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CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Track-Humanities and Social Sciences

25th INTERNATIONAL POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE (IPRC) 2025

"DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION"



**25th International Postgraduate Research
Conference (IPRC) - 2025**

**“Digital Transformation in Green and Sustainable
Innovation”**

Conference Proceedings

Track - Humanities and Social Sciences

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"Digital Transformation in Green and Sustainable Innovation"

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Message from the Vice-Chancellor



It is with great pleasure that I write this message of felicitation for the 25th Annual International Postgraduate Research Conference (IPRC), organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Kelaniya. This is the flagship research conference of our University, a forum for researchers and scholars to share knowledge, information, exchange experiences, to present innovative concepts and research.

Celebrating its Silver Jubilee this year, the IPRC has consistently demonstrated our University's strong commitment to promoting research excellence. This year's theme of Digital Transformation in Green and Sustainable Innovation aims to inspire new perspectives on how digital transformation can drive environmentally responsible and inclusive growth.

As in past years, the conference will be conducted under four tracks:

1. Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine
2. Accounting and Business Management
3. Humanities and Social Sciences
4. Multidisciplinary Studies

As the University of Kelaniya expands its offering of postgraduate programs, with particular attention to multi-disciplinary studies and the promotion of interdisciplinary research, we strive to nurture the next generation of scholars who will contribute to the sustainable development of our country. Our vision of digital transformation of our University echoes the national vision of digital transformation of our country's economy. We hope that all those who participate in IPRC 2025 share our desire to embark on this promising and exciting journey, which also brings its own challenges.

I thank the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, Snr. Prof. Priyani Paranagama, the Deputy Registrar / FGS Mr. Lakmal Wijeratne, the Senior Assistant Bursar / FGS Ms. Sathishka Gonapeenuwala, and the conference Organizing Committee, for all the hard work that they have put into organizing this event. I would also like to thank the researchers, reviewers, editors, and other academics who contributed in numerous ways to ensure the success of this conference.

Senior Prof. Nilanthi Renuka de Silva

Vice-Chancellor

University of Kelaniya

Message from the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies



It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the International Postgraduate Research Conference (IPRC) 2025, hosted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies at the University of Kelaniya. This year's conference is particularly special as we commemorate the silver jubilee, marking a quarter-century of commitment to advanced research, academic excellence, and knowledge dissemination.

The theme of IPRC 2025, "Digital Transformation in Green and Sustainable Innovation," reflects our dedication to addressing contemporary global challenges through cutting-edge research and interdisciplinary collaboration. The conference provides a distinguished platform for postgraduate researchers, scholars, and practitioners from around the world to present their work, exchange ideas, and foster innovation that contributes meaningfully to sustainable development and technological advancement.

As the oldest and most pioneering research conference at the University of Kelaniya, IPRC has successfully held 25 consecutive annual conferences, and continues to serve as a flagship event in our academic calendar. This milestone is a testament to the unwavering commitment of the Faculty of Graduate Studies to encourage advanced research, support academic inquiry, and cultivate a vibrant intellectual community.

IPRC 2025 symbolizes the vision and mission of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, where knowledge is recognized as a powerful tool to affect change. Through promoting analytical skills, openness to new ideas, and research excellence, FGS empowers its graduates to make a meaningful impact in society. The conference is an opportunity to showcase innovative postgraduate research, engage in thoughtful discussions, and build collaborations that will shape the future of green and sustainable innovation.

I extend my sincere gratitude to all participants, keynote speaker, plenary speakers, presenters, and organizers for contributing to this landmark event. Let us come together to make IPRC 2025 a celebration of academic excellence, global collaboration, and transformative research.

Senior Prof. P.A. Paranagama

Dean

Faculty of Graduate Studies

University of Kelaniya

Message from the Chairman of the Research Council



It is with great pleasure I write this message to the International Postgraduate Research Conference (IPRC) 2025 organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Kelaniya. Since the first conference in 2000, the Annual Research Symposium of the Faculty of Graduate Studies has been an important event of the University Research Calendar. The IPRC 2025 marks a significant milestone, being the silver jubilee edition of this flagship postgraduate research event.

IPRC 2025 is truly a multidisciplinary research symposium with dedicated tracks for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine; Accounting and Business Management; Humanities and Social Sciences; and Multidisciplinary Studies. It provides an international platform for researchers to share their findings, exchange ideas, and explore innovative solutions for sustainable development.

This year's theme, 'Digital Transformation in Green and Sustainable Innovation,' reflects how research can be transformative and help to foster a sustainable ecosystem. I am confident that the Conference will generate new ideas, methodologies, and collaborations to uplift the research environment, culture, and output of the University.

I wish all the very best for the Faculty of Graduate Studies and IPRC 2025.

Professor Sachith Mettananda

Chairman

Research Council

University of Kelaniya

Profile of the Keynote Speaker – Prof. Piergiuseppe Morone

Full professor of Economic Policy, Unitelma Sapienza – University of Rome, Department of Law and Economics, Roma, Italy

Ph.D., Science and Technology Policy – University of Sussex, UK, M.A., Development Economics – University of Sussex, B.A. (cum laude), Economics – University of Bari, Italy



Piergiuseppe Morone is a Full Professor of Economic Policy at Unitelma Sapienza with a strong interest in green innovation and sustainable circular bioeconomy, pushing his research at the interface between innovation economics and sustainability transitions, an area of enquiry that has attracted growing attention over the last decade. His work regularly appears in prestigious journals in innovation and environmental economics. In 2023, published with Cambridge University Press a textbook titled “The Circular Bioeconomy: Theories and Tools for Economists and Sustainability Scientists”.

He is the coordinator of the Bioeconomy in Transition Research Group (BiT-RG) and the director of the School of Sustainability Studies and Circular Economy (SUSTAIN). Moreover, he is/was involved in several European projects (including: H2020, BBI-JU, Life, Erasmus+, COST, Horizon Europe and CBE-JU) acting as scientific coordinator, vice-chair and WP Leader. He was an Economic Advisor to the Italian Minister of the Environment, Land and Sea Protection, till February 2021. Piergiuseppe is Editor in Chief of Societal Impacts (ELSEVIER) and Associate Editor of several other prestigious journals.

Since April 2022, Piergiuseppe has been the vice-chair of the Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking (CBE JU) Scientific Committee.

Plenary Speaker - Prof. Janaka Yasantha Ruwanpura

*Schulich School of Engineering, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Calgary,
Canada*

Ph.D., Construction Engineering and Management – University of Alberta, Canada (2001)

M.Sc., Construction Management – Arizona State University, USA (1997)

B.Sc. (Hons), Quantity Surveying – University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka (1992)



Professor Janaka Yasantha Ruwanpura is a highly respected academic, researcher, and global leader in construction engineering, project management, and international higher education. He is currently a Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at the Schulich School of Engineering, University of Calgary. He recently concluded over 11 years of service as the Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President Research (International), during which he significantly advanced the university's international engagement and reputation.

During his tenure as Vice-Provost International, Professor Ruwanpura played a pivotal role in shaping and implementing the University of Calgary's international strategy. His leadership led to the creation of several collaborative degree programs, research partnerships in countries like China and Mexico, and the acquisition of more than \$57 million in research and infrastructure funding. He also secured over \$25 million in international development grants and more than \$5 million for student research internships through MITACS. Notably, he became the first Canadian and non-American to be elected Executive Chair (2019–2021) of the Commission of International Initiatives of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU). Professor Ruwanpura's work has earned him numerous prestigious accolades, including the Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Award (2022) and fellowships with the Canadian Academy of Engineering (FCAE), the Engineering Institute of Canada (FEIC), the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering (FCSCE), and the National Academy of Construction, USA (NAC). In 2022, he was also recognized as a Gold Seal Certified Professional by the Canadian Construction Association.

Abstract of the Plenary, Session One: Igniting Research Excellence: Building the Next Generation University for Global Impact

This plenary will present an evidence-based eleven-point framework for advancing institutional research excellence, drawing on global best practices and implementation experience from leading universities. The framework emphasizes transdisciplinary research clusters, targeted funding strategies, publication culture, international collaborations, and industry-engaged innovation. It also highlights internal enablers such as performance-linked incentives, structured research support, and the role of postdoctoral and community engagement. Using this framework, the presentation proposes a tailored roadmap for developing a comprehensive Research Strategy for the University of Kelaniya. Key components include aligning research with national and global priorities, building flagship institutes, and strengthening partnerships for co-funded, high-impact research. The session will demonstrate how strategic planning and structured implementation can transform research ecosystems, improve institutional rankings, and position universities as regional leaders in innovation, knowledge creation, and sustainable development.

Plenary Speaker - Prof. Channa De Silva

*Professor of Chemistry, Head of the Department, Department of Chemistry & Physics,
Western Carolina University, USA*

*Ph.D., Chemistry - University of Arizona
B.S., Chemistry - University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka*



Dr. Channa De Silva is a Professor and Department Head of Chemistry & Physics at Western Carolina University, USA. He completed his B.S. degree in Chemistry with First-Class Honors at the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, in 2000 and earned his Ph.D. in Chemistry with a GPA of 4.0 from the University of Arizona, USA, in 2007. From 2008 to 2010, he worked as a Research Associate at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, in Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Arizona, and the Bio5 Institute at the University of Arizona, USA. His research focuses on developing metal-based nanomaterials for biotechnological applications and conducting computational studies of materials containing lanthanide and actinide metals.

Dr. De Silva has received numerous teaching and research awards, including the University of North Carolina Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching, USA (2025), the Brinson Honors College's Faculty and Staff Excellence Award, Western Carolina University (2025), the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award (2025), Winner, FACULTY 3 Minute Research Talk (3MR), Western Carolina University, USA (2025), Teaching Award from the College of Arts & Sciences at Western Carolina University (2022), Visiting Faculty Program Scholar from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) (2021), SoCon Faculty Member of the Year Award (2019), and Innovative Scholarship Award (2017).

In his free time, he enjoys playing music, including Sri Lankan music, northern Indian music, and an American folk genre called Appalachian music.

Abstract of the Plenary, Session Two: Artificial Intelligence in Chemistry Research: Transforming Discovery, Design, and Education

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly reshaping the landscape of chemical research and education, offering transformative capabilities across molecular design, reaction prediction, process optimization, and teaching. Recent advancements highlight AI's growing role in both undergraduate and graduate-level chemistry, with applications spanning drug discovery, materials science, and sustainable chemical engineering. AI-driven platforms such as ChemCopilot and IBM RXN are streamlining retrosynthesis planning, reaction yield prediction, and real-time process monitoring. Large Language Models (LLMs), including finetuned systems like GVIM, are being integrated into intelligent research assistants capable of molecular visualization, SMILES string processing, and literature retrieval.

These tools not only enhance research productivity but also democratize access to advanced computational methods. Educationally, AI's integration into chemistry curricula is gaining momentum. Workshops and teacher training programs are fostering Technological Content

Knowledge (TCK), preparing educators to bridge the gap between scientific innovation and classroom instruction. The 2025 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, awarded for AlphaFold's protein structure prediction, underscores AI's interdisciplinary impact and its relevance to future career pathways. Despite its promise, challenges remain in data quality, model interpretability, and ethical deployment. Addressing these issues is essential to ensure scientifically sound and socially beneficial outcomes. This abstract invite discussion on the strategic incorporation of AI into chemistry research and education, emphasizing its potential to accelerate discovery, enhance pedagogy, and prepare students for AI-driven scientific careers.

