananga, Vishwakarma, Surya, Chandra, Rahu, Jupiter, Earthly Woman, Asuras, and Yama, were rooted in society. Especially due to the impacts of Hinduism in the society of this country, it is clearly recognized that various ideas, beliefs and practices are formed in the society of this country and how these impacts later societies in a direct and indirect way.

Keywords: Medieval period, Myths, God stories, Society, Impacts

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COLONIAL INFLUENCES ON SRI LANKAN WEDDING RITUALS: EXAMINING THE SHAPING OF TRADITIONAL CUSTOMS DURING THE COLONIAL PERIOD

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This research explored the profound influence of colonialism on Sri Lankan wedding rituals during the colonial period. The study investigated how the arrival of various colonial powers namely the Portuguese, Dutch, and British, significantly impacted the traditional customs and practices associated with weddings in Sri Lanka. Research question is How did colonial powers influence and shape traditional Sri Lankan wedding rituals during the colonial period, and what were the resulting transformations and adaptations made by the indigenous communities in response to these influences? By examining historical records, anthropological studies, and cultural narratives, this research shed light on the complex dynamics between indigenous wedding traditions and the colonial forces that shaped and transformed them. The study used a multidisciplinary approach with qualitative research methods as the methodology and analyzing historical records and primary sources to explore the impacts of colonialism on Sri Lankan wedding rituals. It delved into the historical context of colonial rule and its effects on social, cultural, and religious aspects of weddings, uncovering specific colonial influences on pre-existing customs and the emergence of new practices. The research investigated the interplay between indigenous Sri Lankan traditions and cultural assimilation processes imposed by the colonizers. It explored how colonial powers controlled local customs, promoting their practices and introducing new elements into traditional weddings. For an example British colonial influence introduced Western customs to Sri Lankan weddings, including the use of white wedding dresses for brides, replacing traditional Sarees. Not only that, the study also examined how Sri Lankans negotiated, resisted, and adapted to colonial influences, leading to the evolution and hybridization of wedding rituals over time. Colonialism profoundly impacted Sri Lankan wedding rituals, reshaping customs and introducing new elements. Communities adapted, creating hybridized ceremonies blending indigenous and foreign elements, like European attire and practices.

Keywords: Colonial Period, Colonial Influence, Traditional Customs of Sri Lanka, Wedding Rituals.

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DIALOGUE IN THE DISSONANCE OF NATIONAL HERITAGE: MULLATIVU, KURUNDI EXPLORATION

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Kurundi Temple, an ancient Buddhist monastery in the Mullativu district, was built by King Khallatanaga (119-103 BC). The monastery, has attracted the attention of pioneer scholars such as Henry Parker, J.P. Lewis, H.C.P. Bell and R.L. Brohier, is a regionally widespread archaeological site. This exploratory study was conducted with the aim of understanding the archaeological features and their value in the field of archaeology, which has been the subject of intense discussion in the field of heritage in Sri Lanka, recently. Literature sources, previous studies, field surveys, field reporting methods and Discussion were mainly used for entire study. Kurundi archaeological site contains a close relationship with ancient Kurundivapi and Thannimuruppukulam and the ruins of Buddhist monasteries, ancient human settlements, iron production zones and ancient road network. This can be seen as an archeological site that faced the internal and external economic and political dynamics in the second half of the Anuradhapura Kingdom. The Kurundi Pabbata Vihara belonging to the second half of Anuradhapura kingdom is the most prominent architectural complex that need to be investigated properly. An intervention aimed at reviving the Kurundi monastery complex in the 1980s and 2018 where excavation and conservation work has been done. In the current socio-political discourse, this archeological site and its identity has become a very prominent place to recover the recent Sri Lankan heritage in that area. According to the available facts, this archaeological site, which started in the oldest historical period of the country, has become important as a religious, economic and political center and it is confirmed that it gradually declined due to internal and external factors around the 12th century AD. Kurundi became a much-discussed heritage site in the country due to the fact that the discourse on national heritage was related to different ethnic perspectives. It is essential to study and build a dialogue about this archaeological site from different dimensions, which can secure the archaeological identity and foster the heritage discourse for the national and international exploser.

Keywords: Sri Lanka, Kurundi Temple, Heritage, Pubbata Vihara, Buddhist Architecture.

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AN INQUIRY ABOUT SUDAKSINNAKARA PRAVENI LAND GRANTS MADE BY ROYALS AND COMMON PEOPLE FOR TEMPLES DURING THE KINGDOM OF KANDY (FROM GAMPATKADA AND POOJA PAPERS)

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Many people have stepped forward to donate land for the temples because as the monastic corporation grew, it became increasingly important to have a reliable source of income in order to support the increasingly complex requirements of the temples. Gampathkada and Pooja papers (palm leaf manuscripts) were used to obtain evidence for this research. What arrangements were taken into account in Sudaksinnakara Praveni's land grant for temples@ The historical research method was employed in this study. Numerous gampatkadas and puja papers from the time period have been examined, and the results of those studies have been compared, analyzed, and conclusions have been made. The Pothgul Vihara Gampathkada Since no one will succeed him as the Praveni Kara, Weerahinne Loku Appu donates his land to Pothgul Vihara in Pothgul Vihara Gampatkada. zThere is no Praveni Kara other than myself, so I'm offering the lands of my Praveni WasanZ. According to the Maragala (Gallenagoda) temple inscription, the lands should pass to the temple when Ekanayake Arachchila's Hewavasang share is left desolate and unun bukti is relished. After eight years of Maragala temple use, Appuhami began robbing the Thiambara land. However, the royal decision held that no trouble could be made in those temple areas.Uda Embilipitiya residents Jalan and Jagin Arachchila have discovered an offering document pertaining to the donation of the aforementioned village to the temple near the village of Naraddawa. The monk, however, believed that the village's request would be granted if it were offered in addition to the lake.Jagin Arachchila and Jalan Arachchila have no legal claim to it. Once everyone, including Liyanagei Liyan Vidane and Rambukkana Arachchila, gave their approval, the donation of the lake and village property could be completed. These facts demonstrate that Bhukiti has been officially granted abandoned property or property without an owner thanks to government involvement and evidence of their future security in providing them as Sudaksinnakara praveni land for temples.

Keywords: Palm leaf manuscripts, Praveni, Gampatkada, Poojapathra, Donation.

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INTEGRATING LESSONS FROM ANCIENT SRI LANKAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INTO CONTEMPORARY SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES (A HISTORICAL STUDY BASED ON INSCRIPTIONS FROM THE ANURADHAPURA PERIOD)

WALP. Dilhara[1]

The main objective of sustainable development is to continue current development processes, conserving resources for future generation's necessities. To accomplish 17 development objectives socially, economically, and environmentally, a three dimensional process plan has been included in the 2030 sustainable development plan. When achieve sustainable development in all disciplines must pay attention to the development of attitudes, the application of technology, social justice, eco–friendly resource consumption. The objective of this research was the identification of ancient sustainable development and the importance of applying it to modern sustainable development. The research method utilized during the survey is qualitative research and the information obtained via inscriptions in the Anuradhapura period has been analyzed using the historical comparative method of study. During this research, it has been identified that knowledge for development is already in the ancient Sri Lankan knowledge system. It has been identified that a qualitative education system which is a pre-necessity for sustainable development existed here, according to the Mihintala inscription. As well main sociological concepts such as social stratification, social organization, protection of human rights, and peace and security has revealed according to the Kondawattawan and Wewalketiya inscriptions. And concepts of food security, environment, and water resource management have been identified through the Anuradhapura slab inscription, the Wesssagiriya inscription, and the Badulla pillar inscription. In conclusion, ancient Sri Lankan sustainable development concepts have effectively affected and aided modern sustainable development concepts.

Keywords: Ancient Knowledge, Anuradhapura period, Epigraphy, Sustainable development

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THE ROLE OF BRAHMINS IN THE SINHALESE MONARCHY: A STUDY BASED ON THE KINGDOM OF ANURADHAPURA

Aniththa Sasikaran[1]

The Kingdom of Anuradhapura founded by King Pandukabhaya in 377 BC, was the first important kingdom in the political, economic and cultural history of Sri Lanka until the Chola invasion in 993 AD. When Buddhism spread to Sri Lanka in the 3rd century BC, many people and kings adopted Buddhism as their religion and it developed into a state-supported religion. Thus, Buddhism and Buddhist priests had influence on the Sinhalese kings and Anuradhapura kingdom is prioritized as a Buddhist kingdom in the Pali literature and by the late historians. However, there are evidences that the Sinhalese dynasty worshiped Hindu gods during this period, many Sinhalese kings built many Hindu temples, supported Hindu religion by participating in Hindu worship, festivals, activities, etc. Thus, the objective of this research is to highlight the role of Brahmins who learned the Vedas and Shastras in the Sinhalese monarchy during the kingdom of Anuradhapura with the help of Pali, Sinhalese literature and inscriptions. Pali, Sinhala literature and inscriptions are the primary sources of this research and the books, research articles and website articles of the scholars who have conducted research on the Anuradhapura period culture, the origin and development of Hinduism in Sri Lanka have been used as secondary evidence. The research has been done with a historical approach using analytical, descriptive and explanatory methods to achieve the objective of this research. Although Buddhism and Buddhist priests had influence on the Anuradhapura government, the Brahmins served in many levels as priests, Rajaguru, ambassadors, physicians, close friends and advisers of kings, military commanders and ministers worthy of the trust and honor of the king and performers of rituals, ceremonies and functions in the monarchy of the Sinhalese kings. Thus, due to their close relationship with the royal family, the marriage relationship arose and a Brahmin being appointed as the king by the Sinhalese queen in Anuradhapura politics. These evidence highlights the position of Brahmins in the Anuradhapura Sinhalese monarchy and the support given by the Sinhalese kings to the Brahmins and Hinduism. Through these, it can be said that during the period of the Anuradhapura kingdom, Hinduism and Buddhism had developed in Sri Lanka in the absence of religious differences between the Tamil and Sinhalese people.

Keywords: Hinduism, Brahmins, Anuradhapura, Sinhala Kings

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INFLUENCE OF HINDUISM DURING THE GAMPOLA KINGDOM - A STUDY BASED ON THE INSCRIPTIONS

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After the demise of its two illustrious capitals, Sri Lankan politics and culture faced a bit of a setback. Among the kingdoms that moved to south-west from Polonnaruwa after the King Kalinga Magha invasion in 1215AD, the Gampola Kingdom shifted from Kurunegala by king Buwanekabahu IV was a period of re-building of culture. In the 14th century, the construction of temples was revived again during the Gampola period. In general, the history of Sri Lanka can be seen, where the political changes that took place from time to time in South India influenced the politics and culture of Sri Lanka. Thus, after the Pallavas and Cholas, Sri Lanka came under the influence of the Vijayanagara Nayaks in the 14th century AD. During this period the influence of Hinduism was reflected in Buddhism and culture. The tradition of worshiping Hindu deities along with viharas also originated during this period. A good example of this is the Lankatilaka and Gadaladeniya Viharas was built in 1344AD. Gampola Kingdom was existed for a short period of time and the administrative bodies were formed fully with the Hindu institutions like Brahmins Sect, Tamil Language with Royal status, the Brahmin's settlements (after the Cholas rule Kantalay caturvedimangalam) Art & Architecture of the period was based Hinduism and Azhakak Konar's relations with Jaffna Kingdom etc. Inscriptions of the Gampola period indicate the influence of Hinduism and Brahmins during this period. The Lankatilaka Tamil inscription is outstanding among such inscriptions. Professor Senarath Paranavithana was the first to read this inscription and translate it into English. In the Lankatilaka inscription, which tells about the worship of the guardian deities of Lankatilaka and the donations given to the Vihara, there is a reference to the donation given by the merchant called 'Pathinen Vishayam'. Also Niyamgampaya inscription, Medawala inscription, Alavala Amuna rock inscription of Buwanekabahu IV, Sagama inscription etc. show the influence of Hinduism and Brahmins in Gampola period. Gampola Kings were Brahmins of Kasi Gothra and they had good religious contact with the Aryachcakkaravarties of Nallur Kingdom and North Indian Brahminical institutions at the time. So far no one indicated the second Brahminical settlements were erected at Gampola Kingdom. But, Sinhalese historians have explain the Gampola Kings were the Buddhist so as the culture is Buddhism. In that way, my hypothesis is to establish that the Gampola Kingdom was a Hindu Kingdom which was built on Hindu Dravida culture as architecture of the Gampola period reflects. As primary data for this research Inscriptions, literatures, books, and research articles related to this research topic have been used as secondary data. This research has been carried out on the basis of historical descriptive and analytical research approach. However, cultural reconciliation between the Sinhala and Tamil can be seen during the Gampola Kingdom through the inscriptions

Keywords: Hinduism, Inscription, influence, Buddhism, Hindu deities

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AN INVESTIGATIVE STUDY ON LEGEND AND FOLKLORE AS REVELED BY INSCRIPTION (WITH A FEW SELECTED INSCRIPTION)

PS. Godakanda[1]

Ancient language is a main source to clarify the factors that helps to adventure about history with an accurately, clearly view. Among them "Mahawansa" is the most important source that explain about Sri Lankan history. But sometime we need some help from other historical sources to confirm about contains and identify the information that has missed in Mahawansa. In Sinhala we called them as "Abhilekhana". Among them, Inscription is the oldest source that we have to learn about the history. It reveals a lot of extant and non-extant information about the past society's economic pattern, politics, religious background and culture. Also, information about folklore and legends. An existing belief, opinion or attitude regarding any historical information taken under the stories transmitted by word of mouth from generation to generation become legends. Folklore is a cultural element that is inherited by any society and has characteristics that are unique to that society. It is for the above reason that folklore and legends are often highlight in the discovery of information related to inscriptions. As an example, there is a folklore about the meaning of the characters and symbols which we can see in the Maha sa maluwa, Anuradhapura. Therefore, the purpose of this research is to find out whether the symbols in inscriptions can be used as a source for investigate about folklore and legends. For that literature study methods are used under the qualitative research method. "Lakdiwa Sellipi" by Ven. Kothmale Amarawansha and "Anuradhapura Samajaya" are used as the main source and the academic writings and research theses which were written about Abhilekana are also associated. Accordingly, this study reveal that the inscriptions can be considered as an important historical source in the discovery of social, political, economic and religious issues, even in the study of folklore and legends.

Keywords: Culture, Folklore, Historical information, Inscriptions, Legends

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CULTURAL GIFTS RECEIVED BY SRI LANKA AS A RESULT OF FOREIGN TRADE RELATIONS IN THE 7TH - 8TH CENTURIES AD (A STUDY BASED ON THE ARCHITECTURE OF SOME SELECTED ANCIENT TEMPLES IN AMPARA DISTRICT)

BMA. Dananjith[1]

Sri Lanka had a very valuable geographical background to mediate trade activities through maritime routes. Because of this, Sri Lanka was able to build trade relations with Eastern and Western Asian countries. The main research problem of this study, whether the architectural elements of the ancient temples, reflect the features of cultural heritage. Which gifted through foreign trade relations in 7ᵗʰ - 8ᵗʰ century AD. Ancient temples located in valley region of Ampara District; Kumbukkanoya, Hadaoya, Vilaoya etc, were used as main study areas. The reason for choosing the relevant Boundary is that this region belongs to the eastern province of Sri Lanka and faces the eastern part of the Indian Ocean. It aims to study the relationship between Sri Lanka and foreign countries through the ancient architectural features of the selected temples. Data was collected (field exploration, Literature resources etc.), classified and analysed using qualitative research method. Around the 7th – 8th centuries AD, when the Southeast Asian states east of Sri Lanka were economically strong, the economic relations between Sri Lanka and those states were more intense. In the meantime, archaeological evidence shows that there was a cultural exchange between these regions. At this time, there is information that the East, Southeast, and South regions of Sri Lanka were constantly open for Southeast Asian relations. In the coastal trade between the east and west of the Indian Ocean, the southern and southeastern parts of the country have been involved in these relations. The studies conducted show that the selected temples in the study area were open to foreign cultural exchange. There were small anchorages along the rivers estuary facing the east coast of Sri Lanka, and since then internal trade has been carried out by small vessels up the rivers. Thus, they may have patronized the temples found on the way up the river, and a similar example can be seen in Southeast Asian states along the Irawadi River in Buruma and the Progo River in Indonesia. Accordingly, it is not difficult to understand the patterns of cultural relations that come through economic relations. In the study of monastic plans, statues, inscriptions, buildings identified in the temples, Mahayana architectural features were seen more. Since an intense spread of Mahayana concepts was seen in the Southeast Asian states by the time of the proposal, it can be assumed that the same influence was received in this country as well. Also, the placement of temples used for economic purposes beyond the religious basis was seen. Thus, by the 7th – 8th centuries AD, it can be concluded that the foreign cultural gifts that came through the global economic changes at that time were evident through the architectural elements of the ancient temples.

Keywords: Monastic architecture, Mahayana concepts, Ancient Indian Ocean trade relations, Ancient Southeast Asia

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Communication

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Mass Media

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COVERT ADVERTISING PRACTICE IN SINHALA CINEMA: WITH REFERENCE TO THE SINHALA MOVIE 'PRAVEGAYA'

Nelanga Jayasinghe[1]

Advertising is one of the powerful communication methods used by advertisers to convey the commercial message to potential and current consumers. Advertisements can be seen in Electronic media, Print media, Celebrity endorsements, Storyline of a film and so on. Covert advertising is inexpensive compared to overt advertising. It is pretty easy to embed the advertising message in a storyline of a movie that is very close to the viewers. Therefore, the viewers can easily recall the product or the brand name when they think about the movie. The main research problem is how Sri Lankan filmmakers used covert advertising in the commercial movies. The main objective of this present study is to understand the covert advertisements placed in the Sinhala movie 'Pravegaya' and it will be useful for the researchers, advertisers and marketers to understand the covert advertising practice in Sri Lankan commercial films. Content analysis method was used to identify the covert advertising in the Sinhala movie 'Pravegaya.' According to the findings TVS Apache motorcycle shots were embedded 167 times in the two hours and twenty-five minutes long storyline. Brand names such as TVS, DFCC, AIrtel, JAT Holdings, American college, Singer Mega, Keels super, Mobitel, Hutch, Etisalat, Munchee, Signal, Litro Gas, Pepsi, Coca Cola, Sunlight and Hacks covertly advertised in the storyline of the Sinhala movie 'Pravegaya'. The brands such as TVS, DFCC, Litro Gas and JAT Holdings were well linked with the storyline of the movie. AIrtel, JAT Holdings, American college, Singer Mega, Keels super, Mobitel, Hutch, Etisalat, Munchee, Signal, Pepsi, Coca Cola, Sunlight and Hacks brands were not very well linked with the storyline and those brands were just used in the background of the movie.

Key words: Covert, advertising, Storyline, Brands, Commercial, Movies

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PSYCHOLOGICAL AND ETHICAL IMPACT ON ADVERTISEMENTS IN MEDIA; A PHILOSOPHICAL INVESTIGATION WITH REFERENCE TO CONTEMPORARY SRI LANKA

RPCH. Perera[1]

Today's world has entered a social and cultural pattern that is guided by a highly competitive market economic system. Through this social and cultural pattern, this economic system and the consumer lifestyle associated with it are spreading and flowing, invading the traditional people's lives all over the world. In order to attract a person to a consumer lifestyle through the traditional way of life, a change in the person's attitude must first be made. In addition to this, if not the behavior of the consumer must be changed. Also, the person or the customer has to be persuaded. Hence, there is a hidden psychological basis behind advertisements. Here the advertiser is tempted to use some psychological tricks. So, advertisement is a subject that influences a person directly or indirectly. Therefore, the main purpose of this research is to find out how far the impact that advertisement has on contemporary Sri Lankan society, the study of ethics of advertisement and the social responsibility of artists. And especially it may discuss on the philosophical view point of decoding advertisement and hyper-real representation of advertisement in relevance to Sri Lanka. Other several propose is are: to understand the modern advertisement culture, to understand the view of Jean Baudrillard's concept of hyper-reality, to re-visit on Saussure and Williamson's view on the decoding of advertisement and to motivate further researchers to explore such field. Several philosophical methodologies such as textual analysis, analytic, and critical method were used to analysis the view of Baudrillard, Saussure and Williamson on the advertisements in media. Mainly primary and secondary sources have been used in analyzing the research. There can be seen the applicability of the theoretical dimension of Jean Baudrillard's hyper-reality to the Sri Lankan context to manifest that the real life has become increasingly saturated with advertisements. And also, Ferdinand De Saussure and Judith Williamson have studied how to decode advertisements and their studies can be applied to understand the Sri Lankan advertisement culture and its effects. According to the critical analysis of this research, it can be concluded that the decoding of advertising is extremely important when looking at the amount of ethical problems that exist today such as giving false facts, stating that old merchandise is new, falsely stating that it is of a certain standard, condition or grade, making double meaning comments and attributing conditions that are not for trade.

