

Postgraduate Institute of Humanities and Social
Sciences



**Proceedings of the PGIHS Research Congress
PGIHS-RC-2020/21**

ABSTRACTS

27th November 2021

Postgraduate Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences
University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
<http://www.pgihs.ac.lk>

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PREAMBLE

The goal of postgraduate education is to develop and sustain a rich intellectual culture where any form of knowledge is open to critique, to rethink and to reevaluate. The Postgraduate Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences (PGIHS) is especially committed to providing everything needed for such an intellectual and academic life. Our commitment to achieve that goal strengthens every year.

The Postgraduate Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences (PGIHS), affiliated to the University of Peradeniya, is a national institute of higher learning with the aim of providing, promoting and developing higher education and research in the fields of Humanities and the Social Sciences. The PGIHS is heir to the postgraduate programmes previously conducted by the Faculty of Arts and currently conducts postgraduate degree/diploma programmes and short courses in 22 different disciplines under five Boards of Study. In addition to the conventional discipline based programmes, the PGIHS also offers inter-disciplinary/professional programmes. Through an ongoing curriculum revision process, the Institute seeks to incorporate new knowledge, develop useful skills/competencies and build healthy attitudes into its programmes and graduates.

As Covid-19, the global pandemic, has affected all forms of education, activities at the PGIHS were also severely restricted. We, however, learned quickly and acquired nearly all skills, technologies and knowledge required to sustain postgraduate programmes in a pandemic situation. Apart from conducting regular teaching activities through online modes, we also decided to have an annual event that we highly value: the Research Congress. This year's Congress is different since it takes place primarily through the on-line mode. Though the mode is different, the goal remains the same: we want to provide our students, upcoming researchers and staff an opportunity to present their research to a wider audience and to engage in a dialogue with the relevant research communities.

This annual event brings together academic staff and postgraduate students in a wide range of disciplines within the Humanities and Social Sciences. The Congress provides an opportunity for postgraduate students to present their research work and interact with other researchers in a recognized academic forum.

Even though the primary medium of instruction of the Institute is English, a large number of PGIHS students have followed their undergraduate programmes in Sinhala or Tamil medium and have had limited prior exposure to academic exchange in English. To many such students, the Congress may be their first such presentation in English in a formal academic setting. We hope that this opportunity would open the doors for our students to engage in further academic exchange, with greater confidence, in the most widely used language of communication and discussion amongst the international community of academic scholars and researchers.

The PGIHS received an initial pool of 120 submissions for the Research Congress 2020/2021. These were subjected to double-blind peer reviewing by scholars in the respective disciplines and 52 abstracts were selected for oral presentation at the Research Congress.

The Inaugural Session of the Research Congress will be held at the PGIHS with the participation of the Chief Guest, His Excellency, Mr. Gopal Baglay, the Indian High Commissioner in Sri Lanka. The other distinguished invitees are the Vice Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya Prof. M.D. Lamawansa, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Directors of Postgraduate Institutes, Deans of Faculties, Members of the Board of Management and the Boards of Studies of the PGIHS, the teaching panel of the PGIHS postgraduate programmes and the members of the review panel. The Keynote Address of the Congress will be delivered by His Excellency, Professor Sudharshan Seneviratne, the Sri Lankan High Commissioner to Bangladesh and Emeritus Professor, University of Peradeniya. The technical sessions of the Congress are organized under six main thematic areas. These are (1) Economics and Management, (2) Culture and Heritage, Language and Literature, (3) Religious Studies, (4) Society and Environment (5) Education, (6) Psychology and Philosophy. The paper presentations have been grouped into 8 technical sessions within these themes. In addition to the Chairperson, each thematic area will also have senior academics who will serve as evaluators of the presentations. The technical sessions will be followed by a closing plenary session where these senior academics who were serving as observers/evaluators will make their comments about the respective thematic areas/sessions and presentations which we believe will benefit the presenters. At this session, the best presenter within each thematic area will be recognized with a certificate.

We hope that the Research Congress 2020/2021 will be both a showcasing and learning opportunity for our students/presenters and an opportunity to engage in fruitful academic exchange for all participants. Wishing all presenters and participants an academically meaningful experience!

Editor-in-chief
PGIHS-RC-2020/2021
27th November 2021

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PROGRAMME

TIME		SESSIONS
9:00	– 10:35	Inauguration
10:35	– 11:00	Tea
11:00	– 13:00	Technical Session I
13:00	– 14:00	Lunch
14:00	– 16:30	Technical Session II
16:30	– 17:00	Tea
17: 00	– 17:45	Closing Session

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

THEMES

- I. Economics and Management
- II. Culture and Heritage, Language and Literature
- III. Religious Studies
- IV. Society and Environment
- V. Education
- VI. Philosophy and Psychology

PGIHS Research Congress – 2020/21
27th November 2021

PROGRAMME
Inaugural Session

Time: 09.00 – 10.35
Venue: Conference Hall of the PGIHS

- 08.55 a.m. Arrival of Guests
- 09.00 a.m. Lighting of the Oil Lamp
- 09.05 a.m. Welcome Address by the Director/PGIHS
Professor Suresh J.S. de Mel
- 09.10 a.m. Address by the Former Director/PGIHS
Professor J.M.A. Jayawickrama
- 09.15 a.m. Address by the Dean/Faculty of Arts
Dr. E.M.P.C.S. Ekanayake
- 09.20 a.m. Address by the Vice Chancellor/University of Peradeniya
Professor M.D. Lamawansa
- 09.30 a.m. Address by the Chief Guest, The High Commissioner of India to Sri
Lanka
H.E. Mr. Gopal Baglay
- 09.45 a.m. Keynote Address by The High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to
Bangladesh and Emeritus Professor, University of Peradeniya
H.E. Professor Sudharshan D.S. Seneviratne
- 10.25 a.m. Vote of Thanks by the Chairperson / PGIHS-RC 2020/21
Professor W.A. Liyanage
- 10.30 a.m. National Anthem
- 10.35 a.m. End of Inaugural Session

Theme I

Economics and Management

Venue: A

Session I

Chairperson: Professor O.G. Dayaratne Banda

Paper ID	Time	Presentation
003	11.00 a.m.	A Conceptual Model for Understanding the Impact of Identity- Based Motivation (IBM) on Identity- Based Consumer Behaviour (IBCB) and Purchase Intention of Sri Lankan Gem & Jewellery (PIGJ) Industry <i>L.L.Y.R. Lenaduwa and Prof. B.N.F. Warnakulasuriya</i>
012	11.20 a.m.	Impact of Exchange Rate Volatility on Exports in Sri Lanka <i>S. Shiyalini, M.R.F. Rismina and T. Vinayagathan</i>
118	11.40 a.m.	The Contribution of Different Types of Entrepreneurship to Economic Growth <i>A.V.K. Madhavi</i>
033	12.00 noon	Impact of Service Quality on Customer Satisfaction; A Study of Commercial Banks in the Nuwara Eliya District <i>G.H. Malwaththage</i>
064	12.20 p.m.	Sustainable Human Care and Knowledge Management Practices for Enhancing Worker Productivity in the Tea Industry of Sri Lanka <i>A.T. Gamage and W.P.R. Wickramaratne</i>
121	12.40 p.m.	Women Entrepreneurship: Motivational Factors, Nature and Challenges <i>A.V.K. Madhavi</i>
	1.00 p.m.	Lunch

Session II

Chairperson: Professor H.M.W.A. Herath

Paper ID	Time	Presentation
005	2.00 p.m.	Forecasting of Sectoral Monthly Household Food Consumption Expenditure in Sri Lanka <i>N.J.C. Paraneetharan, John Nigel, T. Vinayagathasa</i>
015	2.20 p.m.	An Analysis of Sectoral Linkages in Sri Lanka <i>A.Pusparasa</i>
007	2.40 p.m.	Analysis of Quadratic Engel Curve Pattern for Sectoral Household Food Expenditure in Sri Lanka <i>N.J.C. Paraneetharan, John Nigel, T. Vinayagathasan</i>
016	3.00 p.m.	Do Workers' Remittances Promote Economic Growth in Sri Lanka? <i>A.L. Mohamed Aslam and S. Sivarajasingham</i>
043	3.20 p.m.	Estimation of Corporate Income Tax Loss Due to Non-Compliance: Based on Declared Income Tax of Companies <i>K.K. Sanath Hettiarachchi, J.M. Ananda Jayawickrama</i>
060	3.40 p.m.	Microcredit and Economic Empowerment: A Socio-Legal Approach to Thesawalamai Governed Women-Headed Families in the Post-Armed Conflict Northern Province of Sri Lanka <i>M.Purathani</i>
115	4.00 p.m.	Labour Productivity in the Sri Lankan Apparel Industry <i>R.M.U. Rathnayaka, S. Maheswaran and J.M. Ananda Jayawickrama</i>
	4.30 p.m.	Tea

Theme II

Culture and Heritage, Language and Literature

Venue: B

Session I

Chairperson: Professor A. Parakrama

Paper ID	Time	Presentation
008	11.00 a.m.	The Political Ties Between the Jaffna Kingdom and the Southern Kingdoms: A Historical Perspective <i>G. Jeyatheeswaran and M. Somathilaka</i>
013	11.20 a.m.	The Status of Agency in Teacher Identity Towards the Deliverance of Effective Language Teaching: A Study based on ELT in Sri Lankan State Universities <i>W.A. Egodage and W.A.S.A. Wanniarachchi</i>
061	11.40 a.m.	An Investigation of W.F. Gunawardhana's Contribution to Sinhala Grammar <i>Ven. K. Sugunadhamma and K.M.N. Madhupani</i>
080	12.00 noon	The Hela Hawla Editions of Sidath Sangara <i>K.G.V.D. Dharmasri</i>
095	12.20 p.m.	Understanding the Necessity for Critical and Contextualized Pedagogical Practices for Teaching and Learning of English as a Second Language in Sri Lanka: An Analysis of Some Select English Textbooks <i>O.P.S. Anuradha and J.A.K.M. Jayasinghe</i>
096	12.40 p.m.	"Tossing Between Two Waves": The Nature of Motivation and Demotivation in the Process of Learning English as a Second Language <i>H.M.S.C. Wijerathna, J.A.K.M. Jayasinghe, W.S.A. Wanniarachchi</i>
	1.00 p.m.	Lunch

Theme III

Religious Studies

Venue: B

Session II

Chairperson: Ven. Professor M. Gnanananda

Paper ID	Time	Presentation
010	2.00 p.m.	A Study of Master Fa Fang (法舫) as a Role- Model for Chinese Saṃgha Students Studying Overseas <i>Rev. S. Daoxin</i>
011	2.20 p.m.	Who is Responsible for the Disappearance of the Buddha-Sāsana? A Critical Study with Reference to Theravāda Buddhism <i>Ven. Sirisumangalasami</i>
017	2.40 p.m.	Does the Sound Reach the Ear? An Examination of the Classification of ‘Sampatta’ and ‘Asampatta’ in Aṭṭhasālinī Commentary <i>Rev. Y.B.M. Thakuri</i>
057	3.00 p.m.	Karaniyametta Sutta as a Scriptural Source for Leadership Skills Development <i>R.M.A.K. Rathnayaka</i>
072	3.20 p.m.	The Buddhist Attitude towards Slavery <i>Ven. Priyo Ranjan Tongchangya</i>
085	3.40 p.m.	An Analytical Study on Teaching of Puñña-Pāpa with the Perspective of Buddhist Ethics <i>Ven. Girandurukotte Sasanarathana</i>
090	4.00 p.m.	Vēdanānupassanā Meditation is an Analgesic <i>Sumedha Viraj Sripathi Ukwatta</i>
	4.30 p.m.	Tea

Theme IV

Society and Environment

Venue C

Session I

Chairperson: Professor Tudor Silva

Paper ID	Time	Presentation
038	11.00 a.m.	Early Childhood Education and Preparedness of Children: A Sociological Study in the Estate Sector of Sri Lanka <i>Samitha Udayanga</i>
047	11.20 a.m.	Potentials for Reducing Structural Violence through Agro-Tourism in Hambanthota, Sri Lanka <i>Shammika Liyanage, H.M.R.P. Wijerathna and K. H. Hettiarachchi</i>
069	11.40 a.m.	Does Management Graduates' Career Preference have an Impact on their Employability? <i>Sumudu Lankathilake and W.P.R Wickramaratne</i>
074	12.00 noon	The Hot and Cold Concept and its Impact on Undergraduates' Health Behaviour with Reference to Arts Faculty Undergraduates, University of Peradeniya <i>B.F. Sabrina and P.D. Wickramage</i>
102	12.20 p.m.	Culture, Eco – Tourism and Wetlands in Sri Lanka: A Case Study in Madu Ganga Estuary <i>D.M.Y. Abeywardhana</i>
113	12.40 p.m.	A Study of Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices towards Risk Factors and Early Detection of Non-Communicable Diseases Among Employees: with Special Reference to Semi-Government Sector Employees <i>A.K. Uditha Gunasekara</i>
	1.00 p.m.	Lunch

Session II**Chairperson: Professor C.M. Madduma Bandara**

Paper ID	Time	Presentation
009	2.00 p.m.	Challenges to Green Urban Planning in Kandy <i>E.G.I. Sevewandi</i>
020	2.20 p.m.	Assessing the Flood Hazard in the Kurunegala District <i>W.M.S.B. Wanninayake</i>
025	2.40 p.m.	The Problems in Water Resource Management due to Water Scarcity in Senanayake Reservoir: Special References to Selected GNDs of Ampara District <i>M.B. Mohamed Yazeer and M.B. Nafrin</i>
034	3.00 p.m.	Challenges in the Traditional Cinnamon Cultivation: The Case of Beragama Cinnamon Village in Matara, Sri Lanka <i>H.G.S. Deepthika</i>
055	3.20 p.m.	Using GIS for Tamil Cultural Data Management: An Application in the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka <i>V. Vimalathithan and N. Skandhakumar</i>
063	3.40 p.m.	Implementation of the Right to Information (RTI) Act in Sri Lanka: A Study of Implementation in Local Authorities in the Vavuniya Divisional Secretariat of the Vavuniya District Secretariat <i>G.A. Niroshon</i>
079	4.00 p.m.	The Spatial Pattern of Land Values in Kandy City – 2019 <i>A. Pushpalingam and P.G.S.D. Abeywickrama</i>
	4.30 p.m.	Tea