My own experiences in digital transformation initiatives have underscored the importance of combining technological, social, and economic insights. Gender equality is a crucial focus, especially regarding workforce participation. Through initiatives like 'She Returns,' which supports women re-entering the workforce after maternity leave, we see how multidisciplinary research can solve real-world challenges by bridging gaps in productivity and equality. Academia plays a pivotal role in encouraging cross-disciplinary innovation. However, achieving this requires shifting from specialization to integration, breaking institutional barriers, and promoting collaboration. It is only through collective effort where technologists, economists, sociologists, and policymakers join forces that we can shape a prosperous future. In conclusion, Sri Lanka's path forward embraces innovation and research that transcends boundaries. Together, we can build a resilient economy driven by inclusive growth, ensuring that research not only advances knowledge but also transforms lives and creates lasting societal impact.

Plenary Speaker - Prof. Jane E. Stewart

*Associate Professor of Plant Pathology, EIC Forest Pathology, Dept of Agricultural Biology
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA*

Ph.D., Plant Pathology - Washington State University

MS, Forestry - University of Vermont

BS, Biology - University of Oregon



Dr. Jane E. Stewart is an Associate Professor of Plant Pathology in the Department of Agricultural Biology at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado, USA. Her research focuses on forest, shade, and fruit trees, addressing critical issues in tree health through the lens of plant pathology. Dr. Stewart brings extensive expertise in fungal biology, population genetics and genomics, molecular diagnostics, and the management of plant pathogens, particularly invasive and emerging pathogens affecting trees.

Over the course of her career, Dr. Stewart has published more than 100 scholarly manuscripts spanning various forest and tree crop pathosystems. Her research emphasizes the speciation of tree pathogens and explores host-pathogen interactions at multiple levels, from the microbiome to the molecular scale. She is also actively engaged in developing practical management strategies to combat tree diseases and enhance sustainable forestry and agriculture.

In addition to her research, Dr. Stewart teaches undergraduate and graduate courses at Colorado State University. Her undergraduate course, Tree Health and Management, covers a wide array of tree diseases and insect pests along with their management practices. She also teaches a graduate-level course on Fungal Biology and Genetics, sharing her deep knowledge and research experience with the next generation of plant pathologists.

Dr. Stewart's research program has a global focus, aiming to improve understanding of the biology, ecology, genetics, and management of emerging tree pathogenic fungi. She currently serves as Editor-in-Chief of the internationally recognized journal *Forest Pathology*, reflecting her leadership and influence in the field.

Abstract of the Plenary Session Three: Characterizing Patterns Associated with Airborne Microbial Communities in Forest and Grassland Ecosystems

Understanding how and what types of microorganisms move through the air is important for early warning detection systems for human and ecosystem health. The atmosphere harbors a diverse and dynamic reservoir of microorganisms, yet their distribution, especially for fungi, in the atmosphere and response to environmental variation remains a subject of ongoing investigation. In this study, we compared airborne bacterial and fungal communities in subalpine forest and steppe grassland sites, over diel, vertical, and seasonal gradients. Air samples were collected at three heights over four months at the subalpine forest with concurrent sampling in the steppe grassland during two of those months. We observed that fungal communities had greater site-specific variability and sensitivity to environmental factors than bacterial

communities. This was most apparent in the subalpine forest, where vertical stratification and diel cycles significantly structured microbial diversity. In comparison, bacterial communities were temporally dynamic but showed weaker responses to local environmental conditions and minimal site-level differences. This may indicate broader dispersal and a ubiquitous set of bacterial taxa. Environmental drivers such as atmospheric moisture and air pressure influenced microbial beta-diversity in the subalpine forest, while air temperature and wind speed impacted diversity in the steppe grassland, again highlighting ecosystem-specific responses. Despite compositional differences, a group of shared bacterial and fungal taxa was consistently detected across sites. Most of these shared taxa were detected at greater heights in the subalpine forest. This, along with wind patterns moving eastward from the subalpine forest towards the steppe grassland, indicates potential atmospheric transport between sites, with taxa dispersal being filtered by height. These results underscore the role of ecosystem structure, meteorological conditions, and air mass movement in shaping the aero biome. Our data suggest that airborne microbial communities are shaped by both local emission and long-range atmospheric transport processes.

Plenary Speaker - Dr. Rajesh Shah

Professor in Sitar, Department of Instrument, Faculty of Performing Arts, Banaras Hindu University, India

Ph.D., Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India
M.Mus., Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India
B.Com., Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur, India



Prof. Rajesh Shah is a distinguished artist and academic in the field of Indian Classical Instrumental Music, specializing in the sitar. Born on June 15, 1966, into a culturally rich Gujarati family, he inherited his passion for classical music from his father, Sri Narottam Das Shah. Over the course of his illustrious career, Dr. Shah has established himself as a leading figure in sitar performance, pedagogy, and music composition, contributing significantly to the propagation and preservation of India's classical music heritage.

Currently serving as a Professor in the Department of Instrumental Music at the Faculty of Performing Arts, Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Prof. Shah has also held key academic positions, including Dean of the Faculty and Head of the Department. A Grade 'A' artist of All India Radio and Doordarshan, he is renowned for his solo sitar recitals, jugalbandis (duets), and orchestral compositions, both in India and abroad.

Prof. Shah's musical foundation was shaped by the rigorous training he received under the guidance of Late Sri Govind Raoji Nayak and the late Dr. Ramdas Chakravarti of BHU, followed by advanced tutelage from Pt. Amarnath Mishra of the Banaras Gharana. Deeply rooted in the Saini Gharana tradition, his sitar style is noted for its clarity, creativity, and expressive depth.

An active performer, Prof. Shah has presented concerts and conducted workshops across Europe, Central Asia, the Middle East, and South Asia, including notable appearances in Germany, Austria, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Mauritius, UAE, and Nepal. In addition to his international reach, he is a respected educator who has mentored over 16 Ph.D. scholars and numerous postgraduate students. Many of his disciples now serve as faculty members in reputed universities and cultural institutions worldwide.

His commitment to inclusive education is exemplified by his longstanding work with visually impaired students, whom he has trained in the intricate art of sitar performance. He has also composed and directed several orchestral works specifically for visually impaired musicians, earning recognition at international platforms such as Vienna and across Indian cities.

Prof. Shah has authored the book "Sitar Vigyan: Prayog Evam Shastra" and contributed extensively to academic journals and conference proceedings at both national and international levels. His research interests span from traditional raga interpretation to music therapy, music education, and comparative musicology.

Beyond teaching and performance, he has served on various academic and administrative bodies, including as a member of Boards of Studies and selection committees in universities such as Visva Bharati University, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Awadh University, and M.S. University, Baroda. He has also acted as a convener and resource person in numerous interdisciplinary workshops and seminars focused on Indian classical music.

Through his artistic excellence, academic contributions, and inclusive teaching philosophy, Prof. Rajesh Shah continues to be a guiding force in the world of Indian classical instrumental music.

Abstract of the Plenary Session Four: Rendition of Similar Ragas in North Indian Classical Music

North Indian Classical Music, or Hindustani music, is built upon the intricate and deeply aesthetic concept of the raga a melodic framework for improvisation and composition. Each raga is defined by a unique set of notes (swaras), characteristic phrases (pakad), and mood (rasa), which together create a distinct identity. However, within this rich system exists a fascinating phenomenon the presence of similar ragas, whose tonal structures and emotional colors overlap, yet whose renditions must remain distinct through nuanced expression.

Many ragas share the same or nearly identical scales but differ in their treatment, ornamentation, and emphasized notes. For instance, Raga Desh and Raga Khamaj both use the komal nishad (flat seventh) and shuddha nishad (natural seventh), yet their melodic contours and emotional intent diverge significantly. Desh evokes the freshness of monsoon and a feeling of longing, while Khamaj carries a romantic and serene flavor. Similarly, Raga Bhupali and Raga Deshkar share the pentatonic scale (using Sa Re Ga Pa Dha), but the former flows with a lyrical, devotional sweetness, while the latter projects brightness and vigor through sharper tonal emphasis and a more forceful rendition.

The distinction among similar ragas primarily depends on intonation, movement, and emphasis. The vadi (most prominent note) and samvadi (second most prominent note) play a crucial role in shaping the identity of a raga. Ornamentations such as meend (glide), kan swar (grace note), and gamak (oscillation) further add character. The choice of tempo (laya), rhythmic cycle (tala), and mood (bhava) also influences how the listener perceives one raga from another, even when the note structures are similar.

Experienced performers internalize these subtleties through years of training under the guru-shishya parampara. A successful rendition of similar ragas demands deep understanding and restraint knowing precisely how to explore the raga's potential without encroaching upon the domain of another. The artist's improvisation (vistar, alap, taan) must unfold within the grammar of the chosen raga, revealing its individuality through creativity grounded in discipline.

Thus, the rendition of similar ragas in North Indian classical music exemplifies the art's philosophical depth the coexistence of similarity and uniqueness, structure and freedom. It is this delicate balance that sustains the immense beauty and complexity of the Hindustani raga tradition, allowing it to evolve continuously while preserving its timeless essence.

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Exploring the undergraduate students' perspectives on using AI-powered essay-writing bots in improving argumentative essay-writing skills

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Argumentative essays play a major role at the tertiary level of English as a Second Language (ESL) education, which requires both writing competency and logical thinking. However, it was observed that students scored lower marks for argumentative essays in the semester-end examinations compared to descriptive and expository essays. Since Artificial Intelligence presents a novel tool for students, an AI essay-writing bot- 'Essaygenius'-was employed as a scaffold in practicing essay writing in the classroom. This study investigates the perspectives of undergraduate students on using essay-writing bots to enhance their argumentative essay-writing skills. A qualitative approach was adopted to understand students' attitudes, opinions, and experiences, as it is crucial for effectively integrating these tools into academic curricula. A sample of 40 first-year students out of a population of 600 at a private university was selected using a convenience sampling method. Students who were taking the course in Academic Communication and Composition were thus selected and interviewed using a semi-structured questionnaire, as the course content includes argumentative essay-writing. The collected data were thematically analyzed with NVIVO. Preliminary findings suggest that many students appreciate the bot's convenience, guidance in structuring arguments, improvement of coherence and style, vocabulary support, and help in overcoming writer's block. Students also appreciated the abundance of information the tool provided. However, concerns about over-dependency on the bot, comprehension issues from the bot's end, understanding issues on the students' part, and lack of originality persist. Importantly, most students considered teacher guidance and peer discussions to be more effective in practicing essay writing. Therefore, it can be concluded that bots provide efficient assistance, hence act as appropriate supplementary tools to enhance argumentative essay writing. Henceforth, this study contributes to the broader discourse on the role of AI in tertiary-level ESL education, offering recommendations for educators and researchers on incorporating AI support in teaching writing.