Keywords: Advertisement, Ethics, Decode, Consumer, Hyper-reality

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AN INVESTIGATIVE STUDY ON HOW SOAP OPERAS HAVE INFLUENCED LOCAL CULTURAL CIVILIZATION

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Soap operas have long been dominant in the entertainment industry, captivating audiences with their melodious storylines and character relationships. The purpose of this exploratory study is to explore the profound influence of soap operas on local culture. By examining the historical development, social impact, and audience response of soap operas, this research emphasizes the complex ways in which this television drama has shaped and transformed local communities. Multidisciplinary approaches based on theories from sociology, anthropology, and media studies provide a comprehensive analysis of the cultural impact of soap operas. The study was conducted by capturing data from primary and secondary source studies and analyzing them using qualitative research methods. In the analysis of the data, it was possible to identify how soap operas have contributed to the collapse of local cultural civilization. An important finding among the findings of this study is the ability of these soap operas to reflect the audience's cultural values, norms, and aspirations. The soap is known for challenging traditional beliefs and addressing taboo topics such as extramarital affairs such as divorce. The study also examines how soap operas have contributed to the formation of collective identity and community bonds. Also, soap operas have become a cultural phenomenon that unites people across geographical, social, and economic boundaries. Finally, these exploratory studies highlight the profound effects of soap operas on local culture, demonstrating their ability to shape social attitudes, challenge norms, and foster community participation.

Keywords: Soap opera, Culture, Local, Social

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Economics
Governance & Development

IMPACT OF PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYMENT ON ECONOMIC GROWTH IN SRI LANKA

MGDL. Weerasingha[1]

The public service personnel comprise persons employed by public authorities at central, regional, and local levels and include both civil servants and public employees. 15% of the total employment in Sri Lanka is employed in the public sector. These employees were engaged in the economic activities of both industry and service sectors, thereby contributing to the country's gross domestic product (GDP). Accordingly, the main objective of this study is to investigate the impact of public service employment on economic growth in Sri Lanka and examine whether public service is sufficient for Sri Lanka's economic growth. This study used secondary data from 2000 to 2022. The data analysis has been done to identify the relationship between public service employment and economic growth in Sri Lanka and the contribution of the public sector to the gross domestic product as well as the government expenditure of the government employees as well and the calculation of the productivity of the public employment. Empirical and descriptive analysis was used to analyze data using SPSS and Excel software. Productivity Although the service sector contributes more than 25% to the overall productivity, the productivity of the public sector which is a sub-sector is very low. A trend of decreasing productivity in the public sector has been shown by 2022. This can be concluded from the low efficiency of the public sector compared to other sectors and the excess services in that sector employment. Also, the government spends a lot of money annually on the government employees to pay salaries and wages and it gradually increased. Implementation of programs to increase public employment and productivity by cutting excess employment or using that employment productively can be transformed into a sector that contributes more to economic growth.

Keywords: economic growth, employment, GDP, public sector, Sri Lanka

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NEXUS BETWEEN INTERNAL ENVIRONMENT AND SME PERFORMANCE IN SRI LANKA

HABW. Hettiarachchi[1], KS. Denipitiya[2]

The firm's capabilities are the most significant component in setting a company's direction and differentiating itself from competitors. Unlike the external environment of a firm, the internal environmental factors are mainly within the control of the management of a business enterprise. This study uses the resource-based view (RBV) hypothesis to evaluate the impact of the internal business environment on the export performance of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Sri Lanka. The constructs used in this study are adopted from the literature. The firm capability was measured using ten items. Meanwhile, seven items were used to measure financial capability. These items measure the extent of a company's ability to finance its resources to continue its production. Six items are used to measure the management capability of the company. The Entrepreneurial Orientation was measured using nine items covering innovativeness, proactiveness, and risk-taking. Eight items were used to measure the export performance of business companies. The Partial Least Squares (PLS) method using Smart PLS 3 software was used to measure the measurement model in this study with 118 SMEs as the sample. According to the findings, all internal business environment proxies were found to have a significant positive impact on the performance of SMEs. Further, the study reveals that the firm capability, financial capability, management capability and entrepreneurial orientation all have a positive and significant impact on SMEs' performance. Finally, it is concluded that firm capability (Technology, Leadership, Research and Development) and entrepreneurial orientation capacity determine overall business performance. Expanding business market shares within and outside a business's location significantly improves SMEs' performance. The competence of SME managers or management has a significant impact on improving business enterprise performance. This study could be useful for policymakers to plan their activities towards entrepreneurship development.

Keywords: Internal environment, Small and Medium size Enterprises (SME), resource-based view (RBV)

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IMPACT OF MICROFINANCE SECTOR IN SRI LANKA: CASE STUDY BASED ON SURIYPALUWA - EAST GRAMA NILADHARI DIVISION IN GAMPAHA DISTRICT

Ayesha K. Munaweera[1]

Poverty is one of the major threats to the world. Elimination of poverty is important. Microfinance is identified as the one of the powerful instruments for eliminating poverty among people who are economically active but financially poor. The term of Microfinance is defined as the "provision of financial services to low income people". It brings credit, savings and other essential financial services to people who are too poor to be served by regular banks mainly because they are unable to offer sufficient collateral. Microfinance is expected to expand & improve income generation activities & capacities of low income earners. For the progress of this study; SANASA Thrift and Credit Society, Rural Development Bank, Samurdhi Bank and Lak Jaya as microfinance institutions in Suriyapaluwa area were utilized. The main objective of this study was to examine the uses & misuses of Microfinance Sector for the benefitiaries in Sri Lanka with special reference to Suriyapaluwa - East Grama Niladhari Division in Gampaha District. Primary data was used to gather information for this study. Structured questionnaires were distributed among 50 members in Suriyapaluwa-East Grama Niladhari Division who are beneficiating the Samurdhi relief. Finally, the findings of this study was revealed that establishing livelihood & income increase, improving housing conditions, providing credit facilities and empowering women as uses of microfinance sector as well as lack of appropriate regulations for Micro financial Institutions, weak portfolio quality, issues in the village, lack of transparency and lack of suitable human resource were considered as the misuses in Microfinance sector. Thus, it was concluded that micro finance sector has enriched beneficiaries by providing credit facilities as well as women empowerment in the economy.

Keywords: Microfinance, Poverty, Misuses, Empowerment, Income

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THE ANALYSIS OF SMES TO THE SUSTAINABILITY OF SRI LANKAN ECONOMY - SPECIAL REFERENCE TO KANDY DISTRICT

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SMEs play an important role in the generation of employment, contribution to GDP, and export earnings in both developed and developing countries. Sri Lanka contributes 52 percent of the GDP to the economy and causes to achieve sustainable development. The purpose of this study was to analyze the contribution of SMEs to economic sustainability during the economic crisis in the country. This research mainly focused on primary data which were obtained from 20 entrepreneurs in SMEs located in Degaldoruwa Grama Niladhari Division in the Kandy District using the snowball sampling method. Semi-structured questionnaires and group discussions were used to gather data from entrepreneurs. Even though Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are facing economic crises, in the economic sector Relevant information was collected about how it affects sustainability. Thus, the above analytical information reveals that Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) greatly contribute to economic sustainability in the face of the economic crisis. Mostly Kandyan Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are sometimes also conducted by businessmen as an additional source of income in this area. The result is the improvement of employment opportunities, the ability to make export earnings, the improvement of the standard of living, and the economic sustainability of these Kandyan Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Thus, we can conclude that small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are very helpful and this business can strengthen the economy in the Kandyan area of Sri Lanka.

Keywords: Economic Crisis, GDP, Small and Medium Enterprises, Snowball Sampling, Sustainability

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THE LOW CONTRIBUTION OF WOMAN TO THE ECONOMY TO COMPARED TO MEN LEADS TO INFORMAL EMPLOYMENT AND IMPACT ON DEVELOPMENT: BASED ON KELANIYA AREA

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Patriarchy was once dominant, but it has since progressively moved to an equal position. Nevertheless, from a financial perspective, the woman is a prisoner of the economy. Despite breaking the traditional norms that a woman should work as a housewife, there is still a social framework that says a woman should perform reproductive duties, support the family, and do household activities. The fundamental goal of this study is to investigate why women contribute less than men. Due to this situation, informal jobs are being created this had a negative impact on the development of this area. The research area is the Kelaniya local council area. In the Kelaniya area, an informal employment sector led by women has developed. Using a cluster sampling method, data and information from 50 people are incorporated. To obtain a satisfactory outcome in the research, we used quantitative and qualititative primary data and resulting in a mixed method analysis. Those that follow are the main points implied in the study according to the research objectives. Society constructs social norms. The society is structured by classifying jobs as men's and women's. Most women have been confined to the household. Although women have the same abilities and capacities as men, the limited themes of faith, nationality, and culture have been utilized to effectively capitalize on those potentials. As a result, there may be a gap between ensuring women's engagement with social, economic, and political development fields. According to the role of this research, women contribute less to the household economy compared to men. Due to this, women have a tendency to turn to informal employment. Although men in this area are also engaged in informal jobs, the safety and social security of the informal jobs that women are engaged in are relatively low. This is domestic. An increase in violence can lead to the collapse of the household economy, the breakdown of parent-child relationships, and the loss of children.

Keywords: Economy, woman, society, development, trends

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TRENDS IN DIGITAL FINANCIAL PLATFORMS IN SRI LANKA

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Digital financial platforms enable the trading of various instruments, such as stocks, bonds, currencies, commodities, and assets, as well as regular transactions. Especially in post-COVID-19 Sri Lanka, they create opportunities for citizens and contribute to economic growth. The research gap in this study lies in the absence of an in-depth analysis of strategies and policies needed to address challenges in Sri Lanka's evolving digital financial landscape. The study aims to investigate digital financial market trends, challenges, and their role in promoting economic growth and citizen empowerment from 2020 to 2022. The research methodology includes a thorough literature review of Sri Lankan digital financial markets, utilizing secondary sources like research papers, reports, websites, and blogs to identify current trends in the country's digital financial market development. As of January 2022, Sri Lanka had 11.3 million internet users, representing a 4.9 percent increase from the previous year. Additionally, there were 8.2 million social media users, accounting for around 38.1 percent of the total population in 2022. This widespread adoption of digital financial tools, such as mobile payments, online banking, credit cards, ATM cards, and investment apps, including platforms like eZ Cash, Dialog Genie, and various online banking websites and the CSE app, has facilitated online trading and financial transactions via mobile devices. However, as of October 2022, there was a decline in active credit card users in Sri Lanka, with 1.9 million active credit cards decreasing by over 33,000 users within three months due to the country's ongoing financial crisis. These findings underscore both the growth of digital financial services in Sri Lanka and the sector's challenges, including economic uncertainty, income reduction due to inflation, market volatility, technological changes, rising financial service costs, and insufficient consumer education. Addressing these issues is crucial for sustaining the usage of digital financial platforms.

Keywords: Digital financial platforms, financial transactions, Social media, Credit cards

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LEVERAGING BUDDHISM TO ADDRESS SRI LANKA'S TOURISM EARNINGS: A STUDY ON THE COMMODIFICATION OF BUDDHIST PRACTICES

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The current global economic crisis, driven by globalization, has exacerbated economic disparity, particularly in Sri Lanka, which has experienced a severe economic downturn over the past five years, affecting the standard of living for its residents. This research aims to emphasize the feasibility of introducing foreign exchange to strengthen the economy while evaluating the potential of commodifying Buddhist rituals and historical sites as a means to eliminate the economic crisis. Sri Lanka's cultural tourism is recognized by UNESCO, the sacred city of Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Dambulla Temple, and the Sacred Temple of the Tooth are prominent among them. Esala Perahera, Kataragama Perahera, Navam Perahera, Wesak & Poson Celebrations are the most famous Buddhist cultural events that can be used for earning foreign exchanges. The study adopts qualitative data through content analysis which is written, electronic, and digital. The Global Wellness Economy Stands at $4.4 Trillion Amidst the Disruptions of COVID-19; is Forecast to Reach $7 Trillion by 2025. Therefore, various methods of commodification can be used as a solution to earning foreign exchanges such as mindfulness and meditation retreats, mindfulness apps and online platforms, mindful workplace programs, and Buddhist philosophy courses. Spiritual tourism is an important part of the Sri Lankan tourism sector and Sri Lanka Tourism has identified about 20 meditation centers that will provide the greatest contribution to tourism earnings. The Religious Tourism Market is expected to rise at a CAGR of 6%, from $ 1,071 million in 2020 to $ 1,704.2 million in 2028. Revenue in the Meditation Apps segment is projected to reach US$1.82m in 2023 in Sri Lanka. Leveraging Sri Lanka's Buddhist heritage through ethical tourism and mindful practices can boost the economy, with the potential to tap into the growing global wellness market, enhancing cultural and economic prosperity.

Keywords: Economic Crisis, Commodifying Buddhism, Sri Lanka's tourism earning, Cultural tourism

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Environmental Management

Geography

Development Studies

ANALYSIS OF THE ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH WASTE DISPOSAL PRACTICES AND THEIR IMPACTS: A CASE STUDY FROM GANEWATHTHE DIVISIONAL SECRETARIAT DIVISION

KALC. Kuruppu Arachchi[1]

Today, the growth of waste can be pointed out as a major problem in Sri Lanka with an increase in the population. Waste comes in many different forms and they can be categorized using their characteristics such as solid, liquid, gaseous. Today some methods are used to manage the waste such as recycling, landfilling and incineration. This study is based on an analysis of issues associated with waste disposal methods and their impacts related to Ganewaththe Divisional Secretariat Division. This study is based on primary and secondary data with cross - sectional mix methods combining both quantitative and qualitative research methods. A questionnaire was used to collect data and carried out through an interview. In addition, the relevant areas were observed through participation observation. According to the data analysis, plastics, polythene, paper, glass, cardboard and food were main types of waste in the study area. Many environmental and social issues can be seen based on these waste types. The environmental issues are fire on wastes (47.90%). Spread of waste (20%), land pollution (12.1%), dark water and eating waste animals (8%) and other environmental problems is 1% respectively. Furthermore, unpleasant odour is the most common social issue base on waste Ganewaththe DS division area (30%). In addition, scavengers (21%), flies (18%), mosquitoes and cockroaches (10%). domestic animals (9%), rats (8%) and other social issues (4%) were reported. Poor waste management leads to serious socio-economic and environmental impact. Addressing these issues requires waste management policies and efforts that prioritize sustainable waste reduction, recycling and composting practices. Public awareness and educational programs should be promoted on waste sorting and collection, establishment of legal landfills and recycling facilities and importance of good waste management procedures.

Keywords: Waste, Environmental, Social, Disposal methods, Management.

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A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES IN TRADITIONAL VILLAGES

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In recent years, society has undergone various changes due to factors such as urbanization and globalization. Compared to the Western world, such changes are less visible in the Eastern world. The main reason for that is that most of the countries in this region are developing. However, in Sri Lanka, which is located in the eastern world, various ancient features can be seen even today. Accordingly, the main objective of this study is to study how the economic process in the traditional villages of Sri Lanka has been created in an eco-friendly way. The isolated rural area of Galamudunagama, located in Kandy district, was selected as the study area for these studies. Primary and secondary data sources have been used for this study. Accordingly, primary data was collected through questionnaires and interviews with the 35 resident families by visiting the village. Samurdhi Development Notes and Village Officer's Notes were used as secondary data sources in this study. A qualitative analysis was carried out in this study, and according to the study, it was clear how the people who lead a solitary lifestyle in the Galamudunagama area make their economic patterns in relation to the environment. It was also revealed that there is a self-sufficient economic process. It is seen that they have cultivated paddy, vegetables, sugarcane, tobacco, sesame, maize, cowpea, etc. in the freehold hens. The barter system is found in this village. It was evident that machinery was not used in agriculture. In addition, it was clear that they conduct their economic processes in a friendly and environmentally friendly manner. They make various products in the village for their economic needs and take them to the market. Here, they only deal with processes that have a direct relationship with the environment, such as spawning, textile production, etc. This study made it clear that among the high-speed economic processes in a competitive world, there are still traditional rural villages that follow eco-friendly economic policies. Finally, this study recommends promoting the value of existing traditional knowledge systems in such rural areas of Sri Lanka without compromising environmental and social values.

Keywords: economic activities, eco-friendly, agriculture, traditional villages, manufacturing

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WOMEN IN TEA PLANTATIONS: IMPACTS OF ECONOMIC CRISIS IN SRI LANKA

DLNP. Liyanage[1]

Tea, one of Sri Lanka's prime exports and has provided employment opportunities for thousands of individuals, particularly women, who have historically been excluded. The economic crisis in Sri Lanka has significantly affected these tea estate women's livelihoods and well-being. This research article examines the economic crisis's impacts on tea estate women in Sri Lanka. Data for the research were collected through a questionnaire survey and research articles, and reports. Women from these communities have traditionally been involved in tea plucking, earning a daily wage. Despite the critical role played by these women in the tea industry, they have historically faced challenges such as low wages, lack of job security, and limited access to social services. The research has shown that the economic crisis has led to lower demand for tea, resulting in lower production levels on tea estates. This, in turn, has led to job losses for tea estate women involved in tea plucking. Many tea estates have been forced to reduce their workforce, leaving many women without a source of income. Estates harvest tea on a kilos basis to avoid the labor wages of Rs. 1,000 a day resulted in lower wages. The daily wage of a tea state worker reduced to Rs.450 which bring them to hard. The economic crisis has further deepened these issues, with many tea estates being forced to reduce the provision of social services such as healthcare and education. The reduced wages and job losses have forced many tea estate women to borrow money to meet daily expenses. The women push their children to earn more money from their childhood which shows the hardship of their lives. The government needs to provide social services such as healthcare and education to the tea estate communities. It needs to assure both women workers and children meet their rights equally as other parties in Sri Lanka and sustainable livelihood practices should maintain.

Keywords: Tea Estate Women, Economic Crisis, Employment Opportunities, Low Wages, Impacts

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REVISITING THE GENESIS OF TROPICAL PEAT DEPOSIT AT MUTHURAJAWELA, WESTERN SRI LANKA

Chathurika Sewwandi[1], Pathmakumara Jayasinga[2], Sandun Ilangasinhe[3]

Muthurajawela wetland is one of the greatest peatland in Tropical Sri Lanka. Tropical peatlands at the coast have been resulted by sea level changes. Hence the peat formed at coast are chemically characterized. The study is to characterize the peat deposit of Muthurajawela, hence to re-confirm the genesis. While dozens of peat samples were collected at the field, the observations were made to understand the geography of Muthurajawela peatland. The geography of the study area was spatially correlated by Digital Elevation Model (DEM). Elemental analysis was done by performing X ray Fluorescence (XRF) to know the chemistry of the collected peat samples. The shell samples collected with peat soils were identified using the physical characteristics. In addition, some borehole records were also studied to understand the distribution of the peat at the study area. The peatland has been geographically restricted to the coast evidencing the influence of the Holocene Sea level fluctuations. The borehole records indicate the shirking of thickness of the peat layer towards landward. Twelve marine shells such as Melampus sp, Bullia Vittata, Palanaxis sulcatus, Morula granulate, Thais bufo, Clypeomorous batillariaeformls, Donax deltodes, Perna perna, Brachiodontes sp, Metrix sp, Saccostrea cucullata and chama reflexa were identified indicating the coastal origin. The elemental analysis confirms the domination of silicon (37.97%), Aluminum (20.117%), Iron (9.28), Phosphorous (0.09%), Sodium (1.15%), Potassium (1.098%) and Sulphur (0.59%). The higher concentration of silica in peat soil further confirms the coastal origin. The plant debris and Sulfur recorded n peat soil indicate the involvement of vegetation in peat genesis. Fianally, it can be concluded that origin of peat at Muthurajawela could be resulted by burying of vegetation (forest) at a coastal lagoon in between Colombo and Negambo.