Theme V

Education

Venue: D

Session I

Chairperson: Professor P. Sethunga

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050	11.20 a.m.	Challenges in Implementing General Information Technology in the G.C.E (A/L) Curriculum <i>V. Lindakumbura and S. D. K Wijesundara</i>
056	11.40 a.m.	Challenges Faced by the Academic Staff in the implementation of Counseling Programs in Schools <i>R.M. Rathnayaka</i>
089	12.00 noon	An Action Research to Improve the Knowledge of Technical Terms Relating to Mathematics of Bilingual Students in Grade 7 <i>W.M.K.K. Wickramasinghe</i>
097	12.20 p.m.	The Awareness of Quality Assurance Process in Sri Lankan Schools among Educational Officers <i>S.M.L.K. Senevirathne and T.M.S.S.K. Yatigammana</i>
116	12.40 p.m.	Challenges of Teaching ICT as a Subject in Rural Schools: with Special Reference to B/ Al Murshid Maha Vidyalaya, Silmiyapura <i>Fathima Shameera Abdul Wahid</i>
	1.00 p.m.	Lunch

Theme VI

Philosophy and Psychology

Venue: D

Session II

Chairperson: Professor D.D.K.S. Karunanayake

Paper ID	Time	Presentation
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029	2.20 p.m.	The Meaningfulness of Propositions with Reference to The Varification Theory of Logical Positivism <i>Rev. A. Wijayamaithri</i>
041	2.40 p.m.	Deconstruction of the Transcendental Signified in Paramārtha-Satya of Mādhyamaka School of Buddhism <i>J.D.A Kumara</i>
048	3.00 p.m.	Philosophy of De-mammonization <i>Revd. S.D. Parimalachelvan</i>
035	3.20 p.m.	A Comparative Study on Management of Thoughts as Depicted in Positive Psychology and Buddhist Psychology <i>O.A.S.L Opanayake</i>
098	3.40 p.m.	The Concept Saccakiriya in Buddhism as a Treatment for Mental Illness beyond Psychotherapy <i>R.M Suneth Bandara</i>
103	4.00 p.m.	The Reasons for Dropouts from Family Strengthening Programs <i>V.Vasudevan</i>
	4.30 p.m.	Tea

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**A CONCEPTUAL MODEL FOR UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF
IDENTITY-BASED MOTIVATION (IBM) ON IDENTITY-BASED
CONSUMER BEHAVIOUR (ICB) AND PURCHASE INTENTION OF
SRI LANKAN GEM & JEWELLERY (PIGJ) INDUSTRY**

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The gem and jewellery industry is important to the country, economically, socially and culturally. In this context the consumer's identity-based buying behaviour, relationship between identity-based buying behaviour and purchase intention of gem and jewellery and the variables that moderate the results of this relationship are becoming increasingly important. Identity-based motivation is the psychology which moderately impacts this relationship. Therefore, the combination of this study to the existing body of knowledge is to introduce a conceptual model that enables researchers and practitioners to understand and analyze the outcomes resulting from the impact of the consumers' identity-based motivation on the consumers' identity-based behaviour and purchase intention of gem and jewellery. This paper aims to introduce a conceptual model that facilitates empirical testing of the impact of identity-based consumer motivation on identity-based consumer behaviour relationship with relevance to purchase intention of gem and jewellery. There were four main objectives identified in the planning stage of the literature review. They are to determine the dimensions along with the impact of Identity-based motivation of the consumer with the Identity-based consumer behaviour and Purchase Intention, to identify the theoretical explanations that underlie the impacts of Identity-based motivation on Identity-based consumer behaviour and Purchase Intention of Gems and Jewellery, to explore the empirical evidence of the impacts of IBM on ICB and PIGJ and to understand what conditions are suggested in the literature as those positive to PIGJ.

Keywords: Identity-based motivation, Identity-based consumer behaviour, Purchase Intention, Gems and Jewellery

IMPACT OF EXCHANGE RATE VOLATILITY ON EXPORTS IN SRI LANKA

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The exchange rate regime and foreign policy are important measures of macroeconomic management in order to develop the economy through improving the performance of export in the country. Many scholars pay attention to studying the impact of exchange rate volatility (ERV) on the export growth. Although the majority of the existing empirical studies have shown a negative relationship between exchange rate volatility and export performance, only a very few studies found significant relationships between them. After the implementation of the floating exchange rate regime in Sri Lanka, the exchange rate became highly volatile leading to negative repercussions on trade, investment and growth. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to investigate the impact of ERV on exports in Sri Lanka using quarterly data from 2000 to 2017. ERV was calculated using the moving average standard deviation method. This study employs the autoregressive distributed lag (ARDL) Bounds testing approach to analyze the data. Using the demand function of exports, a paper also considers the effect of real foreign income, relative price and the depreciation of real effective exchange rate (REER) on exports of Sri Lanka. ARDL Bounds test results confirms that a long-run co-integrating relationship exists between the selected variables. The findings of this study indicate that the ERV has statistically significant negative impacts on exports both in the short-run and long-run, implying that higher exchange rate fluctuation tends to reduce Sri Lanka's real exports. Besides, REER depreciation affects exports negatively in the short run, but positively in the long-run, consistent with the J curve effect. Moreover, the increase in real foreign income of Sri Lanka's major export trading partner countries has a statistically significant and positive impact on Sri Lanka's real exports in the long-run as well as in the short-run. In addition, relative price affects the real exports negatively and is statistically significant in the long-run. These findings suggest some important policy implications in managing the exchange rate system and promoting exports of Sri Lanka.

Keywords: Exchange rate volatility, Real effective exchange rate, Real exports, ARDL Bounds test

**IMPACT OF SERVICE QUALITY ON CUSTOMER SATISFACTION; A
STUDY OF COMMERCIAL BANKS IN THE NUWARA ELIYA
DISTRICT**

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The increasing trend of competitive environment in the banking industry of the country attracted banks to offer banking services expected by the customers more than before. Banking in Sri Lanka has undergone phenomenal reforms during the recent past and this has changed the face of the industry making it more competitive, market and customer oriented. This study is conducted to identify the service quality gaps between the customer's expectations and perceived service quality which is the difference between the predicted and the actual experiences the customer received from the Banks in the Nuwara Eliya district. This research was conducted among selected commercial banks namely People's bank, Bank of Ceylon, Hatton National Bank, Commercial Bank and Seylan Bank operating in the Nuwara Eliya city limit. A sample of 300 customers were selected randomly from the above bank's customer bases. The SERVQUAL model was used to evaluate the service quality gap and a 34 point questionnaire has been prepared using a five point Likert scale and demographic base questions. Data analysis was done using descriptive analysis and hypothesis tests. Mann-Whitney confidence interval test, Kruskal-Wallis test and Correlation Analysis were used as statistical tools. The major findings of this research is that the customer's service quality expectations are greater than the perceived service quality of the selected banks in the Nuwara Eliya District. Further there is evidence to infer that the mean values of the expected and the perceived service quality variables differ in influencing the bank's service quality. The element called reliability had the largest service quality gap in the sample. Correlation analysis shows the service quality and five dimensions namely Tangibility, reliability, responsiveness, assurance and empathy have significant impacts on customer satisfaction. Having spent millions for staff training, development, physical facilities, recruiting, advertising, the ultimate satisfaction of the customers is not up to expectation. Change in staff attitudes to become more customer friendly, creating a learning culture, improving the internal service processes, procedures and removing communication barriers are the major factors that would help to increase the customer satisfaction. Finally this study implies that banks should re-think about their strategies and realize reduce the service gap in order to deliver superior quality of service to attract more customers.

Keywords: Banks, Service Quality, SERVQUAL Model

SUSTAINABLE HUMAN CARE AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR ENHANCING WORKER PRODUCTIVITY IN THE TEA INDUSTRY OF SRI LANKA

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The tea industry plays a prominent and strategic role in Sri Lanka due to its significant impact on national output and employment generation, the society and the national culture. Therefore, the overall worker productivity in the tea industry plays an integral role in terms of national income and foreign exchange earnings. However, today, the tea industry in Sri Lanka is facing the issue of declining worker productivity which has been recorded as the lowest among the tea producing countries in the world. In order to enhance the present level of worker productivity, simply applying conventional Human Resource Management (HRM). The practices are not adequate, the need for a unique and sustainable HRM model is a vital requirement as a strategy for dealing with this crisis and sustaining the tea industry in the competitive global marketplace. Therefore, this paper aimed at proposing a strategic relationship between human care practices (HCPs) and knowledge management practices (KMPs) as sustainable human resource management practices (SHRMPs) towards enhancing worker productivity in the tea industry of Sri Lanka. The study specifically focusses on the tea industry, since tea is the key contributor for the overall performances of the plantation industry. This research further elaborated the relationship of HCPs and KMPs as intermediate factor on the quality of the work-life (QWLs) and quality of life (QLS) that in turn enhance worker productivity. Un-structured interviews of 15 randomly selected senior level managers of well performing tea estates in Sri Lanka reported that, HCPs and KMPs as sustainable HR practices has strong relationship with worker productivity in tea plantations while enhancing the level of their QWLs and QLs as an intermediate relationship. The responses of selected plantation managers were coded and a list of sustainable human care and knowledge management practices were identified. According to the findings, this relationship provides a strong foundation for stable and consistent enhancement of worker productivity in the tea industry of Sri Lanka, in terms of long-term benefits. The findings were well supported by the premises of psychological contract and social exchange theories. The study also proposes future research on further validation of identified human care and knowledge management practices as sustainable human resource management practices which have direct relationship on worker productivity.

Keywords: Human resource management practices, Knowledge management, Quality of work life, Productivity, Plantation industry

FORECASTING OF SECTORAL MONTHLY HOUSEHOLD FOOD CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE IN SRI LANKA

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This study is designed to forecast the trends of the monthly food consumption expenditure in urban, rural and estate sectors of Sri Lanka in order to compare household demands of food groups. Monthly household consumption expenditure of ten food groups' data were collected from Household Income and Expenditure Surveys in 2016, 2012/13, 2009/10, 2006/07, 2002, 1995/96 and 1990/91. The multi-sectoral districts of Badulla, Kandy, Nuwara-Eliya and Ratnapura comprising at least a minimum of 5% population in each sector were chosen as the study area. The sample size of the total survey was 28,319 households. Monthly food expenditure of households was forecasted from 2017 to 2025. First of all, all the series were interpolated by the Best Linear Unbiased approximation method in order to overcome the irregular frequency in data. Then the Auto Regressive (AR) model was employed to forecast household food expenditure pattern. This system can be mathematically described by a stochastic difference equation and/or first order time dependent Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE). Our forecasted results reveal that monthly household food expenditures are expected to increase at an average of 6% from 2017 to 2025 in all three sectors. The forecasted monthly food expenditure in 2025 is LKR 34,906, 30,405 and 33,368 in urban, rural and estate sectors respectively. Further, monthly consumption expenditures on meat, fish and egg in all three sectors and expenditures on pulses in the estate sector are expected to increase significantly. However, the highest monthly food expenditure prevails in the urban sector and the lowest food expenditure in the rural sector in Sri Lanka. The estate sector food expenditure falls between the other two sectors. In conclusion, it is recommended that policy makers / implementers need to enhance food production, processing and marketing facilities of the essential food commodities to meet the growing demand for food.

Keywords: Auto Regressive (AR), Food expenditure, Sectors, Forecasting

ANALYSIS OF QUADRATIC ENGEL CURVE PATTERN FOR SECTORAL HOUSEHOLD FOOD EXPENDITURE IN SRI LANKA

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Engel curve reveals the income and consumption relationship of households (HHs) and it plays an important role in HHs consumption budget share. Complementing the existing empirical studies on the Engel curve, the present study investigates Engel curve pattern for household food expenditure based on sectoral wise analysis using Sri Lankan data, making this study unique within the studies on Engel curve. The objective of this study is to investigate monthly food consumption expenditure behavior and estimate Engel food elasticities in urban, rural and estate sectors in Sri Lanka. Data were obtained from Household Income and Expenditure Surveys in 2016, 2012/13, 2009/10 and 2006/07 and HH food expenditure, total expenditure of HH, HH size, age and education level of the HH head have been chosen as the variables. Badulla, Kandy, Nuwara-Eliya and Ratnapura districts were selected as the study area where minimum of 5% of the population was selected in all three sectors. The total sample size was 13,881. The Quadratic double log form model was applied for regression analysis. Total household expenditure was used as a proxy for income. OLS technique was employed to examine the relationship between the variables. In order to execute the model, firstly data were estimated by OLS and then checked by Wald test. Appearance of all four quadratic Engel curves was shown initially for normal goods and then for inferior goods. Our results reveal that Engel curve food consumption pattern of the estate sector was highly influenced and affected by income changes; the urban sector had easily responded for inferior goods consumption when income increases while the rural sector had tolerable response for food consumption pattern. The Engel food elasticities for all sectors were significant at 1% level and all the elasticities were greater than one, which implies that all included food items were normal in nature. The estate sector had higher food elasticity. Food is a necessity commodity with HH allocating a large part of their budget towards food expenditure. Food budget share is even higher among poor HH especially in the estate sector. Therefore, special attention is required while implementing tax policies on food, as most of the tax on food are borne by poor HH. Thus, it would be better if tax policies are applied in a way that will have less impact on low income groups in tax applications for compulsory expenditures like food items.

Keywords: Engel curve, Quadratic double log function, Wald test, OLS

AN ANALYSIS OF SECTORAL LINKAGES IN SRI LANKA

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The three major sectors of the Sri Lankan economy have been undergoing structural changes over the last few decades. This structural change and the uneven pattern of sectoral growth is likely to cause substantial changes in the production and demand linkages among various sectors, which in turn, could have significant implication for the overall growth of the economy. Therefore, an in-depth understanding of sectoral growth dynamics becomes very important for policy formulation in designing a structured and balanced growth in the economy. Hence, the main purpose of this research is to do a comprehensive analysis of inter-sectoral linkages among the major three sectors in the Sri Lankan economy. We used annual time series data covering the period between 1960-2018 for this study. All the series were extracted from annual reports of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. The data of GDP of Agriculture (GDPA), GDP of Industry (GDPIND) and GDP of Services (GDP SER) are used as proxy for sectoral growth. All data were transformed into natural log form. ADF, and PPunit root test methods were conducted to test the order of integration. Lag length selection criteria such as AIC, SIC, LR, FPE and HQIC are utilized to select the optimum lag length that can be included in the model. Engle Granger (1987) co-integration test was used to determine the long run relationship between the variables. The Error Correction Model (ECM) was employed to identify the short run relationship as well as long-run adjustment among the variables. Moreover, Granger causality test was performed to investigate the causal relationship between the variables. Engle-Granger (EG) co-integration test using fully modified OLS estimation provides evidence of long run equilibrium relationship between sectors. The results from ECM show that the coefficient of error correction terms are statistically significant and had expected sign (negative) for all models, All sectors are positively related significantly even in the Short run. The investigation of causality analysis among sectors show that service and agriculture sectors have a two-way Granger causal relationship while industrial sector Granger affect the agricultural sector significantly. In the long run, Granger causality result (ECT) shows that Industrial and Agriculture sector have a two-way causal relationship. Moreover, agriculture sector Granger affect service sector while service sector Granger affect industrial sector significantly. Our empirical results indicate that all sectors are interlinked. Therefore, the government should promote all sectors in effective and stable ways.