Keywords: Argumentative essays, Artificial intelligence, English as a second language, Essay-writing bots, Tertiary-level

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The effect of seasonal rainfalls on the tea industry: An analysis based on the major tea growing regions in Sri Lanka

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Tea is cultivated under various climatic, elevational, and environmental conditions in more than 50 countries around the world. The quantitative and qualitative value of tea depends on climatic and environmental factors. Sri Lanka is a tropical country with a Mediterranean-type climate; three major tea regions are identified based on location and elevation: up-country, mid-country, and low-country. The objective of this study is to examine the impact of rainfall patterns on the tea yield of the three major tea regions in Sri Lanka. Temporal analysis was conducted using IBM SPSS 26, and spatial analysis was conducted using ArcGIS 10.8. In the temporal analysis, correlations between tea yield (dependent variable) and rainfall (independent variable) were calculated. A spatial analysis, using the IWD method, was conducted to identify the impact of the four monsoon rainfall seasons on the tea yield of the three tea regions. The researcher found that there is an increase in tea yield in the up-country region during the first inter-monsoon (correlation value = 0.746), but a decrease during the southwest monsoon (correlation value = -0.3). It was observed that during the second inter monsoon, there is a decrease in low-country tea yield (correlation value = -0.160). The results indicate that seasonal rainfall patterns have a direct impact on tea yield, hence requiring region-oriented management practices. In conclusion, the study demonstrates that rainfall variability has both positive and negative influences on tea production in different regions. Recommendations are made for implementing location-specific water management practices, soil conservation techniques, and the breeding of drought- or flood-tolerant tea cultivars. These findings can further support policy-making in climate adaptation and mitigation measures for sustainable tea cultivation in Sri Lanka.

Keywords: Monsoon analysis, Rainfall, Tea habitats, Tea yield

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The tender green: Rewriting masculinity through digital environmental advocacy

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With the rise of digital platforms, alternative expressions of masculinity have become increasingly visible; however, academia has paid limited attention to how non-traditional forms, particularly soft masculinity characterized by empathy, emotional openness, and non-aggressive communication, intersect with environmental advocacy. Conventional environmental communication often reinforces traditional masculine ideals, potentially alienating male audiences who identify with gentler and collaborative modes of self-expression. This study adopts a qualitative content analysis approach to examine how male eco-influencers on Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube use soft masculine traits to promote sustainability and reconstruct the gendered dimensions of environmental discourse. A purposive sample of eco-influencers was analyzed thematically, focusing on narrative style, tone, and visual representation. The findings indicate that these influencers employ emotional storytelling, relational engagement, and ethical responsibility to make environmental messages more inclusive and personally resonant. Their advocacy challenges dominant masculine prototypes by redefining strength through empathy and care, thereby broadening the appeal of sustainability communication. The discussion highlights how digital platforms facilitate hybrid masculinities that merge environmental consciousness with emotional intelligence, contributing to cultural shifts in both gender and ecological thought. In conclusion, the study argues that the digital reimagining of masculinity not only diversifies representations of manhood but also strengthens the collective pursuit of ecological sustainability and innovation.

Keywords: Digital transformation, Eco-influencers, Environmental advocacy, Soft masculinity, Sustainable redefinition

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Exploring the impact of digital technology on traditional storytelling conventions

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Narratives have lasted throughout the centuries, evolving under the influences of society and culture. Modern advancements in technology have reshaped storytelling, ensuring alignment with cultural shifts and audience expectations. Artificial intelligence (AI) has brought significant changes to storytelling, from the evolution of traditional narratives to the introduction of digital stories with participatory real-time input. This paper explores how interactive AI narratives transform and influence traditional story structure. Drawing on narrative theory, digital media studies, and computational creativity, the study examines how AI-generated and hybrid interactive narratives challenge established literary conventions. The study follows a qualitative approach grounded in a narrative analysis, examining three narrative types: a traditional story (*The Lottery* by Shirley Jackson), an AI-generated story (a story generated by ChatGPT), and an interactive narrative (*Genshin Impact*). The selection of these specific texts is intentional. *"The Lottery"*, a classic, author-centered story with a cohesive linear plot, serves as the base for comparison. The ChatGPT narrative helps analyze the narrative logic and coherence of AI-generated stories, while *"Genshin Impact"* functions as a hybrid interactive narrative that combines plotlines with play-driven agency. These narratives facilitate a comparative exploration of narrative structure, coherence, authorship, user agency, and emotional engagement. The findings suggest that traditional narratives rely on strong authorial control and cohesive thematic development, while AI-narratives expose tension between machine logic and human storytelling conventions and fragmented linear progression. Further, the hybrid models suggest the possibility of balancing coherence with user agency. The study also highlights the ethical implications of AI-generated narratives, due to issues of authorship and ownership, while the algorithmic decision-making raises questions about creative accountability and cultural representations. These considerations underscore the need to rethink critical frameworks for the creation and development of narratives in a digital and AI-driven era.

Keywords: AI narratives, digital technology, Interactive storytelling, Narrative structure, Traditional storytelling

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Language, power, and persuasion: A humanistic exploration of business communication practices

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Within contemporary organizational environments, language functions not solely as a medium for information transmission but also as a strategic tool for exerting authority, shaping professional identities, and driving influence. This study presents a humanistic inquiry into the ways language is utilized to construct power dynamics and convey persuasive intent within business communication contexts. This research seeks to examine the linguistic strategies through which power and persuasion are manifested in professional interactions, including meetings, internal correspondence, corporate presentations, and performance evaluations. Specifically, it analyzes rhetorical choices, linguistic indicators of dominance and solidarity, and turn-taking patterns that reflect hierarchical relationships and persuasive intent. The study employs a qualitative methodology, drawing on a purposive sample of authentic business communication materials such as anonymized meeting transcripts, internal memoranda, and managerial speeches, which were systematically collected from corporate organizations with participant consent. The data were analyzed using Fairclough's framework of critical discourse analysis alongside Aristotle's rhetorical appeals ethos, pathos, and logos. The findings indicate, beyond preliminary trends, consistent patterns in how power is subtly embedded in lexical choices, speech acts, and control over conversational floor time, whereas persuasion is commonly realized through strategic storytelling, appeals to shared values, and rhetorical repetition. However, the focus on selected corporate settings and sampled communication types represents a limitation, as the findings may not be universally generalizable across industries. Notably, variations in gender and cultural background influence the expression of power and persuasion, highlighting important implications for inclusivity and leadership development in diverse organizational contexts. This study highlights the critical importance of linguistic awareness in professional settings, emphasizing that a deeper understanding of how language shapes power and persuasion can inform more inclusive and ethically responsible communication practices. The findings contribute to interdisciplinary scholarship at the nexus of business communication and the humanities, offering valuable insights into leadership development, organizational discourse, and workplace equity.

Keywords: Business discourse, Discourse analysis, Language, Power dynamics, Workplace communication

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An examination of the identification of the two meaning levels discussed in *Siyabaslakara*

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This research examines the two levels of meaning discussed in stanzas 400 to 402 of the third chapter of the *Siyabaslakara*. *Siyabaslakara*, written by King Sena-I in the 9th century, is an adaptation of the Sanskrit theoretical work *Kāvyaadarśa* written by *Daṇḍin* in the 7th century. The author also incorporated ideas from contemporary Sanskrit and Sinhala critics. The two meaning levels, 'Penena Aruta' (denotation) and 'Anumenen' or 'Atbelen ena Aruta' (connotation), substantiate this argument. The theoretical foundation and the interrelationship of those two meaning levels remain unclear. However, those were included to introduce one of the literary theories. The research problem is 'Are the two levels of meanings discussed in the *Siyabaslakara* reflections of *Dhvani* (suggestion) or *Anumiti* (inferential cognition)?'. The limitation is that the study is limited to the three aforementioned stanzas of *Siyabaslakara*. This research utilizes qualitative research methodology drawing upon primary and secondary data. Sanskrit critical texts such as *Dhvanyāloka*, *Vyaktiviveka*, and *Siyabaslakara* editions were studied as the primary sources. *Kāvya Vicāra Gaveṣaṇa* by G.H. Vijayavardhana was explored as a secondary source. The data analysis method was based on textual analysis. The main objective of this research is to re-examine *Vijayavardhana*'s claim that these two meaning levels are an introduction to *Anumiti*. The main text of *Anumiti*, *Vyaktiviveka*, a theoretical work of the 11th century, has become a literary theory since then. *Siyabaslakara* and *Dhvanyāloka* are the texts of the 9th century. When *Dhvanyāloka* was written, *Dhvani* existed as a theory of practical criticism. 'Anumenen ena' of *Siyabaslakara* further explains 'Atbelen ena Aruta'. It is not the Sinhala technical term for *Anumāna* or *Anumiti*. The examples in *Siyabaslakara* are related to the common examples of *Dhvani* discussions in Sanskrit. Therefore, this research proposes that the two meaning levels in *Siyabaslakara* are an introduction to suggestion (*Dhvani*).

Keywords: *Anumenen Ena Aruta, Anumiti, Atbelen Ena Aruta, Dhvani, Penena Aruta*

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The usage of the concept of *vakrokti* (the crooked speech) in the practical criticism in Sinhala

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Vakrokti vāda represents the third stage in the evolution of Alaṅkāra vāda. Vakrokti Jīvita, written by Kuntaka in the 11th century, is the primary text that presents this theory. However, the previous Sanskrit critics, such as Bhāmaha in the 7th century, had already emphasized the central idea behind vakrokti. The research problem of this study is 'What is the application of Vakrokti in the discourse of literary criticism in Sinhala, both in ancient and modern periods?' This study adopts a qualitative research methodology based on both primary and secondary data. Sanskrit texts such as Kāvyaālaṅkāra, Kāvyaadarśa, Kāvyaālaṅkārasūtra, and Vakroktijīvita are the primary sources. Sinhala classical texts such as Sīgiri graffiti, Siyabasalakara, Sidatsangarāva, and the relevant works of modern critics such as James de Alwis, Senarath Paraṇavitāna, W.F. Guṇawardhana, Martin Wickramasingha, Rathmalāne Dhammārāma Thero, Yakkaduwe Pannārāma Thero, Wimal Disanayaka, and Darśana Ratnāyaka are the secondary sources. Textual analysis and comparative discussion methods were used for data analysis. The term 'His gī' (empty poem) in graffiti number 492 can be identified as the first usage of Vakrokti in Sinhala literature. It was used to introduce another graffiti piece that was written without Vakrokti. Some critics, such as Paraṇavitāna, and Dharmārāma Thero, have interpreted the 'Ubabasalakara', the figure of speech in SidatSangarāva, as an example of crooked speech. These instances are the early use of the Vakrokti concept in the discourse of literary criticism in ancient Sinhala literature. In the modern era, some critics, such as Darśana Ratnāyaka, have not correctly identified the features of Vakrokti. He has presented poems with crooked speech under the category of nature description in the book Kalpalatā. In Guttila Gītaya, Martin Wickramasingha has applied the Vakrokti as a suitable theoretical framework. This study identified both the applicability of Vakrokti and the correct and incorrect analyses of the concept within the field of Sinhala practical criticism.

