



Nimal Wanniarachchi of Rupasinghe Avenue, Nugegoda, a pioneer Buddhist, national and social service activist in Nugegoda and the Sri Jayawardanepura areas was conferred with the title Deshamanya, at the BMICH, under the patronage of Ven. Agra Maha Panditha Mahopadhyaya Aluthgama Dammananda Thera.



Well-known author and poet Martin Jayawardana presents a copy of his new book *Dragon Island* to Rev. Fr. (Dr.) G.S.K. Herath at the Cultural Office, Nupe, Matara.



The inauguration ceremony of the Travel Asia Project was held at the Gateway Hotel, Seeduwa. Here the chief guest, Minister of Social Services Felix Perera and the guest of honour Joseph Michael Perera MP launch the website www.travelasiaproject.co.uk. The guest speaker Wijeyadasa Rajapakse MP and President's Counsel, Chairperson/Founder of the Project, Godfrey Cooray (Extreme right), Directors Ruwantha Cooray (Extreme left) Dr. Ruwantha Cooray (2nd from left) and Dr. Dilan Dabare are also in the picture.

Pic: H. Fernando, Negombo Spl. Cor.



The Conference of Sri Lankan Malays (COSLAM) organised the 122nd birth anniversary commemoration meeting of Dr. T.B. Jayah at the Gaffoor Hall, Zahira College, Colombo recently. Here (from right) A.H.M. Azwer MP, guest speaker S.H.M. Jameel, former Secretary, Muslim Religious and Cultural Affairs Ministry Azmi Zainuddin, High Commissioner of Malaysia in Sri Lanka, Hashim Omar, Director ITN and T.K. Azoor, President (COSLAM) stand to attention for the national anthem.

Pic: Ruzaik Farook



The Colombo District Muslim School Principals' meeting was held recently at the WPC Governor's Secretariat, Colombo recently under the patronage of Governor Asseyed Alavi Mowlana. WPC, Chief Minister Prasanna Ranatunga, Municipal Councillor Asad Sally, Deputy Chief Secretary, Western Provincial Council E.A.J. Karunadasa, Governor's and Co-ordinating Secretary L. Hemachandra are also in the picture.

Pic: M. Munthasir, Panadura Central Gr. Cor.



Chartered Accountants of P.E. Mathew and Co., feted the staffers who had completed 25 years of service in the company. Here one of the partners, R.A. Jayaweera presents an award to Data Entry Operator Mrs. Madumathie Mallika.

Pic: Wimal Karunathilake



An Uphara program was held at the school premises to commemorate the 110th anniversary of Sri Sumanajothi College, Ingiriya recently. Here Vice Chairman, Horana Pradeshiya Sabha, Asoka Ranatunga pays obeisance to an elder. Principal, Janak Abeyrathna looks on.

Pic: Priyadarshani Kahawala, Ingiriya Central Gr. Cor.



Sewing classrooms were opened at Kadiyawatha, Dharga Town recently. It was organised by the Dharga Town Muslim Women's Majlis. Here parliamentarian Al-Haj M.S.M. Aslam opens one of the classrooms. Hajiyani Noorul Bakiya Careem, President and Nasliya Furkan, Secretary look on.

Pic: B.M. Mukthar, Beruwala Spl. Cor.



The senior member of the All Ceylon Hindu Congress (ACHC) and head of Dhurgadevi Amman Kovil, Tellippalai Dr. Aaru Thirumurugan was felicitated, in recognition of his social and spiritual services rendered to the Hindu community, at Saraswathi Hall, Bambalapitiya recently. The event was organised by the ACHC. Here the chief guest, High Court Judge, Justice K. Sriskandarajah drapes a golden shawl on him while President, ACHC, K. Kailasappillai looks on.

Pic: A. Maduraveeran



The Trainers' training program organised jointly by the Asia Pacific Regional Office and Sri Lankan National Youth Awards Authority was held recently at Club Dolphin Hotel, Waikkal. Representatives from ten countries participated in the program. The delegates paid a visit to the Elephant Orphanage, Pinnawala on their tour to Kandy. Here the Regional Directress Mrs. Shoe Walker, Coordinating Officer of International Secretary of England Jim Smith, Training Director and Executive Secretary of Sri Lanka P.S. Gouthamadasa with the group on a visit to the Elephant Orphanage at Pinnawala.

Pic: Wehelle Piyatilleke, Maharagama Spl. Cor.



The annual perahera of Sri Wijeya Bodhiraja temple at Imagira, Ingiriya organised by the residents on the instructions of Chief Incumbent Ven. Ingiriye Vipulasara Thera was held recently.

Pic: Priyadarshani Kahawala, Ingiriya Central Gr. Cor.