Keywords: Inter-sectoral linkages, Co-integration, Causality

DO WORKERS' REMITTANCES PROMOTE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN SRI LANKA?

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A significant amount of economists agree that workers' remittances can be used as a kind of source for a countries' economic growth. The contribution of workers' remittances to economic growth in Sri Lanka shows a positive and an increasing trend. In 1975, workers' remittances contributed 0.2% to GDP in Sri Lanka which changed to 4.8% in 1985 and increased to 8.2% in 2017. However, the relationship between workers' remittances and economic growth has not yet been studied in-depth. The objective of this study is to investigate the relationship between workers' remittances and economic growth in Sri Lanka by employing the annual time series data for the period of between 1975-2017. This study employs the variables of per-capita gross domestic product, per-capita fixed capital formation, exchange rate, and workers' remittances. All data for the variables were collected from the Central Bank's annual reports published in various years. The data series of this study have been analyzed by using the autoregressive distributed lag (ARDL) bounds test and Granger causality techniques. The standard unit root tests of Augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF) and Phillips – Perron (PP) indicate that the variables of per-capita gross domestic product, per-capita fixed capital formation, exchange rate, and workers' remittances are non-stationarity at level and they are I (1) variables. The Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) bounds test results show that workers' remittances have a positive long-run relationship with the economic growth in Sri Lanka. Further, the coefficient of error correction term reveals that approximately 44% of the disequilibrium error is corrected each year and economic growth moves towards the long-run equilibrium. In addition to that, the findings from Pairwise Granger's causality illustrate that workers' remittances in Sri Lanka Granger cause economic growth in the short-run. Furthermore, the coefficient of the error correction term also confirms that workers' remittances Granger causes economic growth in the long-run. Finally, this study concludes that workers' remittances in Sri Lanka have a significant impact on economic growth. Thus, policymakers in Sri Lanka should design programs to increase the inflow of workers' remittance more and more for getting sustainable economic growth.

Keywords: Workers 'remittances, Economic Growth, Sri Lanka ARDL technique

ESTIMATION OF CORPORATE INCOME TAX LOSS DUE TO NON-COMPLIANCE: BASED ON DECLARED INCOME TAX OF COMPANIES

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Corporate income tax (CIT) is the key income tax in Sri Lanka and it generally accounts for about 52% of the total income tax revenue and about 9% of the total tax revenue of the government. However, many argue that the performance of the CIT is far below its potential. In fact, the GDP share of the CIT (CIT/GDP) as a percent has fallen from about 2.5% in the early 1980s to about 1% at present. Among many factors, tax non-compliance could be a reason for the low performance of income taxes. Dubin (2012) identified three reasons that lead to CIT revenue loss due to non-compliance: under reporting of due tax liability by tax paying companies, on-reporting of due tax liability by tax paying companies and non-payment of corporate income tax by companies on declared income and profits. The last reason is considered serious as it indicates the non-payment of tax based on income or receipts that companies have already declared. Further, the estimation of tax loss due to under reporting and on-reporting seems to be less straightforward as under-reporting and on-reporting are difficult to verify. The objective of this paper is to analyze the loss of CIT revenue due to non-payment of due CIT payment on actually revealed company income. The Annual, average corporate income tax revenue declared was Rs. 11,910 million in the sample of companies. The collected annual average CIT revenue was Rs.5519 million in the period and the annual average of CIT revenue loss due to non – payments of tax were Rs.6391 million. The annual average loss of CIT revenue of small, medium and large, scale companies is Rs.363 million, Rs.472 million and Rs.5556 million respectively. The percentage distribution of tax loss due to non – payment of tax by large, medium and small-scale companies is 87%, 7% and 6% respectively. In the assessment year 2016/17, per company tax loss due to this non-compliance stood as Rs. 70 million for large companies, Rs. 3 million for medium companies and Rs. 1 million for small companies. This indicates that compared to small and medium companies, large companies engage in a massive tax fraud through non-payment of tax due on declared income of the companies. More importantly, results show that tax loss due to non-compliance is on the rise and the relevant authorities have failed to address the issue and thereby making the fiscal position of the country weak.

Keywords: Corporate Income Tax, Declared Income, Non-payment of due CIT payment

LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY IN THE SRI LANKAN APPAREL INDUSTRY

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Subsequent to the liberalization of economic policy initiated in the late 70s, foreign investments were highly encouraged to establish foot-loose industries like apparel in Sri Lanka. Under the Free Trade Zone (FTZ) concept suggested by the Greater Colombo Economic Commission, a large number of large-scale export-oriented apparel factories were established in the western province. As a result, a large number of young village women shifted and settled in urban areas to occupy Export Processing Zones (EPZ). However, this transformation generated various socio-cultural issues as well. Later, local investors also were encouraged to invest in the industry by establishing factories especially in rural areas. Consequently, 200 garment factory scheme focused on the alleviation of poverty of people living in villages. However, in addition to the scheme, many more factories belonging to the small and medium enterprise (SME) sector were established around the country. Large scale multi-national apparel organizations also chose the geometric distribution strategy, keeping trust in rural labor productivity, regardless of the problems that might generate in transportation and infrastructure facilities. This spatiality-based transformation in the apparel industry made socio-economic transitions in the country as well. From this perspective, the research problem is whether the labor productivity of Sri Lankan apparel industry depends on the organizational degree of scale, geographic distribution and product diversification. Hence the research objective would be labor productivity comparison of large vs. medium scale factories, urban vs. rural factories and single vs. multiple product manufacturing factories. The labor productivity data (in terms of monthly factory efficiencies) has been collected to have 95% accurate results. Based on the findings of the pilot study, the sample size was decided as 504. Data were collected through progress reports submitted to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce by Productivity Improvement Project (PIP) of the Sri Lanka Institute of Textile and Apparel and through research assistants who collected data from factories. The overall efficiency of the Sri Lankan apparel industry was found to be 57% under an error tolerance of $\pm 4\%$. The standard deviation of the efficiency distribution is 14%. According to the 2 sample test done in Minitab software, the efficiency of large-scale factories (64%) is greater than that of medium-scale factories (48%). Further, research has shown that there is no significant difference of factory efficiency between rural and urban factories. Hence it seems that geographic distribution strategy and product specialization strategy have been nullified by spatial and socio-psychological factors.

Keywords: Sri Lankan Apparel Industry, Labour Productivity.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP TO ECONOMIC GROWTH

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The concept that entrepreneurship has a significant impact on economic growth has been generally established in the economic context. Hence entrepreneurship development policies have taken a prominent place all over the world. However, the prevailing literature reveals that all the types of entrepreneurship cannot contribute to the economic growth and because of that there is a suggestion to not promote or encourage the types of entrepreneurship which cannot contribute significantly to the economic growth and that only the entrepreneurship types which significantly contribute to the economic growth should be promoted. The study shows the importance of having a clear understanding of the types of entrepreneurship and their contribution to the economic growth from a policy perspective. Then the research question in this study is which types of entrepreneurship significantly contribute to the economic growth and which types of entrepreneurship cannot do so. This study is totally based on secondary data. According to the findings, although there are a number of types of entrepreneurship in the literature two most analyzed types are necessity entrepreneurship and opportunity entrepreneurship. Subsistence entrepreneurship, transformational entrepreneurship, remedial entrepreneurship, general entrepreneurship, growth-oriented entrepreneurship, survival entrepreneurship, self-employees, business owners, solo self-employed and employer entrepreneurship are the other types of entrepreneurship analyzed in the literature. This division of types are mainly based on the motivating factor to start a business or entrepreneurial aspiration. Among these types of entrepreneurship opportunity, transformational, growth oriented, employer entrepreneurship and business owners significantly contribute to the economic growth than types such as necessity, remedial, survival, subsistence, self-employed and general entrepreneurs. But there are counter views that point out that the latter types of entrepreneurship are not necessarily less successful or less desirable from an economic perspective. However, it is clear that the level of the contribution made by these various types of entrepreneurs to economic growth obviously differs from each other by their characteristics and also depending on the definition of success. Then it can be implied that it is necessary to create policies for the different types of entrepreneurship without putting them all into one basket. Also contrasting research findings create an interesting gap for future research to introduce new and more rationale types of entrepreneurship with in-depth analysis of their contribution to economic growth.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship, Economic Growth, Policy Prospective

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WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP: MOTIVATIONAL FACTORS, NATURE AND CHALLENGES

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Women entrepreneurs make an important contribution to the development of the world economy and significantly contribute to the growth of the national economy. At the World Economic Forum held in 2012 women entrepreneurship was referred as the 'Way of Forward'. Also, women entrepreneurship has been designated as the new engine of economic growth. Although there are many advantages of women entrepreneurship such as women empowerment, poverty reduction women entrepreneurs are considerably less than men. The gender gap in entrepreneurship remains significant and lower number of women worldwide are engaged in entrepreneurial activity. However, the lower rate of women participation still prevailing in entrepreneurship generally indicates that women entrepreneurship development policies should be further improved. Although there are a number of research studies available on women entrepreneurship still there is a higher requirement for research on an overall understanding of the nature of women entrepreneurship to prepare more efficient policies. This study which is based on literature survey focuses on identifying factors that have affected women to become entrepreneurs and its nature and challenges. Accordingly, both individual and institutional factors have affected women to become entrepreneurs. Pride of achievement, task accomplishment, the need to achieve power, independence, freedom to determine their destiny, satisfaction and affiliation, orientations, ambition and career aspirations, seeking challenges and the opportunity for self-determination can be seen in general as individual factors that have made women choosing entrepreneurship. Further literature identifies market opportunities, government subsidy credit infrastructure, technology and social service as the most influential factors that create an enabling environment to motivate women. Push and Pull factors also make women to choose entrepreneurship in completely two different ways; the most common factors being poverty and unemployment. When considering the nature of women entrepreneurship, generally most women are necessity driven and run smaller, less profitable business than men. However, they have to face for many specific problems than men and the institutional variables also do not provide enough support to women entrepreneurs. Then policy makers should pay much attention to make create a comfortable entrepreneurial environment for women when preparing policies. However, it is inconclusive and is impossible to declare what are most powerful factors between individual and institutional factors are and this creates an interesting direction for future research.

Keywords: Women Entrepreneurship, Motivational Factors, Profitability

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THE POLITICAL TIES BETWEEN THE JAFFNA KINGDOM AND THE SOUTHERN KINGDOMS: A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

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Sri Lanka a multi ethnic country has the pride of being a country of continuous historical traditions due to the contribution of two major ethnic groups namely Sinhala and Tamil who have lived in the country since ancient times. The main reason behind prestige is the ethnic harmony maintained between these two ethnic groups. Hence, the interest in studying the struggle for dominance between the two ethnic groups from the historical records as ethnic conflicts is not shown in studies related to the ethnic cohesion between the two ethnic groups. Accordingly, even though the relationship was maintained from ancient days the medieval period is given significance. Smooth relationship was maintained between Jaffna Kingdom and the Southern Kingdoms. This tie builds up the historical trend of medieval history of Sri Lanka as a healthy one. In the history of medieval Sri Lanka, the kingdom that emerged in the North was called Jaffna Kingdom which originated in the 13th century AD with Nallur as the capitol. The Kingdom that emerged in the 13th century AD started to fall in the early 17th century AD. During this period the Kingdom in the South was weak and the capitals started moving towards the southwest. From the emergence to the decline of the Jaffna Kingdom, political relationships were maintained with the kingdoms of Yapahuwa, Kurunegala, Gampola, Kotte and Kandy. The relationship was sometimes a conflict of establishing political dominance over one another or a harmonious political relationship to support each other. The relationships between the two kingdoms was neither ethnic nor religious but are of political cohesion with harmony. This study is based on the historical approach and hence primary and secondary sources are used. The books that originated in the Jaffna Kingdom, books in Pali and Sinhala languages and documents from European writers, archaeological evidences like stone inscriptions, coins and ruins of buildings are used as primary sources. Research books and research articles on the subject are used as secondary sources for the study. The primary objective of this study is to unveil the political relationship maintained between the two kingdoms and to expose that the relationship was politically well maintained and that it was not based on ethnic or religious aspects.

Keywords: Kingdom, Political ties, Dominance

AN INVESTIGATION OF W.F. GUNAWARDHANA'S CONTRIBUTION TO SINHALA GRAMMAR

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Most people know W.F. Gunawardhana as the scholar who took a firm position in the classification of the origin of Sinhalese and putting forth the idea that Sinhala has a Dravidian-based origin. However, he is also a dedicated scholar (late 19th- early 20th century) who has contributed to the field of education through his in-depth understanding of Language, Grammar, Linguistics, Literature, Literary Criticism, Classical Editing and History in both oriental and occidental knowledge. This research investigates the contribution of W. F. Gunawardhana to Sinhala Grammar. Thus, the research problem was what Gunawardhana's contributions to Sinhala Grammar are. Qualitative method and Data analysis focused library sources are used as method and methodology. Through his criticism of the oldest grammar book written in Sinhala, the *Sidath Sangara*, Gunawardhana increased his knowledge of grammar. He created new Sinhala grammatical rules and usages in the *Siddhanta Pareekshanaya* that he developed from the *Sidath Sangara* as well as in his edited texts and commendations. Although *Guththila Kavya Warnana*, *Subhashitha Warnana*, *Kokila Sandesha Warnana* and so on are included into the genre of commendatory poem, he did not confine them into that generic intramarginal but disclosed hidden Sinhala grammatical elements by textual editing. Conspicuous among his contributions to Sinhala grammar are his disclosure of the influence of Dravidian grammar on the Sinhala language; he revealed that the suffix 'u' was used in making feminine words in Sinhala and he pointed out that there was no verb in the language to indicate the future. He made out that the verb of collective meaning singular subject is plural, verb is plural in conjectural meaning and even when the subject is plural, the verb is singular in inanimate meaning. His new approach regarding the *Sidath Sangara* is noticeable. Criticizing the analysis of *Sandhi* (combinations), Gunawardhana discovered its incompleteness and suggested fifteen new types of *Sandhi* and divided them into two categories; *Bahira* (external) and *Abhyanthara* (internal). In *Sandhi Nirdesha*, he disclosed the special grammatical element; the usage of *Uwahal Wana* (helping letters) in Sinhala. Moreover, he revealed the Dravidian light in some grammatical features of Sinhala. Gunawardhana has done a pioneer contribution to Sinhala Grammar. This research reveals that conceptions of Gunawardhana on Sinhala Grammar can be placed several decades ahead from the relevant era, and investigating his contribution to Sinhala Grammar meets the need of the present.