Keywords: Criticism of Sinhala, Kuntaka, Martin Wickramasingha, Sīgiri graffiti, Vakrokti

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Lost Sanskrit verses of *Vajirabuddhiṭikā Nidānavañṇanā*

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The *Vajirabuddhiṭikā* is the oldest known Pāli sub-commentary on the Vinaya, believed to have been written between Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa eras. This sub-commentary is notable for its distinct linguistic features, which set it apart from other Vinaya sub-commentaries. The Most Venerable Sāriputta, the author of the *Sāratthadīpanīṭikā*, criticized the author of the *Vajirabuddhiṭikā* for incorporating non-Pāli linguistic elements. Some later scholars have also noted this characteristic, but no specific study has yet focused on the linguistic components of the *Vajirabuddhiṭikā*. A comparative analysis of Sinhala-script palm-leaf manuscripts reveals the inclusion of Sanskrit verses and sentences, particularly in the *Nidānavañṇanā* section of the *Vajirabuddhiṭikā*, which contains numerous Sanskrit verses. This study employs manuscript collation, comparative textual analysis, linguistic and grammatical examination, and contextual interpretation to produce a critical edition of the recovered Sanskrit verses. There are only two known published editions of the *Vajirabuddhiṭikā*, namely the Burmese *Chaṭṭha Saṅgāyanā* edition and the Burmese word-by-word translation (*Nissaya*). Interestingly, both editions present the Sanskrit verses found in Sinhala-script as Pāli translation. Sinhala-script manuscripts preserve the original Sanskrit versions, albeit with textual variants. This study seeks to identify and critically refine the Sanskrit verses in the *Nidānavañṇanā* that do not appear in any extant printed editions. Based on a close examination of Sinhala-script manuscripts, ten Sanskrit verses have been identified and refined through rigorous grammatical and contextual analysis. This research enhances understanding a better understanding of the early Pāli commentarial tradition, illustrates the influence of Sanskrit on Pāli literature during the post-Anurādhapura era, and offers valuable insight into the linguistic dimensions of the Theravāda exegetical tradition. It also contributes to the critical editing and restoration of the early Pali *Vajirabuddhiṭikā*.

Keywords: Pāli, Sanskrit, Sub-commentary, Textual criticism, Vinaya

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The influences of biological inheritance and environmental conditions on personality development

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The transition to adulthood represents a critical developmental period characterized by role consolidation in occupational and romantic domains, accompanied by systematic personality maturation and increasing psychological stability. This study examined the longitudinal trajectories and determinants of personality change among Sri Lankan young adults aged 17 to 29 years, comparing the intrinsic maturation hypothesis with the life-course hypothesis. A longitudinal twin design was employed, utilizing a stratified random sample of 1,240 monozygotic and dizygotic twins from Grama Seva divisions in the Gampaha (n = 572), Colombo (n = 237), Kurunegala (n = 252), and Ratnapura (n = 179) districts. Personality dimensions were assessed across three waves using an online self-administered Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire. Correlation analyses revealed moderate to high temporal stability, while longitudinal growth curve modeling indicated significant developmental trends: negative affectivity declined ($r = -0.65, p < 0.01$), reflecting reduced neuroticism, and constraint increased ($r = 0.72, p < 0.01$), indicating of enhanced behavioral regulation; positive affectivity remained relatively stable ($r = 0.05, p = 0.45$). Biometric modeling demonstrated substantial contributions from additive genetic and non-shared environmental factors, with minimal influence from shared environmental factors. These findings support the life-course perspective, emphasizing the dynamic interplay between genetic predispositions and environmental contingencies during emerging adulthood.

Keywords: Biologically-driven mechanisms, Individuals, Occupational pursuits, Personality, Social environment

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Transformation of social support network: How social media platforms influence the management of mental well-being in married women

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Social support networks provide emotional, practical, and mental assistance, protecting individuals' well-being and offering comfort during challenging times. Their transformation is complex, shaped by social, economic, technological, and cultural shifts. In traditional societies, extended families fostered belonging and support. Modern shifts toward nuclear families, alongside advancements in technology, education, and economics, have shifted support networks toward more anonymous, individualistic communities. Social media now plays a significant role in reshaping these networks. This study investigates how social media provides a space for rebuilding personal intimacy and supporting the mental well-being of married women in Sri Lanka who have experienced emotional distress. The study's four objectives are to: 1) identify issues faced by women in marriage; 2) explore how social media enables emotional expression, support-seeking, and stress coping; 3) examine how online group interactions foster belonging and validation; and 4) assess how social media helps build intimate connections with others who share similar experiences. The study employed a convenience sampling method. An online questionnaire developed using Google Forms was disseminated through social media platforms targeting married women. A total of 100 valid responses were obtained and analyzed using a mixed-method approach. Findings reveal key challenges among married women: 42.9% face financial and communication issues, 31.2% emotional/domestic burdens, and 51.9% mental health difficulties. Social media groups offer married women multifaceted support 62.5% emotional, 55% companionship, 50% personal/marital advice, 45% motivation, 37.5% mental health awareness, providing empathy, guidance, and alleviating isolation effectively. To improve, platforms must create safe, private, and well-moderated spaces where married women can access expert advice and engage in meaningful dialogue. Prioritizing privacy, trust, and structured guidance is essential for making social media a more effective support system.

Keywords: Affiliation needs, Married women, Mental well-being, Social support network

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Geospatial and temporal analysis of the environmental sustainability of urban development in suburban areas

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Rapid urbanization is a major driver of urban development in suburban areas due to diminishing spaces within Central Business Districts (CBDs). This transformation has accelerated suburban growth and introduced social, economic, and environmental sustainability challenges. Among these, environmental sustainability plays a vital role in preserving ecological balance. Accordingly, the objective of this study is to analyze the environmental sustainability of urban development in the Homagama Divisional Secretariat Division from 1992–2022. To identify suburban growth, satellite images for 1992, 1995, 2007, 2017, and 2022 were downloaded from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) database. After compositing the satellite images, unsupervised classification with 5,000 random sample points from each map, representing a 15% sample size, was applied to ensure a high accuracy level in mapping urban development over the study area. Following this, overall accuracy and the Kappa Coefficient were calculated to ensure result validity. Accordingly, the mean threshold values of the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) were 0.067, 0.038, 0.323, and 0.346 for 1992, 2007, 2017, and 2022, respectively, revealing a transformation from sparse to dense vegetation cover in the study area. Moreover, Land Surface Temperature (LST) indicated mean surface temperatures of 27.58 °C in 1995, 27.25 °C in 2007, 26.83 °C in 2017, and 20.60 °C in 2022, respectively. The findings indicate that suburban development in the area has increasingly promoted environmental sustainability, evidenced by enhanced vegetation cover and reduced land surface temperature, largely due to the adoption of green infrastructure, urban agriculture, and environmentally friendly construction practices. These results highlight the significance of sustainable urban planning and management of suburban areas to maintain environmental balance and achieve ecological goals. Thus, future suburban development should prioritize environmentally sensitive growth strategies that prevent ecological degradation.

Keywords: Environmental sustainability, Geographic Information Systems, Remote sensing, Suburban, Urban development

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Barriers to accessing public services for rural ethnic minorities in Sri Lanka: A case study of a selected rural village

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Ethnic identity is a vital socio-demographic variable that influences citizens' ability to access and utilize public services. Taking a selected Grama Niladhari Division in Kurunegala District as a case study, this research explored whether and how being an ethnic minority hinders access to public services in Sri Lanka. The selected division, a rural village with a population of 822, is home to 59 Muslims who are mainly engaged in farming, small businesses, and cattle herding. The primary objective of this research was to identify the barriers faced by rural ethnic minorities in accessing essential public services, while the specific objectives were to identify the systemic problems in the provision of public services to rural minorities and to propose appropriate alternatives to reduce these access barriers. This study adopted a qualitative case study approach; hence, interviews, focus group discussions, and observations were used to collect data from community members, local officials, and related service providers. The results revealed that, despite the existing constitutional mandates to ensure citizens' rights and entitlements to access public services, language barriers, cultural misunderstandings, and the under-representation of minorities in local decision-making bodies hinder the provision of equitable services to this Muslim community. Lack of proficiency in the Tamil language among the government servants limits the access of rural minorities to the public services. Accordingly, utilizing new communication technologies in delivering public services and the proper implementation of the State Language Policy are defined as crucial needs, and improving the Tamil language proficiency of public servants who are currently in service and considering language proficiency when recruiting for public service have been identified as key measures to enhance access to public services.

Keywords: Ethnic identity, Minority, Public services, Rural

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A phonological study of minimal pairs in Sri Lankan sign language

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In linguistics, minimal pairs are pairs of words or signs that differ by only one distinctive feature, such as a single phoneme in spoken languages or a single visual parameter in sign languages, while conveying different meanings. This study investigates minimal pairs in Sri Lankan Sign Language (SLSL) to explore its phonological system. Data were collected from thirty Deaf signers representing different regions of Sri Lanka, including Ratmalana, Kurunegala, Kandy, and Jaffna. Participants were selected through a purposive sampling to capture regional variation. A qualitative descriptive approach was employed, guided by the primary visual parameters of sign language phonology: handshape, location, movement, orientation, and non-manual signals. Observations were conducted during live interactions in community and educational settings, while video documentation included both elicited signs and spontaneous signing during semi-structured interviews. From a dataset of approximately 450 signs, 20 minimal pairs were identified and analyzed. A minimal pair was defined as two signs differing in only one phonological parameter while retaining distinct meanings. Findings indicate that minimal pairs in SLSL most commonly differ in hand shape and location, though contrasts in movement and facial expression also play significant roles. Regional variation was observed, with some contrasts appearing in some dialects but absent in others, demonstrating the linguistic diversity of SLSL across Sri Lanka. These results confirm that SLSL operates under a rule-governed phonological system, reinforcing its status as a natural human language. The study contributes to both theoretical understandings of sign language phonology and applied domains such as interpreter training, Deaf education, and curriculum development.

Keywords: Deaf linguistics, Minimal pairs, Sign language Phonology, Sri Lankan sign language

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From the scriptorium to the microchip: Rethinking medieval educational ethics for digital transformation and sustainable innovation

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In an era in which the world is grappling with the dual demands of digital transformation and environmental sustainability, there is a need to root innovation within ethical, reflective, and holistic frameworks. This study adopted a qualitative historical-analytical approach, focusing on thematic analysis of medieval philosophical and theological writings. Primary sources included the works of Thomas Aquinas, Hugh of St. Victor, and Alcuin of York, emphasizing their ideas about ethical learning and community (Aquinas, 1947; Harkins, 2016). These ideas are contrasted with contemporary frameworks on digital ethics and sustainability, for example, UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (2022), and the EU's Guidelines for the Design of Ethical Technologies. By integrating rational thought with instruction, medieval education emphasized the preservation and transmission of knowledge, communal learning, and the unity of diverse disciplines such as theology, philosophy, and early science. These practices, grounded in stewardship, reflection, and ethical responsibility, resonate with contemporary demands for sustainable and human-centered innovation. This paper explored how these principles could be adapted to the digital age. While monastic models of intellectual discipline and preservation resonate with sustainable data practices and digital archives, the scriptorium's pedagogy of scholasticism and dialectical reasoning, which were at the forefront of that scholastic movement, parallel today's collaborative innovation and open-source development. Moreover, this paper highlighted the speed of medieval scholarly thought and the secularization of modern technology. It calls for a balanced approach that includes humane ethical deliberation and a long-term ecological vision. Re-emphasizing medieval educational ethics as a vital resource for shaping a sustainable digital future rather than considering it merely as a relic of the past, this study made a fundamental contribution to the discourse on digital transformation. It suggested that the path to greener, more sustainable innovations may run partly through the wisdom of medieval educational traditions.