Human Rights Organisation Women's Affairs Co-ordinator of Kalutara district Mrs. Farza Ifthikar distributed exercise books and stationery to needy children at Dharga Road, Beruwala recently.

Pic: B.M. Mukthar, Beruwala Spl. Cor.



The opening ceremony and prize-giving of Thakkireen Quran Madarasa, Marakkalawatte, Beruwala was held recently. Here Vice Chairman, China Fort Mosque Society Al-Haj M.S.M. Razvi presents a gift parcel to a student.

Pic: B.M. Mukthar, Beruwala Spl. Cor.



A souvenir titled, *Sangarotaayam* published by the Sangarapillai Welfare Foundation, to commemorate its founder Sangarapillai, was held at the Joseph Vaz Institute, Colombo 14 recently. Here the Foundation's President S. Ferington presents copy to the Principal, Joseph Vaz Nursery school, Mrs. Subashini while Vice President M.A. Anthony looks on.

Pic: A. Maduraveeran



The Bethany Christian Life Centre, Rajagiriya provided lunch and dinner for over five-thousand people in Rajagiriya and other areas to mark Christmas at the Life Centre premises on Christmas day. Here the Life Centre Pastor Dishan De Silva serves food. School stationery for over 150 students was also donated.

Pic: Mahanama Vithanage, Malwana Gr. Cor.



Western Provincial Councillor Al-Haj M.M.M. Amjad presented sports items to five sports clubs in Dharga Town recently. Member, Pradeshiya Sabha, M. Faizan Naizer is also in the picture.

Pic: B.M. Mukthar, Beruwala Spl. Cor.

EVENTS

Krishnamurti talk

A recorded public talk on "Is it possible to live in peace?" delivered by the late Indian sage J. Krishnamurti will be replayed at Anula Nursery School Hall, High Level Road, Colombo 6 today at 9.45 a.m. It is organised by the Krishnamurti Centre, Sri Lanka Inc.

JICA A.A. blood donation

The JICA Alumni Association of Sri Lanka will hold a blood donation campaign on January 21 commencing 9.00 a.m. at the National Blood Centre, Narahenpita, Colombo 5. The event is to mark the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Sri Lanka and Japan.

Dedication Service on Jan 14

The Dedication Service 2012 of the Ceylon Bible Society will be celebrated during the Year of the Bicentenary on Saturday, January 14 at 9.30 a.m. at St. Paul's Church, Milagiriya.

Stamp release in memory of school founder

A commemorative stamp in memory of the founder of Skandavarodaya College, Chunnakam, the late Candiah Upathiyayar will be released at Saraswathi Hall, Bambalapitiya, Colombo 4 on January 8 at 5.30 p.m.

Minister of Postal Services Jeevan Kumarathunga will be the chief guest while the Senior Minister of Human Resources Dew Gunasekera will be the guest of honour.

Launch of new website

The launch of the new website to commemorate the translations of Helaatuwa to Pali giving an impetus to Buddhism and publishing a new version for the Thripitaka to mark the 2500th Buddha Jayanthi by Ven. Rerukane Chandawimala Maha Nayake Thera will be held today at 8.30 a.m. at Sri Vinayalankarama Sri Chandawimala Saddamma Sagara hall, Pokunuwita. The website is www.rerukanemahanahimi.lk

RASSL public lecture on Jan 10

A public lecture on 'Flowing Milk: A Lost Meditation Tradition from the Silk Road, by Dr. Lance Cousins, former President of Pali Text Society of Great Britain organised by The Royal Asiatic Society Sri Lanka Sri Lanka (RASSL) will be held on Tuesday, January 10 at 5.00 p.m. at the Gamini Dissanayake auditorium, Ananda Coomaraswamy Mawatha, Colombo 7. The lecture is open to the public.



An authority on the history and archaeology of Sri Lanka, University administrator and diplomat Prof. S.B. Hettiaratchi, a teacher, received the Manhae Grand Prize 2011. Nelson Mandela and Dalai Lama were the previous recipients. Here Prof. S.B. Hettiaratchi receives the award from Chung Bvung Kuk MP, Minister of Cultural Affairs of the Republic of Korea.



"The Family Day 2011", a cultural program organised by the Parish Council of St. Joseph's Church, Grandpass, Colombo 14 was held at the church premises recently. Here the pupils of the Convent present the welcome dance.



An assistance-provided program for a nursery plant project was held recently under the "Divinguma" project in the Bandaragama Divisional Secretariat area. Here Parliamentarian and SLP Bandaragama Organiser Janaka Priyantha Bandara presents the documents to a woman. Bandaragama Divisional Secretary M.A.T. Senarath is also in the picture.

Pic: M. Munthasir, Panadura Central Gr. Cor.