Keywords: Muthurajawela, Tropical Petland, Silica, Shells, Coastal region

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ANALYSIS OF THE SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF COMPOSITE DROUGHT HAZARD IN THE NORTH CENTRAL PROVINCE OF SRI LANKA

LMAP. Gunawardhana[1], Manjula Ranagalage[2], LM. Dharmasiri[3]

Drought is an inevitable recurrent feature of any climate, different from other environmental hazards. The occurrence of drought can create many issues. North Central Province (NCP) of Sri Lanka is highly prone to frequent drought. A plethora of research is conducted using different dimensions, but more research on drought hazard assessment and visualization needs to be done. The main objective of this research was to create a composite drought hazard map including four types of droughts: i.e. Meteorological, Agricultural, Hydrological, and Socio-economic droughts. The multi-criteria decision-making (MCDM) method and the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) were used to develop the hierarchical structure and weigh the selected eight factors. Twenty experts, including academic and drought managers, were selected to collect the views. Eight thematic map layers were created using Geographic Information System (GIS) Arc map 10.8 software. The weighted Overlay Technique was applied to create the final drought hazard map, and the results were classified into five classes: very low, low, moderate, high, and very high. The results show that 16%, 17%, 29%, 18%, and 20 % belong to the very low, low, moderate, high, and very high categories of the total land area of the NCP, respectively. Very low and low drought hazard areas are situated around the city areas of Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa. Northern parts of the NCP have undergone high and very high drought hazard zones. Anuradhapura district has undergone high and very high drought hazard zones compared to Polonnaruwa districts. The larger portions of Mahawillachiya, Medawachhciya, Kebithigollewa, and Horowpothana Divisional Secretariat (DS) areas of Anuradhapura district have been subjected to very high drought category, and the Wlikanda DS area of Polonnaruwa district belong entirely to high and very categories. Some DS areas belong to one category, and some DS has several drought hazard categories. The results will help policymakers.

Keywords: AHP, Climate Change, Drought hazard, GIS, MCDM.

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MORPHOMETRIC ANALYSIS ON KURU GANGA DRAINAGE BASIN IN SRI LANKA

Achintha Priyakumara[1],   Pathmakumara Jayasingha[2]

Drainage basin studies are vital prevention of soil erosion, landslide disaster and flood management. The most suitable method that can be used for this purpose is the Morphometric Analysis. Tea, rubber and cinnamon have been recently cultivated on the steep slopes on both sides of the Kuru Ganga valley, hence, the resulted soil erosion by which the river system is greatly affected has also intensified. Therefore, the need for soil conservation is high hence the dynamics of drainage basin geology and geomorphology must be studied and well understood. Hence, the main objective of this study is to analyze the linear, aerial and relief morphometric features of the Kuru Ganga. The river network data obtained from the 1:50000 metric maps published by the Sri Lanka Survey Department has been analyzed using ArcMap 10.8 software. According to the results of this study, Kuru Ganga is a fifth order river. The ratio of bifurcation (Rb) between 4 and 5 stream orders is 6, which indicates that there are significant differences in topography in the areas where those river series are located. The drainage frequency (Fs) of 2.1 indicates a moderate risk of flooding. The risk of flooding is relatively high in relation to fifth order due to the change in topography, especially when the river reaches fourth order to fifth order. The drainage density (Dd) is 1.7. Thus the Kuru Ganga has a rough drainage density. The elongation ratio (Re) of 0.4 and the Graveliurs Shape Index (KG) of 2.2 make the Kuru Ganga basin elongated in shape. The study concludes that the risk of soil erosion and landslides is high along the first, second, third and fourth orders of the river, and the risk of flooding is high along the fifth order of the river. The study important in watershed management, controlling soil erosion, land use management and finally flood disaster risk reduction in hydrological basins of the country.

Keywords: Drainage basin, Geomorphology, Kuru Ganga, Morphometric Analysis, soil erosion

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LANDSLIDE AWARENESS OF SCHOOL STUDENTS IN LANDSLIDE - PRONE AREAS IN SRI LANKA - A CASE STUDY OF HEDUNUWEWA CENTRAL COLLEGE, KOTHMALE

Chinthani Senavirathna[1], Jayani Chethana[2]

Sri Lanka is a well-known country that frequently experiences landslide disasters. Landslide awareness among school students in landslide-prone areas in Sri Lanka is essential for their safety and preparedness. Landslide education is included in school education as a result of the project of "Teaching Disaster Risk Management in Sri Lanka's School" as an initiative after the devastating tsunami in 2004. Even though students learnt about landslides in their curriculum, the research aim was to identify the awareness level of the students to act in a landslide disaster. Landslide awareness of school students was examined through seven areas; education and training, awareness programmes, safety and mock drills, hazard mapping and zoning, community engagement, information dissemination, and collaboration with government agencies. The Likert scale was used to assess the level of awareness in the aforementioned areas. A questionnaire was used to collect data from grade eleven students at the school. These students were chosen because they had completed more than half of their secondary education, and some students will leave school based on their Ordinary Level examination results before entering grade twelve. Descriptive analysis and Thematic analysis methods have been used in this study. The findings revealed that all students had received landslide education through the Geography and Science curriculum. However, this section is taught as part of the lesson, along with all of the disasters. Furthermore, the results show that students in the schools have not participated in awareness programmes, safety and mock drills, hazard mapping and zoning, community engagement, information dissemination, or collaboration with government agencies. Only 10% of students have more knowledge of landslides as a result of village-level programmes. The recommendation is to increase practical-based sessions in schools to increase students' awareness and ability to act in a landslide disaster situation.

Keywords: Landslide Awareness, School Students, Landslide Education, Landslide Prone Areas

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SOCIAL EXCLUSION OF POOR IN KANDY CITY: PROCESS AND CONSEQUENCES

Ashoka Ekanayake[1]

Urban poverty is a major social problem worldwide. Large cities in Sri Lanka have also emerged as centers contributing to this issue. In-migration of largely unskilled labor and continuation of living within cities generate a vicious cycle of emergence; aggravation; and sprawling poverty. While the urban poor in Sri Lanka are concentrated in Colombo and the suburbs, Kandy city is the socio-economic center of central Sri Lanka and has continued as a popular attraction due to lack of opportunities in rural areas and easy access. A study to understand the nature of urban poverty in Kandy is a timely need. This study was conducted to describe the status of the urban poor in Kandy, to understand the drivers leading to the continuation of poverty, and to understand the drivers of aggravation of poverty. The study was conducted in the Bahirawakanda GN division using rapid appraisal methods in the first quarter of 2019. Kandy city limits have meager economic activities other than traditional market activities. Some households engage in a well-defined role within the economy of the study area. Household heads are prominently engaged in daily paid work. Activities engaged include retailing, working in restaurants and personal transporters, three-wheel drivers; sub-contractors of prepared food items for eating-houses and, food retailers; and wage labor for cleaning services for the construction sector. They have small houses with tilled floors, satisfactory levels of sanitation facilities, and piped born water. Population density is comparatively (1000:1Km2). Inadequate incomes despite having multiple income sources, uncertainty on income and probability of earning persists. They are also unable to join the main society due to most of them are illegal migrants with citizenship issues and limited access to law and justice. Despite the availability of 14 well-equipped schools within the legal distance for admission, children in the community are deprived of admission due to the inability of parents to prove legal titles to the dwellings. Students attend four schools availing minimum standards. The resultant low outcomes, lack of access to education pathways, and chances for interactions with other social groups deprive the community of progress. Consequences lead to the engagement of the already poor in activities such as dealing with drugs, prostitution, and illegal ways of earning. The vicious cycle continues and notable contributions to degrade the natural environment are also evident. Creating opportunities with more social inclusion, access to human resource development, and facilitation of social safety nets can be potential interventions to eliminate this vicious cycle.

Keywords: Livelihood Framework, Informal Economy, Social Development, Access to Education, Social Exclusion

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PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL NATURE OF COASTAL LATERITE IN KALUTARA, SRI LANKA

JAP. Dilhani[1], Pathmakumara Jayasinghe[2], Sandun Ilangasinha[3]

Laterite formed under warm climates is a secondary formation more widespread in the tropical regions of the world. As a tropical country, Sri Lanka is also characterized with this mineral formation mostly identified in the low country wet zone. This secondary formation is resulted by weathering specially in the areas where continuous wet and dry conditions are prevailed. The objective of the study is to demarcate the geographical distribution of laterite in the coastal region of Kalutara district while studying the chemical nature. Field observations were made to collect the data on spatial distribution of the laterite in the study area while studying the characteristics of them. Some samples were collected from selected locations for elemental analysis by X Ray Fluorescence (XRF). The distribution maps were prepared using Arch Map 10.8. The results reveals that the surface exposure of laterite is dominated in higher elevated areas rather low relief areas where the laterite is chiefly distributed in underground. The exposure of laterite over most of the surface area is too severe to form a ferricrete crust. The areas where this hard pan is occurred show low growth of vegetation. Newly cut fresh surfaces show a soft nature hence those laterites can very easily be scratched. The honey comb nature is dominated in old exposures in soil profiles. A rust layer on the water surfaces of dug wells are also dominantly observed. It is well noted fact that the chemical nature with ferric oxide is significantly high in laterite observed in southern part of the area form that of in northern area. Hence, the red colour gradually increases. Dominated chemistry of the samples collected is ferric oxide (29.9%), aluminium oxide (23%), silicon dioxide (8.17%), titanium dioxide (2.54%), and magnesium oxide (1.35%). High nature of silica indicates that the chemical nature of predecessor of laterite should be acidic.

Keywords: Physical and chemical nature, Coastal Laterite, Kalutara, Ferric Oxide, surface exposures

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A REVIEW ON SRI LANKAN INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE FOR TACKLING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

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Knowledge is facts, information, and skills acquired through experience or education; the theoretical or practical understanding of a subject. Indigenous knowledge is a unique knowledge confined to a particular culture or society. The knowledge possessed by the ancients in various fields in Sri Lanka has at times been astonishing. In all of these areas, the visible and invisible ruins bear witnesses to the fact that the ancients carried out their activities while minimizing the damage and maintain sound to the natural environment that have lived in harmony with the environment. Their knowledge of the environment, in fields of agriculture, irrigation, architecture, medicine, as well as in day today life, beliefs and convictions are far superior. The literature survey was conducted to identify the use of indigenous knowledge to tackle the environmental issues. They had created administrative system and all decisions related to agriculture were collectively taken by the community under leadership of village chief. Eco-friendly crop protection measures, performing Kems, ritual and use of plants or plant extracts (botanicals) were practiced. Kem method such as Irima Pideema and Alu Saaththuwa to control leaf eating caterpillars in paddy fields are used as biological pest management method. There has tank cascade System (TCS) is still functioning in dry zone is connecting small tanks to large reservoirs while recycling and reuse of water through a network of small to large scale tanks. Even today, this indigenous knowledge is still exist some part of society. Locals are used pest control methods such as Kems. Sri Lanka has been facing a catastrophic environmental threat since the 20th century with the Green Revolution and industrialization have caused a number of environmental Crisis in Sri Lanka. Although indigenous knowledge can be used to solve these problems. But there is a need for an adequate study of the use of this indigenous knowledge because environmental conditions and the nature of the problems has changed comparing to the past. As a result of the review, knowledge gaps in this field can also be fact that this valuable knowledge was not recorded or digitalized before it was lost in previous generations. Due to the recent social changes in Sri Lanka, there is no proper transfer of indigenous knowledge to the next generation. Therefore, Sri Lanka has not yet focused on adopting a proper methodology for the exchange of that knowledge and its use in Education field. The colonial education system replaced the practical everyday life aspects of indigenous knowledge and ways of learning with Western ideas of theoretical knowledge and academic ways of learning. Today, there is a grave risk that much indigenous knowledge is being lost and, along with it, valuable knowledge about ways of living sustainably both ecologically and socially. The research is recommended that suitable method has to apply for passing the indigenous knowledge of ancient society to future generations.

Keywords: Indigenous Knowledge, Environmental Issues, Westernization, Nature, Generations

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MORPHOMETRIC ANALYSIS ON ANCIENT IRRIGATION TANKS IN INTERMEDIATE CLIMATE ZONE (ACCORDING TO PANDUWASNUWARA)

WALP. Jayasinghe[1],   Pathmakumara Jayasingha[2]

An ancient reservoir known as 'Vapi' or a 'Wewa' or a tank is a magnificent piece of technology in the ancient hydraulic system of Sri Lanka. Most of researches have worked on ancient irrigation tanks in the dry zone of Sri Lanka. Also there has been not conducted morphometric analysis of ancient irrigation tanks in Sri Lanka. Main objective of the research is to analyses the geographical distribution of ancient tanks based on the Morphometric Analysis in intermediate climate Zone. The study area was selected as Panduwasnuwara West DSD in Kurunegala district belongs to intermediate climate zone. Accordingly, 404 ancient irrigation tanks were selected for this analysis by using relative relief. However, 66 irrigation tanks were selected for ariel aspects. Accordingly, under morphometric analysis, Gravelliest Shape Index, Elongation Ratio, Absolute Relief, Relative relief and Dissection Index were calculated. The majority of irrigation tanks spreads over the intermediate zone can be identified as minor irrigation tanks. Quantitatively, the area of a minor tank in the intermediate zone is about 0.03 km2 and dry zone has three times of the area of a minor ancient irrigation tank. 62% of the ancient irrigation tanks in Panduwasnuwara has been located in between 30 m to 50 m contour lines. After calculating Absolute Relief, and Relative relief the value ranges from 50m to 65m (Low to Low-Medium), and from 20 -27 (Low to Low-Medium) in range with respectively. The range from 0.30 - 0.44 value was obtained after calculating the Dissection Index. Further, Irrigation tanks were analyzed as circular, elliptical, slightly diagonal, and elongated by using Gravelliest Shape Index. The majority of irrigation tanks spread over the intermediate zone can be identified as minor irrigation tanks. Most of the irrigation tanks located in the Panduwasnuwara are elliptical in shape.

Keywords: Morphometric Analysis, Ancient Tanks, Panduwasnuwara, Ariel Aspect, Relative Aspect

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A ANALYSIS ON POTENTIAL UTILIZATION OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY IN SRI LANKA

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Renewable energy generation is becoming rapidly popular due to fossil fuel depletion and its adverse environmental impact. Governments focus their attention on renewable alternative energy sources to secure fossil fuels, to conserve the natural environment & to fulfill the need of electricity power. Geothermal energy is a renewable energy since the heat continuously produced inside the earth. The major objective of this study is to identify economic value & analyze the potential utilization of geothermal energy in Sri Lanka. The importance of this study was to identify the importance of the utilization of geothermal energy as a sustainable green energy. This study was based on literatures relevant to the objectives. Organizing relevant literatures, concentrating the data, generating themes, interpreting, alternative understandings and writing were the steps used by author in the analysis. The findings reveal that the utilization of geothermal energy can be divided into three categories; direct use, geothermal heat pump and indirect use or electrical power generation. Geothermal energy, finds its way to the earth's surface in 3 ways as volcanoes, hot springs, geysers. Geothermal energy in Sri Lanka only exists as a form of hot spring located in along the narrow strip running parallel to the Highland and Vijayan Complex. There are seven major hot springs in Sri Lanka and four of them are considered as suitable for electricity generation. Recent studies reveal that hot springs of Nelumwewa, Mahapellassa, Kanniya and Kapurella are situated at depths which are suitable for drilling and can be used to locate geothermal power plants. Geothermal energy has a great economic value since it can use for various purposes such as heating, cooking, recreation, drying or dehydration, timber seasoning, & tourism. By utilizing it properly, it will be a great help to the economic development & it is possible to utilized geothermal energy as a sustainable green energy source in Sri Lanka.

Keywords: Electricity generation; Geothermal energy; Hot spring; Sri Lanka; Utilization

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PARTICLE SIZE DISTRIBUTION OF FLUVIAL SEDIMENTS OF DEDURU OYA

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Fluvial sediments play a crucial role in shaping the Earth's surface and influencing various geological and ecological processes. Fluvial sediment analysis specifically focuses on the study of sediment transported and deposited by rivers and streams. Fluvial sediments are essential indicators of river dynamics, erosion processes, sediment transport, and the interaction between rivers and their surrounding environments. The objective of the study is to identify the particle size distribution of the fluvial sediments of Deduru Oya. For that, 23 sediment samples - seven from high elevations, nine from mid elevations and seven from low elevations - were collected and their particle size distribution was analyzed by using Hydrometer and Sieve Analysis. The tests were carried out according to ASTM Standards. The sediments were graded according to their particle size distribution graphs, ranging from Well Graded, Uniformly Graded, and Gap Graded soils. It is observed that samples collected from the higher elevations tend to demonstrate a good particle distribution. The samples collected from the mid elevations have poor gradation with one or two particle size domination. The soil samples collected from the lower elevations have a well graded distribution. Another observation was, the sediment particles that were collected for this study do not behave similar to the classic stream sediment particle size distribution. In this study some upper stream samples contained clay and silt particles with less coarse particles. Mature stage soil samples mostly have the expected outcome with high concentrations of fine sand particles. The old stage soil samples have a wide range of particle distribution instead of high concentrations of clay and silt. Most of the soil samples have higher concentrations of fine sand, a mean of 49.39%. Thus, the particle size composition of the fluvial sediments in fluvial systems of Deduru Oya depends both natural processes and anthropogenic influence.

Keywords: Deduru Oya, Fluvial Sediments, Soil Testing, Particle Size Distribution, Soil Grading

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ASSESSING ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AWARENESS AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS: A CASE STUDY FROM RAJARATA UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA

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This research examines the awareness of university students regarding environmental laws and emphasizes the significance of such awareness among this demographic. The aim is to understand the extent to which university students, upon entering society after higher education, possess the ability to identify environmental issues and intervene effectively. The importance of this research lies in highlighting the role of university education in fostering environmental consciousness and equipping students with the necessary legal knowledge to address environmental challenges. With growing concerns about the state of the environment and the urgency to mitigate environmental degradation, it is imperative that university students, as future leaders, and change agents, possess a strong understanding of environmental laws. The objectives of the study were twofold: firstly, to evaluate the level of awareness of environmental laws among university students, and secondly, to determine the variation in awareness across different faculties. The study employed a random sampling technique, encompassing 60 students across the six faculties of Rajarata University in Sri Lanka. Data collection involved assessing students' knowledge and understanding of environmental laws. The methodology employed involved administering a questionnaire to the sampled students, focusing on their knowledge of basic environmental laws and regulations. The key findings revealed that students pursuing an environmental management degree in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities demonstrated a sound understanding of environmental laws. However, students from other faculties exhibited minimal comprehension, even regarding fundamental environmental legislation. Consequently, the study's conclusion indicates that the level of awareness of environmental laws among university students is generally low. These findings underscore the need to enhance environmental law education within university curricula, irrespective of the students' chosen disciplines. By equipping students with comprehensive knowledge of environmental laws, universities can play a vital role in developing a generation of environmentally conscious citizens capable of identifying and effectively intervening in environmental problems.

Keywords: University students, Environmental laws, Awareness, Higher education, Intervention

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AN INVESTIGATIVE STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF MIGRATORY MARINE SPECIES

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Climate change has emerged as a significant driver altering the distribution patterns of migratory marine species worldwide. Therefore, my objectives in this study are to explore the impacts of climate change on the distribution dynamics of migratory marine species and the associated ecological, economic, and conservation implications. The research method used to conduct this study was secondary sources under qualitative data. As well as secondary data sources like journal articles, research papers, books, and magazines. Rising sea surface temperatures, ocean acidification, and altered currents are key climate change related factors affecting migratory marine species. These factors influence the availability of suitable habitats, primary productivity, food availability, and the timing of important life cycle events such as reproduction and migration. Consequently, migratory marine species exhibit shifting distributions, range contractions or expansions, and alterations in migration routes and timing. The impacts of climate change on migratory marine species vary across taxonomic groups, geographical regions, and species-specific traits. Some species exhibit range contractions due to loss of suitable habitats or changes in prey availability, while others extend their ranges poleward or towards cooler waters. Changes in migratory routes and timing can disrupt crucial ecological interactions and cause mismatches between predators and prey. The ecological consequences of altered distributions of migratory marine species are far-reaching. Changes in species composition and abundance can disrupt food webs, alter community structure, and lead to cascading effects throughout marine ecosystems. Furthermore, shifts in the distribution of economically important species can have significant implications for fisheries, coastal economies, and livelihoods dependent on marine resources. Conservation and management efforts face significant challenges in adapting to the impacts of climate change on migratory marine species. Adaptive management strategies, such as the establishment of protected areas and the implementation of dynamic fisheries management approaches, are increasingly recognized as essential for safeguarding the long-term viability of these species and their habitats. In this study, I concluded several points. I can say that climate change is fundamentally altering the distribution patterns of migratory marine species. The cumulative effects of changing environmental conditions pose substantial challenges for both ecosystems and human societies. Urgent action is required to mitigate climate change and enhance the resilience of migratory marine species, ensuring their survival and the maintenance of critical ecological functions and services in our oceans.