Keywords: Digital transformation, Ethical technology, Medieval education, Scholasticism, Sustainable innovation

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The impact of using specialized AI for mastering creative writing in learning English as a Second Language (ESL): From copy to creativity

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The development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) seems to be dominating each and every field. In this way, the development of the modern educational approach called Education 4.0 that integrates advanced technology like AI and virtual reality to create more personalized, adaptive, and hands-on learning experiences, has led to the introduction of several applications to assist English language learning. This study focused on teaching and learning creative writing using different Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools such as Sudowrite and ChatGPT to improve creative expression and language fluency. This study was conducted at Lincoln University College (BLC). 32 English as a Second Language (ESL) students were selected from the Bachelor of Education degree program using a random sampling technique. An experimental method was used for the study. The data was gathered using two instruments, namely the pre-test and the post-test, which included 3 creative writing tasks each, and a semi-structured interview at the end. The intervention included teaching and learning using AI tools for the experimental group, whereas the control group experienced the traditional instructional methods. The study employed a mixed-method approach for data analysis. The pre and post-test creative writing samples were assessed using established scoring rubrics, which were used as dependent variables to employ a one-way analysis of covariance (ANCOVA). Further, the efficacy of the intervention was analyzed through an independent sample t-test. The analysis of interview data was done using 'content analysis.' The major themes from the interview data suggested AI as a source of inspiration, motivation, improved language and creativity, and their desire to continue the use of tools. The statistical analysis (ANCOVA) of the test suggested the prevalence of a significant difference between the post-test mean scores of the experimental group ($x = 15.15$) and the post-test mean scores of the control group ($x = 10.95$), whereas the pre-test mean scores of the experimental and control groups were ($x=9.94$) and ($x=9.95$), respectively. The difference highlighted that the AI-assisted learning brought out notable improvement in creative writing skills and motivation among the experimental group with a large effect size of ($\eta^2 = 0.85$). Accordingly, the study concluded that the Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools were beneficial for teaching and learning creative writing skills.

Keywords: AI tools, Creative expression, Creative writing, Education 4.0, language fluency

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Post-humanist approach of Michael Jackson towards sustainable development and growth: A dream of healing the world

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This paper delved into Michael Jackson's post-humanist perspective on sustainable development and global healing, which eventually showcased his artistic vision as both ecological and futuristic. While Jackson was renowned as an iconic pop musician, his creative works went beyond mere entertainment, deeply engaging with environmental awareness and the ethics of coexistence. The study looked into how Jackson's artistic philosophy and post-humanist ideas were in alignment, stressing the interconnection and intersection between humans, technology, and nature. It provides a detailed analysis of select works of Jackson, such as "Earth Song," "Cry," "Invincible," "The Way You Make Me Feel," and "Unbreakable", alongside short films like Captain EO (1985) and Moonwalker (1988). This research highlighted how Jackson's lyrics and visual storytelling promoted ecological balance and human responsibility for the planet. The methodology combined qualitative textual analysis and visual semiotics to explore Jackson's songs, lyrics, and cinematic representations through a post-humanist lens. Additionally, it assessed his innovative use of technology, including digitalization, electronic music production, and visual storytelling, as a creative channel that reshaped the boundaries between art, science, and environmental advocacy. The findings showed that Jackson's body of work reflected a post-humanist awareness where technology and creativity served as tools for fostering sustainable consciousness. His visionary blend of sound, visuals, and message set the stage for contemporary ecological discussions, providing an early example of cultural sustainability. Ultimately, Jackson's artistic and ethical legacy not only dreamed of "healing the world" but also illustrated how popular art can motivate a shared movement toward environmental compassion and sustainable growth.

Keywords: Creative technique, Environmental ethics, Michael Jackson, Music, Post-humanism, Sustainable development

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The academic writing challenges of undergraduate students: A case study based on three selected science-based faculties at a state university in Sri Lanka

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Academic writing is considered a cornerstone in higher education as it is an essential skill that determines the success of undergraduates in their degree programs. However, undergraduates in science-based faculties at the University of Ruhuna face multifaceted challenges mainly due to their limited English language proficiency, inadequate preparation during secondary education, and insufficient exposure to technical terminology. This qualitative case study, driven with an interpretivist paradigm, was mainly conducted to identify the academic writing challenges, their underlying causes, and the possible mitigating strategies. Data for the study were collected through semi-structured interviews with 24 undergraduate students (8 from each faculty) and 9 lecturers (3 from each faculty) from three selected science-based faculties: the Faculty of Technology, the Faculty of Engineering, and the Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Sciences and Technology. Participants were selected using purposive sampling to ensure representation across faculties and varying levels of writing proficiency. The data gathered were transcribed, coded, and analyzed using six-phase thematic analysis framework (Braun & Clarke, 2006). The analysis was guided by two theoretical frameworks, namely Social Constructivism by Vygotsky and Noticing Hypothesis by Schmidt, and was enhanced through data source triangulation by cross-validating findings from students' and lecturers' perspectives to ensure credibility and trustworthiness. Unfamiliarity with discipline-specific conventions, limited language proficiency, difficulties in structuring and organizing academic texts, and anxiety and low confidence in academic writing emerged as the four major themes for challenges. These challenges were fundamentally ascribed to the sudden change of the medium of instruction, lack of institutional support and resources, and inadequate exposure to the English language in previous phases. Further, as mitigating strategies, both students and teachers emphasized the need to have robust support systems that include curriculum reforms incorporating discipline-specific writing modules, further development of university writing centers, and other development programs specially designed to improve the academic writing skills of students. The findings of the study provided valuable insights to educational policymakers on the reforms that need to be done in terms of providing tailored academic writing support, making provisions for enhanced resources, and providing institutional support for creating a positive learning environment for English as a second language learners in science-based contexts.

Keywords: Academic writing challenges, English as a Second Language (ESL), Higher education, Science-based faculties, Undergraduate Students

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Enhancing English as a Second Language (ESL) speaking skills and motivation through digital storytelling: A case study of a Sri Lankan fine arts classroom

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Digital Storytelling (DST) has been widely acknowledged as a creative and engaging tool in language education. Most studies in the Sri Lankan context have focused on the development of speaking skills through traditional classroom-based activities. There is a paucity of research focusing on how DST influences the speaking skills and motivation of ESL students. Furthermore, undergraduates of the fine arts stream of studies, despite their creative potential, remain an understudied group, particularly in terms of speaking anxiety and disengagement in traditional classroom-based speaking activities. To address this gap, the present study explored how integrating DST could improve speaking skills and motivation in this specific student cohort. A qualitative case study approach was chosen as it allows an in-depth exploration of students' lived experiences, which could not be captured through quantitative analytical measures. The study was conducted at the Swamy Vipulananda Institute of Aesthetic Studies of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka, among 20 of first-year undergraduates using purposive sampling. Data were collected through focus group interviews, classroom observations, student reflective journals, and the digital stories produced by the students. Thematic analysis was used for interpreting the data. The findings revealed that most students subjected to DST reported confidence and reduced negative attitudes toward speaking. Classroom observations consistently showed lower anxiety and more active participation during DST activities. Reflective journal and digital story outputs highlighted increased creativity and stronger peer collaboration. Furthermore, DST fostered personal connections with learning. The study recommends that ESL teachers to incorporate DST as a regular component of speaking practice, particularly in creative disciplines such as Fine Arts.

Keywords: Anxiety, Active Classroom participation, Confidence, Motivation

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Spatiotemporal correlation between urban vegetation health and surface water availability in Kandy

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The correlation between the health of vegetation and the availability of surface water is a primary environmental factor in determining the capacity of urban green cities. Accordingly, the objective of this study was to assess the spatial-temporal correlation between urban vegetation health and surface water availability in four Gravets in the Gangawata Korale Divisional Secretariat Division in Kandy in the period between 1988 and 2024. This thirty-six-year period illustrated a broad picture of the urbanization timeline. Satellite images from 1988, 1994, 2003, 2007, 2016, and 2024 were downloaded from the United States Geological Survey (USGS). Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) and the Normalized Difference Water Index (NDWI) were calculated for each map using ArcGIS 10.8 and were classified based on their threshold values. Moreover, those classifications were verified using Google Earth Pro software. Accordingly, the classes for NDVI were determined as non-vegetation (<0.0), sparse vegetation ($0.0-0.2$), moderate vegetation ($0.2-0.5$), and dense vegetation (>0.5). Water-rich vegetation [$< (-0.44)$], moderate water content [$(-0.44) - (-0.28)$], minimal moisture [$(-0.28) - (0.076)$], and water body [> 0.076] were categories in NDWI. To assess the correlation, 67 sample points in the systematic method were used to extract the values in NDVI and NDWI. Subsequently, correlation coefficients were calculated for the respective years. The correlation coefficients (R^2) were found as 0.3265 in 1988, 0.4202 in 1994, 0.6252 in 2003, 0.7048 in 2007, 0.6595 in 2016, and 0.6683 in 2024. The findings reflected a positive correlation between urban vegetation health and surface water availability. A strong correlation was shown after 2003. This trend was attributed in this research to the integration of city development projects with environmental planning, the utilization of green infrastructure developments, and sustainable land-use strategies and practices. Accordingly, it was concluded that preserving surface water systems is essential to maintain a sustainable, healthy urban green space in cities.

Keywords: Availability of surface water, Health of vegetation, Spatial-temporal correlation, Urban sustainability

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The impact of examination anxiety on the academic performance of undergraduate students in state universities in Sri Lanka

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Examination Anxiety is a common psychological phenomenon that can influence the cognitive functioning, emotional well-being, and academic outcomes of students, especially in high-stakes environments. Examination anxiety is understood as a multidimensional phenomenon including physiological over-arousal, tension, cognitive worry, and somatic distress, which may possibly impact academic performance. Literature in the field has shown mixed evidence, with some studies identifying a negative relationship between anxiety and academic achievement, while others report no significant connection. This study was aimed to emphasize the level of examination anxiety and its relationship with the academic performance of the undergraduate students attached to the faculties of Education in three selected state universities in Sri Lanka. This study employed a quantitative, cross-sectional research design and collected data from 269 participants using a standardized questionnaire developed by Jegadha and Francisca (2015) and Dr. Emad Ata Shahrouri (2016). Academic performance was assessed using the cumulative grade point average of the students. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, an independent sample t-test, and Pearson correlation. The findings revealed that the majority of the students were average achievers and experienced low to moderate levels of anxiety. Notably, the results indicated that there was no significant relationship between examination anxiety and the academic performance of the selected undergraduate students. The findings suggested that environmental and institutional factors, for instance supportive classroom environment and assessment methods, were contributors to the absence of a strong linkage between anxiety and academic performance. The study recommends conducting future research in other faculties in the state universities using qualitative methods for a more nuanced understanding of academic anxiety and its relationship with academic performance in state universities in Sri Lanka.

Keywords: Academic achievement, Examination anxiety

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Investigating the language assessment literacy and training gaps among secondary English teachers in Sri Lankan state schools

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Language Assessment Literacy (LAL), a relatively under-researched area in the Sri Lankan education system, includes the integration of skills, principles, and contextual awareness needed for designing and evaluating assessments effectively. This study aimed to explore the cognitive grasp of LAL among secondary-level English teachers in the Sri Lankan state schools and investigate the existing gaps in their professional training. Data were collected from a purposive sample of 25 English language teachers in the state schools of Kalutara education zone in Sri Lanka, utilizing semi-structured questionnaires. The participants, holding academic qualifications including Diplomas, Bachelor of Arts degrees, Bachelor of Education degrees, and Master's degrees, represented a sample having a broad range of teaching experience spanning from 01 to 30 years. As the study employed a qualitative research design, inductive thematic analysis was used to analyze the data. The classroom-based assessment practices could be recognized as of three main types: written tests, oral presentations, and group tasks. The majority of the teachers have not undergone a formal, up-to-date training in language assessment in the past five years, highlighting a significant deficiency in professional development. Participants further explained that the foundational knowledge received through the subjects, such as Testing and Evaluation, included in their pre-service academic coursework, was insufficient, and this gap has led them to reconsider the adequacy of their expertise in administering assessments. The results provided additional insight into four specific areas where the teachers felt the least confident in their LAL: assessing productive skills, designing authentic assessments, addressing learner diversity in the heterogeneous classes, and managing assessments in densely populated classrooms. These findings revealed how classroom realities and resource constraints create LAL challenges that are not fully addressed in current frameworks. These preliminary findings underscore the pressing need for implementing contextualized training programs encompassing the gamut of language assessment for the sustained professional development of English teachers in similar contexts.