Keywords: Sinhala Grammar, W.F. Gunawardhana, Linguistics

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THE HELA HAWLA EDITIONS OF SIDATH SANGARA

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This study aims at finding out why the *Sidath Sangarawa* was published several times by *Hela Hawla* when it had already been published by Kumaratunga Munidasa. Although the pioneer of *Hela Hawla* was Kumarathunga Munidasa, this study tries to find out the reasons why his followers published it again. Why did Rapiel Tennakoon, Rev. Gnanaloka and Amarasiri Gunawadu publish *Sidath Sangarawa* after Kumaratunga Munidasa published *Sidath Sangara Vivaranaya*. This study was conducted using library resources. Having analyzed the data of the four separate publications of the *Sidath Sangara* by the above mentioned authors, the following conclusions were arrived at. Significant findings of this research are that Amarasiri Gunawadu wrote and published the second part of *Sidath Sangarawa* after the demise of Kumaratunga as the second part of *Sidath Sangarawa* written by Kumaratunga was lost after it was handed over to the press. Amarasiri Gunawadu mentions that he tried to write the same idea as Kumaratunga wrote in the second edition. It shows that Gunawadu does not try to be critical on facts submitted in the first and second part of *Sidath Sangarawa* written by Kumaratunga Munidasa, Rev. Gnanaloka published *Sidath Sangara Purana Sannaya* to explain the meanings of the *Sidath Sangarawa*. In that, Rev. Gnanaloka pushed forward his own ideas. Rapiel Tennakoon further explained meanings of the words in *Sidath Sangarawa* published by Kumaratunga Munidasa. He adds new grammar rules in his *Sidath Sangarawa* edition. The language he used for his edition was simple and understandable for the reader than shorter explanations given by Kumaratunga. Tennakoon identifies weaknesses he found in the Kumaratunga's *Sidath Sangarawa* and further reveals more of weakness in *Sidath Sangarawa* which were not identified by Kumaratunga. These three writers except Gunawadu use different meanings for the same word in the three editions. As there is a considerable time gap for *Sidath Sangara* publications of these four writers, it is evident that they published the *Sidath Sangarawa* with different purposes.

Keywords: Hela Hawla, Sidath Sangara, Rapiel Thennakoon, Kumarathunga Munidasa, Grammar Rules

**“TOSSING BETWEEN TWO WAVES”: THE NATURE OF
MOTIVATION AND DEMOTIVATION IN THE PROCESS OF
LEARNING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE**

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The current Sri Lankan university context can be considered a place where social inequalities and hierarchies are constantly produced and reproduced. In this context, it can be noticed that the importance of learning English has been watered down, and as a result, the process of learning and teaching English has become a failure. The English language has, more or less, become a symbol of all types of negative states of mind such as defeat, oppression and humiliation. However, despite this negative backdrop, motivation to learn English is also present among most target learners of the country. Foregrounding this hierarchized and heterogeneous context, this paper articulates the manner in which the notions of motivation and demotivation operate within undergraduates' efforts in learning English as a second language, and thereby examines their attitudes toward learning English as a second language. In this case, ten special degree students and ten general degree students from the Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya were interviewed. The interviews, being the primary source of data, were used alongside with several published work concerning the field of ESL learning and teaching, to explore the effects of motivation and demotivation in learning the second language at undergraduate level. The theoretical framework is based on the scholarly works of linguists and researchers such as R.C. Gardner, S. Krashen, Thiru Kandiah, and Rod Ellis. Analyzed data reveals that motivation and demotivation operates simultaneously in this particular context. Undergraduates' motivation to learn English is mainly determined and shaped by instrumental goals such as gaining 'better' jobs, more privileges and enhanced social mobility. Even though they long to achieve these goals, numerous faults in the entire system of education, certain socio-political and cultural baggage related to the use of English and extra-linguistic factors such as socio-economic status and family background play a vital role in demotivating the undergraduates from developing target language proficiency. Moreover, afternoon/late afternoon lecture hours, 'unfriendly' teachers, complex and 'alien' lesson material, lack of usage/practice/exposure (to) of the language can be referred to as the key factors that directly cause demotivation according to the findings. Conclusions show that the English language has become a tool as well as a weapon in this particular context. Undergraduates' motivation to learn English is both instrumental and integrated, and there is the simultaneous presence of motivation and demotivation within the same learner. The paper also suggests several propositions that can be practically implemented in motivating the undergraduates to master the English language.

Keywords: ESL, ELT Practice, Motivation, Demotivation, University context

A STUDY OF MASTER FA FANG (法舫) AS A ROLE- MODEL FOR CHINESE *SAMGHA* STUDENTS STUDYING OVERSEAS

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Master Fa Fang was a *Mahāyāna* monk from China. He was born in 1904 and passed away in 1951. He not only had a rich experience of the Chinese Buddhist traditions but also of the outside world. Before he went to Southeast Asia, he had studied *Mahāyāna* and Tibetan Buddhism. According to the available literature of that time in *Pāli*, Sanskrit and English languages, he subsequently went to countries like Burma, India, and Ceylon and spent time in these countries studying *Theravāda* Buddhism from 1940 to 1946. Such rich experience had equipped him with the necessary background for his invaluable contributions towards the development of Buddhist education in China. It is noteworthy that he was the first person to translate the *Pāli* canon into Chinese. Furthermore, he was the motivating force behind the promotion of the internationalization of Chinese Buddhism. That is why it can be said that he could be considered as a role- model for Chinese *saṃgha* students who are engaged in study abroad. The methodology of this research is primarily historical. It focuses on the available historical evidence relating to Master Fa Fang's activities. It also will take a critical approach to the study in the evaluation of the contributions of Master Fa Fang. First, it researches on Master Fa Fang and the historical background of his time. Second, it examines his specialties and the contributions he made to Buddhism in modern China. Finally, it critically analyzes his contributions that impacted on the development of contemporary Buddhism in China. The research problems are "In what kind of historical background did Master Fa Fang live? Why is it possible for him to be considered as a model for Chinese *saṃgha* students who are engaged in study abroad? Did his contributions have an impact on the development of contemporary Buddhism in China?" This paper focuses on his achievements and contributions to demonstrate the advantages and value of learning from his example for the effective dissemination of Buddhism in modern China. In this study the researcher will closely examine Master Fa Fang's approach in the transmission of Buddhism to China. Through an examination of Master Fa Fang's outstanding achievements and contributions to Chinese Buddhism, it is intended to show that he could be recognized as a role- model for overseas *saṃgha* students who intend to be engaged in the study and propagation of Buddhism in modern China.

Keywords: Master Fa Fang, Modern China, Buddhism

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE BUDDHA-SĀSANA? A CRITICAL STUDY WITH REFERENCE TO THERAVĀDA BUDDHISM

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Theravāda discourses express a concern for the decline and disappearance of Buddhism. Originally, the *Mahāpajāpati-gotamī Sutta* assures that the admission of women into the monastic order promotes the decline and disappearance of the *Buddha-Sāsana* while the *Saddhammasammosa Suttas* confirms that monks are responsible for this problem. On the other hand, there are three *Suttas* by the name *Kimbila* which noticeably indicate that one person or one group alone should not be blamed for this misfortune. The *Saddhammapaṭirūpaka Sutta* further claims that even the four elements other than the fourfold assemblies within Buddhism cannot bring about the demise of the *Buddha-Sāsana*. Additionally, several *Suttas* and scholarly works reveal that there are various internal and external causes contributing towards the decline and disappearance of the *Buddha-Sāsana*. They can be summarized into the following categories according to their same groups. (1) carelessness in the transmission of the teachings, (2) the emergence of counterfeit *Dhamma*, (3) lack of diligence in meditation practice, (4) lack of respect toward various elements of the Buddhist tradition, (5) the emergence of divisions within the *Saṅgha*, (6) excessive association of the *Saṅgha* with secular society, (7) admission of women into the monastic community, (8) over-regulation of the *Saṅgha* by the State, (9) oppression of non-Buddhists and (10) impact of social calamities. In this paper, the following research questions are adequately addressed. “Who is responsible for the decline and disappearance of the *Buddha-Sāsana*? Can Buddhist monks be alone blamed for this problem? Are the nuns and the laity responsible? What about the people outside of Buddhism? This research applies the qualitative method and textual analysis. In this study, *Pāli* Texts and its Commentaries as primary sources and books, monographs and scholarly works as secondary sources were utilized in order to collect data and information. The findings in this research suggest that the fourfold assembly of disciples can directly give rise to the decline and disappearance of the *Buddha-Sāsana*, and the followers of other faiths as well as natural catastrophes like wars, conflicts, famine, flood, earthquakes and so on can indirectly and secondarily lead the *Sāsana* to its decay and withdrawal.

Keywords: *Buddha-Sāsana*, Counterfeit *Dhamma*, Buddhist Tradition

**DOES THE SOUND REACH THE EAR? AN EXAMINATION OF THE
CLASSIFICATION OF ‘SAMPATTA’ AND ‘ASAMPATTA’ IN
AṬṬHASĀLINĪ COMMENTARY**

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One of the important tasks undertaken by later compilers of the Abhidhamma was to make categories of realities in an attempt to make the teachings of the Buddha more systematic and somehow complete. Besides employing many modes of classification to distinguish and characterize the four realities, namely consciousness (*citta*), mental states (*cetasika*), materiality (*rūpa*), and Nibbāna, that are already found in the Early Canonical Texts, new analysis and divisions were also introduced. While most of them are mere improvisations on the grounds already provided in the early canonical texts, some of them are obviously novel. One such classification with regard to material phenomena is to distinguish them on the basis of whether they can sense the stimuli or not. If they can sense, they are called *gocaragāhika* and if not *agocaragāhika*. The bases that can sense stimuli are classified further into whether their respective objects actually reach or impinge on them or not. Technically, those that reach are called *sampatta*, which is the primary subject examined in this paper. I argue that the concept of *sampatta* was developed from the notion of *paṭigha*, the coming together of sense bases and objects, which is found in early Buddhist texts. Support to this can be observed in an old commentary that existed prior to Ācariya Buddhaghosa’s writings. Starting from Buddhaghosa’s commentary, the eye and ear were not considered as bases that take the objects that reach them (*sampattaggāhi*). The post-canonical texts have merely tried to support this explanation. In this paper I examine the concept of ‘*sampatta*’ and ‘*asampatta*’ and argue that it was originally meant to explain the concept of ‘*paṭigha*’, that all the five sense doors take the objects that reach them. The primary evidence to support this claim is found in an old commentary. In the canonical texts, the perception that arises at the five sense doors are called ‘perception of impact’ (*paṭighasaññā*), which suggests that the five bases and their respective objects ‘strike’ one another. In the old commentary, the term *sampatta* was used in the same sense. But at a later time, the term *sampatta* came to be used only for ‘impingement’ that arises at the nose, tongue, and body doors. In the early texts, the cognition of these three sense processes are collectively called *muta*. I will put forth the argument that the view presented by Buddhaghosa differs from the old commentary in that it considers *sampatta* as a synonym of the concept of *muta* and not *paṭigha*.

Keywords: Paṭigha, Sampatta, Ārammaṇa, Consciousness, Cognition

KARANIYAMETTA SUTTA AS A SCRIPTURAL SOURCE FOR LEADERSHIP SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

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Leadership is known as a particular human quality that helps people to reach their goals. Human beings develop skills to achieve their needs and goals. Such skills can be inborn talent for leadership. However, Leadership skills from early childhood to youth are developed with societal, cultural, educational, and psychological impacts. In Sri Lanka, it seems that most students have less opportunity to develop their leadership skills through leadership programs and activities because of the examination aimed education system. This milieu shows the necessity of leadership development strategies among school students in Sri Lanka. It is possible to formulate the most effective leadership skills that can be implemented for school students in Sri Lanka. The *Karaniyametta sutta* is recited in majority of Buddhist schools in the morning assembly. This study attempts to identify a collection of leadership skills in the *Karaniyametta sutta* beneficial for Sri Lankan students. The literature on this discourse shows that the Sutta is applicable to gain benefits for both mundane and super mundane well-being. Not much attention has been paid on discourse as a source for developing leadership skills. The objective of this paper is to interpret the *Karaniyametta sutta* as a source for developing leadership skills and thereby suggest adopting them for students' understanding of leadership skills. The study also compares the perceived application of the *Karaniyametta-sutta* as a development process in the students' mindset. Hermeneutics methods and methodology will be used for the study. The Key source is the *Karaniyametta-sutta* of *Samyutta-nikaya*. Qualities such as perseverance, uprightness, self-confidence, working hard with compassion and benevolence until achieving the target will be formulated in terms of leadership skills. The paper will be a contribution to the Buddhist psychology and its concerns on theoretical and pragmatic approaches. In the Buddhist psychological perspective, the *Karaniyametta-sutta* [*"Karaniya metta sutta"*] is known to be a profound discourse that evokes comprehensive awareness of the human mind through positive stimuli. The discourse teaches 13 qualities. For the school students leadership development the following qualities have been identified as key traits that could be associated with effective leadership. They are *sakko, uju, Suju, Suvacha, Anathimani, Subharo, Nipako* etc. The teachings of the *Karaniyametta-suttawas* identified as the ultimate source in which leadership skills are explained.

Keywords: Karaniyametta sutta, Buddhist psychology, Leadership skills, School students

THE BUDDHIST ATTITUDE TOWARDS SLAVERY

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Although Buddhism is against slavery, many forms of servitude grew in India along with Buddhist principles of support, empathy, responsibility, equality, respect and care-taking. Many Buddhist discourses show how slaves are treated either kindly or unjustly in ancient India. The slave is called *dāsa* (a male slave) and *dāsī* (a female slave), *dāsakamma* (works for slaves) and *dāsatta* (slavery) in the Pāli language. Various categories of slaves are depicted in Buddhist discourses. Buddhism is concerned about the mistreatment of slaves which is against the golden Buddhist norms. With such an attitude, Buddhism views buying and selling of slaves as against the right means of livelihood (*sammājīva*). However, slaves are prohibited from receiving Higher ordination without the permission of their masters yet Buddhism has laid down rules for both slaves and their owners and these rules and principles are relevant even in the modern context of employment. However, out of their volition it is not against the slavery. In the *Sigalovāda Sutta* states that proper attitudes towards both the slave and owner are based on empathy, responsibility, equality, respect and care-taking. Moreover, Buddhism also recognises becoming a slave of craving (*taṇhādāso*) from psychological perspective in the *Raṭṭhapāla Sutta* which is central in Buddhism for attaining liberation from suffering. This perspective is accounted from a spiritual point of view which one enjoys senses of sensual pleasure repeatedly without satisfaction which cause suffering through birth and death. In this paper, the Buddhist attitude of slavery is going to be examined in detail. To examine slavery with reference to Buddhism, it will pose the following questions: What kinds of slaves are depicted in the Buddhist texts with examples? How could we understand the concept of slavery from those examples? How is slavery identified in Buddhism from a psychological perspective? The above questions, will be discussed with reference to the Buddhist literature (*Pāli Tipiṭaka*). The textual approach will be used to discuss the topic.