Keywords: shifting, poleward, predators, consequences, viability, taxonomic groups

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A ANALYSIS ON RAINFALL VARIATION WITHIN THE PREVIOUS 60 YEARS IN DEDURU OYA BASIN IN SRI LANKA

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Sri Lanka is a tropical island that is extremely susceptible to climate change's negative impacts. Climate variability and change pose a threat to a variety of sectors, notably water, soil, agriculture, ecosystems, and people's livelihoods. The amount of rainfall in a basin is essential to the ecosystem's functioning and mankind's well-being. The quality and quantity of water resources will be affected by variations in rainfall, which are below or above the average. The rainfall variability and trend in Sri Lanka's Deduru Oya basin were examined in this study. The Deduru Oya basin is one of Sri Lanka's major river basins with a catchment area of 2616 km2 and is located in the northwestern region of the country. It contains three climatic zones: wet, intermediate, and dry, with the intermediate zone taking account of 94% of the extent. The monthly rainfall in the Deduru Oya basin has been decreasing from 1960 to 2019. Rainfall peaks were found from April to May and October to November, with a median monthly rainfall of 110 mm. In 1960, the average monthly rainfall was 140 mm, however, by 2019 it has decreased to 108 mm. Over the last 60 years, rainfall has dropped by 32 mm. According to the climatic seasons, the Second Inter Monsoon season (576 mm) had the maximum cumulative rainfall, followed by the South West Monsoon (475 mm), the First Inter Monsoon (314 mm), and the North-East Monsoon (304 mm). From 1960 to 2019, the rainfall trend during the First Inter Monsoon season has been increasing, while rainfall trends during the SWM, SIM, and NEM seasons have been decreasing. Between 1960 and 2019, the annual rainfall in the basin declined on average. The 1980s and 2000s experienced positive trends in decadal rainfall, while the other decades saw negative trends. The study of the changing patterns of rainfall will be important for water resource management, agricultural activities, and disaster risk management in the basin.

Keywords: Rainfall trend, Rainfall Variation, Climatic Season, Disaster Risk Management, Deduru Oya basin

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INDO - SRI LANKA MARITIME BOUNDARY AND BEYOND; WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO 21ST CENTURY

UGG. Fernando[1]

The countries in the Indian Ocean Region face many maritime security challenges. India has maritime issues with many of her neighbors including Sri Lanka, such as fisheries issues, maritime piracy, trafficking of illicit drugs and people, etc. With reference to these maritime issues, the study inquiries about the relationship between India and Sri Lanka, reasons for the maritime issues, solutions available, and the legal aspect of these issues. Identification and analysis of maritime issues and finding better solutions for preventive mechanisms is the main focus of this research. To analyze maritime issues from a theoretical perception Alfred Mayan's Sea Power theory, deterrence theory have been used. Some recommendations have been given as strategies for the current maritime issues. In this study, the main consideration is to identify and analyze the still ongoing maritime issues between India and Sri Lanka. The objectives of this study are to examine maritime issues between India and Sri Lanka, assess the reasons for prevailing maritime issues, and to determine the solutions for these issues. The methodology is based on qualitative analysis of secondary data. This is a descriptive and theoretical academic research. Although quantitative data will be used, this research heavily relies on qualitative analysis. It is identified that issues are addressed on an international basis by applying legal frameworks. The United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea 1982 plays a major role in ensuring maritime security. Also, the International Maritime Organization is an effective part in maritime security. Since it is evident that a nation cannot find solutions for maritime issues alone, it needs to make joint efforts. Rather than using strategies individually it is better to develop the cooperation between countries and put efforts to solve problems to gain benefits for both countries.

Keywords: Maritime issues, Fisheries Dispute, Palk Strait, UNCLOS

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Language

Culture

Literature

THE IMPACT OF COLLABORATIVE PRE - WRITING ON THE ACCURACY OF INDIVIDUAL WRITTEN PRODUCTS OF ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE STUDENTS IN A GOVERNMENT SCHOOL IN MATARA

SA. Illamperuma Arachchi[1], MHS. Samarasinghe[2], WRIU. Nilaweera[3]

Writing is an important communication skill which is critical to the success of students in the second language learning process. According to McDonough & Neumann (2014), collaborative prewriting tasks provide students with opportunities to discuss and evaluate content and organization, while maintaining the programmatic emphasis on individual writing. According to the G.C.E (O/L) Examination - English Language Report, 74% of students who sit for the Ordinary Level exam score below 50 marks for the writing composition and no significant teaching practice has been yet introduced or implemented to find a solution for the issue. The present study carries out the hypothesis that the students who engage in collaborative pre-writing activities report higher levels of performance in terms of accuracy in their individual written work as compared to students who do not engage in collaborative pre-writing. Accordingly, the present study incorporates a quantitative research approach. 60 grade 10 students in a government school in Matara district were selected for the study. The students who were in the experimental group and the control group were given four essays to write. The experimental group was allowed to use collaborative pre- writing activities while the control group was asked to write the essays without engaging in collaborative pre-writing activities. The collected essays of the two groups were analyzed according to the accuracy of the written products. The rubric specifications used in the English Language marking scheme of the G.C.E O/L examination 2019 were used to check the accuracy and the results were analyzed using SPSS software. The findings of the study reveal that collaborative pre-writing has an impact on the individual written products of the students in terms of accuracy.

Keywords: Collaborative pre-writing, Second Language writing, ESL, Accuracy, Individual writing

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THE IMPACT OF USING BOARD GAMES IN TEACHING PAST TENSE FOR INTERMEDIATE ESL LEARNERS

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One of the most prominent and controversial topics in the field of language teaching has been the role of grammar. Students are demotivated to learn English due to the complexity of grammatical aspects in English. Hence, teachers should incorporate innovative approaches to teach grammar while motivating and encouraging students to learn. Sri Lanka is also attempting to modify the paper-based learning education system and become familiar with innovative and interesting teaching approaches than paper-based teaching. Thus, the purpose of this study was to investigate the impact of using board games in teaching past tense for intermediate ESL learners. A purposive sample of 80 grade 10 ESL students at Royal College, Wayamba participated in the study and the respondents were randomly assigned into two groups namely the control group and the experimental group, using a random cluster sampling technique. The students of the control group were taught using paper-based method and the students of the experimental group were taught using game-based learning. A quantitative approach research design was used to answer the research question as the data were collected utilizing a pre-test and a post-test. The findings of the study indicated that there were statistically significant differences between scores of the experimental and control groups in favor of the experimental group exposed to board games-based learning. When examining the statistical results obtained from the pre-test and post-test, it can be understood that the board games-based learning can enhance students' knowledge on past tense and had a huge potential to improve students' knowledge on past tense. These positive results of the study offer a noteworthy incentive to ESL practitioners to incorporate language games such as board games when teaching grammatical features.

Keywords: Board games-based learning, grammar, past tense, language teaching technique, second language acquisition

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A STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF PLANNING TIME ON THE ORAL PERFORMANCE OF ESL CANDIDATES IN TEXT- BASED CONTEXTS

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The oral presentation task has become a standard format of high-stakes oral examinations since the language testers use it in language proficiency tests on a regular basis. However, most of the ESL candidates find it challenging and inaccessible to achieve high marks due to the implicit nature of the task. Planning time has been acknowledged as one of the key factors in oral performance of candidates, but its impact and the optimal amount of planning time required for maximum performance remain unclear in text-based contexts. In order to address this gap in the literature, the current study aimed to investigate the impact of different planning times on the oral performance of candidates in text- based context. 48 students who were following an IELTS preparation course at Westgate College, Matara and ICBT Southern Campus, Matara were taken as the sample of the study. They were divided into three groups and were given three different planning times as 30 seconds, 1 minute and 2 minutes respectively. The study adopted a quantitative approach where data collection was carried out through a speaking test similar to part 2 of IELTS. Data was analyzed using SPSS. The ANOVA test was used to compare the performance of three groups under different planning times. Even though it was believed, the allocation of more time for planning would enhance the oral performance of candidates, the findings of the study revealed that providing a shorter amount of planning time is effective in enhancing the oral performance of the candidates. Therefore, it is recommended for language teachers and instructors to provide shorter planning times for similar oral presentation tasks.

Keywords: Oral performance, Planning time, Language proficiency, Part 2 of IELTS speaking test, ESL candidates

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FOLKLORE RESEARCH ON OMENS IN KUNCHUTTU KORALA

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The researcher's interest in folklore, the fact that Kunchuttu Korala is the Korala where the researcher's native village is located, and that a folklore study has not been done on omens of Kunchutu Koralaya so far prompted the present researcher to this study. The concept of omens which has not moved away from Kunchuttu Korale people gained an important place in the past and it can be said that it is getting the same prominence at present. Books and interviews were used as reasearch methods. It was revealed through oral tradition that the origin of the omens of this Korala is the origin of these people centred on agriculture. It was also revealed that omens are not new creations, but a folk tradition. Three types of omens can be observed. They are good omens, bad omens, and obstacle omens. Under good omens, Kunchuttu people consider meeting a pregnant mother, milking cow, milkman, and young children as auspicious. These symbolize prosperity. Meeting an empty pot, crowing of crows, shaking of ears by a dog, seeing axes, catties, or bundles of firewood when starting a journey have been considered as inauspicious omens. Whereas some consider meeting a thera auspicious, others consider it inauspicious. Specially, most people revealed that from the past, Kunchuttu people heed to these omens at the beginning of their journeys for their main occupations such as hunting, honey gathering, and cattle rearing because their destination is along a battle path through the thicket. Additionally, Kunchuttu people use a neutral type of omens called obstacle omens. Forgetting the things to be carried when going to the village of Mahakele such as rice, coconut, betel nut, and arecanut is a good omen because it results in loss of interest in the journey. Meeting an old person or a ragged person causes inaction. Meeting infertile women, midwifes or Rada people was known to be inauspicious, and a special fact revealed was that first chance should be given to these groups in occupational activities like fishing. In comparison to other areas, it was also learned that the omens that affect the journey through the jungle are special in Kunchuttu Korala and it can be concluded that even today they strongly believe in omens. Thus, omens are interpreted based on information in folklore as a concept rooted in Kunchuttu Korale people,who are the heirs of a large number of Buddhists.

Keywords: Omens, Asuba Symbolism, Auspicious Omens, Crow prophecy, Obstacle Omens

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HINDI - SINHALA SYLLABIFICATION WITH REFERENCE TO SANSKRIT LOANWORDS: A CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS

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Syllables are groups of sounds. A syllable consists of a vowel sound (V), which may be preceded or followed by a consonant (C), or by a cluster of consonants (CC or CCC). Hindi and Sinhala are Indo-Aryan languages that inherit features from each other. The vocabulary of these two languages consists primarily of Sanskrit loaned words, and similar Sanskrit loaned words are found in both languages. In the present study, one of the acoustic units of speech, the syllable, is used to develop a continuous Hindi and Sinhala speech recognition system. The objective of the present study is to present the necessary knowledge to reduce the common errors made by Sinhala speakers learning Hindi as a second language due to the influence of the mother language in pronouncing Hindi. The data were collected through structured interviews with Hindi and Sinhala native speakers, and the collected data was analyzed based on phonological theories. Results are presented from an experiment conducted to see how native speakers of Hindi and Sinhala syllabify various intervocalic consonant clusters. The results showed a preference for Vowel-Consonant/Vowel syllabification for two-consonant clusters and a Vowel/Consonant-two Consonants/Vowel preference for three-consonant clusters in Hindi, while in Sinhala, both Vowel and Consonant denote syllabicity, but only Vowel is statable as a phonematic element of the structure. Sinhala syllables have three generalized phonetic structures: Consonant/Vowel, Vowel, and three Consonants. These results emphasized that when it comes to syllabification in the context of Sanskrit loaned words, Hindi and Sinhala follow different rules, and it can be concluded that words that are pronounced as two or three syllables in Sinhala are pronounced as one syllable in Hindi and always have fewer syllables in Hindi than in Sinhala in the pronunciation of Sanskrit loaned words.

Keywords: Consonant Cluster, Hindi, Phonology, Sinhala, Syllable

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LANGUAGE BARRIERS IN INFORMATION RETRIEVAL BY THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

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This qualitative research study aims to examine the language barriers encountered by university students in the process of information retrieval. A literature survey was conducted using articles published in the period of 2018-2023 in Sri Lanka. The data was obtained through the Google Scholar databases. The research explored existing knowledge and insights on the topic by reviewing relevant scholarly articles, books, and publications. The study identified and explored various language-related challenges that impede students' ability to access and retrieve information effectively. These barriers include limited language proficiency, unfamiliarity with specialized vocabulary, difficulties in comprehending complex academic texts, and challenges in accurately interpreting and summarizing information. Through an analysis of the impact of language barriers on students' academic performance, research skills, and overall learning experience, this study provides a comprehensive understanding of the issue. Additionally, the research investigated potential strategies and interventions to mitigate language barriers in information retrieval. These strategies encompassed language support programs, targeted language instruction, the utilization of bilingual resources, and the creation of a supportive learning environment. The findings of this study were contributed to the existing body of knowledge by shedding light on the intricate nature of language barriers in information retrieval faced by university students. The study emphasized the significance of recognizing and addressing these barriers to ensure equitable access to information and enhance students' academic success in higher education settings. By promoting effective information seeking and utilization skills among diverse student populations, universities can create an inclusive and supportive learning environment. Based on the research findings, this study offers recommendations for improving language support services in universities, facilitating the development of students' language skills and information retrieval competencies. Ultimately, this research serves as a valuable resource for educators, policymakers, and practitioners involved in enhancing information literacy and overcoming language barriers for university students.

Keywords: Language barriers, information retrieval, university students, qualitative research

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A STUDY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND EFFECTIVENESS OF HOME - BASED ONLINE HSK TESTING IN SRI LANKA: A CASE STUDY OF THE CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA

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The Chinese Language Proficiency Test (HSK) is a globally recognized assessment designed to evaluate the Mandarin Chinese language proficiency of non-native speakers. Considering technological advancements and the transformative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on education and assessment, this study investigates the implementation and effectiveness of the HSK home-based online test in Sri Lanka, with a specific focus on the experiences within the Confucius Institute at the University of Kelaniya. Utilizing a mixed-methods research approach, this study combines quantitative analysis of test performance data with qualitative interviews and surveys involving test-takers, instructors, and administrators engaged in the HSK online testing process. The research addresses two key aspects. Firstly, it assesses the degree of student awareness and adherence to the requirements for the home-based online exam. Secondly, it conducts a comparative analysis of students' subjective attitudes toward this mode of assessment, scrutinizing its advantages and challenges. The findings underscore the importance of students' understanding of home-based online exam requirements, which is crucial for ensuring equitable and effective assessment methods, especially during emergencies. The comparative analysis of students' attitudes reveals key aspects to consider when improving the design and administration of online tests, thus enhancing their adaptability and reliability during public safety crises. Test takers appreciated the convenience and flexibility offered by the online format, eliminating the need for physical travel, and providing a comfortable testing environment. However, technical issues, such as internet connectivity and device compatibility, emerged as significant challenges for some participants. In conclusion, home-based online exams offer several advantages, including flexibility in terms of scheduling and location, as well as potential cost savings. This research not only enriches the discourse surrounding online language proficiency testing but also highlights the continued need for improvements to ensure the adaptability and reliability of home-based online exams in Sri Lanka and similar educational contexts. These enhancements are essential to meet the evolving needs of learners and to effectively address unforeseen challenges, such as those posed by public safety emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic.

Keywords: Assessment, COVID-19, HSK (Chinese Language Proficiency Test), Online Testing, Sri Lanka

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FERNANDO PESSOA'S THE BOOK OF DISQUIET: THE QUESTION OF INCONGRUITY BETWEEN THE NATURE OF SINGULARITY AND SYSTEMATIC

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'Singularity' is simply defined as 'uniqueness.' Literature is singular and universal because one can relate own self to a literary text. When the writer writes a text, he spends the singular moment where he thinks about his own experiences and narrates about own self with the piece of literary work. The writer engages with the text and gets immersed in the text. 'Systematic nature' defines the process that the text has to go through in order to reach the readers. The purpose of the present study is to explore the life of Fernando Pessoa, while referring his fictional work with the title of The Book of Disquiet, in relation to the question of the incongruity between the nature of Singularity and Systematic related to Pessoa's writing. Accordingly, the present research pursues the research question as follows, "How does the incongruity between 'Singularity' nature and 'Systematic nature' depict in the life of Fernando Pessoa and his fictional work?" The methodology of the present study uses thematic analysis in order to analyze the article, Fernando Pessoa's Legacy: The Presença and after which is written by Alex Severino along with the fictional work, The Book of Disquiet. The findings of the present study reveal that, Pessoa spends his life creating literary works, but he is not being admired by the public during his life. Therefore, he preserves his literary works while putting them in the trunk box. In that manner, there is no mismatch between the Pessoa's Singularity and Systematic. Subsequently, it is evident, that Pessoa appreciates the singularity as every other artist does, and he has not gotten a chance to enter the field of systematic because he has not been admired during his life.

Keywords: The Book of Disquiet, Fernando Pessoa, incongruity, Singularity, Systematic

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CREATING A LIST OF KEYWORDS FOR TEACHING VOCABULARY TO MEDICAL UNDERGRADUATES IN SRI LANKAN STATE UNIVERSITIES USING THE CORPUS - BASED APPROACH

BGDS. Nandarathna[1], DA. Wehella[2], SMC. Bandara[3], AAI. Maduwanthi, AGSM. Samarasinghe[4]

Corpus Linguistics, which is viewed as a methodology or research tool by some linguists while others perceive it as a discipline or theory, has been progressing rapidly within the field of Linguistics since 1964 and it has become a useful approach in second language teaching with the advancement of technology. Conversely, according to Breyer (2008), teaching can be viewed as one of the fields where technology has very little impact. Corpus Linguistics, one of the results of the involvement of technology in language teaching, is an approach that could be very useful in second language teaching even though, it has not been adequately used or experimented with yet. However, the use of Corpus Linguistics in language teaching classrooms has started to progress very recently. Even though a considerable amount of research has been conducted on using Corpus Linguistics in a pedagogical aspect, little research has been carried out on using this approach in ESP classrooms. Specifically, studies have not been undertaken so far on the use of corpus linguistic tools to create keyword lists for undergraduates in state universities in Sri Lanka which would be helpful for vocabulary teaching in the ESP classrooms. Accordingly, the current study fills this gap. This quantitative study was done by using AntConc Corpus Linguistic Tools to create a list of keywords. CMU (Corpus for Medical Undergraduates) is the main corpus of the study, and the BE06 corpus compiled by Paul Baker was used as the reference corpus of the study. An exploratory analysis was carried out to identify the major themes in the corpus and it was followed by the categorization of keywords into groups thematically. As the last part of the study, a brief account of how these keywords can be used in the ESP classrooms to teach and develop vocabulary lessons also was given. Using a corpus-based approach has a big potential in ESP classrooms even though, using it in language teaching is somewhat challenging. Accordingly, the current study will give access to the field of Corpus Linguistics in ESP classroom in Sri Lankan tertiary education settings.

Keywords: Corpus Linguistics, ESP Classrooms, Keywords, Tertiary Education, Vocabulary

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ANALYZING THE CONCEPT OF "WINNING BY LOSING" IN RELATION TO "JANE EYRE" BY CHARLOTTE BRONTE AND "HARVEST" BY MANJULA PADMANABHAN

AGSM. Samarasinghe[1], RMLC. Kumari[2], AAI. Maduwanthi[3], AF Abdul Halik[4]

"The female" is always viewed and depicted as an inferior object and a voiceless weak being who should constantly be kept under the rigid gaze of the superior patriarchal male as the society believes that she lacks the ability to take important decisions by her own. Many literary works illustrate how females are kept in vulnerable positions in the society and how they struggle very hard to find their liberation whereas the males are in their quests to save the world and the day. This inequality and the discrimination become increased if the female characters are from the societies which are not "White". Hence, she gets marginalized twice for being female as well as for not being "White". In some of such instances, where the female is not given any power or authority to fight against patriarchy, she becomes rebellious and realizes her victory in her own way by destroying herself which terminates the ultimate satisfaction of the male, that is making the female suffer. Manjula Padmanabhan's Harvest (1997) and Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre (1847) are two widely appreciated literary works which discuss the dehumanization, neo-colonization and female experience as well as self-awareness respectively. Apart from these perspectives, the aforementioned literary works are viewed very little under the theories attached to gender studies. Thus, this study fills that unaddressed void by analyzing how "Jaya" of "Harvest" and "the unspoken mad woman in the attic" of "Jane Eyre" represent these double marginalized, unspoken voiceless females who kill themselves in order to achieve the apex of their life. The desk research approach is applied in this research as the methodology. "Winning by losing" is the concept which is employed in this study. In conclusion the suicidal act of both the female characters illustrates the victory and freedom they achieve at the end by gaining the power and authority to end their lives as they want which make them win even by losing.