Keywords: Cognitive Grasp, English Language Teachers, Language Assessment Literacy, Professional Development

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The effectiveness of speaking strategies employed by learners of English as a Second Language aged 10-16

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In the context of learning English as a Second Language (ESL), oral communication poses a significant challenge, particularly for learners in the 10–16 years age range, a critical developmental stage marked by rapid cognitive, social, and linguistic growth. Understanding the communication strategies used by learners in this period is essential as the developmental progression of strategic competence during adolescence remains underexplored. Despite extensive research on communication strategies in language learning, there exists a notable research gap concerning how strategic competence evolves during the adolescent period, with most existing literature concentrating predominantly on adult learners rather than examining the unique developmental patterns and strategic preferences that emerge during this formative age range. This study investigated the communication strategies employed by adolescent ESL learners, distinguishing between early adolescents (ages 10–12) and mid-adolescents (ages 13–16). Using a convergent parallel mixed-methods approach, the research included 80 participants from Vision International School Kandy, equally divided between the two sub-groups. Data were gathered over three months through classroom observations across multiple speaking tasks and an adapted version of the *Strategy Inventory for Language Learning (SILL)* Strategy Inventory for Language Learning (SILL) questionnaire. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, while qualitative data were examined through thematic analysis. The findings revealed distinct developmental patterns in strategy use across age groups. Results indicated that early adolescents predominantly relied on non-verbal and compensatory strategies, whereas mid-adolescents employed more advanced strategies influenced by metacognitive awareness. Furthermore, the study demonstrated that strategy preference was context-dependent, with learners exhibiting greater willingness to employ risk-taking communication strategies during peer interactions while adopting formal, conservative approaches when communicating with teachers. The effectiveness of these strategies varied significantly based on task complexity and social context, with peer-supported environments facilitating more experimental language use and teacher-led contexts promoting accuracy-focused strategic approaches. The study highlighted the importance of age-appropriate, evidence-based strategy instruction during adolescence and provided recommendations for teacher training, curriculum development, and assessment practices that accommodate the unique strategic needs of adolescent ESL learners.

Keywords: Adolescent ESL learners, communication strategies, mixed-methods research, oral communication skills, strategic competence

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Challenges faced by rural Agri-based businesses in Sri Lanka: A qualitative study

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As agri-businesses are critical for food security, poverty reduction, economic growth, and sustainable development, there is a need for strong efforts to motivate potential investors in the agriculture sector. The existing literature suggests that around 70% of the small and medium-scale enterprises closed down within the first three years. Rural farmers and business ventures faced challenges such as financial, market, price, weather/climate, human resources, technology, and a lack of strong government support. To deal with such problems, governments attempted to make a conducive environment using many strategies. The objective of this study was to identify the nature and challenges faced by the rural Agri-based businesses in Sri Lanka. The primary data was collected through a qualitative case study with 10 respondents, which was conducted using a comprehensive interview guide by the purposive sampling method. The thematic analysis method was used to analyze the data. 05 rice milling ventures, 02 fruit and vegetable shops, 02 greenhouses, and 01 animal husbandry activity were evaluated. The majority had less than 10 years of experience, and only 03 businesses had more than 15 years of experience. 90% of business owners were males, a fact which emphasized that the agriculture-based business ventures in the rural sector were male-dominant. The study identified the key themes of challenges as financial problems, lack of government support, poor infrastructure facilities, low consumer demand, price and market problems, and high production cost. Factors such as human resources, technology, experience, family support, and reputation were found to offer only minor challenges to Agri-based businesses. Recommendations of the study were as follows: Government activities should be aligned with the requirements of rural ventures. Infrastructure development, a business-friendly environment, education, especially Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), and attitude-changing programs are to be implemented to encourage business people to use modern equipment and modern technology to increase productivity.

Keywords: Agri-based businesses, Challenges faced by Agri-based businesses

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Digitalizing community mediation in Sri Lanka: A path toward effective and efficient dispute resolution

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Community mediation plays a pivotal role in resolving disputes at the grassroots level in many countries. In Sri Lanka, community mediation is formally practiced through Mediation Boards established under the Mediation Boards Act No. 72 of 1988. Currently in Sri Lanka, there are 329 Community Mediation Boards with roughly 8500 mediators dealing with roughly 250,000 disputes per year. Due to the rapid digital revolution and the social impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak, it has been identified that there is a mounting interest in integrating technology into community mediation to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness. This paper scrutinized the adoption of digital technology into the community mediation framework through virtual mediation platforms, online application systems, etc., which would enhance benefits like increased accessibility, cost-efficiency, reduced case backlog, and added value to the judicial system of Sri Lanka. This qualitative research was based on a critical analysis of primary and secondary sources. This research also dealt with the qualitative information assembled through one-to-one semi-structured interviews conducted with the selected clients and mediators in the administrative district of Gampaha in Sri Lanka. It was discovered that the community mediation framework in Sri Lanka plays a crucial role in resolving disputes at the grassroots level, and it was one of the least technology-utilized sectors in the justice system of Sri Lanka. Traditional mediation systems face challenges such as limited accessibility, delays, and a lack of digital record-keeping. Technology has a high potential to improve the efficiency of Sri Lanka's community mediation framework. Thus, community mediation should embrace technological solutions such as digitalization to make it more effective, efficient, inclusive, and strong. This paper suggested a hybrid model to the community mediation framework that combines digital tools with traditional practices that would offer a pragmatic path towards achieving justice effectively and efficiently in Sri Lanka. The importance of virtual mediation in selected urban and semi-urban areas, training mediators and parties in digital tools, and developing proper guidelines for ethical and secure use of technology in mediation were highlighted.

Keywords: Community mediation, Community mediation boards, Virtual mediation

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Evaluating the role of computer-based International English Language Testing System (IELTS) examinations in promoting green practices and sustainable innovation in Sri Lanka's education sector

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A significant advancement toward green and sustainable innovation in the nation's educational and assessment sectors would be Sri Lanka's acceptance of a computer-based IELTS exam. This research examined the role of a computer-based IELTS exam in promoting green and sustainable practices in Sri Lanka's education sector, aligning with the government's Digital Economy Strategy 2030 and Green Energy Acceleration Plan 2025–2030. The methodology used in this study was a mixed-method approach that included case studies of specific IELTS centers in the administrative district Colombo, Sri Lanka. A questionnaire was given to 20 test takers to determine perceptions and quantitative analysis of environmental impact metrics. Thematic analysis of the interview transcripts and case studies was used to determine the effectiveness of sustainable innovation in digital assessment, whereas environmental metrics from computer-based and paper-based test formats were compared to quantify reductions in resource consumption and emissions. A major finding was that delivering the IELTS exam digitally significantly lowers paper consumption and reduces the environmental impact by 40%. By reducing the logistics involved in printing and transporting exam materials. It was clear from case studies that the British Council Sri Lanka sets goals to lower carbon emissions and has obtained ISO14001 accreditation for the United Kingdom. Statistical studies from the case study emphasized that a 70% reduction of paper use translates into annual savings of Rs. 120,000/= per test center. Over 60% of students supported the continued adoption of computer-based digital tests allows for faster results, which minimizes administrative processes. Employing technology would reduce physical resource dependency and enhance efficiency. Limitations in digitalization include variations in test center security requirements, dependence on technology infrastructure, and challenges in capturing the qualitative environmental impacts. This area presents a promising opportunity for future research to explore further the environmental and educational impacts of computer-based language testing.

Keywords: Computer-based IELTS, Digitalization, Environmental sustainability

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The impact of Tamil feature geometry in the acquisition of English segmental phonology by Tamils

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This study investigated the perceptual difficulties encountered by Tamil (L1) native speakers when acquiring specific English (L2) phonemic contrasts, examining how L2 sounds are systematically interpreted through L1 phonological categories. Employing Brown's (1993) feature geometry framework, and supported by observational data from Jaffna Tamil speakers, the analysis demonstrated that gaps in the Tamil phonological inventory, specifically the absence of critical continuant features including sibilant, posterior, and distributed features, resulted in predictable perceptual inaccuracies. The findings revealed three primary areas of difficulty: (1) voicing contrasts in stops /p/-/b/, /k/-/g/, and /t/-/d/; (2) fricative distinctions /f/-/v/, /θ/-/ð/, /s/-/z/, and /ʃ/-/ʒ/; and (3) the bilabial approximant /w/. These perceptual challenges consistently manifested as substitution patterns where English interdental fricatives /θ/ and /ð/ were perceived as dental stops /t̪/ and /d̪/; alveolar stops /t/ and /d/ as retroflex stops /ɖ/ and /ɗ/; and the /w/-/v/ contrast collapses to a labiodental approximant /ʋ/. The substitution process, particularly evident in the mapping of /θ/ to /t̪/, could be explained through delinking of the continuant node in feature geometry, effectively reducing unfamiliar L2 continuants to their closest L1 stop counterparts. The major perceptual challenge was that most pronounced with posterior fricatives /ʃ/ and /ʒ/, owing to both their marked status and the complete absence of posterior features in Tamil phonology. This analysis provided crucial insights into how the phonological structure of the mother tongue constrains the acquisition of a second language, while offering a feature-geometric account of cross-linguistic perceptual phenomena in second language acquisition.

Keywords: English phonemic contrasts, feature geometry, second language perception, Tamil phonology

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The effectiveness of providing ChatGPT-based feedback to learners of English as a Second Language to improve syntactic proficiency

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Integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) into English Language Teaching (ELT) has opened innovative and modern avenues to enhance the efficiency of language learning. The use of AI-driven chatbots like ChatGPT as a Natural Language Processing (NLP) tool would provide real-time, automated feedback to help learners improve their syntactic proficiency. The first objective of this study was to investigate the effectiveness of using ChatGPT as an NLP-based model to provide syntactic feedback to English as a Second Language (ESL) learners. The second objective was to explore the impact of ChatGPT-generated syntactic feedback on the writing proficiency of ESL learners. A quasi-experimental design was employed involving 60 ESL learners from the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, who were divided into two groups. The experimental group received ChatGPT feedback while the control group received traditional teacher feedback. Interviews were conducted with 5 ESL lecturers from the same research setting. Moreover, over eight weeks, participants were tasked to complete writing sessions focusing on conditionals and complex sentence structures with and without ChatGPT feedback. Pre- and post-tests were conducted to measure the improvements in the syntactic proficiency of participants through quizzes. The findings highlighted a significant improvement in syntactic accuracy and how well students have used ChatGPT assistance to guide themselves to correct their syntactic errors. Further, the interview data showed how satisfying and advantageous it was to have AI to learn the language. However, it occasionally provided generic feedback showing lack of contextual nuance, aligning with observations from prior studies. Through the results, educators would be encouraged to encourage university undergraduates to use ChatGPT to go beyond traditional learning/teaching methods to perform self-studies on their language improvements. Furthermore, the study ensured that a balanced approach would leverage technology's strengths while maintaining pedagogical integrity.