Keywords: Slavery, Employment, Right Livelihood, Wrong-Livelihood

AN ANALITICAL STUDY ON TEACHING OF PUÑÑA-PĀPA WITH THE PERSPECTIVE OF BUDDHIST ETHICS

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Ethics or Moral principle is one of the major branches of Philosophy which discusses right and wrong conduct. The word ‘Ethics’ derived from the Greek word ‘Ethos’ denote morality. Moral and Immoral conduct have been discussed since ancient times and has now spread into various branches of ethics. Buddhism occupies a prominent place in the world due to its realistic teachings. Buddhist teaching have also discussed the behavior of people on a grand scale and various criteria to evaluate behavior have been set up. The pair of word ‘Puñña’ and Pāpa plays a major role in Ethics. In Buddhism activities such as stealing, killing, quarrelling, arguing, lying, sexual misconduct that directly affect the whole world are considered as major problems. When such misconduct increases, we cannot expect wellbeing in a society. These types of misconduct are represented within the specific term “Pāpe” and it produces bad results both in their life and in the life after death for the person who engaged in these moral activities. Engaging in good activities, which generate good result for every being including the doer is accepted in Buddhism within the specific term ‘Puñña’ and the doer deserves a blissful in every birth. According to the above explanation, the doer is responsible for every action. In comparison to other religions, Buddhism has taken a central position in identifying the doer to be responsible for any action he/she commits. Therefore, the aim of this study is to examine in detail the Buddhist teachings on ‘Puñña - Pāpa’ with the purpose of applying the findings to create a good society. This research is based on both primary and secondary sources. Buddhist teachings on ‘Puñña -Pāpa’ concepts have been examined as primary sources and relevant books and articles written under the afore mentioned theme have been used as secondary sources. Further, E-library and with experts in this field was also used. The results of the research show that Buddhist attitudes on ‘Puñña -Pāpa’ has a great relevance to society and that it can be applied as a code of discipline in any society. Its discussion on the agony and retribution produced through bad kamma provide answers to question brought up in the field of ethics. Therefore, it will help people to avoid committing bad actions through the understanding of the outcomes in engaging in Kamma or ‘Puñña’ action and thereby spread love, kindness, harmony and well-being in society.

Keywords: Buddhism, Puñña – Pāpa, Ethic, Well-being, Social Problems

VĒDANĀNUPASSANĀ MEDITATION IS AN ANALGESIC

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Human pain and suffering are produced by the brain. We do not see with our eye. We see with our brain. When we consider the five sense faculties this statement is true, because we see, hear, smell, taste and touch with our mind. According to this rule humans should have the ability to control what they see, hear, smell, taste and touch with the help of the mind. In this way pain and suffering are made by the mind. An American neuroscientist tried designing machines for the blind to get a sense of the world from tiny electrical pulses delivered to the tongue. And today, in Israel, scientist Amir Amedi thinks he is just a few years away from a commercial device for the blind to ‘hear’ the sights around them. Yet other researchers are exploring how we could ‘see’ magnetic fields or infrared light. The key to all this seeming-science fiction understands how the brain perceives the world – and it turns out to be a lot more versatile than expected. ‘This shows the brain is a flexible task machine. Meditation fully goes with the mind. The mind controls the whole body as a central processing unit. Practicing meditation allows a man to get into the Central Processing Unit and take over its control. There are different methods to control the sensory perceptions through as it the mind. Meditation is the best way among them as it has no bad side effects. There are many drugs which are used as analgesic ones. But they are known to have harmful side effects. In this research, the objective is to find out whether meditation can be used as an analgesic. As this research is based on meditation, I use self-experiment methods mostly used by the scientists for the experiments on medicines. I selected Nillabe Meditation Centre for taking five days resident meditation retreat and practiced different types of meditation. Pain is an unpleasant sensory and emotional experience associated with actual or potential tissue damage. In various body tissues, there are pain receptors (free nerve endings that transmit pain). These receptors respond to thermal, mechanical or chemical stimuli. When stimulated, these receptors generate an impulse which travels to the spinal cord and brain. When tissues become damaged, they release chemicals called prostaglandins and leukotrienes that make the pain receptors more sensitive. These receptors then become more responsive to gentle stimuli, causing pain. By restricting the synthesis of Prostaglandins the pain is reduced. This is done by painkillers. But meditation reconstitutes the synthesis of prostaglandins and avoids transmitting pain impulses without any side effects.

Keywords: Meditation, Vēdanānupassanā, Analgesic, Biochemical, Medicines

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND PREPAREDNESS OF CHILDREN: A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY IN THE ESTATE SECTOR OF SRI LANKA

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Fostering an enabling environment for quality early childhood education is one of the targets stipulated in the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development with the promise that children in their early years are prepared for their life long journey. Nevertheless, studies show that a large number of children in disadvantaged communities in South Asia are not developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being so that they are not ready for formal primary education. Sri Lanka has introduced a comprehensive policy for early childhood care and education, and there seems to be significant progress in urban and rural sectors of the country. However, the estate sector encounters a large number of implementation issues that hinder the creation of an enabling environment for early childhood education. Since access to early childhood education has been slow and inequitable as previous studies demonstrate, children in the estate sector are disproportionately excluded from care and education in their early years. This research has strived to understand the existing state of early childhood education in the estate sector of Sri Lanka and examine the relationship between early childhood education and community preparedness for education in early childhood. Life-world analytical ethnography was employed as the methodology. Five estates were selected as cases in which twenty seven participants were selected as sample through the purposive sampling method according to the data saturation principle. This study revealed that the biggest hindrance to quality early childhood education in the estate sector is unpreparedness of children for pre-primary education because learners in their early childhood are not supported by the surrounding environment. Bonded labour is one of the causes that deprive children of depriving interest toward education. Moreover, children often set their life-goals in line with everyday experiences, so that when no productive experiences are encountered, children cannot set their purpose of life properly. Less resilient-age appropriate social relationships is another determinant that diverges children from their early childhood education. Exposure to violence and neglect during early childhood are some other factors that have a negative life-long impact. Early childhood education in Sri Lanka has taken a prominent place in the welfare policy of the country, though some implementation issues were met in the estate sector compared to urban and rural sectors owing to unpreparedness of the learners and less community support. It is thus recommended to pay careful attention to structural factors that hinder early childhood education when implementing policies at local levels.

Keywords: Early Childhood Education, Estate Sector, Life Experiences, Structural Determinants, Welfare Policy

POTENTIALS FOR REDUCING STRUCTURAL VIOLENCE THROUGH AGRO-TOURISM IN HAMBANTHOTA, SRI LANKA

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Agri tourism is the practice of attracting visitors to an area used basically for agricultural purposes. It attracts tourists to rural communities for a form of relaxation following a growing trend in tourism that is both educational and recreational. Tourism in general is increasingly recognized as an effective means of achieving structural peace in world. Structural violence is the process of deprivation of needs. It is characterized politically as repression, and economically as exploitation. Rahathgama in the Hambantota district has been identified as an area where people are disadvantaged by marginalization, and exploitation. The main objective of this research paper was to identify the agricultural tourism as a potential solution to reduce structural violence in this area by providing supplementary income for the farmer apart from farming and other pro-poor benefits of agro tourism. The methodology used in this paper to identify 'how agro tourism can contribute to reduce structural violence' was basically qualitative. Interviews were the main mode of gathering data. The methodology was based on the grounded theory which portrays the world as being complex and organized by both overt and hidden power structures. It was revealed during the process of data collection that structural violence was functioning by means of polarization of the social structures such as caste, ethnicity, economic status, nobility, educational status into different strata together with grouping of people into the consequential ends leading to social unease. Further, the corruption and impunity worsen the structural violence in Sri Lankan socio political structures. People engaged in agricultural activities are entrapped in a vicious system of unfair resource allocation and production exploitation operating through intermediaries. The research concludes that the present form of mass tourism has also been organized to facilitate this nature of structural violence due to selective operations via the top-down approach, delimiting the capacity for agriculture in the research site. The paper also suggests that it is necessary to seek remedies to make use of mass tourism efficiently in order to increase the capacity of agro entrepreneurs to overcome the destructive force of structural violence.

Keywords: Agro-tourism, Grounded Theory, Structural violence, Agro-entrepreneurs

DOES MANAGEMENT GRADUATES' CAREER PREFERENCE HAVE AN IMPACT ON THEIR EMPLOYABILITY?

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This study was conducted with the aim of exploring the role of career preference factors in predicting the employability of management graduates. A survey was conducted based on a sample of 150 recently passed out graduates who were employed as entry level casual academic positions in state owned universities in Sri Lanka. Correlation and regression analysis techniques were used with the assistance of the version 24 of the SPSS software. The results found that graduate perceptions such as stability and expertise (willingness to have a secure job that provided opportunity to use the expertise gained through education) and variety and creativity (need of individuals for a career that allows them to work on a variety of different tasks that require them to use and develop a wide range of skills, abilities and knowledge in innovative and creatives ways) are positively related to the employability of graduates. Conversely, graduates' perceptions such as doing a managerial job, willingness to do a job with independence and autonomy do not have significant relationships with their employability. Consistent with the literature, the results indicate that graduates are concerned about their job security and seek opportunities to demonstrate skills and knowledge gained from their studies in choosing a career. Contrary to prior research, the graduates do not have expectations to be employed in managerial positions in which they can enjoy more authority moreover their willingness to have freedom on the job and autonomy in making decisions are not factors that determine their employability. The outcomes of this study support the predictions made by the integrated model of graduate employability of Coetzee. The implications of the study are also discussed.

Keywords: *graduates, career preference, employability*

**THE HOT AND COLD CONCEPT AND ITS IMPACT ON
UNDERGRADUATES' HEALTH BEHAVIOUR WITH REFERENCE
TO ARTS FACULTY UNDERGRADUATES, UNIVERSITY OF
PERADENIYA**

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The hot and cold concept is a prominent element of the traditional medical systems found all over the world. It is used in preventive, curative, promotive as well as in rehabilitative aspects of health by people around the world. The objective of this study was to identify how undergraduates practice hot and cold concept in their daily life. A qualitative study was conducted in the Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya. Ten undergraduates were selected as respondents by applying purposive sampling technique to conduct in-depth interviews. And thematic analysis was used to analyze the collected data. According to the study findings, hot and cold concept has impacted on undergraduates' health behavior. It includes the health behavior related to food and beverages, diseases, bodily conditions, climate and seasons, time-period, bathing, clothing, and medicine. Undergraduates categorized food and beverages as hot or cold depending on how each food item impact the human body. They classified vegetables, spices, fruits, green leaves, grains, oil varieties, yams, dairy products, beverages, meat, and seafood items based on the hot or cold concept. Health behaviors related to bodily conditions describe how the respondents categorized their bodies as hot or cold. It describes their view on how bodily conditions make the differences in influencing the same causes as roots for the diseases where hot or cold nature of other elements and forces in the environment affect differently on them. Further, the study discovered how undergraduates' health behavior changes according to the climate and seasons. This included how they change their clothing, bathing, and food choices during hot and cold seasons. And the nature of medical substances and undergraduate's health behavior related to it also was uncovered in the study. Based on the study findings it is concluded that, undergraduates had awareness on hot and cold concept, classifications and balancing hot or cold nature in the human body. Further, undergraduates' health behavior and their choices of hot and cold concept were highly influenced by the existing facilities within the university, which include canteen facilities and medical facilities. This makes limitations in their choices and it creates a gap between the knowledge of hot and cold concept and its practice among undergraduates.

Keywords: Hot and cold concept, Undergraduates, Health behaviour

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CULTURE, ECO – TOURISM AND WETLANDS IN SRI LANKA: A CASE STUDY IN MADU GANGA ESTUARY

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Estuaries are specific eco–systems that particularly contribute to the ecological balance as well as bio–diversity. Located in the Southern province of Sri Lanka, the Madu Ganga estuary surrounded by strategic tourist attraction sites is that kind of estuary. This estuary-based tourism industry while being embedded in the cultural identity of the area also creates a specific culture which homogenizes the local values. In this background, present study was utilized with the objective of analyzing the eco–social impacts of tourism in the Madu ganga estuary. Ten in–depth interviews, twenty informal discussions, one focus group interview and non–participatory simple observations were administered to collect the primary data for the study. Apart from that secondary data collected from academic documents were also used. The study revealed that tourism has become the main income earning activity of the majority in the community, particularly the new generation of youth. Before this occupational transformation, the community was traditionally bound to the fishing industry inherited from previous generations. The human activities which are based on political economy have negatively impacted the environmental sustainability and vice versa. Natural habitats of animals as well as endemic plants are threatened with the unethical environmental manipulation. The culture that has been created with the popularity of tourism industry has created unexpected social and environmental outcomes. Apart from that, a unique culture of the study area which attracts tourists has to be protected for the future generations. The wetland studied must be conserved for sustaining the environmental as well as the socio–cultural well-being of the country.

Keywords: Culture, Eco–Tourism, Livelihoods, Political Economy

**A STUDY OF KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES TOWARDS
RISK FACTORS AND EARLY DETECTION OF NON-
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AMONG EMPLOYEES: WITH
SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SEMI-GOVERNMENT SECTOR
EMPLOYEES**

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Health and labour forceS are the keys for secure and sustainable economic development in a country. Poor health is a hurdle towards developing or using skills, and then improving health could raise labour force participation and economic output. Therefore, health is one of the most important assets of a labour force. At present, health is considered a risk factor for human being because of unexpected diseases. Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are a huge disease burden and have a substantial impact on individuals, communities, and societies around the globe. Then, NCDs are increasingly acting as a constraint in forming a healthy labour force in Sri Lanka. This study was undertaken to explore the awareness, attitudes and practices of semi-government sector employees regarding NCDs and their risk factors. However recently NCDs have been identified as the most common health problem among many aged working populations. The Census and Statistics Department of Sri Lanka estimated that among the 8.2 million (2019) employed people NCDs related deaths were accounted for 83% from all of the deaths in Sri Lanka. The main objective of the study was to understand the awareness of knowledge and attitudes toward risk factors and early detection of NCDs among employees. This study was based on primary data which was obtained from semi-government sector employees. This research was conducted using a mixed method and it included both qualitative and quantitative approaches. Data was collected using questionnaire and secondary data was obtained from statistical reports, journals and websites. Data was analyzed using SPSS. These research findings indicate that high risk factors listed among employees and the majority of them are between age 35- 49 age group category. Among them the majority of the employees suffer from high blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes. Most employees do not have sufficient knowledge and attitudes on preventing these types of diseases and NCDs related risk factors. As well as responsible authorities still do not have a proper agenda to prevent these high risk diseases. Guidance from the government regarding potential schemes and policies along with continued awareness programmes may be required to improve the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases in this community.