Keywords: Female, Freedom, Marginalized, Voiceless, Winning by Losing

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AN INVESTIGATIVE STUDY ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ELU SANDAS LAKUNA AS A MEDIA OF EXPRESSION IN THE WORK

BMTL. Balasuriya[1]

The Elu Sandas Lakuna book is written by a Thera named Bhadra in the Dambadeni period, is the first book written on Chandas Shastra. The research problem here is what is the significance of the Elu Sandas Lakuna as an expression? The Elu Sandas Lakuna was used as the primary source for this qualitative research. Academic books, research articles, newspapers etc. were used as secondary source. The significance of the Elu Sandas Lakuna written in the Dambadeni period as an expression can be identified under several themes. Accordingly, the importance can be explained from media, historical, political, economic, social and cultural themes. The purpose of this research is to discuss the significance of this book as an expression. The book begins with "Pinipa Kotin Satara - Sandas Markan Helu Ve...". It contains 118 Chandaskavyas. It contains examples from Kavsilumina etc. written by King Parakramabahu II. It also includes the worship of the moon which belongs to the Upa Jati Atalos Pada Sahella. The last verse of a poem written by Sri Rahula Thero of Thotagamuwa in the Kotte era, "Sandas Markene Elanda Sadi Yura..." explains the significance of the Elu Sundas Lakuna. Its linguistic features are also contained in that book, which is written in the Siyabaslakara Ganta written in the Anuradhapura era, and is described as "Peden Buddha Sirithe". It is clear that the influence of Chandas in the Elu Sandas Lakuna is included. Jataka stories have also been inspired by referring to recommended book of poetry from the Jataka. The language features of this created by the use of rhetorical techniques have attracted the attention of critics. In focusing on every aspect as a means of expression, Chandas is about the handling of language to convey information with beauty. It can be pointed out that according to this, Piyum Gee Virita, Mawalaga Virita, Umatu Gee Virita, Kavagi Virita, Bambara Gee Virita, Yahagi Chirita, Yongi Virita, Karikagi Virita, Unu Ani Unu Virita etc. were used. The description of the economy reveals the political situation. Under the economic information, there are pictures of the farming activities. The way the Sri Lankan society was organized, the life of the people is revealed. Like the Sri Lankan village, the culture of the religions, customs and traditions of the Aboriginal people is called Sabaranalu. The study also revealed that there was a dance. It shows information about the Sundas Shastra as a means of expression. The taste and versatility of the literature to be provided by a book is published.

Keyword: Elu Sandas Lakuna, Chandas Shastra, Maternal Characteristics, Jataka Story Inspiration, Poetry, Traditional Usage

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AN INVESTIGATIVE EXAMINATION ON COMMENCING THE SINHALA ALPHABET WITH THE LETTER ඇ [æ] AS PROPOSED BY CUMARATUNGA MUNIDASA

Ven. G. Vipula[1]

Cumaratunga Munidasa, a distinguished authority on Sinhala grammar, has contended that the Sinhala alphabet should begin with the letter ඇ [æ], position sibilants at the conclusion their respective class of stop letters, position the cerebral ළ [ɭ] prior to the alveolar ල [l] within the category of semi-vowels, and assign the voiced glottal sibilant (ඇ) හ [ɦ] to the conclusion of the sibilants class, among other propositions. Thus far, comprehensive academic scrutiny of these claims has been noticeably absent. This investigation is singularly dedicated to exploring the proposition that the initial letter of the Sinhala alphabet should be ඇ [æ]. It seeks to determine the academic validity of beginning the Sinhala alphabet with the letter ඇ [æ] on logical grounds. A qualitative research approach was employed to address this question, focusing on an in-depth examination of relevant textual sources. Data were collected through a thorough textual analysis of pertinent library resources, and linguistic theories of alphabetisation were applied as analytical criteria. The findings of this study reveal that modern languages like Sinhala, stemming from Sanskrit and Pali, do not adhere to the distinction of back vowels and front vowels as a basis for the placement of letters in the alphabet. Although advocates of the Hela Havula, such as Alaw-isi Sabihela and Hemasiri Cumaratunga, have consistently argued in favour of Cumaratunga's proposition, the arrangement letters in the alphabets of modern Indo-Aryan languages adheres to the classification of letters based on their places of articulation. Consequently, the letter අ [ɑ], which produces a glottal sound, is positioned as the first letter of the Sinhala alphabet, owing to the quantitative preeminence of simple vowels, followed by the letter ඇ [æ], which produces a velar-glottal sound. Even upon close examination of the arguments of Hela Havula, it becomes evident that the letter අ [ɑ] is a back-glottal sound, while the letter ඇ [æ] is a front-glottal sound. Therefore, this study concludes that the proposition of beginning the Sinhala alphabet with the letter ඇ [æ] contradicts established linguistic conventions and stands at odds with the conventions of the Indo-Aryan language family in the Indian subcontinent. It is, thus, evident that the scholarly consensus supports initiating the alphabet with the letter අ [ɑ] and not with the letter ඇ [æ].

Keywords: alphabet, ඇ [æ] sound, alphabetisation, places of articulation, letter sequence

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JAYA SRI MAHA BODHI AND THE MODERN SINHALA SONG

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Sanghamiththa Maha Theri brought the southern branch of the scared Bho Tree in Buddhagaya of India and thereafter it was planted in the Mahamewna Garden in Anuradhapura city. Since then, this sacred Bho tree called "Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi" is highly worshiped and become highly sacred. Centralizing the Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi, the southern branch of Sacred Bodhi tree, the Bodhi culture and literature were inherited to our country. Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi has a long standing recorded history over 2500 years and is worshiped by the Buddhist people all over the world. Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi has become the theme for nurturing modern literary art is a fact that can be seen in local cinema and tele dramas. How Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi has become the object of the modern Sinhala lyrics? became the Central problem of this study. Main purpose of the research was that studying how the modern lyricist used Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi as the object in his design work of lyrics. Data was collected through literature sources and internent. Analysis of data was carried using Content analysis method. According 14 songs on the theme of Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi were analyzed using the content analysis method for study. In data analysis, it is cleared and can be observed from this study that stories and news related after the Bodhi tree was brought to this country enormous and endless respect of the people of this country showed toward him (the Sacred Bodhi tree), the belief and faith system that existed in them as well as the spiritual healing that people obtain under the Bodhi tree and nearby environment were the facts that Sri Lankan song writers concentrated an composing Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi related song.

Keywords: Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi, Song Lyricist, Culture, Compiling

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LEARNER ATTITUDES TOWARDS EXPLICIT GRAMMAR TEACHING

HPK. Pathirana[1], PLN. Abeywardena[2], HMWN. Herath[3], AMCK. Abeysekara[4]

Learning a language entail not just mastering the four skills of competence, but also comprehending the underlying set of rules. In this regard, learners' attitudes towards grammar are also of utmost importance. The main objective of this study was to investigate English language learners' attitudes towards explicit grammar teaching at the tertiary level and analyze them in a framework of several variables, such as gender, age, and the proficiency level of the learners. The data were collected from 112 students of the Faculty of Management Studies of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka representing three different proficiency levels: first-year, second-year and third-year students during their first semester. The questionnaire designed by the researchers to investigate the attitudes of the learners towards learning explicit grammar was considered a reliable and valid tool. The analysis revealed that gender and age did not create considerable differences in the attitudes. The only variable which showed a significant difference in the attitudes was the level. Accordingly, 94% of the first-year students, 86% of the second-year students, and 100% of the third-year students have a positive attitude towards grammar learning, while 5, 13 and 0 percentages of the target students have a neutral attitude towards learning grammar. Almost the same result was observed regarding the student opinions on grammar teaching in English for specific purposes (ESP) courses as well. The results lead to the conclusion that the majority of students prefer learning grammar and look forward to receiving it in ESP courses.

Keywords: Attitude, Explicit Grammar, Learner, English for Specific Purpose (ESP)

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FACTORS LEADING TO THE INCOMPETENCE OF GCE (O/L) STUDENTS' WRITING SKILLS

DN. Aloysius[1]

At present, English is learnt as a second language (l2) in schools in Sri Lanka. However, it seems that learning and teaching process of English in schools is extremely unsatisfactory when analysing the results of the GCE O/L Examination. The average percentage of the failure of the English language during the period in 2018, 2019 and 2020 is 49.88%. This is really a national issue that has to be addressed immediately. It has been found that there exists a solid bond between l2 and the interlanguage (il), which gradually develops into l2 during the learning process. In the present study, it is hypothesised that il does not get strong enough during its development stage due to some linguistic factors, ignorance of teachers regarding the errors made by the students, teachers' poor methodology and the poor quality of the textbooks. The research problem of the present study is, therefore, what these linguistic factors and other reasons are for the above failure. The objective of the study is to ascertain those factors and the other reasons and, remedy the situation and bring a tangible and effective solution to the existing problem. As far as the above examination is concerned, it is assumed that l2 learners' incompetency in writing skill results in the failure of the English language as writing skill plays a substantial role there. The deductive research method and the combination of qualitative and quantitative research methods were applied in the present study. The entire research was based on the theories of second language acquisition, il and error analysis introduced by stephan krashen, lydia white, larry selinker and pit corder, respectively. At the end of the research, it was found that the poor teaching methodology, the teachers' poor performance, their negligence and the poor quality of the school text books were the main reasons for the incompetence of the writing skills of the l2 learners, which ultimately leads to the failure of the English language at the GCE O/L Examination.

Keywords: Second Language Acquisition, Interlanguage, Error Analysis, Writing Skill

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A STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF THE INCLUSION OF TRAUMA THEORY IN COURSES ON LITERARY CRITICISM IN SRI LANKAN TERTIARY EDUCATION

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Trauma studies gained traction in 1990s and its impact is clearly seen in literature and cultural studies. Trauma studies draws on Freudian psychoanalysis, interpretations and definitions in terms of trauma. Literary trauma theory is predominantly used in literary criticism to analyze fiction saturated with trauma and violence. The key theorists in trauma literary theory are Geoffrey Hartman, Roger Lockhurst, Soshana Felman, Cathy Caruth, Ted Morrissey etc. This study examines as to why and how trauma theory can be used as a literary framework to assess the Sri Lankan postcolonial experience as reflected in Sri Lankan English, Tamil, and Sinhala novels, specifically written during and after the Sinhala and Tamil ethnic conflict. The study is qualitative research which utilizes document analysis as a research method. Policy documents on Humanities and Social Sciences, language policy planning and quality assurance of Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) in Sri Lanka were analyzed. One of the key findings of the research is the absence of references to the trauma theory in policy documents on Higher Education Institutes (HEIs), which set the guidelines that stipulate module/degree outcomes in literary criticism modules/degree programs involving the development of students' emotional intelligence. The study highlights that the Sri Lankan texts can be analyzed in the classroom through cultural trauma theory since it provides an analytical framework to identify the events that challenge the core values of a community leading to the rupture of sense of the belongingness within the members of the community. This study recommends that trauma theory should be extensively taught and researched in Higher Education Institutes in Sri Lanka to further national harmony, territorial integrity, and reconciliation within a multicultural society. The study recommends that the assessment of traumatic knowledge should be a key benchmark stipulated for a graduate profile designed for degree programs on literary criticism, cultural studies or language studies.

Keywords: Literary Criticism, Fiction, Sri Lanka; Trauma; Violence

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HARNESS AND REIGNITE THE EFFECT OF READING SHORT STORIES ON ENHANCING STUDENTS' VOCABULARY ACQUISITION IN ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

SKLJ. Ramanayaka[1]

Vocabulary is a prominent area in learning a second language. Certificate-level students studying English as a Second Language in the Housekeeping sector (034 Group) of SLITHM, Colombo Campus, should be successful in improving their English and becoming effective interlocutors. To this end, various strategies were employed to increase students' knowledge of vocabulary related to housekeeping discipline. Among these strategies, extensive reading of authentic materials by students has been found to be highly effective. Therefore, the current study aims to examine the effect of reading short stories in improving students' vocabulary acquisition. In light of the stated purpose, it was hypothesized that assigning students to read short stories related to Hospitality English would help them improve their vocabulary more than teaching vocabulary in the traditional way. To prove or refute the proposed hypothesis, a quasi-experimental study was conducted in which 40 students were randomly selected and divided into two groups of 20 each. One is experimental and the other is control. Both groups of students were given a pre-test to check their vocabulary knowledge. After the pretest phase, the experimental group was asked to read three short stories within 3 weeks. However, the control group used the conventional method. The students relied solely on the English lecturer's instructions. Eventually, they got post-tested. From the data analysis, it was found that reading short stories significantly improved students' vocabulary acquisition. Short stories have entertainment value in the learning process. Thus, it was indicated that the participants were very much impressed with the short story and they successfully recalled most of the words used in the short story context. It helped students to know more about words' breadth and depth. Moreover, short stories provided motivation and it was proved that students acquire more when they were highly motivated. This supported the alternative hypothesis and rejected the null hypothesis.

Keywords: Acquisition, Certificate Level Students, Reading, Short Stories, Vocabulary

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ENHANCING FRENCH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY BY INTEGRATING GAMIFIED LEARNING PLATFORMS: EXPLORING THE IMPACT OF KAHOOT

STHP Samarasinghe[1]

With the rapid advancement of the technology in Education, the integration of the online platforms has emerged as a powerful tool to upgrade the effectiveness and the efficiency of the language learning. Among a variety of online teaching and learning tools, Kahoot offers an interactive and engaging approach to French language learning, engaging students in active participation and motivating for the language learning process. (IJMOE, June 2020) French language is taught as a main subject for the BA Degree program of Rajarata University and BA Degree program is being conducted in a hybrid mode in which the lectures for the first year first semester are conducted online and while the other lectures and the end semester examination are conducted on-site. Unlike the other disciplines, learning French language through online mode was identified as a challenge conducting a survey using the feedback from the previous undergraduates who experienced complete online learning and end semester examination during Covid 19. (IJMOE, June 2020) In order to resolve the language acquisition problems faced by the past students, interactive tools were used throughout the language teaching process and including Kahoot. To assess the effectiveness of Kahoot, this study adopts an experimental design with pre- and post-intervention assessments to evaluate the impact of Kahoot on students' French language proficiency. The research was carried out online over a period of 15 weeks during the initial semester of the first year French undergraduates who are complete beginners. The online lectures were conducted adopting the traditional lecture-discussion method for 7 weeks and assessed online. Then the rest of the online lectures for the following weeks were conducted allowing students to participate in French language quizzes and interactive activities created on the Kahoot platform. Before the end semester examination, online assessments were conducted and qualitative data was gathered using questionnaires, observations and students' performances based on usage of Kahoot and the quantitative data was analyzed using SPSS. The results indicate that the Kahoot positively influences students' French language learning outcomes. Based on these test results, participants demonstrated improved vocabulary absorption, enhanced listening skills, and increased motivation to actively engage with the language. Through these findings, the research draws a conclusion that the gamified approach of Kahoot encourages friendly competition, creating a sense of enjoyment and the collaboration in the learning environment and by integrating technology in language education, Kahoot contributes to create a student-centered and engaging learning environment, fostering meaningful language acquisition and communication skills.

Keywords: French language; Kahoot, Online learning and teaching; Technology integration

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ENHANCING COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE THROUGH VISUAL AND AUDIO AID INCLUDED TEACHING IN JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASS ROOMS

PN. Nimesha Dilshani Dayarathne[1]

Learning foreign languages is a timely need and a trend all over the world, so as in Sri Lanka. Japanese is a popular choice among the undergraduates of the state universities where Japanese offers as main subject for BA and BA (hons) degrees. The situation is same in the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. However, the problem aroused here was although the number of students increased, whether the undergraduates achieving the major outcome of learning Japanese; enhanced communication competencies in real life situations. To find a answer to this question, the researcher took the sample from the BA degree final year students of old syllabus who are graduated in year 2023 and the students of new syllabus who are becoming graduands in year 2024 in Rajarata University. Altogether 58 undergraduates were participated in the study. The two separate batches were taught the same course content, but using two different teaching approaches. The old syllabus undergraduates were taught using traditional teaching methodologies, sticking mainly on to the grammar and structures. The other batch was taught in a different approach using audio visual contents related to the text book. Finally, the both batches were subjected to a common oral test inclusive of prompt speech, group role play and a self-introduction. Their performances were totally different at the end. The students who were taught Japanese in a grammar and theory-oriented methodology were poor in pronunciation including accents and tones, integrating intercultural understandings to the conversations and using formal conversational etiquettes when compared to the students who learnt with audio visual contents. However, they used proper book grammar and appropriate vocabulary in each task. The undergraduates who were taught with audio and visual study materials, performed satisfactorily good and their expressions, speech etiquettes, choose of appropriate phrases, tones and accents, situational behaviors were in a high standard. The grammar they used was not book grammar, there were mistakes in forms but they clearly communicated the idea. The study highlights the importance of using audio visual aids in enhancing communication skills of the Japanese language learners.

Keywords: Communication Competence, Japanese, Grammar- oriented, Audio-visual aid, outcome

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UTILIZING THE PERSONIFICATION PREPOSITIONS IN AMAVATHURA

Nilmini Dayananda[1]

Amavathura is considered as the incomparable Sinhalese Prose. It was written by Gurulugomi during the 12th century A. D. Amavathura reflects a developed stage of Sinhala language and literature. By the time when Amavathura was written, Sinhalese language had developed with some characteristics peculiar to it alone. The extent of the evolution of the syntax during the period from the 10th century A. D. to 13th century A. D. is remarkably significant when compare the changes that took place in the subsequent period that is until about the 18th century A.D. The purpose of this study is to analyse the utilization of prepositions in Amavathura. This research has been done by using the Sinhala grammarians' method. nisa: (ksid), ho (fyd), doho (fÞfyd), no da (fkd o), no (fkd), lə (,), nohot (fkdfyd;a), misæ (ñie), turu ^;=re) and də (o) are the prepositions included in Amavathura. Many prepositions which are used at present are included in Amavathura. Prepositions with one meaning as well as prepositions with different meanings can be seen in this book. Many prepositions in Amavathura are used with the same meaning even today, but some prepositions are used with different meanings. In addition to that, some prepositions in Amavathura are not used at present. It reveals that some prepositions and some meanings of prepositions which were used in the 12th century have disappeared today. In conclusion, it is clear that some prepositions had been established in Sinhala language by the time when Amavathura was written.

Keywords: Amavathura, Different meanings, Disappeared, Same meaning, Utilization of prepositions

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HOW SOMALATHA SUBHASINGHE HAS USED LANGUAGE TO DRAMATIZE FOR CHILDREN'S ENJOYMENT. (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PUNCHI APATA DEN THEREI DRAMA)

PASS. Kaushalya[1]

Born as an outstanding woman in Sri Lankan theater, Somalatha Subhasinghe's talent is well known in children's dramas. She was able to grasp the subtle aspects of the child's mind carefully. Subhasingha has managed to capture the children's minds in a more creative and sensitive way, even though there is a limited amount of children's dramas which have been compiled as Toppi Velenda, Punchi Apita den Therei, Hima Kumariya, Valas Pawala, Ratmali, Gamarala Divaya Lokete. The research problem is how to interpret the children's enjoyment needed by today's children creatively by using language to dramatize for educational purposes.This study aims to determine whether Subhasinghe's Punchi Apita den Therei is a play in which language has been creatively manipulated for children's enjoyment. The script of Subhasinghe's Punchi Apita den Therei play will be studied. Information is gathered through academic articles, experimental theses and, interviews from expert scholars in the field. It can be observed that by integrating language creatively with dramatization, children's minds can be creatively filled with enjoyment as well as wisdom. By studying children's drama, we can observe how language has been used creatively to get closer to the child by identifying the child's mind. Subhasinghe has managed to bring the aesthetic child's mind and experience closer to the child with a linguistic and literary approach, which is lost to the children of today compared to the children of the past.

Keywords: Children's Enjoyment, Drama, Education, Language, Punchi Apita den Therei

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AN INVESTIGATIVE STUDY ON HUMAN CHARACTER WEAKNESSES PORTRAYED IN SRI LANKAN KOLAM DRAMAS

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In this study, human character flaws that are shown in Sri Lankan kolam operas are investigated. The Research Problem in this study is how making fun of the character flaws shown in Sri Lankan kolam dramas will affect the development of a just and moral society. The main objectives of this research is to examine the character flaws that ancient Kolam theatre characters portray. The study approach was qualitative research, and the main findings focused on the co-variations between the bowl type character features in a few chosen Kolam dramas and everyday human behaviors. The data thus obtained were examined comparatively and analytically and conclusions were reached. In the study, Kolam dramas belonging to Galle, Matara and Kalutara districts were selected as the research limit and special attention was paid to royal characters and conceptual characters contained in those Kolam dramas. According to the reference of the police kolam in the Kolam play, 'Manisun Dutukalata-Sarasin Balai Vatapita-Sandu Saruval Kota-Polis Sivdena A Sabayata', the prejudiced character displayed by the police officers in front of the common people has been humorously highlighted. This has given some blow to the contemporary and current public service and thus the audience has received some support in shaping their official character. In the Arachchi Kolam Character weaknesses are highlighted in the way the helpless are oppressed by those in the social hierarchy. Heva Kolam's also shows the monopoly in the administration and how the people are oppressed by it. According to all these facts, it is clear that the Sri Lankan Kolam drama is not only for entertainment and comedy but also for social reformation. It can be concluded that Kolam drama can be used as a current social reforming art form through the ironic presentation of individual character weaknesses.