Keywords: ChatGPT, English Language Teaching (ELT), Syntactic feedback, Writing proficiency

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A study on the effectiveness of foreignization as a strategy in translating cuisine-related terms

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Cuisine is a characteristic of a particular culture through which its intrinsic aspects, including beliefs, customs, and traditions, are elaborated. When translating cuisine-related terms from one language to another, a process entailing transferring attributes of one culture to another is evident. During such instances, utilizing the strategies of domestication and foreignization could be practiced. This study intended to focus on whether it was effective to apply the foreignization strategy in translating cuisine-related terms from English to Sinhalese. To assess this, a mixed-method approach was followed. A comparative analysis was performed as a qualitative assessment on eighty cuisine-related terms that appeared in the first four novels of the 'Little House' series by Laura Ingalls Wilder, namely Little House in the Big Woods, Little House on the Prairie, Farmer Boy, and On the Banks of Plum Creek, and their corresponding Sinhalese translations by Ganga Niroshinie Suduwelikanda. For that, the translation procedures proposed by Vinay and Darbelnet were applied. Furthermore, a quantitative analysis was performed to assess the frequency of the proposed translation procedures adopted. A group of Twenty-fourth-year undergraduates reading a Translation Studies (Honours) degree at the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, were provided with the above findings, and they were expected to identify the accuracy, acceptability, and readability of the Target Text through the translation quality assessment model forwarded by Nababan et al. The findings revealed that most of the identified terms have been transferred into the Target Language by following the foreignization strategy. Furthermore, it was indicated that the target audience was most likely to encounter resistance when comprehending cultural norms related to the Source Text, owing to the difficulties in bridging the gap between the source author and the target audience that represent two distinct cultures with extreme differences.

Keywords: Cuisine-related terms, Foreignization of terms

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Mrs. Arbuthnot in Oscar Wilde's A Woman of No Importance, in the light of Kristeva's motherhood concept of 'good fairy' in Victorian society

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'Woman of No Importance' was a Victorian play written by Oscar Wilde. The play depicts the controversial, rigid Victorian society in which women were dominated by male chauvinism. Wilde addresses the above issue by using the characters of his play, Lord Illingworth and Mrs. Arbuthnot. Mrs. Arbuthnot was conceived with a child out of wedlock by Lord Illingworth. Lord Illingworth was a dandy who called Mrs. Arbuthnot an insignificant woman. He let Mrs. Arbuthnot bear the brunt of being survived as a single widow in that society. The widow had become an insignificant factor who was subjected to countless gossips in the Victorian puritan society. Despite the difficulties, Mrs. Arbuthnot was able to regain her status as a significant woman by being a great mother. The feminist theorist, Julia Kristeva's motherhood concept of 'good fairy' depicts a mother who sacrifices herself for her children. The objective of the present research was to investigate the ways in which Mrs. Arbuthnot regains her reputation by being a good fairy who sacrifices herself for her child. The research question was 'how does Mrs. Arbuthnot, as a good fairy, sacrifice herself for her child?' The character of Mrs. Arbuthnot of the play, Woman of No Importance, has been analyzed using thematic analysis in reference to the theoretical notion of Kristeva's 'good fairy'. The significant findings of the present study were as follows: For Mrs. Arbuthnot, motherhood was not just a function, but was a passion. She could not repent her sins because the result of those was her child. She treasured her son and committed her whole life to the happiness of her child. That made Mrs. Arbuthnot stand out among women in Victorian society. Wilde applied the function of motherhood as a tool to regain power over men in Victorian society.

Keywords: Concept of the good Fairy, Kristeva's Motherhood concept, Mrs. Arbuthnot, Oscar Wilde, Woman of No Importance

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Digitalization of historical archives and heritage management promoting sustainable development and green environment

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In the contemporary world of distress, sustainable development has become a major area of concern, and digitalization has largely helped humanity to progress. Education, one of the most powerful tools for achieving sustainability, depends on preserving heritage and historical archives. It creates opportunities for future generations to learn and grow confidently. Historical studies over time have guided societies toward sustainable goals. The digitization of archives, 3D modelling, online exhibitions, and virtual artefact collections has transformed how individuals engage with the past. This paper focused on the effects of digitalization of historical archives, preservation of artefacts through various software, and its eco-friendly impact on the environment. Digitalization has reduced paper use, fuel consumption, and waste of time, and thereby contributed immensely to sustainable development. Due to digitalization, scholars are able to consult manuscripts, photographs, and record digitally with minimum vehicular travel, thereby lowering carbon emissions and minimizing damage to the environment. Various studies on the National Archives and, British Library illustrated that digital projects helped to lower the physical degradation and achieve sustainable development goals. The paper also dealt with digital repatriation, which supports sustainable development and protects the environment by controlling transport, physical storage, and preservation of artefacts. Further, the study highlighted the contribution of digital repatriation in building ethical heritage practices by recognizing cultural rights. Thus, this paper explored the need for digitalization and discussed its application for historical studies, supporting sustainable development and eco-friendliness.

Keywords: Digitalization, Green environment, Heritage management, Historical archives, Sustainable development

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Digital twin systems for green infrastructure in the industrial domain: A sustainable and transformational approach to planning and operations in industries

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The imperative for sustainable industrial development has intensified in the face of global climate challenges and environmental regulations. Digital Twin technology, which enables virtual replicas of physical assets, systems, or full industrial setups, offers an immensely promising pathway towards optimizing, designing, and planning green infrastructure in the domain of industries. This paper explored the feasibility and application of Digital Twin systems as the core component of digital transformation in sustainable innovation, with special and specific regard to industrial ecosystems. It proposed a comprehensive framework wherein the convergence of real-time data integration, AI-driven simulations, and predictive analytics predicts a model with respect to the lifecycle impacts of industrial setups, i.e., from site selection and energy sourcing to waste management and carbon footprint tracking. By enabling continuity in the iterative design and scenario testing through digital replicas, the Digital Twins could support eco-optimization of layout, material usage, and energy flow before physical implementation, thereby significantly reducing the environmental risks and inefficiencies. This study also evaluated case studies from industries that adopted Digital Twins for emissions control, renewable integration, and circular operations. It discussed the basic technical architecture, technology requirements, challenges in data interoperability, and the various policy implications for scaling these types of systems. The results underlined that a Digital Twin-based planning approach not only fosters operational excellence and compliance but also becomes a strategic enabler of long-term environmental sustainability in industrial growth.

Keywords: Digital twins, Environmental sustainability, Green industrial ecosystem

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The career adaptability of English teachers with a Higher National Diploma in English in the Southern Province of Sri Lanka

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This study examined the career adaptability, performance strengths, and areas for improvement of newly appointed HNDE-qualified English teachers in 2021 in the Southern Province of Sri Lanka, in *Galle*, *Matara*, and *Hambantota* districts. The sample represents young, early-career teachers who are in a transitional stage of professional identity, adapting to a new educational environment. Understanding how they navigate the challenges and develop their teaching careers can provide valuable insights for improving teacher training programs, recruitment, and support mechanisms. 48 newly recruited English teachers were selected out of 200 teachers appointed in 2021 using a random sampling method from various educational zones within the districts, *Galle*, *Matara*, and *Hambantota*. Out of them, 56% work in the *Galle* district, 26% in the *Matara* district, and 18% in *Hambantota*. The sample included 44 female (92%) and 4 male teachers (8%), aged between 24 to 34 years. A survey questionnaire based on the Career Adaptability Scale (CAAS), including 24 questionnaire items, was used to gather data. The findings reveal that English teachers demonstrate a moderately high level of career adaptability. The average mean values ranged between 3.2 and 4.0, displaying strong concern. The AVE value surpasses the suggested limit of 0.50, which supports strong convergent validity. The CR value is higher than 0.70, signifying a strong internal consistency among the items. Each subdimension of career adaptability, namely concern, control, curiosity, and confidence, shows a high degree of interrelation, which reflects a balanced and integrated adaptability framework of the English teachers. The results provide valuable insights that can inform the SLIATE community and educational sector to enhance teacher training, professional development, and further recruitment.

Key words: career adaptability, English teachers, HND in English

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Creating professional and sustainable Kuchipudi dance productions – Ekam Ardhanarishwaram

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This paper examines the multifaceted process involved in creating professional *Kuchipudi* dance productions, encompassing both the artistic and structural frameworks required to stage culturally authentic performances. Rooted in the classical tradition of Andhra Pradesh, *Kuchipudi* is renowned for its graceful movements, rhythmic complexity, *abhinaya* (expressive acting), and integration of music, storytelling, and drama. It also incorporates regional dance idioms that preserve the raw culture of the region. While the form retains its devotional and narrative essence, professional productions demand a more strategic approach that merges traditional aesthetics with contemporary production management. The study follows an Exploratory and Experimental design centered on the dance ballet *Ekam Ardhanarishwaram*, conceptualized on *Shiva Tattva*. The research integrates both qualitative and quantitative methods. Data were collected through participant observation, interviews with 12 professional dancers and collaborators, and surveys of 200 audience members, including critics, media representatives, *Gurus*, and government officials. The responses were examined through thematic analysis for interpretive insights and descriptive statistics for audience perceptions. Findings reveal that while *Kuchipudi* continues to embody devotional depth and cultural authenticity, its practitioners face critical economic challenges, including limited funding opportunities, rising production costs, and inadequate institutional support. Statistical analysis of audience feedback highlights appreciation for the thematic innovation and spiritual foundation of *Ekam Ardhanarishwaram*, but also emphasizes the need for sustainable economic planning in the performing arts. The study proposes a holistic model of production sustainability, integrating cultural preservation with viable financial strategies. By bridging the creative, structural, and economic dimensions of *Kuchipudi* practice, this paper aims to encourage future collaborations that uphold tradition while adapting to the evolving cultural economy.

Keywords: Audience, Communication, Cultural Economy, Dance Production, Difficulties, Performing Arts, Qualities, Solutions, Storytelling

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Mother tongue in the English as a Second Language (ESL) classroom: Navigating first-language use in university-level English teaching in Sri Lanka

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This study argues that the strategic use of the mother tongue (L1) Sinhala or Tamil significantly affects second language (L2) learning outcomes among Arts and Humanities undergraduates at the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, who are enrolled in compulsory English courses. It specifically addresses how selective L1 use can facilitate learner comprehension, confidence, and participation in the ESL classroom, while acknowledging potential drawbacks that may arise from overuse. English language pedagogy often promotes immersion in the target language; however, this research suggests that, in multilingual classrooms, purposeful use of the L1 may support understanding, reduce anxiety, and foster engagement without undermining L2 acquisition. To examine this balance, a mixed-methods approach was adopted. Questionnaires were distributed to 50 students to explore attitudes toward L1 use, perceived educational benefits and drawbacks, and its impact on English learning. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 10 students and 5 English language instructors, along with classroom observations, to analyze classroom practices, learner confidence, and the pedagogical reasoning behind L1 use. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, and qualitative data were thematically coded and analyzed. The results support the central argument that limited and purposeful use of Sinhala or Tamil in the classroom improves comprehension and reduces anxiety, especially during grammar and vocabulary instruction. Students reported that occasional L1 explanations clarified difficult concepts. However, both students and instructors noted that too much reliance on L1 diminished opportunities for English practice. Despite a modest sample size, these findings suggest that a carefully balanced, intentional approach to mother tongue use through brief translation, code-switching, or L1 scaffolding best enhances L2 learning, affirming the study's main argument that support can be provided without compromising immersion.