Keywords: *Non Communicable Diseases, Risk Factors, Early Detection, Semi Government Sector*

CHALLENGES TO GREEN URBAN PLANNING IN KANDY

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Green urban planning is popular as a useful tool to create beneficial urban communities, to both people and the environment, by minimizing consumption. As a new concept, it brings together scholars, policymakers, and practitioners to look at innovative approaches to mitigate the adverse impacts of urbanization. As an emerging field in the urban planning arena, green urban planning application has created lots of controversies that are needed to be sorted out immediately to generate positive consequences. Therefore, identification of challenges towards green planning and finding feasible solutions would essentially help to achieve sustainability in cities. It was found that the downward spiral in the Kandy urban development blueprints was inevitable due to the lack of firm intervention to support sustainable solutions and encourage green aptitude in urbanism among city planners. Hence this research makes an attempt to explore challenges towards implementing green planning interventions in Kandy. The methodology used in this study is a qualitative inquiry. A survey that utilized a semi-structured questionnaire and face-to-face interviews were conducted with key informants in Kandy UDA and KMC. A perceptual study was incorporated by interviewing permanent residents and daily travellers in KMC area selected through the convenience sampling technique. The study found lack of awareness on urban planning in Kandy among the travelers and residents. While giving more weight on physical planning, they depicted very narrow understanding on green concept. Key informant interviews revealed five major challenges towards green planning in Kandy. The first and foremost one is lack of funds since the government fund allocations are inadequate to introduce new urban planning associated with technological advancements to the city. Other findings include inadequate collaboration between responsible authorities and planners, lack of an applicable knowledge base among professionals and informational gap between stakeholders and authorities. The challenges unmasked by this study suggests that the green city concept is still new to the Kandy urban planning platform though it has been successfully incorporated by many South Asian countries. Experts who engage in urban planning require indepth understanding on the theoretical dimensions of the green city planning concept and green infrastructure planning. In conclusion, it can be stated that the green light is really dim at the moment in the Kandy urban planning mechanism. It is essential to push forward the green infrastructure planning as an economically and environmentally viable planning process.

Keywords: Green, Urban Planning, Kandy

ASSESSING THE FLOOD HAZARD IN THE KURUNEGALA DISTRICT

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According to the *Hazard Profiles* of Sri Lanka, the flood is the most destructive hazard in the country. In this study only, the hazard component of the risk equation was assessed for floods for Kurunegala district. The overall objective of the study was to assess the flood hazard and its significance in the Kurunegala district which is in the fourth place in the reported number of flood events in Sri Lanka. The study aimed to identify the flood hazardous Grama Niladari Divisions (GNDs) in the district, based on the intensity and probability of flood events. Secondary data on the previous flood events and the affected number of persons were collected for the period of 2008–2016. Data analysis was done using univariate data analysis techniques such as variance, mean, standard deviation and percentile calculations using Microsoft Excel. The spatial data analysis was done using GIS techniques. From the total of 1610 GNDs in the district, floods have occurred in 323 GNDs within the study period. Six flood events with a probability of 0.75 have been reported only in Dummalasuriy GND. Likewise, five events with a probability of 0.63 have been reported in Hettipola, Nammuwawa and Kattimahana GNDs. In 27 GNDs, four flood events have been reported with a probability of 0.50, while 48 GNDs have reported three flood events with a probability of 0.38, 97 GNDs have reported two events (P-0.25) and 147 GNDs have reported one event (P-0.13). The maximum number of flood-affected persons was reported as 2282 in Gatulawa in Bingiriya Divisional Secretary Division (DSD) while 1982 people were affected in Makeliyawa in Kobeigane DSD. In addition to that, people have been affected in various GNDs such as Marandagolla (1540), Kadigawa-track 03 (1517), Molaeliya (1342), Mallawapitiya (1300), Ebawalapitiya (1037), Urapoththa (1023) and Kattimahana (1011). According to the percentile calculation, 99% of all the flood-affected persons are below 1534.48, while 90% are below 345.4, 75% are below 173, and 50% are below 70. Consequently, in most of the flood hazardous GNDs, a lesser number of people have been affected while in limited GNDs, a higher number of people have been affected. However, the entire district was studied by GNDs on behalf of flood hazard, based on probability and intensity. This result will benefit the disaster managers to select the priority areas in finding solutions to floods and researchers to develop a methodology for flood hazard assessment.

Keywords: Affected people, Flood, Hazard, Risk.

THE PROBLEMS IN WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DUE TO WATER SCARCITY IN SENANAYAKE RESERVOIR: SPECIAL REFERENCES TO SELECTED GNDs OF AMPARA DISTRICT

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Water is a precious natural resource, vital for sustaining all life on Earth. It is impossible to get an equal amount of water throughout the year. Water scarcity is one of the factors that pose challenges for Water resource management in the Senanayake reservoir. As a result, it has been increased in Valathaputti-1, Buddangala and Nintavur-23 GNDs of Ampara district. The objective of this study was to examine the problems in water resource management due to Water scarcity in the Study area. Both primary and secondary data collection methods were utilized for this study. 150 samples were selected under the random sampling method from three GNDs of Sammanthurai and Nintavur DS divisions. In addition to that, primary data were collected by conducting interviews and field observations. Secondary data was collected from relevant authorities. All the data were subjected to analysis with SPSS 21.0, Arc GIS 10.3 software and MS Excel. It was found that rainfall and temperature variability have directly affected the Water scarcity in the Senanayake reservoir. In addition, deforestation, population growth and improper maintenance of canals have also caused water scarcity in the area which in turn has caused negative socioeconomic and environmental impacts on the Study Area. Finally, the study found various challenges behind water resource management due to water scarcity. Lack of storing capacity of the reservoir and tanks, land cover and land use changes, shortage of supply of water through the Senanayake reservoir, increasing demand for water in the study area, and lack of knowledge on environment assessment by the people were found to be challenges for water resource management in the area. As a solution, the research recommends establishing the rain harvesting system in the study area. The study recommends proper management and maintenance of the quantity and quality water under different users through proper awareness.

Keywords: Water scarcity, Water Resource Management, Reservoir

CHALLENGES IN THE TRADITIONAL CINNAMON CULTIVATION: THE CASE OF BERAGAMA CINNAMON VILLAGE IN MATARA, SRI LANKA

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This study identifies the challenges of traditional cinnamon cultivation in Sri Lanka by paying special attention to the Beragama cinnamon village. Though Sri Lanka produces the world's greatest quality cinnamon (*Cinnamomum zeylanicum* blume), this traditional caste-based labor-intensive cinnamon producing process is endangered in the face of the modernization process of agriculture. In 2017, Sri Lanka exported 16,967 MT and earned 33,342 Million Rupees from cinnamon. Though it has a well-developed value and marketing chain, the earnings of the cinnamon farmers and the laborers who process the cinnamon from the farms to the local market is very low while, second and third value-adding processes and trading companies earn more. On the other hand, skilled laborers are moving away from the cinnamon process for easy jobs expecting a better salary and dignity. Consequently, the young generation is highly dissatisfied with cinnamon cultivation and there are no new machines or technology to process the cinnamon from the ground to the market. Hence, systematic modernization transformations are much needed. This case study adopted a mixed-method using both primary and secondary data. The study village 'Beragama' is located in Beragama West GND in Mulatiyana DSD of the Matara District in Sri Lanka. Thirty cinnamon producing families have been interviewed. Several focus-group discussions and key-informant discussions have been conducted to collect qualitative data. Data identification was done using sources from institutions, books, magazines, newspapers, brochures and the Internet. Information on cinnamon cultivation was collected from the Department of Export Agriculture, Thihagoda Cinnamon Research Center, Mulatiyana Divisional Secretariat. According to the analysis, the challenges in cinnamon cultivation were identified under three determinants. Those are the cultivation challenges, production challenges, and market challenges. Lack of skilled manpower, non-availability of other cinnamon products, aging cultivation, fragmentation of land, lack of proper land ownership, lack of proper price for cinnamon and lack of access to new technology were identified challenges under the above categories. Adding new technology to traditional cinnamon cultivation can improve the quality of cinnamon products, thereby increasing the demand for Sri Lankan cinnamon in the world market.

Keywords: Traditional cinnamon cultivation, Production challenges, Market challenges

USING GIS FOR TAMIL CULTURAL DATA MANAGEMENT: AN APPLICATION IN THE EASTERN PROVINCE OF SRI LANKA

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The research areas of literature and humanities significantly rely on information and source materials gathered from various places. Oral history collection is an important aspect of data collection in any research in this domain. Another mostly encountered data source is in the form of stone inscriptions of cultural and historical significance. In most cases, the places of origin of these cultural data sources are of importance due to their ability to contextually inform about the data. It is not only the place of collection that is useful, but also any other place that could have been mentioned as part of a cultural piece can also form part of a broader narrative. In the context of Tamil culture of Sri Lanka, it can be observed that there are significant challenges in identifying before the patterns from existing research and the gaps for potential research possibilities within a geographical region. Most of the existing culturally relevant data in the form of oral history recordings or readings from inscriptions are not accurately correlated to relevant geographical identifiers. Even though some relevant research outcomes are available in the form of books, journals, and research articles, until they are mapped to relevant places of regions, it is not possible to answer any wide-reaching research questions or observe informative patterns about history and culture. In this research, we propose a technological solution that would enable researchers to tag relevant data points from collected data with a GIS-based location identifier. This system can also be used to classify existing research outcomes onto the same shared location information. The resulting information base can provide an overview of patterns from collected data points correlating to locational points. As a collated data source, it can inform of possible patterns of problems or issues specific to a place, that may not be readily identified, but cursorily mentioned in the data as related to a different problem. The current phase of research explores data collected from the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka. The Eastern Province was chosen due to its significant internal cultural diversity of Tamil culture, with ancient worshipping methods, *vadamodithenmodi koothu* dance traditions, epigraphical inscriptions, and indigenous medicine. It is envisaged that the proposed framework will be later expanded to include other parts of Sri Lanka and elsewhere.

Keywords: Spatial Humanities, Geographical Information System (GIS), Web-GIS, Tamil Culture, Cultural Repository

THE SPATIAL PATTERN OF LAND VALUES IN KANDY CITY – 2019

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A city is a place which functions towards attracting people and the number of functions and the population have a dialectical relationship in which each grows because of the other. Increasing functions and population in city areas create desire to purchase land within the city limit and the increasing consumption of lands causes land scarcity. The increasing demand for land causes the land value to rise. Generally land value is high at the city centre and it gradually decreases with the increasing distance from the city center. This trend cannot be seen in all cities which have peculiar land use patterns and socio-cultural practices. Kandy City was selected for the study since it is a city in Sri Lanka with complex features, factors and processes. Kandy is a heritage city which also has ecological and socio-economic significance. It shows a clear zonation of institutional, commercial, cultural, residential, recreational, and ecological functions. So it has different land values in each zone. The main objective of this study is to examine the spatial pattern of land value in Kandy city for the year 2019 and discuss the factors associated. The study was predominantly quantitative that used numerical primary data gathered through a questionnaire survey and key informant interviews. The secondary data were mainly gathered from websites. The survey also used spatial data, taken from the Open Street Map. Interpolation and overlay analysis were done on the gathered data using the Geographical Information System. The land values in Mahanuwara where the Central-Business-District is, has the highest value due to high accessibility to services. The distant areas from the Grid City, the city-core, along 'A' grade roads towards Katugastota in the North-west and Peradeniya in the South-west corners which are in the city limits have gained high land values due to the available transportation facilities which avoid the time hassle. Buwelikada (Kundasale) in the South-east quadrant and Katugastota areas are getting urbanized due to their lower land values. From this spatial pattern of land values, it can be observed a formation of new towns in Peradeniya, Kundasale and Katugastota. The slope, climate and natural features increase the land values in the elevated areas of the city. The world heritage locale and the ethnic coexistence in Kandy City have a positive impact on land values while the social stratification and the social limits have negative impacts in Suduhumpala and Nagastenna. Although the Kandy City develops along the transportation routes, it is not uniform due to its natural and cultural aspects.

Keywords: Land-value, City-core, Suburb, Time-hassle

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MINDFUL SELF-COMPASSION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WELLBEING

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Mindful Self-Compassion is a well-designed program that teaches us how we are touched by and open to our suffering. It generates the desire to alleviate one's suffering and to heal oneself with kindness. It also involves non-judgmental understanding of one's pain, weakness, failure, and so on. All these experiences can be seen as part of human experience. This paper explores different practices in MSC including how to apply it in our daily life. The concept of self-compassion is relatively new to people in modern times. So far, the Mindful Self-Compassion (MSC) program is the only one that studies and investigates self-compassion thoroughly. The practice of compassion does not mean focusing our concentration on a particular object or keeping a non-judgmental awareness of the present-moment experience, but on the cultivation of specific emotions and attitudes such as openness, kindness, gentleness, warmth etc. that ultimately lead to individual and collective flourishing, to foster a deep, genuine, authentic, and embodied empathic concern in the face of suffering, together with a committed intention to ease all kinds of suffering. This paper provides an overview of theory and self-compassion and its link to psychological wellbeing. It will discuss what self-compassion is and the common misunderstanding of self-compassion, then provide empirical evidence to support these distinctions, and explore two sides of self-compassion (Yin and Yang) what the core practices are in MSC program. The practice of compassion and self-compassion can impact our emotions and enhance our capacity to face difficulties and challenging situations in our life. If one reduces self-criticism, self-denial, self-blaming, self-judgment, fully accepting the imperfect self as it is, it will definitely increase one's psychological wellbeing and happiness.

Keywords: Compassion, Common humanity, Mindfulness, Self-compassion, Self-kindness

THE MEANINGFULNESS OF PROPOSITIONS WITH REFERENCE TO THE VERIFICATION THEORY OF LOGICAL POSITIVISM

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Logical Positivism is the third paradigm of Analytical Philosophy; from Bertrand Russell to the later Wittgenstein, analytical thinkers have centered language as the main inquiry into their philosophical investigations. In particular, the Logical Positivists asserted a theory, known as the Theory of Verification. Russell emphasized that the meaning of a proposition always depends on its verifiability. He did not use that in a theoretical way. However, that project was completed by early Wittgenstein in his *Tractatus* and as a theory it was rejected by the Logical Positivists: Moritz, Canap, Weismann, Philip Frank, Popper, A. J. Ayer were key thinkers, believed that Philosophy should also give reliable knowledge like science. On the whole, Verification theory is the result of that project. They proposed a non-natural (logical) language and explained the principles adapting that into a slit way ‘the meaning of a factual statement is its method of verification’. It indicates that a factual statement must be represented by corresponding them to objects in the outer world. Otherwise the proposition is considered to be Meaningless. In this sense, ethical, metaphysical and religious statements are eradicated because they have no factual correspondence at all. This theory inquires in to the inner epistemological relation of language and its relation to the outer world following the linguistic approach instead of the reality approach. However, this contrast with the later Wittgenstein’s idea of that ‘meaning of a statement is in its use’. This research paper goes into a detailed study of the Logical Positivists’ main thesis based on verification theories; practical, theoretical, direct, indirect, weak and strong verifications. In addition, this paper attempts to interpret the factual relationship between objects and language considering some problems: can it be justified that ethical or metaphysical statements should be understood on this theory and what is the limit of doing that and so on. Analytical and description methods would be used in this research paper discuss a specific idea. Particularly, this research can benefit modern applications of linguistic philosophy.