Keywords: Kolam, Drama, Society, Arachchi Kolam, Weaknesses

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RE-MEMBERING THE PERSONAL IN THE MOSAIC OF SRI LANKAN HISTORY THROUGH FEMALE MEMOIRS IN ENGLISH

Isuru Ayeshmantha Rathnayake[1]

The present study is an attempt to re-interpret the act of reembracing traumatic memories as a form of resistance to the hegemonic narratives of our pasts, not only in its power to remember multiple and alternative histories but also to re-member individuals who are often eclipsed or wiped out in our memorialization of a nation's past.   In light of that, this study critically interrogates the novels Tamil Tigress: My Story as a Child Soldier in Sri Lanka's Bloody Civil War (2011) by Niromi De Soyza and Wave (2013) by Sonali Deraniyagala, as attempts of remembering a traumatic past, a process through their women narrators' re-member their personal voices within the mosaic of Sri Lankan history which is saturated with hegemonic, and mostly male-centered accounts. By revisiting the early years of Sri Lankan civil war and the Tsunami catastrophe of 2004, these narratives set the turf to probe the wounds that history has inflicted over time through the slippery memories of two individual women. Through a critical analysis of the above two novels, this study argues that such memories are often contributive to unravel the cultural and political forces that construct our histories, allowing us to deconstruct and to reconstruct the cultural and historical truths that we consider unassailable. Thus, the study also points out how such a process may lead to an emancipatory reconstruction of our pasts, where certain communities in Sri Lanka are often villainised or marginalised over time due to their ethnic, cultural or gendered identities. What is most remarkable in this process is that the instigators of this reinscribing of values being the women whose voices are still less heard or acknowledged in the national conscience of the country. Ironically enough, the outpouring of the traumatic memories of these female narrators, and their resistance to the familial, political and gendered forces that tried to regulate their place in the above catastrophes, provide us the space for a different engagement with the still unresolved but often overlooked communal issues in Sri Lanka.   Therefore, this study concludes that revisiting these female memories through literature helps female narrators reclaim their epistemic agency as credible knowers and active members in the national fabric of the country, a position that is often denied to them by the cultural, historical and political forces in Sri Lanka and in most of the other postcolonial nations.

Keywords: female memories, remembering and re-membering, traumatic past, emancipatory reconstruction of history, Sri Lanka

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ADVISES OF SUBHASITHAYA AND MODERN SOCIETY: POST MODERNIST INTERPRETATION

WMND. Weerasinghe[1]

Instructional literature was created to provide guidance when society was challenged by decline. Alagiyawanna Mukaweti poet wrote instructional poetry as Subhashithaya with including important and universal advices for both inter-personal and Intra-personal matters to reduce the social decline in Sithawaka period. The study of Subhashithaya is important to find the most suitable solutions to avoide social, economic, political and cultural issues in current society. Through and analysis comparatively poems in Subhasithaya and current society, this study investigates that although Subhasithaya is important, why readers don't like to read it? By examine the values of Subhasithaya, this study aims to build a conversation and uncover its values as powerful literary resource to solve modern issues. This study launched under the qualitative research methodology. Literary studies and participation observation are methods. Study based theories were social literary studies, post modernism and comparative studies. To emphasize the values of Subhashithaya, under categories of guidance such as political, qualities and religion, comparatively examined the modern needs of current society and instructions of poetries. This study uncovers that people dismissal of literary perspectives have been removed by addiction to tempo rhythms, figurative medium and dismissal of metaphorical content. Moreover, study revealed that euphemism has been distanced and due to the exclusion of utilitarianism due to consumerist cultural practices and existing unconsciousness of Subhashithaya, existing attitudes about the poet. This study signified that new media and modern methods should be used to emphasize and apply the values of Subhashithaya with securing its values. It's revealed, by restricting to the syllabus, it appears to detract from its intellectual and artistic value and ignore social paradigms of Subhashithaya.

Keywords: advises, current social issues, metaphorical content, tempo rhythms, values of Subhashithaya

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UNDERSTANDING OF CHINESE PEOPLE IN SRI LANKA THROUGH THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ASSIMILATION AND MULTICULTURALISM

RMAK. Rathnayake[1],   RM. Rathnayaka[2]

From the arrival of Prince Vijaya (Vijayawatarana) in 543 B.C., many ethnic groups came to Sri Lanka at different times, and they gradually became citizens of Sri Lanka. In the most general perspective, Sri Lankans talk only about the relations with India since the period of Prince Vijaya. Although not as much as India, Sri Lanka has established close relations with other countries too. In this regard, China can be distinctively recognized since the early history of Sri Lanka. Those relations date back to the time the Chinese monk Faxian (Fa-Hsien, Fa Hien) (A.D. 399-414) Buddhist pilgrimage in this country. Faxian undertook a trip from Xian in central China and continued traveling to Sri Lanka. According to historical records, Faxian reportedly travelled on a mercantile ship from the port of Tamralipti, in eastern India, to Sri Lanka in A.D. 408 or 409. It is also evident from Faxian's account that when he boarded to return to China four year after his stay in Sri Lanka (4010-414), he had made a great relationship with the Buddhist monastics in Sri Lanka. Numerous archaeological are evidenced to the close friendship between China and Sri Lanka. Besides these archaeological evidence, contemporary evidence of China-Sri Lanka friendship is outright vital. The recent wave of independent migrants of Chinese begun in the late 1920s. Many of them temporally settled at and spread out Maradana, Wellawatte and Negombo. They only had economic purpose and return home. This pattern changed with the intensification of the WW2 drawing a tendency to stay longer in Ceylon. In the late 1990s and early 2000s, a new wave of Chinese migrants came to Sri Lanka with small business ambitions with the ensue of the civil war in 2009, Sri Lanka became a popular destination for rich Hong Kong people and mainland Chinese. According to available national statistics, the descendants of early migrants who remain in Sri Lanka is around 3500 persons. At present, approximately 80% of Sri Lankan Chinese spread out in the Western province, especially in the cities such as Colombo, Pamankada, Wellawatta, and Gampaha of the country. The Sri Lankan Chinese are living as a minority population in Sri Lanka. This study explored the lifestyle of Sri Lankan Chinese people and their profession and social status. Discourse analysis was employed for this study. Assimilation theory, and multiculturalism are used as a conceptual framework to understand the existence of Sri Lankan Chinese community. The findings of the study suggests that the integrity of Sri Lankan Chinese community to mainstream culture is a volunteer cultural assimilation and preserves cultural identity silently within a multicultural social landscape.

Keywords: Sri Lankan Chinese people, Identity, Cultural assimilation, Multiculturalism

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EXPLORING AN ONLINE ESL CLASSROOM INTERACTION: INVESTIGATING THE TEACHER-TALK AT THE TERTIARY LEVEL

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Teacher-talk plays a crucial role in classroom interaction since it facilitates L2 learner engagement among the ESL practitioner and the L2 learner. Considering this, it is essential to evaluate L2 classroom discourse in order to highlight parts of one's teaching methods and look at how language is used to achieve pedagogical objectives. This present qualitative study aimed to analyze the types of talks employed by the ESL practitioner in an online L2 classroom context using Walsh's (2006) Self-Evaluation of Teacher Talk (SETT) framework. The data were collected through Zoom video recording ability and observations from five naturalistic ESL classes and an interview with the same ESL practitioner who conducts lectures in one of the state universities of Sri Lanka. The results of the study showed that out of the 04 modes which were introduced by Walsh, the managerial and material modes were evident in the interaction. Even among these two, giving instructions was the most applied activity throughout all the teaching hours. Although the ESL practitioner used 10 of the 14 interactional characteristics from the SETT, it was evident that the ESL practitioner mostly controlled the ESL classroom throughout the learning process. However, it was found that due to the less to no participation of learners in the ESL classroom, the instructor had to take the dominant stance. Other findings of the study showed that Initiation-response-feedback (IRF) patterns, display questions, and classroom context hindered the learning opportunities. Thus, this study is expected to be used as a reference for ESL practitioners as a consideration for how to use teacher-talk along with interactional features that interest the L2 learners to contribute to the L2 learning process.

Keywords: ESL Classroom Interaction, Teacher Talk, SETT, L2 learners, Online ESL class

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A STUDY ON STUDENTS MOTIVATION IN LEARNING CHINESE AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE IN SRI LANKA AND EFFECTIVE TEACHING STRATEGIES

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This study examines student motivation in learning Chinese as a foreign language in Sri Lanka and explores effective teaching strategies to enhance the language learning process. With the increasing economic, political, and cultural exchanges between Sri Lanka and China, proficiency in Chinese has become crucial for communication and trade relationships. Understanding learner motivation is essential for providing academic support and improving students' Chinese communicative competency. The research focuses on first-year students in the Chinese department at the University of Kelaniya and weekend class learners at the Confucius Institute, representing different levels of learners in terms of age, gender, and professional qualifications. The study employs a combination of research methods, including questionnaires, interviews, and classroom observations, to gather data and analyze students' motivations. Findings indicate that the motivations of Sri Lankan learners vary across dimensions such as gender, age, and proficiency in Chinese. Most students are motivated by employment prospects, followed by interest in the Chinese language itself. Additionally, interest in Chinese culture, communication with Chinese friends, travel to China, and other factors contribute to students' motivations. The study highlights the consistency of learner motivation among students and observes a higher motivation level among male students. Notably, female students show a greater interest in the teaching profession to become Chinese language teachers due to the shortage of qualified instructors in Sri Lanka. Based on the research findings, it is recommended that practical content related to teaching Chinese as a foreign language be introduced in university study programs. This will provide necessary training for students interested in becoming Chinese language teachers in Sri Lanka. By understanding students' motivations and tailoring teaching strategies accordingly, educators can effectively support students in their Chinese language learning journey and foster their proficiency in the language. Overall, this study emphasizes the significance of learner motivation in the acquisition of Chinese as a foreign language and highlights the need for appropriate teaching strategies to facilitate effective language learning in Sri Lanka.

Keywords: Chinese language, Effective teaching strategies, foreign language learning, Sri Lanka, Students motivation.

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AN ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS ON PIRITH SAJJAYANA

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"Pirith" in Sinhala, "Paritta" in Pali and "Parithrana" in Sanskrit refers to the chanting (Sajjayana) of Buddhist scriptures known as "Sutra" which is a tradition in mainly the Eastern part of the world. In this study the acoustic properties of Pirith Sajjayana based on two spectral properties namely, the spectral centroid and pitch have been studied. The pitch is the frequency of an audio signal where the maximum energy is concentrated. Spectral Centroid represents the spectral richness of an audio signal. It is a known fact that, traditionally in Pirith Sajjayana, the variation of pitch is kept at minimum due to a fundamental concept in Buddhism. Therefore, in this study the variation of pitch (Standard deviation Of Pitch-SOP) and variation of the spectral centroid (Standard deviation Of Spectral Centroid - SOSC) are used for the comparison. Audio samples from 40 Pirith Sajjayana belonging to different genres have been recorded in raw audio format at a sampling frequency of 44100 Hz. Then each of the prescribed audio samples was divided into one second segments and the pitch and spectral centroid of each segment were calculated using a computer. Then the SOP and SOSC of each audio signal were calculated and plotted onto a feature space. The results indicated that different genres of Pirith Sajjayana are mapped to different regions in the feature space. It can be observed that the features (SOSC vs SOP) corresponding to pirith form mainly two clusters. It can be visually observed that SOSC of most of the Pirith Sajjayana are higher and the rest of the Pirith Sajjayana SOP is higher. However certain Pirith Sajjayanas can be found to be outlier regions. Such outliers also analyzed to find out special properties from a musical perspective. Further this study compares Pirith Sajjayana with other religious chants. The research concludes that the acoustical analysis of Pirith Sajjayana can be used to understand different genres of Pirith Sajjayana based on their acoustical properties.

Keywords: Pirith Sajjayana, Spectral Centroid, Standard Deviation, Pitch, Spectral Properties.

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Sociology
Anthropology
Criminology

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

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FACTORS AFFECTING TOWARDS LACK OF SOFT SKILLS AND ENGLISH PROFICIENCY AMONG UNDERGRADUATES

SUC. Prasanna[1]

The need for undergraduates with sound English proficiency and soft skills has increased in state universities of Sri Lanka. This contemporary issue has caused many problems in undergraduates' academic careers in the job market causing many professions to reject undergraduates who graduate from state universities. The research problem of this research was "What are the factors affecting the lack of soft skills and English proficiency among undergraduates?" The main objective of this research was to find the reasons for the lack of soft skills and English proficiency among university undergraduates and to acknowledge the awareness of undergraduates about the modern demand for soft skills and English proficiency. The research was mixed research through both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies used with a descriptive analysis. Data was collected through a self-administered online questionnaire for the undergraduates and key-informant interviews with lecturers from the faculty of social sciences, faculty of humanities and the Department of English Language Teaching (DELT). "Social Learning Theories" by Albert Bandura (1977) was the theory which was studied for the theoretical framework of the research. Results found that even though many undergraduates lack both soft skills and English proficiency even before commencing tertiary education in state universities, many undergraduates do not have sufficient knowledge about the demands of the job market due to which they do not realize the importance of polishing their English knowledge or upgrade their soft skills. Another result was the poor guidance by schools since primary education and lack of support from family, school and peers affect the acquisition of soft skills and English skills. In conclusion, even though there is a huge demand for undergraduates with sound soft skill abilities and English proficiency, many undergraduates are behind the required level of a professional university student. As a recommendation, if the undergraduates receive the proper guidance from the beginning of their tertiary education, they will be able to complete their tertiary education with sound soft skills and English skills and face the job market as a sound competitor and the courses and subjects should be upgraded according to the present needs of the society.

Keywords: Undergraduate, Soft Skills, English Proficiency, Tertiary education, Job market

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A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY ON CHALLENGES FACED BY RURAL SCHOOL CHILDREN DUE TO COVID - 19 PANDEMIC BASED ONLINE EDUCATION SYSTEM

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Education is a social institution through which a society's children are taught basic academic knowledge, learning skills and cultural norms. At the beginning of year 2020 and ending of 2019 an outbreak of a novel corona virus that is Covid-19 find out in China. It was rapidly increasing in few months in many countries of the world as well as Sri Lanka. In this situation directly affects to education system in Sri Lanka. At that time, to continue the education process via E-learning methods like online class. In this mode, both teaching and learning happen through electronic devices which are relatively new to the entire learning community. This online education system had a direct impact on the school education in rural society. For this study, aimed to understand what are the challenges faced by rural school children due to Covid-19 pandemic based online education system. Besides, it tried to understand the user experiences and the measures can be taken to overcome those challenges. The main objective of this research is to identify the challenges faced by rural school children in online education system. In additions to, sub objectives of this study is to identify the social and economic status of rural social family structure, to gain an understanding of the technical awareness of rural school children and to presenting timely important suggestions and recommendations to overcome the difficulties faced by rural school children in the online education system. This study was conducted in associated with both rural school such as R/Sri Sumana Maha Vidyalaya and Niralgama Maha Vidyalaya under Rathnapura Divisional Secretariat. The data was obtained used qualitative and quantitative data methods. Therefore, this research was conducted using 50 data contributors, who were35 students studying grades 10, 11 and advanced level and 15 parents were selected as data contributors. Primary data collection methods, like questionnaires and in-depth interviews were used in this research for collecting data. The study also found that the main challenges of online education system such as technical mistakes, communication issues, students feelings, students stressful condition in online learning etc. however, these study are important how to improve the technologies to make them use more efficiently. Beside, this study gives a proper framework to modify or create suitable education methods, techniques and schemes to obtain equal access to resources for all.

Keywords: Covid-19, Rural Society, Education, Online Education, School Children

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AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL INTERPRETATION ON SHIVA NATARAJA'S SCULPTURE

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Shiva, a gifted dancer in Hindu mythology, bestows desires on those worshiping him. Metal Nataraja sculptures, found in India, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia, depict Lord Shiva's Tandava dancing style. Found at Shiva Temple No. 1 in the 12th century during the Polonnaruwa era, the sculpture's artistic value demonstrates Hindu culture's conception of God and emphasizes physical attributes, dance stance, balance, and space use. The study highlights the significance of these sculptures in Hindu mythology. The main objective of this study is to analyze the aesthetic qualities of Shiva as a Hindu god, which entails analyzing the significance of this statue from an anthropological perspective. The research problem here is how Shiva worship differs from Sri Lankan sculpture in its socialization as a form of worship. Considering the research approach, this study was conducted with the support of literary sources that discussed the Shiva Nataraja sculpture. This sculpture shares similarities with religious iconography from Buddhism and Christianity in that it uses symbolism to reveal the traits and personalities of saints and deities. Additionally, the Nataraja figure is encircled by a ring of fire, which symbolizes the universe's ongoing creation and destruction. No significant anthropological observations have been previously interpreted in association with this sculpture. Within this cosmic ring of fire are contained mass, space, and time. Shiva Nataraja is a symbol of the Indian understanding of the cycle of time and Shiva's three functions as creator, preserver, and destroyer. In summary, the sculpture represents vitality, youth, and strength, with flames representing the Prabha Mandala and the Makara Mukha on the pedestal. These features showcase Shiva's strength and Hindu religious ideas artistically.

Keywords: Covi Anthropology, God, Hindu, Sculpture, Shiva

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FARMERS' ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE POLITICAL INTERVENTION ON THE HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICT IN SRI LANKA

SI. Boralasse[1]

Human-elephant conflict (HEC) stands as a major challenge in Sri Lanka. It creates severe socio-economic and environmental problems along with an unsustainable development process. HEC usually starts with the invasion of elephant habitats by humans and it leads to crop raiding, household damage, injuries and deaths from both sides. Farmers in dry zones are heavily affected by this crisis although there are multiple actions to mitigate the scenario. Being victims of both farmers and elephants, it is difficult to implement a win-win situation. Therefore, many mitigation plans put forward became fruitless. HEC is an unsolved crisis related to the livelihood of farmers in the dry zone and can be considered a major trump election card for politicians over the past several years. Even though they promised to implement effective solutions, still identified as an unsolved problem. Therefore, it has led to the breakdown of trust between the farmers and politicians. This study aimed to achieve several objectives including identifying farmers' attitudes to the effectiveness of the political intervention on HEC, understanding the intensity of wild elephant behavior over the past decade and evaluating farmers' opinions on their future investment in the agro field under the HEC. The study was conducted using a qualitative approach while primary data was gathered through interviews. Twenty face-to-face interviews and two focused group discussions were conducted and gathered data was analysed using the content analysis technique. The sample is selected using a purposive sampling technique and the selected areas of this study are Kirimatiyawa and Tharanagollawa in the Madawachchiya divisional secretariat in Anuradhapura. The data reveals that the majority of respondents criticize politicians for neglecting their promises on HEC after gaining power. Data shows that politicians' solutions play a white elephant role each time to win the election. It is noteworthy to find out that there wasn't a single elephant in the 1980s in these areas. The elephant population has increased gradually with farmers' invasion of the forest for agricultural purposes and the establishment of elephant detention center in Horowpothana. Farmers are gradually abandoning their farmlands due to escalating elephant encroachment. As a result of that considerable number of farmers have migrated to other areas for occupations. The study emphasizes the urgent need for the implementation of a permanent solution for HEC in dry zone which helps to enhance both victims living conditions despite politicians arbitrary agendas. Also, it emphasizes the needs for the implementation fundamental reforms on wild elephant conservation and government should launch programs to revive farmers' interest in agriculture.

Keywords: Dry Zone, Human-elephant conflict, Mitigation plans, Political intervention, Unsustainable development

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A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY ON SOCIAL ADAPTATION OF STREET TRADING WOMEN - STUDY CONDUCTED IN PERADENIYA CITY

SIR. Liyanage[1]

Social Adaptation of woman is women's capacity to participate as equal partners as men in all work of life in the society. Many women have joined and selected street trading as an occupation due to high living costs, economic crisis and the lack of employment opportunities. Currently, around 50 women can be identified who are engaged in street trading around the city of Peradeniya. Accordingly, what are the socio-institutional factors that affect women's adaptation to street trading? was the main problem of this research. The main objective of this study is to identify the economic, social, educational and cultural factors that influence women to resort to street trading. Moreover, the sub objective is to identify the main challenges faced by women in street trading. Accordingly, this study was carried out under both qualitative and quantitative methods. Data was collected through 30 (N=30) randomly selected street trading women in Peradeniya City using a questionnaire. Among the identified data contributors, 30% are young, 50% are middle aged, and 20% are old. Quantitative data were analyzed using Microsoft Excel. In addition, secondary data was collected through various academic books, journals, newspapers, internet and other published documents. The major outcome of the study, a classification of street trading women was identified based on their behavior, intention, attitude, demographic variables and Interpersonal functioning. The main factors affecting women's recourse to street trading are the instability in their family background, social status, education level, cultural influences and economic difficulties. Street trading women are often influenced by financial exploitation and also susceptible to physical and mental abuse. Moreover, they are involved in various deviant activities in addition to street trading. Furthermore, street trading women can be identified as a segment of society that constantly faces social injustices due to illiteracy and poverty.

Keywords: Street Trading Women, Peradeniya City, Social Adaptation, Informal Economy, Social Injustice

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A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY ON SOCIO - CULTURAL CHALLENGES AFFECTING RURAL YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT; WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO OGASTAWATTA VILLAGE IN KANDY DISTRICT

RMVS. Rathnayake[1]

Unemployment is one of the most harmful personal situations for people of working age. Among many countries, unemployment is a major problem in developing countries like Sri Lanka. Unemployment affects young people from all walks of life and at present, youth unemployment in Sri Lanka has increased mainly in rural areas. Accordingly, what are the socio-cultural challenges affecting rural youth unemployment? was the main problem of this research. The main objective of this research was to highlight the main socio-cultural challenges affecting rural youth unemployment. Moreover, the sub-objective was to identify measures that can be taken to overcome the socio-cultural challenges affecting rural youth unemployment. Mainly primary data and secondary data has been used to collect data for this research. For this research, data was collected through 35 (N = 35) unemployed youths representing Ogastawatta village in Kandy district using semi-structured interview method as primary data collection method. Moreover, secondary data was collected through books, journals, newspapers, internet and other published documents. According to these sources, education, salary, poverty, effects from the families and society, prestige in society and political effects are identified as social challenges that lead to unemployment for the youth in the village. Furthermore, cultural challenges such as caste, religion, marriage system and language were identified as affecting the choice of a suitable field of employment. Accordingly, governments and private sector organizations, educational institutions, and community organizations need to collaborate to address rural youth unemployment effectively. There should be more employment exchanges established, and youth should be informed about available career opportunities. In addition, to reduce rural youth unemployment, it is important to provide them with high quality communication and soft skills, skills training, leadership and interpersonal skills needed by rural youth. By following these measures, it will be possible to eradicate rural youth unemployment from the society.

Keywords: Hidden Resource, Rural Society, Socio-Cultural Challenges, Sustainable, Livelihood, Youth Unemployment

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EXPLORING THE IMPACT OF ECONOMIC CRISIS ON MEN'S MENTAL HEALTH IN SRI LANKA: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

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This qualitative study aims to explore the impact of the economic crisis in Sri Lanka on men's mental health. The economic crisis has profound implications for individuals' well-being, and understanding its specific effects on men is crucial for developing targeted support systems. This research addresses the gap in knowledge regarding men's mental health experiences during economic crises in Sri Lanka. The study employs qualitative interviews to gather data from a diverse range of men who have experienced the economic crisis in Sri Lanka. Participants were selected based on factors such as age, occupation, geographical location, and marital status to ensure a broad representation of experiences. Thematic analysis was used to analyze the collected data, identifying common themes and patterns related to men's mental health challenges, coping mechanisms, and support systems. The findings highlight the significant impact of the economic crisis on men's mental health in Sri Lanka. Participants reported increased levels of stress, anxiety, depression, and feelings of hopelessness. Financial insecurity, unemployment, and the inability to meet societal expectations were key contributors to these mental health issues. Coping mechanisms utilized by men included seeking support from family and friends, engaging in hobbies or physical activities, and accessing community resources such as counseling services. The study concludes that the economic crisis in Sri Lanka has substantial consequences for men's mental health. The findings emphasize the importance of implementing mental health interventions and support systems tailored to the specific needs of men during times of economic uncertainty. Addressing the mental health challenges faced by men during economic crises can contribute to overall well-being and resilience within the community.

Keywords: Men's mental health, Economic crisis, Sri Lanka, Qualitative study, Masculinity

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METHAMPHETAMINE USE AND ITS IMPACT ON THE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH OF INDIVIDUALS

SWP. Kumara[1], B. Senanayake[2], AT. Darshana[3], HW. Thushari[4], AN. Renuka[5]

A trend in the use of Methamphetamine, a highly addictive drug, is currently seen in Sri Lanka. The number of arrests linked to methamphetamine has climbed from 06 to 2073 between 2017 and 2019, according to statistics on arrests that have been reported to the police. In this context, one of the specific objectives of this study, which was conducted to identify the drug use profile of Methamphetamine users, was to identify the health effects of Methamphetamine use on individuals. The research question was how does the usage of Methamphetamine impact the personal health of individuals? In this study, which used mixed research methodology, the data collection techniques such as interviews, observation and case studies were used. In addition, the APA screening tool for Methamphetamine, introduced by the American Scientific Association was used. Colombo and Gampaha districts were selected as the research field and fifty Methamphetamine users were included in the study sample under the snowball sampling method. Individuals represented in the sample were males (n = 48, 96%) and females (n = 2, 4%). Most of the individuals (n = 38, 76%) had faced thinking about increasing the dose used. Participants (n = 28, 56%) reported that they had faced fatigue, dreaming, insomnia, loss of appetite, memory and cognitive impairment. In addition, participants had faced blood pressure, breathing disorders, excessive weight loss and dental problems or infection (n = 23, 46%), extreme stress in the absence of Methamphetamine (n = 15, 30%), chest pain, liver or kidney disorders, blood clotting, hallucinogen or stressful situations (n = 10, 20%), hard to stop Methamphetamine use (n = 11, 22%), thinking of committing suicide in the absence of Methamphetamine (n = 6, 12%) and Methamphetamine overdose (n = 5, 10%). It can be concluded that using methamphetamine has both immediate and long-term physical and psychological impacts on users.

Keywords: breathing disorders; drug; fatigue; Methamphetamine; suicide

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FACTORS THAT LED FEMALES TO DRUG USE: WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PRISONS IN SRI LANKA

SWP. Kumara[1], AN. Renuka[2], AT. Darshana[3], B. Senanayake[4], JC. Ranasinghe[5], PNS. Tissera[6], AA. Wijesooriya[7]

When examining the landscape of drug utilization within Sri Lanka, it becomes evident that the prevalence of drug use extends across genders. A comprehensive study was undertaken to elucidate the nuances and trends associated with drug consumption among women. A specific focal point of this study involved an investigation into the extent of drug utilization among female inmates within Sri Lankan correctional facilities, as well as an exploration of the underlying catalysts driving females towards drug involvement. The core research inquiry centered around identifying the key determinants influencing female drug engagement. Methodologically, a structured questionnaire and observational methods were employed as the primary means of data collection. The study sample encompassed 80 female prisoners with a history of drug utilization, hailing from correctional institutions including Bogambara, Kalutara, Negombo, Wariyapola, and Welikada, all of whom were convicted for drug-related infractions alongside other offenses. According to the research findings, the introduction of drugs by friends (30%) had a strong effect. In addition, imprisonment 15 (4%), sexual satisfaction 1 (1%), 17 (24%) to avoid problems, 14 (20%) happiness/pleasure, and 6 (10%) curiosity had moderate effects as well. 9 (11%) of other factors that influenced women's first drug use were physical pain, grief, husband's desire, causal relationship, and boyfriend's drug use. 23 (29%) of women reported their Friends were the first to introduce the drug, and in addition, 17 (21%) of female prison officers, 15 (9%) of boyfriends, 14 (18%) of themselves, 5 (6%) of husbands, casual 4 partners (5%) and 2 relatives (2%) had first used drugs. The majority, 32 (40%) had used alcohol for the first time. Twenty-five (31%) had used tobacco products and 18 (23%) heroin, and 5 (6%) were also used for the first time. It can be concluded that peer pressure has highly affected for females to drug use.

Keywords: alcohol, drugs, drug use, heroin, tobacco

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UNRAVELING THE THREADS OF SECULARIZATION IN SRI LANKA: EXPLORING THE DEMISE OF DISCRIMINATION IN A DIVERSE NATION

Rev. Buthkande Amathabhani[1]

The research explores the possibility of a broader international discourse on secularization's potential to address discrimination, offering valuable insights for diverse societies worldwide. Sri Lanka, known for its rich cultural legacy and multiethnic population, has long struggled with inter-communal conflict. This research examines the impact of secularization on reducing discrimination in the nation. By exploring the shift towards secular values and its potential role in fostering social cohesion, the study aims to promote unity. Discrimination based on language, religion, and ethnicity has persisted throughout history, perpetuated by the integration of religious organizations into social structures. Consequently, understanding the influence of secularization in mitigating discrimination becomes crucial for fostering a unified nation. The main goal of this study is to determine the role secularization has played in Sri Lanka's decline in prejudice. The research investigates historical events, contemporary cultural views, and governmental changes associated with secularization to illustrate the possible advantages of encouraging a secular society. Employing a literature Analysis, the research systematically reviews academic journals, books, and relevant publications to analyze historical contexts of religious and ethnic diversity in Sri Lanka focusing on the influence of religion on social norms and previous studies on secularization and ethnic conflicts, highlighting the significance of secular identity in countering discrimination. The findings reveal a gradual shift towards inclusive values as secularization gains propulsion in Sri Lanka. According to the study, as religious influence decreases, discriminatory practices decline, fostering a more tolerant society. By nurturing a secular identity, Sri Lanka can continue its journey toward a united nation, embracing its diversity while fostering equality for all citizens. The study emphasizes the importance of reinforcing legal frameworks and policies that uphold secularization to promote unity among diverse communities. Policymakers, civil society organizations, and advocates can utilize these insights to counteract discrimination effectively and design targeted campaigns.

Keywords: Secularization, Discrimination, Social cohesion, Unity, Sri Lanka

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A STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF PRIMARY DOCTRINAL CONCEPTS IN ADDITION TO CONCEPT OF SIX QUARTERS IN SIGALOVADA SUTTTA FOR ENHANCING INDIVIDUAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL BETTERMENT

Ven. Bulugahapitiye Nandabodhi[1]

Sigalovaada Sutta (Discourse to Sigala) illustrates the social relationships with reference to the duties and obligations   through six quarters. The individuals and organizations attend the matter understanding the way of practicing them as the main teaching in the discourse. But there is a less concern about the other primary doctrinal factors that the discourse contains in building a proper spiritual personality and organizational structure for the betterment of human society. This study examines how they can be utilized and their impact changing the human and organizational behaviors to strengthen interrelations among them and establish better structure in governing oneself and the organizations. The Four Corrupt Deeds, Four Grounds, Six Drains on Wealth and Six Drawbacks of Drinking are some of the primary fundamentals of the discourse in addition to six quarters. The   Content analysis, as a method works in analyzing   the content of the above mentioned doctrinal concepts in depth qualitatively in preserving the originality of the discourse. The study will explore the interconnectedness of social, physical, mental, spiritual, and educational improvements through practicing those fundamental teachings in the discourse similar to or beyond the benefits that individuals acquire from the practice of the duties and obligations through   six quarters. Ultimately, the study presents the factors how they affect the individuals and organizations in enhancing individual and organizational skills for the betterment of the society.

Keywords: Sigalovada Sutta, Primary doctrinal Concepts, Interrelations, individuals and organizations, betterment of humans

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FACTORS INFLUENCING THE SOCIALIZATION OF THE CHILD GROWING UP IN A SLUM ENVIRONMENT AS A CRIMINAL

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Due to the proliferation of slum dwellers in Sri Lanka's commercial capital city of Colombo, they have been a decisive factor in shaping a distinct social profile. These slum lifestyles, which are associated with the people's lives in Colombo city, which shows a very advanced and complex system of settlement, have definitely become a sub-culture due to its unique characteristics. Children living in slums are an important part of focusing on slum dwellers. These children show more criminal behavior. But it was seen that there is a gap in society as well as in the field of research on crime and slum children. Therefore, the present research was used as the research problem to find out what are the factors that influence the socialization of most of the children as criminals in the slums of Grandpass and Modara areas of Colombo city. The objectives of this research are to identify the impact of the slum environment on the mental state of the child, the educational status of the slum children, the economic status of the slum dwellers and the various needs of the children. Data were collected by conducting a questionnaire and interviews under random sampling to 100 households in Grandpass and Modara areas of Colombo city. Data related to the research was analyzed through quantitative and qualitative analysis using primary and secondary sources as research methodology. The educational status of 60% children in the sample is poor. According to the sample, the economic level of all slum dwellers is low. For that reason, children use inappropriate methods to find money for their basic needs. 20% of the sample was found to be using drugs under various needs. Evidences were also found that methods such as pick pocketing and selling drugs are used for the purpose of finding money due to drug addiction. Thus, it was concluded that the slum dwellers are motivated to imitate the deviant people in that area and the educational level is weak, they are addicted to the use of drugs and they consider inappropriate things as their basic needs, and the criminal behavior has been formed in the children. It can be suggested to create programs to improve the educational level of slum dwellers, educate children about drug prevention and recommend counseling services, create new job opportunities in the government or private sector to uplift the economic status of slum dwellers.

Keywords: child, slum dwellers, drugs, education, he criminal'

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BREAKING THE SHACKLES: A PROPOSAL FOR A SUSTAINABLE FRAMEWORK ON PUNISHING OFFENDERS OF VICTIMLESS CRIMES IN SRI LANKA

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As critics argue, a concrete legal framework is integral to any nations' development as crimes hold an undeniable correlation with the progress of a society. In light of that, critics such as Durkheim contends that crime, and the reaction to it, I.E. punishment, build social solidarity by bringing people together which in turn decreases crime. However, recent research argues that a country's approach to assigning punishments for offenders is often vested on the law makers and the judiciary who are mostly driven by their legal instincts, which might have a detrimental impact on the especial groups of offenders such as offenders of victimless crimes. Hence, the present study aims to critically revisit the Sri Lankan laws on criminal punishment that concern victimless crimes, to understand the possibility of developing a more sustainable and holistic mechanism on punishing criminal offenders in the country. The study reviewed the existing legal framework on punishing the offenders of crimes (principally penal code), related case laws, and legislature from foreign jurisdictions, books, scholarly articles and news bulletins concerning the same. The researcher also conducted 5 semi-structured interviews with a group of experts including professionals with more than 20 years' experience and academics from legal, criminological and sociological disciplines to nuance its data. Through its data analysis, this study observes that the Sri Lankan criminal justice system is more restricted and often incapable of addressing the growing crime rates. Specifically, the lack of proper rehabilitation mechanism apart from the processes conducted inside prisons, absence of the element of consensus in many of the available rehabilitation mechanisms and inadequacies in expertise and interest paid on offender counselling and social reintegration were highlighted as major substantive and procedural shortcomings in the existing frameworks concerning offenders of victimless crimes. Thus, this study argues for a multidisciplinary approach in punishing offenders of victimless crimes such as drug abusers and sex workers which includes not only a legal but sociological and criminological perspective. Hence, this study concludes that the traditional punishments like incarceration/ incapacitation should be replaced by much preferred rehabilitation and offender counselling methods, especially for the offenders of victimless crimes.
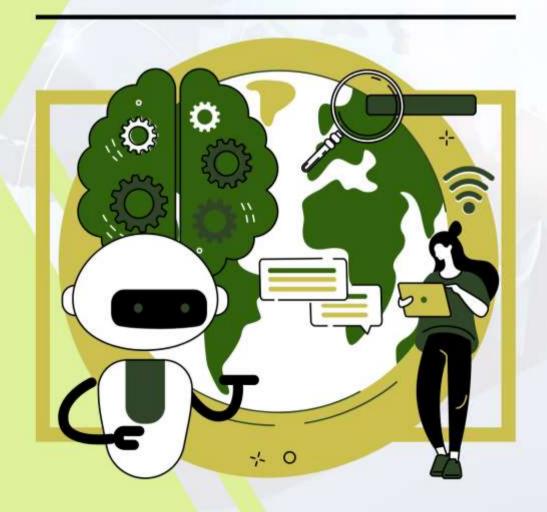
Keywords: victimless crimes, rehabilitation, offender counselling, punishment, Sri Lanka

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Technology

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FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA - MIHINTALE

IOT- BASED SCARE TACTICS IN CROP FIELDS

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In Sri Lanka, protecting crop fields from animals is observed as a Challenging Problem. Annually, crops damaged by wild animals are dramatically increasing in Sri Lanka. Since the wild animals cause damage to the crops, farmers cannot tolerate it. A large number of human and animal conflicts have been recorded in the past. With this background, there is a need to protect the crops from the animals and avoid harming them. Therefore, implementing an IoT-based scare-away mechanism can be an effective and sustainable solution to this problem. The system was proposed to avoid human and animal conflicts in crop fields. In that way, the objective of the study is to identify the animal before they enter the crop field and scare them away with a proper mechanism. In this study, a mobile application is developed to alert the farmer to the presence of animals in the crop field area. Whenever the presence of the animal is sensed by the thermal sensor, an alert will be sent to the mobile application. An interface will allow the user to identify the animal using Camera input. Based on the prediction, flashlights, ultrasound, and bee sounds will be produced to scare away the animal. Since the prediction is made with human interaction, the accuracy of the system is increased. This system significantly reduces human animal conflicts in crop fields at a reasonable cost that can be tolerated by farmers in Sri Lanka.

Keywords: IoT, Mobile Application, Prediction, Interface, Tactics

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DIAGNOSIS OF BRAIN TUMOURS USING MACHINE LEARNING ALGORITHM

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Brain tumors are a profoundly severe and life-threatening affliction that can affect individuals of all ages. With the advancements in medical technology, the early diagnosis of brain tumors has assumed increasing significance in order to ensure the most favorable outcome for patients. With advancements in medical technology, early diagnosis of brain tumors has become increasingly important to ensure the best possible outcome for the patient. Nevertheless, conventional methods employed for diagnosing brain tumors, such as Computerized Tomography (CT) scans and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scans, possess inherent limitations, being both costly and time-consuming, and may not consistently yield precise diagnoses. Machine learning algorithms have emerged as powerful instruments for accurately diagnosing brain tumors from medical images. These algorithms possess the potential to enable medical practitioners to make expedited and precise diagnoses, thereby significantly enhancing the prognostic prospects for patients. This study presents the implementation of machine learning algorithms, including Support Vector Machine (SVM), Decision Tree, and Convolution Neural Network (CNN), for the purpose of diagnosing brain tumors. To develop and optimize these algorithms, a dataset comprising brain scans from both healthy individuals and those afflicted by tumors is utilized. This dataset specifically encompasses images obtained from MRI scans. Subsequently, the performance of the algorithms is evaluated by subjecting them to a collection of unseen brain scans. The results of this study demonstrate the capability of machine learning algorithms to diagnose brain tumors with an accuracy surpassing 95%. As such, this study presents a promising avenue for the early detection and diagnosis of brain tumors

Keywords: Brain Tumor, Convolution Neural Network, Diagnosis, Decision Tree, Machine Learning Algorithm, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Support Vector Machine.

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TRANSFORMING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION: AUGMENTED REALITY FOR ENHANCED SPELLING SKILLS

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Embarking on a transformative journey to revolutionize education, this research tackles the lack of interactivity in current methods for teaching letter pronunciation and word letter memorization among preschool children. Through surveys and interviews, the study uses a sample population of 120 parents and preschool teachers in Sri Lanka to determine the present difficulties. The research suggests a novel approach to improve letter recognition, letter memorization, language learning, and speech skills in kids ages 3-5 by leveraging the power of augmented reality (AR) technology. Children are taken on an immersive educational journey through the application, which begins with a gameplay mode where they can choose an animal. Once the AR mode is activated, virtual images of animals and floating 3D letters corresponding to their names are displayed. For example, the word "CAT" would be accompanied by a virtual CAT on the floor and 3D letters "C," "A," and "T" floating in the air. Using accompanying pronunciation sounds, children learn the proper letter placement and how to tap on the letters in the correct order. Feedback is given right away and shows how accurate the chosen letters were. The development process incorporates the use of Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) for precise recognition of 3D letters in the augmented reality environment. Trained on a dataset of letter images captured from various perspectives and lighting conditions, the CNN accurately identifies the associated letters. Additionally, Recurrent Neural Network (RNN) is employed to predict pronunciation based on the sequence of taps, leveraging the temporal aspect of the input to generate accurate predictions. This ensures accurate letter recognition and providing immediate feedback on pronunciation. The application underwent evaluation by fifty preschool teachers and parents. A significant number of respondents (86%), when asked about activities that taught letters within words, reported that their children were engaged and satisfied. In addition to teaching and memorizing letters, the application provides an interactive environment where students can learn in real time while associating words with objects. Aligned with traditional learning strategies, the app complemented existing methods. This positive outcome highlights the potential of the application as a valuable tool for enhancing theliteracy skills of preschool children.