Keywords: Logical Positivism, Propositions, Statement, Verification Theory

DECONSTRUCTION OF THE TRANSCENDENTAL SIGNIFIED IN PARAMĀRTHA-SATYA OF MĀDHYAMAKA SCHOOL OF BUDDHISM

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Nāgārjuna, the founder of the Madhyamaka tradition, does not distance himself from the early Buddhist notion of Nirvāṇa, where no amount of theorizing is applicable for very term, as it is it is beyond words, logic and reasoning (Atakkāvacara). Thus, Nirvāṇa is ineffable and incommunicable, the absolute reality realized through the highest mental training and wisdom, is beyond any cosmic experience and is beyond the reach of speech. Jacques Derrida came up with the idea of the “transcendental signified” that is a signified which transcends all signifiers. According to Derrida, any transcendental signified becomes metaphysics of presence that needs to be deconstructed, according to Derrida. In this study the critique of Derrida on Western philosophy is applied to Madhyamaka school’s claim on Nirvāṇa. Hermeneutic examination and deconstruction are used as the methodologies of the study. Critically evaluating and deconstruction of the Paramārtha-Satya showcasing aporia in it through depicting the presence of the transcendental signified, is the chief objective of the work. It is concluded that the central presence or full presence of Nirvāṇa in Madhyamaka school is deconstructible as it has no relation to anything in the contingent world. In accordance with Derrida’s idea, of “totalization”, desire to have a system, a theory, a philosophy, that gives remedy for everything, like in Niravana, creates a center. No such reconciliation or synthesis is possible and totalization of the project is impossible. Paramārtha-Satya is not a possibility as it castoffs the infinite play of signifiers. Nirvāṇa is the center or rationality and is irreplaceable and special. Negation plays nothing in Nirvāṇa and it cannot be defined in relation to other phenomena, by negative values. The idea of Nirvāṇa becomes a transcendental signified as it would be the ultimate source of meaning, as no other phenomenal thing, by any adequate signifier, can be substituted to the Paramārtha-Satya. The Ineffable Nirvāṇa of Nāgārjuna, its pure presence, the essence of the signified, shall be deconstructed as Nirvāṇa a signifier, the expression in the text, is free from the signified. The remoteness of a signifier from the signified, the difference between the textual meaning and the reality of Nirvāṇa, is deconstructible, as the signifier is unable, or may only be barely able, to reflect the presence of the signified.

Keywords: Nirvāṇa, Nāgārjuna, Madhyamaka school, Transcendental signified, Deconstruction

PHILOSOPHY OF DEMAMONAIZATION

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Since neoliberalism is in the process of establishing 'free, possessive individualism' there is a need to understand the epitome of neoliberalism and work for alternatives. How do people challenge neoliberalism through critical episteme? This research study is a qualitative case study of activists in Sri Lanka who apply critical episteme in their activities and life. The research problem is what would be an authentic episteme for human emancipation? I call 'Episteme of Neoliberalism' as Mammonaization. Bastian Wielenga explains 'mammon' as 'capitalism' in his book, 'Labour Serving God or Mammon'. He mentions that Karl Marx analyzed the laws and mechanisms by which capital rules and enslaves the whole of society and at certain points he denounces this slave – master as 'Mammon' or 'moloch'. What kind of episteme prevails in the sphere of life? The successful entrepreneur, sovereign consumer and hard-working taxpayer, these are key players in the capitalist game today. How do we understand neoliberalism? Neoliberalism is a theory of political economic practices. Human well-being can be advanced to high stage by liberating individual entrepreneurial freedoms. It is clear that episteme created an institution of free market for the betterment of individual at the cost of structures and value systems. Though democracy, morality and so on are important, neoliberal episteme does not give adequate importance to it. For Harvey, neoliberalism is not only economic policy and hard-nosed politics but it actually frames the meaning of everyday reality for people. It is appropriate to note the neoliberal rationality of Wendy Brown. In 'Undoing the Demos: Neoliberalism's Stealth Revolution' Brown helps the reader to gain an understanding of dismantling of democracy and the rise of moral critique in the form of populism. What kind of episteme of love we have now under neoliberalism? Love of a mother made to measure under the mechanism of individualism, consumerism and so on. The critical conscious building through questioning and dialogue need to be reintroduced to own an episteme of emancipation. At present we have no other option than declare 'Death of homo oeconomicus.' Since episteme of neoliberalism made human beings to get addicted and die for mammonaization it is important to die as an economic man and the resurrected with the episteme of emancipation.

Keywords: Neoliberalism, Dememmonaization, Death of Homo Oeconomicus

A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON MANAGEMENT OF THOUGHTS AS DEPICTED IN POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY AND BUDDHIST PSYCHOLOGY

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Founders of religions, philosophers, intellectuals and psychologists have attempted to study and guide human beings to identify and manage thoughts positively in order to lead a successful life. Amongst such attempts, Buddhist Psychology and Positive Psychology are prominent as they consist of pragmatic analyses and strategies. This study on management of thought is conducted giving priority to such investigations. The research problem is, to what extent Buddhist psychological teachings could be adopted in the management of thought in comparison with the teachings in Positive Psychology. This research paper is developed as a comparative study on thought management taught in positive psychology and Buddhism referring to primary sources and secondary sources available in libraries and websites. Cessation of suffering taught in Buddhism is connected with achievement at two levels as mundane and supra-mundane. Both aspects consider the development of spirituality focusing on the activity of the mind. Under Positive Psychology, how wholesome thoughts are developed, how the mind can be preserved from wrong thoughts, the power of thoughts and achieving goals of life etc. are discussed. While Western Positive Psychology has developed teachings on managing thoughts with the prime purpose of leading a better worldly life concentrating on the progress of human beings, Buddhist teachings aim at the progress of man with the whole universe. Buddhism, being of the holistic view on man and the universe, focuses on the well-being of the entire universe inclusive of both the living and non-living entities. Further, it also guides one towards spiritual progress and the entire purification of the mind.

Keywords: Positive Psychology, Buddhist Psychology, Science of Mind, Spiritual Progress, Management of Thoughts

THE CONCEPT SACCAKIRIYA IN BUDDHISM AS A TREATMENT FOR MENTAL ILLNESS BEYOND PSYCHOTHERAPY

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According to the interpretation given by the American Psychological Association, psychotherapy is a way to help people with a broad variety of mental illnesses and emotional difficulties. Further, it is known as “talk therapy.” In Buddhism, the concept known as “Saccakiriya” also has similar characteristics. Psychotherapy can help eradicate or control troubling symptoms so that a person can function better and increase well-being and healing. There are several different types of psychotherapy and some types may work better with certain problems or issues. Psychiatrists and other mental health professionals use several types of therapy. The choice of therapy type depends on the nature of the patient’s particular illness and circumstances and his or her preference. Therapists may combine elements from different approaches to best meet the needs of the person receiving treatment. Yet, the concept “Saccakiriya” has a different aspect of psychotherapy. “Saccakiriya” is a concept somewhat difficult to be rendered into English with all its nuances. Simply expressed, it refers to a declaration on oath, an asseveration of truth, solemnly performed to the effect that “if such and such is the case truly and truthfully, such and such a thing should come to pass.” The concept “Saccakiriya” is a motif found in the stories of the Pali canon and commentaries, as well as in the post canonical works such as Milindapañha. In addition, the facts related to Buddhist history indicate that “Saccakiriya” is a unique aspect of psychotherapy that Western psychology has not paid attention to. In this research paper, psychotherapeutic significance and the uniqueness of the concept “Saccakiriya” are discussed.

Keywords: Psychotherapy, Saccakiriya, Sīlaguṇa, Saccaguṇa, Talk therapy

THE REASONS FOR DROPOUTS FROM FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAMS

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Family Strengthening Approach (FSA) means total development of the family system at community level for enhancing child and family wellbeing and deinstitutionalizing children to promote family and community level intervention in Sri Lanka. The FSA for the provision of care and welfare of children and families has become an increasingly important paradigm in the recent decades. It defines family support as both a style of work and a set of activities; which reinforce positive, informal social networks through an integrated program; combining statutory, voluntary, community and private services that primarily focus on early intervention across a range of levels with the aim of promoting and protecting the health, wellbeing and rights of all children and young people in their own homes and communities, with particular attention paid to those who are vulnerable or at risk. The purpose of the study was to understand the reasons for family dropouts from selected four Family Strengthening Programs. A mix methodology was adopted for collecting data. A quantitative sample household survey was conducted with in-depth qualitative data collected for eliciting the survey findings. The survey focused on 1% with total enumeration of a list of 60 identified family dropouts from 1500 selected families for the FSP. Case studies, semi-structured key informant interviews and focused group discussion were covered for collecting qualitative data. Reasons for family drop out were explored by triangulating the evidences from document review, survey, and qualitative data. This study findings reveal that the family support approach made significant changes especially in the education of children. Educational program activities were well embedded in the FSP when compared to other services. 71% of drop out families felt that service delivery was helpful to their families. The following are the reasons for dropout: facilitation is not through reflective practice or in line with FSA, small group conflict and irregular attendance of parents. Statistical analysis of P value reveals that the type of family is not significant to identify nuclear or extended family system and is not the cause for parental participation.

Keywords: Family dropouts, Family Strengthening Approach

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**ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF DISADVANTAGED WOMEN
THROUGH MICROCREDIT: A CASE STUDY OF THESAWALAMAI
GOVERNED WOMEN-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS IN POST-ARMED
CONFLICT NORTHERN PROVINCE OF SRI LANKA**

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Microfinance is a tool that helps the poor who cannot resort to formal banking services to get credit facilities to improve their income-generating activities. Women are generally targeted by microfinance institutions (MFIs) as they often engage in income-generating activities for their household. In a post-armed conflict context, where Women-Headed Household (WHH) has become a standard feature as war often leaves more women alive than men, microcredit plays a vital role in re-building the life of the people and the economy of a nation. Yet, as far as the Sri Lankan context is concerned, despite the enactment of Microfinance Act No. 6 of 2016. This informal banking service continues to have adverse effects on the livelihood of women. This is due to the policy and practice of MFIs that focus more on the economic outcome rather than the social impact. In this context, this study focuses explicitly on *Thesawalamai* law as it is gender-biased. Since, women are required to get the written consent of their husbands to dispose their immovable property, and they do not have the right to access the credit facilities from banks without their husbands' signature. The problem identified by this paper is that the gender discriminatory provisions of *Thesawalamai* in controlling land and other economic resources, including credit from state banks, have severely impacted the economic empowerment of many women. The hypothesis is framed to test whether the denial of their rights to land and access credit facilities from banks compel them to obtain microcredit facilities for their survival. This paper draws upon a third world feminist approach to correlate the deprivation of land rights with access to microcredit and identifies the means to enhance sustainable economic empowerment of the WHH in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. Based on a desk-based analysis and a semi-structured questionnaire issued to purposively selected 30 respondents, the hypothesis is positively tested by a descriptive study. This research recommends a strong legal regime to engender the land rights in the *Thesawalamai* law and to regulate unlicensed MFIs which negatively impact women empowerment. Since the armed conflict has transformed the role of women to head their families, this paper underscores the necessity of providing more awareness on the legal accounting and risk management aspects of obtaining credit from MFIs for sustainable economic empowerment of women.

Keywords: Microcredit, Right to land, Economic empowerment, Women Headed Households, Post-armed conflict

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION (RTI) ACT IN SRI
LANKA: A STUDY OF IMPLEMENTATION IN LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN
THE VAVUNIYA DIVISIONAL SECRETARIAT OF THE VAVUNIYA
DISTRICT SECRETARIAT**

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The Right to Information (RTI) Act was enacted in the year 2016, forecasting a country free from corruption, a culture of transparency and high public participation in governance. The annual progress report of the RTI commission and the existing literature revealed that national level impediments in implementing the RTI from the uppermost level, and the requirement of the pathway is identified for proper implementation from the perspective of grassroots level. Therefore, this research is designed to find the factors affecting the proper implementation of the RTI Act in the Vavuniya divisional secretariat of Vavuniya District, Sri Lanka. The findings of the research are thematically analyzed and summarized from the qualitative data collected from focused group discussions (FGD) with RTI applicants and Key Informant Interviews (KII) with Information and designation officers from the public and local authorities in the Vavuniya Divisional Secretariat. The KII showed inadequate and infrequency of training on RTI mechanism as one of the significant factors. Recession of action against applicants who misappropriated the RTI against the local authority was emphasized as the impediment from the perspective of local authorities. The better allocation of resources to update the website promptly to foster a culture of transparency was suggested. Encouraging non-government organizations that engaged towards the better implementation of the RTI was also a valid recommendation from the KIIs. FGD pointed out the behavior of the relevant officers in the form of Delay or negligence of acknowledging RTI requests, revenge taken personally by the relevant government officers, negligence of RTI requests, ball passing, disrespectful behavior of the information officer, threatening, as the factors affected the community to use the RTI properly. FGD appreciates the existing service extended by third-party organizations such as Transparency International in terms of conducting awareness programs at village level which provided proper guidance to get the information through the RTI mechanism. The FGD suggests the RTIC should take measures to exercise section 14 and 15 of the RTI Act. The FGD reveals that despite the order issued by the RTIC, there is negligence in providing information when the community needs further legal advice..

Keywords: RTI mechanism, Implementation, Impediments, Vavuniya

I express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Sarjoon, Senior Lecturer at the University of Peradeniya, who guided in completing the study. I thank the KII and FGD participants who have provided their valuable thoughts and facts for this research

THE STATUS OF AGENCY IN TEACHER IDENTITY TOWARDS THE DELIVERANCE OF EFFECTIVE LANGUAGE TEACHING: A STUDY BASED ON ELT IN SRI LANKAN STATE UNIVERSITIES

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Identity is a multifaceted, complicated notion involving dynamic linguistic, cultural and social negotiation. Many language practitioners perceive identity as a notion to differentiate one another, to position oneself among others and more importantly to identify oneself in a unique manner. However, the question lies on the necessity of the notion of identity in language teaching. Language practitioners try numerous methods to make their teaching effective. Yet, a handful of methods could result in achieving the aforementioned. If identity is linked to this discussion, it could be understood that a teacher's way of perceiving the language, curriculum, perspectives and attitudes, the learning environment he/she creates, and how the curriculum is delivered to the learners is shaped by the teacher's identity. A commonly evident fact in language classrooms, especially in the Sri Lankan universities is absenteeism and lack of interest. Thus, it could be noted that the teacher has a considerable responsibility towards mitigating the aforementioned issues. A language practitioner's adjustment made to suit the classroom is a process of identity. A majority of research findings depict that the lack of student interest is a result of ineffective teaching methods. Agency is significant in identity which refers to one's ability to do something at a given time. Agency is also the power that one could exert to position oneself in a certain way. Ten language practitioners from randomly selected state universities were interviewed to gather their views of their teaching practice. Additionally, a sample of twenty students were also interviewed in order to determine their learning experiences and their satisfaction of the classroom space. The findings reflected that a majority of teachers represented by the sample were restricted to the assigned identities and have not exercised their agency in positioning themselves in the classroom space as a result of the power exerted on them by senior and experienced individuals of the field. Thus teachers should exert agency in shaping his/her identity in order to create a more friendly atmosphere for learning.