Keywords: Preschool Education; Letter Memorization; Augmented Reality

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COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS ON ICT COMPETENCY AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS: A CASE STUDY OF TWO FACULTIES AT RAJARATA UNIVERSITY

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In today's fast-paced world, proficiency in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is indispensable for undergraduate students as they transition into the workforce. This research project, conducted using students of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities and Faculty of Technology at Rajarata University, seeks to assess the baseline ICT knowledge and utilization of new technological tools among undergraduate students. The study collected data using Google Forms from 50 students representing various academic years from both faculties through a questionnaire. The primary objectives were to evaluate the students' familiarity with essential ICT competencies, such as efficient utilization of Microsoft Office, harnessing the capabilities of Google Workspace extensions for collaborative projects, and their understanding of artificial intelligence. The findings revealed a significant discrepancy between the two faculties. Students from the Faculty of Technology displayed a markedly higher level of basic ICT knowledge compared to their counterparts in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities. Additionally, students from the social science and humanities faculty demonstrated a relatively limited grasp of the effective application of cutting-edge technological tools. These results underscore the pressing need to bridge the ICT knowledge gap among students pursuing programs in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities. To ensure graduates are well-equipped for the dynamic demands of the modern job market, it is imperative that initiatives be put in place to provide these students with a foundational understanding of ICT and the capacity to harness technological innovations effectively. This research serves as a wake-up call for educators and policymakers to design and implement tailored programs aimed at enhancing the ICT skills of students in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities. Empowering these students with the requisite knowledge and tools will not only improve their employability but also contribute to their ability to excel in an increasingly technology-driven world.

Keywords: ICT competency, Undergraduate students, Rajarata university, Technology utilization, Comparative analysis

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FEMALE VISIONARY LEADERS FOR DEVELOPMENT: A SOCIOLOGICAL READING ON IMPORTANCE VS REALITY OF GENDER, DEVELOPMENT AND STATE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION IN SRI LANKA

Lavangi Ranasinghe[1]

Visionary leadership is more about having a long-run vision. Sustainable development is a holistic approach to development, including three key aspects of economic, social, and environmental development. The country's state universities provide free-of-charge higher education for selected students based on their Advance Level examination results. The research problem of the study was 'what is the importance of having female visionary leaders in navigating the country's development process? and main research objective was to 'examine what is the reality of including female scholars of state universities of the country as visionary leaders, within the country's development process'. This research was exploratory, qualitative, field-based research. Purposive nonprobability sample was used, predominantly primary data was gathered in data collection through questionnaires and structured interviews. Discourse analysis was used in analyzing data. Quantitative analysis was conducted where necessary. A one-state university and eight selected ministries of the country were the two samples of the research. Enhancing equal participation and compensation, both aspects of the privet and public spheres need to have gender-sensitive lenses. The popular view on leadership as which belongs to the public sphere restricts females' full participation in leadership, in a patriarchal world. Patriarchy has created a mindset that working under women is somewhat inferior. Although a considerable number of females are engaged in labour force of the country, bringing women's visionary leadership into the mainstream is lacking. Theoretically state university curriculums made treating males and females, the other gender groups, equally. There are clear gender patterns in male-female student proportions in different study streams; those are bounded by gendered social constructions and gender-based division of labour. Females are not genetically less visionary. Where the state policies do not promote female visionary leadership to navigate the development process of the country, it is difficult for females to cope with up challenges they face.

Keywords: development, female visionary leadership, gender, patriarchy, state universities

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A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON USING FLASHCARDS AND WORDLISTS TO TEACH VOCABULARY ONLINE: SECONDARY-LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

HKP. Dineshika[1]

Vocabulary learning and teaching is considered one of the most important mechanisms to teach a second language. Teachers use strategies to teach vocabulary to English as Second Language (ESL) learners in Sri Lanka. One such strategy is the use of flashcards. Flashcards in teaching vocabulary are very simple visual aids that facilitate learner engagement and motivation in the physical classroom context. Thus, this pilot study was conducted to identify the effect of the usage of both wordlists and flashcards on vocabulary learning for secondary-level ESL learners during online classes. This study provides an answer to the research question "How do the usage of wordlists and flashcards enhance the ESL students' knowledge in vocabulary at the secondary level online class context?" and claims the hypothesis, a) the use of flashcards is more effective than using wordlists in teaching vocabulary during online classes. Eighty students from both grades 6 and 7 at a popular central college in Hambantota district participated in this study. In both grades, the students were grouped as the experimental group who learn the vocabulary using the flashcards and the control group who learn the vocabulary using the wordlists. The study was conducted for six weeks. The data were collected through pre-test and post-test and analyzed by using SPSS. Based on the analysis it was found that the usage of both wordlists strategy and flashcards could enhance the learners' vocabulary learning. Yet, the use of flashcards is the most effective method to teach vocabulary in both grades. Therefore, during online classes, secondary-level English language teachers can incorporate more vocabulary teaching sessions using flashcards as a strategy to enhance learners' vocabulary knowledge.

Keywords: Flashcards, secondary level ESL learners, teaching and learning, vocabulary

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PERCEPTION OF USING "PADLET" AS A MULTIMODAL TEXT TO ENHANCE THE FIRST YEAR UNDERGRADUATES' ACADEMIC WRITING SKILLS

HKP. Dineshika[1]

The foundation of the multimodal approach to literacy is the idea that meanings are created through a variety of representational and communicational resources, including verbal, visual, auditory, gestural, and unique designs. Therefore, the possibility of incorporating all the means of meaning-making into efficient learning techniques has been made clear by the use of technology-based multimodal texts. To enable the integration of technology into the English for Academic Purposes (EAP) classroom, a shift in literacy pedagogy from traditional teaching approaches to modern teaching approaches is necessary. In the online teaching context to inspire the students and improve learner engagement, teachers can incorporate a variety of multimodal texts. Therefore, the present study is attempted to identify the perceptions of using "Padlet" as a multimodal text to enhance the learners' academic writing skills for the first-year undergraduates of the Faculty of Science at a recognized state university in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The study is consisted of two research questions; a) what are the perceptions of the undergraduates on the usage of "Padlet" as a multimodal text to improve learners' academic writing skills? b) what are the learners of attitudes towards the "Padlet" as a collaborative interactive tool in the online class context? The sample was 50 first-year undergraduates from the faculty of Science who follow the EAP course in their first semester. The course was completely conducted online for 15 weeks and all the writing tasks were carried out using "Padlet". The qualitative data were gathered using questionnaires, semi-structured interviews and the review of the student's writing tasks. The collected data were analyzed using thematic analysis. The analysis of the data indicated that the learners have positive attitudes towards "Padlet" as a multimodal text to improve learners' academic writing skills and interaction and engagement, collaborative work, and feedback provider have been identified as the main opinions related to "Padlet". The findings of the present study will inform teachers on the usefulness and efficiency of integrating "Padlet" to enhance not only academic writing skills but also writing skills in general in both online and physical teaching contexts as a way to raise students' motivation, interest and engagement in the subject matter.

Keywords: Academic Writing, Multimodal Texts, Online Teaching, Padlet

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CHALLENGES OF LEARNING ENGLISH AS A MAIN SUBJECT FOR ADVANCED LEVEL ARTS STREAM: A STUDY BASED ON BADULLA DISTRICT, SRI LANKA

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English is a main subject that is offered for Advanced Level students in Sri Lanka under the Arts stream. This subject consists of both English Language and English Literature components which enhance students' language proficiency while broadening their awareness of multiple cultures and social practices. Many studies are done related to the challenges of learning the English language in the Sri Lankan ESL classroom. However, few studies have been conducted to investigate the challenges particular to learning English as a main subject for the Advanced Level examination. To fill this literature gap, this study revealed the challenges of learning English as a main subject of the Advanced Level Arts stream. Utilizing the convenient sampling method, 39 students who have chosen English as one of the subjects for the G.C.E. Advanced Level examination were selected as the sample from a private educational institute in Badulla, Sri Lanka. Data was gathered using a questionnaire that consists of close-ended and open-ended questions and gathered data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and content analysis. This study found numerous challenges as insufficient time to cover the prescribed content, comprehending text with numerous new vocabulary and unfamiliar language use, lack of practice in answering examination questions by following the requirements of the exam paper, and the inability to manage time given to answer the question paper in the examination. However, the majority holds a positive attitude towards the advantages of doing English as a subject. Thus, these findings highlight the necessity of syllabus reformations to reduce the syllabus content appropriately. Also, experimenting with new teaching approaches and methods to increase students' understanding of the texts and encouraging students to practice writing answers can be emphasized.

Keywords: Challenges, English, Advanced Level, Arts Stream

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ENLIVENING SPIRITUAL VALUES THROUGH COMMUNITY-BASED PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH: A SERVICE-LEARNING APPROACH

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Sustainable development in any country requires professionals to be equipped with technical knowledge, skills, and an understanding of the reciprocal relationship between living beings and nature. Currently, most Sri Lankan universities focus primarily on imparting technical knowledge and skills to students but ignore the significance of enlivening spiritual values that provide a robust grounding for sustainable behavior. Thus, engendering graduates rich in technical know-how but poor in spiritual values. This eventually leads to a society that lacks moral values, long-term vision, sustainable governance, empathy, acceptance and accountability. This paper uses Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) methodology and Service Learning pedagogy to understand the reciprocal impact of academic learning and service experience in enlivening spiritual values among undergraduate students. Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) is a collaborative research approach that involves all stakeholders in the research process. It aims to combine knowledge with action in order to achieve social change and improve the health and well-being of community members. In our research, we focused on creating a lasting internal change (self-transformation) that will manifest positively in the external environment. The research context involved 15 undergraduate students at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura in Sri Lanka. The research participants went through a selection process, underwent a series of workshops and webinars and took part in a seven-day community-based project in Talawa. Their experiences were captured using daily reflections, observations and interviews. The collected data was organized as narratives and analyzed using thematic analysis. Findings strongly supported that participant experienced life-changing realizations in the form of: increased self-confidence, reduction of social anxiety, increased empathy towards others, appreciation of life beyond oneself and seeing the danger of self-centered behavior. In summary, the research participants acknowledged that spiritual development is something vital to well-being and that it goes beyond knowledge, culture, language, rituals and religious beliefs. Future studies could use longitudinal research to validate the lasting impact of short-term exposure to experiential learning that exhibits self-transformation behavior.

Keywords: Spiritual Development, Undergraduates, Service Learning, Community-Based Participatory Research

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GUIDANCE OF TRADITIONAL PIREVENA EDUCATION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPEAKING SKILLS IN THE 21ST CENTURY SCHOOL STUDENT

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The 21st century is a challenging era with rapid globalization and competition. Education science shows that the process of attaining a positive educational status as a school student in such an era is not only related to theoretical knowledge. Accordingly, it is good in every way to endow the world with a perfect student community with soft skills to overcome modern challenges. Out of those soft skills, communication skills are prominent and speech has a special place in it. However, we have the problem of whether there is a positive practical guidance for the development of those skills. Accordingly, through this research, for the development of skills in the school student, the linguistic practical use and relationship of situations such as euphoric sermon training, reading old books, reciting poems with gatha shlokas(chant,repetition) etc. in traditional piriven education will be studied experimentally. Here the field of research is Piriven educational institutions and the sample of 10 such institutions is used for data collection in this study. Accordingly, by presenting a questionnaire, the data is obtained and analyzed qualitatively, and the results are analyzed. Also, the study of primary, secondary and tertiary sources has also been done as required. Through this research, it can be concluded that benefits can be gained through traditional educational methods to solve current educational problems.

Keywords: Globalization, Soft skills, Traditional pirivena education, Speech, Linguistic, Chant, Repetition

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SOFT SKILLS DEVELOPMENT OF TEACHERS TEACHING PRIMARY GRADES IN SRI LANKA.

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The teacher is a pioneer in the land. Teachers should be perfect in knowledge, attitude and skills in order to make the society around them better. Moreover, teachers should also be perfect in soft skills. The teachers are the mother of the child who leaves the care of the parents and joins the school. There is time to develop the soft skills of the primary teacher within the existing education system. The lack of soft skills in primary teachers has become a problem in the education sector. It was confirmed by a preliminary examination conducted for teachers. Action research methodology was used to develop the soft skills of teachers. For that, this action research was conducted for 6 teachers identified in the pre-test. Identifying soft skills of teachers. This action research was conducted to achieve the objectives of using soft skills in the learning process, using soft skills in the school environment, and developing an appropriate formal process to develop teachers' soft skills. For this, four cycles of intervention were implemented. According to those interventions, there were cases where the teacher was successful as well as cases where soft skills were developed. Based on repeated activities, the primary objectives of this research could be achieved. In the existing education system, it is essential to develop the soft skills of teachers teaching in primary grades. It was further revealed that an appropriate method is needed for that. Accordingly, it was concluded that it is essential to develop the soft skills of primary teachers in today's education sector.

Keywords: Primary teachers, Primary Education, Soft Skills, Soft Skills of Teachers, Soft Skills of primary Teachers

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ABAHYAGIRI VIHARA AND ITS CURRICULAM

WKD. Keerthirathne[1]

The Abahyagiri Vihara inaugurated during the reign of King Walagamba existed as an educational center which nourished the Mahayana tradition until the invasion made by Chola in Poloaruwa kingdom. The main aim of this research was to study the nature of the curriculum that prevailed in Abahayagiri Vihara. While the content analysis method has been used as the research method, literary works relevant to Abhayagiri Vihara have been used for collecting data. Data has been presented analytically with evaluation. According to the research findings, the Abhayagiri temple has existed as a well-developed educational center. Both the local and foreign Bhikkhus and Bukkunis, as well as laymen, have studied here. The curriculum of this institute consisted of three components: formal, informal and non-formal. A number of subjects have been taught under the formal curriculum. They are Languages, Poems, Religion, Technology, and Art, History, Medicine and Occult Sciences (Gupta vidya). Under non-formal education, students have been motivated to engage in producing items made of gold. Coin and tile production were the other two industries operated here. Also, students were acknowledged the way of using them. In addition, the creation of poems had become another co-curricular activity. The organization of assemblies and meetings to share knowledge had been two other major events of non-formal education. The biggest Sannipatasala was available in Abhayagiri Vihara. Conducting Perahara and engaging in worship of God were some other co-curricular activities. The Pinkama, which occurred in Kapararama for offering water tanks, reveals that Abhayagiri institute conducted welfare activity, too. This information reveals not only formal education but also non-formal education has been organized in Abhayagiri Viharaya successfully as the time can be used maximally by students. Maintenance of the temple premises properly was part of the hidden curriculum in Abhayagiri temple. Bribery and corruption were prohibited to those who were in Abhayagiri. Telling lies and harsh words, conducting immoral behavioral patterns, and engaging in malpractices were not practiced by Bhikkus in Abhayagiri. It is visible that Abhayagiri students had developed soft skills precisely. Imposing punishment for offenders had prevented others from doing wrong things. Respecting elders and following the order of higher ordination were another two parts of informal education here. Before admission of students to Abhayagiri institute, it was checked whether their intellectual capacity was conducive for studies. The curriculum practised in Abhayagiri Vihara provides positive lessons for the present educational system in Sri Lanka.

Keywords: curriculum, education, formal education, informal, non-formal education

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PERSONALITY CLASSIFICATION: BUDDHIST PSYCHOLOGY AND WESTERN PSYCHOLOGY

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Personality is a result of one's both balance physical and mental development. This study was conducted to study classification of personality traits discussed in Buddhist psychology and western psychology. While modern psychologists discuss the personality along various theories, Buddhist psychology discuss the personality in primary and secondary sources with its own identity. The content analysis method has been used as the research method which belongs to the qualitative approach. Sutta pitaka has been used as primary source to collect date from Buddhist psychological perspective. Research works on personality theories conducted by modern psychologists have been used for collecting data relevant to western psychology. Data has been analyzed thematically. To western psychologists, personality is the dynamic organization within the individual of those psychophysical systems that determine his unique adjustments to the environment. According to Buddhist psychology, reflexive energy allows one to act freely, and self-confidence is described as personality. Western psychology as well as Buddhist psychology analyses the personality as a complex concept. In classifying personality these two traditions have taken into consideration the physical and mental conditions of the individual in classifying personality. Buddhist teachings on personality classification are subtle than the psychological findings shown in theories of Freud and Jung. It is the acceptance of Buddhist psychology that man can reach the personality development at any time of the life. According to Buddhism, nibbana is the ultimate occasion where one's personality development is ended. When compared teachings on personality shown in Buddhist psychology and western psychology it is visible that there are similarities as well as dissimilarities which reveals unique nature of these two traditions.

Keywords: Modern psychology, personality, personality development, western psychology

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A STUDY ON NOT SELECTING ENVIRONMENTAL RELATED ACTIVITIES FOR TEACHER SUPERVISION

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The foundation for science studies at the junior secondary levels is provided by environmental related activities in the primary grades. People can learn how to live in harmony with the natural world and the idea of balance, cultivate good attitudes and values towards the environment, and acquire the behavior needed to address ineffectiveness-related environmental issues. 1.Researching teachers' understanding of environmental-related activities 2. Teachers' past understanding of environmental-related activities 3 studying teachers' belief on selecting Environmental related activities. The sample was chosen from North Central Province's OUSL and NIE regional centers' bachelor's degree programmes in education. A random stratified samples of 20 teachers and 6 master teachers were selected. Every teacher was given a questionnaire. Conducted schedule-based interviews with six teachers and six master teachers. A survey method and qualitative approach were employed. Ninety percent of teacher did not choose environmental-related tasks for the supervision of their teaching practise as their poor self confidence regarding the formation of concepts. In science, 65% of teachers received an ordinary pass at the ordinary level. For their evaluation process, 70% of teachers lack the confidence to teach environmental-related tasks. Teachers of 65% have not enough trust related to the supervisor's knowledge regarding the environmental related activities.75% of teachers choose Environmental related activities with a purpose since they have to choose two subjects out of three. The scope of Environmental related activities curriculum has to be expanded These should be expanded .There should be more time set aside for environmental related Activities. Guidelines for choosing environmental related tasks that require supervision ought to exist. Students conceptual development is impacted by teachers poor concept formulation

Keywords: Environmental related activities, formation of concepts, scientific skills, primary level, learning teaching process

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Tourism

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Hospitality Management

IMPORTANCE OF GEO - STRATEGIC LOCATION IN SRI LANKA; SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ASIAN CENTURY

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The Asian Century is the projected 21ˢᵗ Century dominance of Asian politics and culture, assuming certain demographic and economic trends persist. Sri Lanka's location in the Indian Ocean region as an island State has been of strategic geopolitical relevance to several major powers. As an island in the Indian Ocean, Sri Lanka signifies its higher value in the Geo - Strategic concept. This study mainly focused on the Geo - Strategic importance of Sri Lanka under the Asian Century. To achieve the aforementioned objectives, a qualitative approach has been used and secondary data is the main type of data obtained from various sources such as books, journal articles, newspapers and other relevant documents available in both printed and electronic versions. This study can be identified as a desk study. Through the study, it has been identified that Geo – Strategic location importance mainly affects the economic development of the country, military strength and the improvements of the state's reputation in the region. As an island nation, it's a huge privilege to maintain foreign relations with the other states in the region. Also engaging with the geo-strategic locational importance, it becomes a new era of maritime diplomacy in the Asian Century. Sri Lanka's role in Asia's changing geopolitics has both a new and not-so-new role. The new role is based on its proactive economic diplomacy, through which it is leveraging itself as a regional trade and maritime hub.

Keywords: Asian Century, Geo-Strategic location, Sri Lanka, Indian Ocean, Island

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AN IDENTIFICATION OF THE FACTORS AFFECTING FOR THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOURISM INDUSTRY

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Tourism industry is one of the booming industries in the world. Over the passage of time, it has been rejuvenated by various social, cultural economic and environmental factors. British entrepreneur Tomos Cook put the foundation stone for this industry in the 2ⁿᵈ half of 19ᵗʰ century. The problem statement for the study is what factors are affecting for the historical development of the tourism industry? The objective of the study is to identify the factors affecting for the development of the tourism industry. Secondary data was gathered based on the literature survey using books, magazines and articles. The findings proved that the industrial revolution made great influence for its improvement. Apart from these, advancement of transport industry, tourist accommodation sector and catering Service made their contribution for the development of Tourism Industry. During the time of Some world political and economic crisis it got little setback. However today it plays a very important role among large industries in the world.

Keywords: Transport Revolution, Industrialization, Urbanization, Accommodation, catering

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