Keywords: Agency, effective teaching, Identity, Interpersonal space, Learning experiences

EMPOWERMENT OF JUNIOR SECONDARY TEACHERS FOR 21ST CENTURY STEM EDUCATION

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STEM Education is the abridged version of four disciplines Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The acronym was coined at an interagency meeting on science education held at the US National Science Foundation in the 1980s and came into common parlance thereafter. This system is now considered as one of the most successful approaches in integrating science, technology, engineering and mathematics into education. Sri Lanka requires a dynamic, motivated and well-educated workforce endowed with STEM skills. When examining the literature, it is revealed that it is important that teachers be equipped in this regard as well as their professional development in order to achieve certain objectives of STEM education. The major barrier to implement the STEM education is the lack of qualified STEM teachers. In Sri Lanka the teacher plays a major role in the education system. Therefore, before introducing STEM education to the Sri Lankan education system, competencies of teachers on STEM related teaching, ought to be assessed for future interventions. The purpose of the research is to empower junior secondary teachers for the 21st century STEM education. The objectives are to review the presently available teacher competencies for STEM education, to identify the available teacher competencies in the Sri Lankan education system in-service teachers, to study the teacher professional development models for STEM teacher professional development and to prepare a suitable teacher professional development model for the Sri Lankan context. To achieve the objectives, sequential exploratory mixed methods research design will be used. Teacher competencies for STEM education in successful STEM countries such as Finland, Australia, America, China, and South Korea were identified through the literature review. Based on the identified competencies, relevant competencies for the Sri Lankan context were identified as a research finding. Thirdly a survey will be conducted with a purposively selected sample of 60 junior secondary science teachers in the Ampara district, who will be selected using the cluster sampling method, to identify their STEM related competencies which too will be a product of the research. Fourthly, based on the results of the survey, a draft teacher professional development model for STEM education will be introduced to five secondary junior science teachers based on the phenomenological case study research method. Based on the four-step research process, a new teacher development model on 21st century STEM education for Sri Lanka will be developed as the final product of the research.

Keywords: STEM education, Teacher competencies, Teacher development model

CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTING GENERAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN THE G.C.E (A/L) CURRICULUM

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This study attempts to understand the implementation of General Information Technology (GIT) in the G.C.E. A/L Curriculum. The specific objective of the study was to understand the challenges in the implementation of GIT in schools. The qualitative case study design was used in this study. Two schools in Kandy were selected using purposive sampling as GIT is taught in the two schools and they are in an area where there is easy access to computer learning centres. Data was collected using questionnaires, semi-structured interviews, and documents. The framework postulated by Fullan: interactive factors affecting implementation was used to analyze data. The following themes emerged in the analysis of challenges in the GIT implementation namely, contradictions with student needs, lack of awareness of the goals of GIT, weaknesses in teacher professional development programmes, failure to provide sufficient facilities to implement GIT, low enthusiasm of students and teachers, weak school administration, teacher's readiness for implementation of GIT, external support for the student and the negative attitudes of the community. The other factor which seems to affect implementation of GIT in schools was poor monitoring system of government and local bodies. Moreover, inadequacy of in-house resources available in the school at present, difficulties in finding financial resources for maintenance, difficulties in getting technical support emerged as the interacting factors which militate against implementation of GIT in schools. The above themes evidenced the interactive factors informed by Fullan: namely, characteristics of change, local characteristics and external factors. The main reason for the weak implementation of GIT appears to be the characteristics of change such as poor in-house resources, and the mismatch between the needs and goals of GIT. Furthermore, local characteristics such as negative attitudes of the school community and readiness of the teachers are other challenges faced by GIT teachers. External factors such as poor monitoring system by the Ministry of Education and Zonal office have become a challenge in implementing GIT in schools. Due to the above reasons both teachers and students were less enthusiastic in the implementation of GIT. The remedies that could be put in place to ensure successful implementation of GIT are: providing required resources, revising the syllabus to fulfill students' needs, invigorating the training of teachers to teach GIT, making the subject compulsory, issuing a nationally recognized certificate and having a proper monitoring system.

Keywords: General Information Technology, Information and Communication technology, Curriculum

CHALLENGES FACED BY THE ACADEMIC STAFF IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COUNSELING PROGRAMS IN SCHOOLS

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School counseling can be identified as one of the current trends very popular among School teachers, principals, parents and students. Therefore, the present study focuses on the challenges faced by school academic staff in the implementation of counseling programs in schools. Challenges reveal that troubles or any other inconvenience can happen. This research identifies academic challenges, social challenges and weaknesses prevailing in the system due to lack of sufficient facilities. Many researchers have followed the field of school counseling but without paying attention to its challenges and people's ideas for implementing the school counseling programs. This research paper aims to complete the Sri Lankan research gap through a new approach. The main aim of this research topic gives good guidance on academic development, career development, personal and social development of students through school counseling programs for school staff and parents. The other sub objectives are to identify the types of challenges for implementation counseling programs in schools and classify some barriers and problems faced by the academic staff to develop counseling in schools. The research utilized qualitative survey design as the research design and semi-structured interviews were also conducted. Ten participants were selected. They are academic staff including 7 teachers and 3 principles. The collected data were analyzed using thematic analysis (Five main themes namely; the views on school counseling, the necessity of school counseling programs, promoting the process of school counseling programs, the challenges in the implementation of school counseling programs, The significance of school counseling facilities, The awareness of various kinds of school counseling programs). Some of the problems that arise during the implementation of counselling are: lack of professional counselling teachers, lack of sufficient facilities, time and space problems, lack of awareness and knowledge about counselling amongst the academic staff. Finally, they should be given with some technical and systematical knowledge about school counseling programs. Then, this research is an exposure about the necessity and importance of the counseling programs in schools. Furthermore, school counseling programs can be categorized on the basis of student's age, teacher guidance, students' differences and mentality-based counseling programs and the national standard of counseling programs etc. Some counseling techniques are applied through the above counseling programs.

Keywords: Challenges, School counseling programs, Academic staff, Implementation

**AN ACTION RESEARCH TO IMPROVE THE KNOWLEDGE OF
TECHNICAL TERMS RELATING TO MATHEMATICS OF
BILINGUAL STUDENTS IN GRADE 7**

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Terminology in mathematics is often complex and the words used therein are endowed with meanings, which in most cases are completely different from their everyday usage. For instance, the words: root, similar, power, or and odd have a different sense from the usual meanings when used in mathematics. If students have a lack of understanding of the technical terms in mathematics, it will weaken their ability to solve multi-step problems. As the researcher observed, the students in the seventh-grade classroom struggle with solving sentence-based problems. The aim of the study was to help students to develop abilities to solve sentence-based problems. The action research methodology was adopted in this study. The specific objectives of the research were, to identify the current knowledge of technical terms relating to mathematics, to identify the methods that can be implemented to improve the knowledge of technical terms and to plan and implement strategies for improving the knowledge of technical terms related to mathematics. All the students in grade 7 bilingual class (English- Sinhala) of a type 1AB girls' school in Kandy district were selected as purposive research sample and three interventions were done in order to improve their knowledge regarding the technical terms of mathematics. Reflective journal, interviews, pre tests, post-tests and direct observations were utilized for data collection. Qualitative data were analyzed using themes while quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and graphs. It was revealed from the findings that more than 85% of the students were capable of providing the definite and the appropriate answers to the sentence based problems when they are empowered with the technical terms related to mathematics. And also students were confident to provide answers accurately to the mathematics related problems with the knowledge of the technical terms than before. In addition to the impact of learning vocabulary in problem solving, the research showed that the learning of vocabulary improve students communication and expression in mathematics and expanded their answers and reasoning for problem solving. It can be suggested from this research that, an action research methodology which is a qualitative approach, was a very good way to develop students abilities in word problem solving and to improve classroom practices.

Keywords: Bilingual, Mathematics, Technical terms

I wish to acknowledge Dr.E.K.S.K. Embekke for her guidance and supervision

UNDERSTANDING THE NECESSITY FOR CRITICAL AND CONTEXTUALIZED PEDAGOGICAL PRACTICES FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING OF ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE IN SRI LANKA: AN ANALYSIS OF SOME SELECT ENGLISH TEXTBOOKS

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Textbooks are the basis for teaching and learning of English (ELT) in Sri Lanka, and hence, they have a major influence on what takes place in the classroom. Textbooks are often revered as established doctrine consisting of unassailable and officially sanctioned truth and can become indoctrinating documents that influence the types of knowledge and attitudes students acquire and the attitudes students develop towards the language and learning and teaching process. Building on the argument that ELT is not only a linguistic process but also an ideological one, it is important that the English as a Second Language (ESL) textbooks reflect the multiplicity inherent in a heterogeneous society like Sri Lanka and engage students in a process of uncovering and confronting cultural and gender biases as opposed to perpetuating the dominance of hegemonic groups while developing positive attitudes towards the learning process without paving the way to learner and teacher opposition and resistance. The intention of this study is promoting the need for critical and contextualized pedagogic practices in ELT. This study attempts to determine the extent to which the Lankan ESL textbooks are sensitive to the needs of the Lankan students and are designed in ways which are receptive to and respectful of local classroom realities. In addition, it attempts to identify the ways in which the textbooks challenge the dominant (oppressive) normativity of the larger socio-political context with regard to gender, ethnicity, and religion. Both primary and secondary data is based on Pupils' English Textbooks of Grades 03, 05, 07, 08, 10, 11 and Advanced Level that are taught in Sri Lankan schools. Lesson materials that are symptomatic of the absence and presence of culture and gender sensitivity are examined in order to derive conclusions. Hence, the research is largely qualitative. Moreover, the theoretical framework is based on the scholarly works of researchers such as S.Canagarajah, T.Kandiah, A.Parakrama, L.Cumaranatunga, P. Freire and E.Shohamy. A close examination of the select textbooks reveals that textbooks have not only failed to combat prejudices and biases against minorities and women, but they have promoted and perpetuated such prejudices and biases without making an attempt to challenge and problematize them. Therefore, the conclusions emphasize that there is a need for an adoption of critical and contextualized pedagogic approaches in the select textbooks. It is neither possible nor desirable to separate the linguistic aspect of a language from its surrounding ideologies. Thus, there is a need to redesign textbooks taking into account the equity pedagogy so that students of all ethnic, religious, social, and gender backgrounds achieve their learning targets while developing inclusive and tolerant attitudes.

Keywords: ESL Textbooks, ELT Practice, Contextualization, Ideologies, Sri Lanka

We wish to acknowledge Mrs. C. Jayaweera for her guidance and assistance.

THE AWARENESS OF QUALITY ASSUARANCE PROCESS IN SRI LANKAN SCHOOLS AMONG EDUCATIONAL OFFICERS

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Quality assurance (QA) is a systematic process to see whether a product or service is being developed in order to meet specified set of requirements. The QA process is mainly divided into internal and external evaluation. Internal evaluation is conducted at the school level, while zones, provinces and the Ministry of Education (MoE) lead the external evaluation. Even though certain initiatives have been introduced to QA in the school system, the evaluation process is not up to expected levels. As the officers' role is very important in the implementation of QA at school level, the objectives of the study are to investigate the QA methods the officers are aware of, their level of awareness and problems of awareness. The methodological approach of this study used mixed methods. The population of the sample targeted in the study was Sri Lanka Education Administration officers working in the provinces. In this study, questionnaires were distributed among 68 officers, selected from five provinces through stratified random sampling technique and 10 officers were purposely selected for the interviews. Questionnaire data were analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) (13.0. version) software and interview data were analyzed using the thematic analysis technique. Some officers (30%) were aware of the QA process from the orientation programme when they were appointed to the Sri Lanka Education Administration Service (SLEAS). The majority of officers (50%) had awareness by participating in external evaluation programmes. Further, some officers (20%) had participated in preparing QA guideline with MoE. According to the responses of the offices, some zonal education offices (10%) had conducted refresher programmes for officers on QA. However, some officers (7%) were not satisfied with the training they received in relation to the QA process. Therefore, those officers (4%) thought that their awareness on QA circular and guideline were not enough. Further, officers specified some problem causing areas, in which they don't have sufficient knowledge on QA processes such as-; awarding marks for the evaluation criteria, reporting, and making the recommendations. Therefore, they suggested that MoE should conduct training to establish a trainers pool at the provincial level and train all teachers, principals and officers through the pool, to conduct training programmes on a practical sessions and not on a theoretical basis. In addition, officers suggested that training programmes should not be conducted once but it should be conducted continuously throughout the year. This study recommends training programs for officers be carried out at the national level with innovative training modes. Therefore, when designing training programs, it is essential to consider the officers' expectations and their ability levels. After conducting the training programs, follow-up support should be given for officers to practice, plan and try out and collaborate with others.

Keywords: awareness, quality assurance, Officers, thematic analysis

**CHALLENGES OF TEACHING ICT AS A SUBJECT IN RURAL
SCHOOLS: WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO B/ AL MURSHID
MAHA VIDYALAYA, SILMIYAPURA**

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Information Communication Technology (ICT) plays a vital role in Universities, Colleges, schools and almost all Higher Educational Institutes in the current era. In the mid-1990s, Sri Lanka's education system introduced new policies, procedures, and curricula to improve ICT knowledge and the competency to use ICT among school students. Still most of the rural schools face many challenges in teaching, learning and adopting ICT in school. The objectives of the study are (1) to explore the challenges in teaching ICT as a subject in rural Schools, (2) to find out the challenges faced by the students as well as teachers when learning and teaching ICT as a subject in rural schools. This research was primarily quantitative in nature. The survey was conducted to get information from teachers and students. In addition, interviews, group discussions, and observations were used as primary data sources and research articles, papers, internet, statistic reports were used as secondary data sources. Lack of Computer Laboratories and cost of devices, language barriers, lack of qualified ICT teachers, lack of motivation towards learning ICT among school students, internet connectivity, training and professional development, ICT not being a compulsory subject in school were identified as the challenges of learning and teaching ICT in rural schools. Recommendations such as providing basic ICT related courses to both teachers and students, making ICT a compulsory subject for secondary level students were given to the school administration to overcome challenges in teaching ICT. This information is useful for academics for the development of future research in the field.

Keywords: Information Communication Technology, Rural schools, School administration

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