Keywords: ELT, ESL, L1 Sinhala speakers, L1 Tamil speakers, Mother Tongue, University level

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Dharma vs. adharma: The dramatic importance of pratināyakas in Kuchipudi dance tradition

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The opposition between *dharma* (righteousness) and *adharma* (unrighteousness) forms the philosophical and dramatic foundation of Indian art traditions. In *Kuchipudi*, a classical dance form from Andhra Pradesh with roots in *Yakshagana* (dance-drama), this duality is expressed through the interplay between the *Nayaka* (hero) and the *Pratinayaka* (antagonist). The *Pratinayaka* is not a secondary figure but a pivotal force whose presence drives the narrative, heightens dramatic tension, and reinforces the moral essence of performance. This paper explores the characterization, symbolism, and performance techniques of these antagonistic roles. Employing an Exploratory methodology, the study draws from aesthetic theories in the *Nāṭya Shāstra* and analyses select *Kuchipudi Yakshaganas* to understand the portrayal of *Pratināyakas* such as Narakasura in *Parijata Apaharaṇam*, Ravana in *Ramayana*, Hiranyakasyapa in *Prahlada Charitam*, and Banasura in *Usha Parinayam*. These characters embody arrogance, pride, and ego, and their downfall advances the plot while affirming the triumph of *dharma* over *adharma*. The study also examines how *Pratināyakas* evoke *rasa*. Through their actions, *raudra* (anger), *bhayanaka* (fear), *bhibhatsa* (disgust), and *hāsyā* (humor) emerge. Performance techniques—including dynamic *āṅgika abhinaya* (body movements), heightened *vācika* (dialogue), elaborate *āhārya* (costume and make-up), and expressive *sātvika* (inner emotion)—enhance their theatrical presence. A Statistical Analysis based on interviews with *Gurus*, dance patrons, and observation of actors portraying villain characters on screen supplements the study. In conclusion, the paper argues that the *Pratinayaka* in *Kuchipudi* is a dramatic and philosophical necessity. By embodying *adharma*, these characters reaffirm *dharma*, ensuring that *Kuchipudi* remains a vibrant artistic expression and a living reflection of India's moral and cultural ethos.

Keywords: Adharma, Aesthetics, Dharma, Kuchipudi, Pratināyakas, Rasa, Yakshagana

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Breaking the protocol: Why it is essential to break traditional protocols and redistribute power

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Traditional bureaucratic systems often centralize authority, curbing autonomy, creativity, and participatory engagement within institutions. This study investigated the necessity of breaking away from rigid hierarchical protocols and redistributing power to enable independent governance and collective decision-making. Employing a qualitative case study methodology, the research analyzed a real-world instance involving postgraduate students in a Sri Lankan university who faced institutional constraints while attempting to organize an independent event. Data were collected through participant observation, document analysis, and informal interviews, enabling a nuanced understanding of how institutionalized control mechanisms manifest in academic settings. The analysis was guided by theoretical frameworks from Foucault's concept of disciplinary power, Bourdieu's theory of symbolic power, Weber's model of bureaucracy, and Ostrom's principles of participatory governance. Findings revealed that bureaucratic intervention, often justified through procedural rationality, reinforces dependence and suppresses self-organization. Moreover, cultural conditioning and internalized hierarchies perpetuate compliance, even among educated individuals. The study concluded that decentralized decision-making and participatory governance foster greater efficiency, innovation, and empowerment, particularly within educational institutions. By rethinking traditional authority structures, this paper advocates for a transformative governance paradigm that prioritizes autonomy, collaboration, and democratic agency across institutional and societal domains.

Keywords: Power redistribution, Institutional autonomy, Participatory governance, Bureaucratic control, Organizational culture, Decentralization

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ජේ.ඒ. තරිඳු මාධව^{1*}

¹මානවශාස්ත්‍ර පීඨය, කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

මෙම පර්යේෂණයෙන් සිදු කරන ලද්දේ කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර පීඨයේ කළමනාකරණ සහකාරවරුන් විසින් සිදු කරනු ලබන දෛනික කාර්ය කාර්යක්ෂමතාව වැඩි දියුණු කිරීම සඳහා කෘත්‍රිම බුද්ධි (AI) තාක්ෂණය භාවිත කිරීමේ දී එම මෙවලම් භාවිත කිරීම මගින් සිදු වන කාර්යක්ෂමතාව පිළිබඳ පර්යේෂණාත්මක ගවේෂණයකි. රාජකාරී ලිපි ලිවීම, ඉන්වෙන්ටරි කළමනාකරණය සහ අභ්‍යන්තර ලියකියවිලි හැසිරවීම වැනි විවිධ පරිපාලන රාජකාරී කටයුතු සිදු කිරීම යනාදිය කාර්යාලවල සේවයේ නියුතු කළමනාකරණ සහකාරවරුන්ගේ කාර්ය හා වගකීම්වලට ඇතුළත් වේ. මෙම කටයුතු සිදු කිරීමේ දී එල්ල වන ප්‍රධාන අභියෝගයක් වන්නේ ඉංග්‍රීසි භාෂාවෙන් ලිපි ලේඛන සකස් කිරීමේ දී නිවැරදි ව්‍යාකරණ භාවිතය, භාෂාව සහ ලිවීමේ විලාස භාවිත කිරීමේ දී සිදු වන දෝෂසහගත තත්වයයි. මෙම ගැටලු විසඳීම සඳහා බොහෝ දෙනෙකු තම දෛනික කාර්යවල දී ChatGPT, DeepSeek හා Google Translate වැනි AI මෙවලම් භාවිත කිරීම ආරම්භ කර තිබේ. මෙම පර්යේෂණයේ නියැදිය වූ කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර පීඨයේ අනධ්‍යයන කාර්ය මණ්ඩල සාමාජිකයින්ගෙන් කළමනාකරණ සහකාරවරුන් විසිනි දෙනෙකු සමඟ සම්මුඛ සාකච්ඡා මගින් සාම්පල ලබා ගැනීමෙන් සම්ප්‍රදායිකව ප්‍රශ්නාවලියක් ඔස්සේ දත්ත රැස් කරන ලදී. ගුණාත්මක පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය මෙම දත්ත ලබා ගැනීම සඳහා භාවිත කරන ලද අතර, දත්ත විශ්ලේෂණයේ දී අන්තර්ගත විශ්ලේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය භාවිත කරන ලදී. දත්ත විශ්ලේෂණයෙන් අනාවරණය වූ කරුණුවලට අනුව කළමනාකරණ සහකාරවරුන් ඉහත සඳහන් AI මෙවලම් නීතිපතා භාවිත කරන බවත් එදිනෙදා ඉංග්‍රීසි භාෂාවෙන් ලිපි සකස් කිරීමේ දී AI මෙවලම් ඉතා ප්‍රයෝජනවත් ලෙස භාවිත වන බවත් අනාවරණය කර ගන්නා ලදී. තව ද AI මෙවලම් භාවිතය මගින් පරිපාලන කටයුතුවල කාර්යක්ෂමතාව සහ ගුණාත්මකභාවය යන දෙකෙහි ම සැලකිය යුතු ලෙස වර්ධනයක් සිදු වී ඇති බව දක්නට ලැබේ. AI මෙවලම් කාර්යක්ෂම ව යොදා ගැනීම හා එහි ප්‍රතිලාභ උපරිම කිරීම සඳහා තවදුරටත් එය භාවිත කරන්නන් වෙත දැනුම ලබා දීම හා විධිමත් පුහුණුව ලබා දීම සිදු කළ යුතු ය. එමගින් විශ්වවිද්‍යාල ක්ෂේත්‍රයේ කාර්ය කාර්යක්ෂමතාව හා නිවැරදි ලෙස සිදු කර ගැනීමට හැකියාව ලැබේ.

මූලාස පද: කළමනාකරණ සහායකයින්, කාර්යාල කාර්යක්ෂමතාව, කෘත්‍රිම බුද්ධිය, මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර පීඨය

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පුරාවිද්‍යා ඡායාරූපකරණයේ න්‍යායාත්මක පසුබිම පිළිබඳ අධ්‍යයනයක්

ඒ.එම්.ටී.ඩී. අබේසිංහ^{1*}

¹මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර අධ්‍යයනාංශය, ශ්‍රී ලංකා රජරට විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

මානව ශිෂ්ටාචාරයේ අතීත උරුමකම් හඳුනා ගැනීම, ඒ හා සබැඳි භෞතික පරිසරය වාර්තාගත කිරීම මෙන් ම ඊට අදාළ දෘශ්‍ය තොරතුරු සම්පාදනය පුරාවිද්‍යා විෂය ක්ෂේත්‍රයේ නිරතුරු ව ම සිදුවෙමින් පවතින්නකි. පුරාවිද්‍යා ස්මාරක හා පුරාකෘති, පුරාවිද්‍යා වැඩබිම්, පුරාවිද්‍යා කැණීම්, පුරාවිද්‍යා හැඳෑරීම් සහ අධ්‍යයන, පුරාවිද්‍යාත්මක දත්ත වාර්තාකරණය, සංරක්ෂණය සහ ප්‍රචාරණය යන ක්‍රියාවලිවල දී ඡායාරූප ශිල්පයේ ව්‍යවහාරික යෙදීම් බහුල ව දක්නට ලැබේ. සාමාන්‍ය ඡායාරූපකරණ ව්‍යවහාර විධිවලට සීමා නොවී, පුරාවිද්‍යා විෂය සඳහා අවශ්‍ය ඡායාරූප සම්පාදනය කවර න්‍යායාත්මක පදනමක පිහිටා ඉටු කළ යුතු ද යන්න විමසා බැලීම මෙම අධ්‍යයනයේ අරමුණ යි. පුරාවිද්‍යා ඡායාරූපකරණයේ දී විෂයබද්ධ අරමුණු යථාවත් ලෙස රූපයට නගනු පිණිස අනුගමනය කළ යුතු ප්‍රමිති කවරේ දැයි නිශ්චය කිරීම මෙහි පර්යේෂණ ගැටලුව වේ. මෙහි දී ගුණාත්මක පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය යොදා ගැනුණි. ක්‍රි.ව. 1900ට පෙර මෙරට පුරාවිද්‍යාත්මක තොරතුරු ඇතුළත් විදේශ භාෂාවලින් මුද්‍රිත ග්‍රන්ථවලින් ඡායාරූප තුන්සියක් තෝරාගනු ලැබිණි. ඒවා 1870 - 1900 කාල පරාසයට අයත් පුරාවිද්‍යාත්මක ඡායාරූප (Archaeological photographs) වේ. මෙම ඡායාරූපවල ප්‍රකාශනාත්මක හා තාක්ෂණික ව්‍යවහාර විධි පහත නිර්ණායක හත මත පිහිටා අන්තර්ගත විෂය විශ්ලේෂණයට බඳුන් කෙරුණි. රූගතකරණයේ දී හැකි සෑම අවස්ථාවක ම පියෙවි ඇසට අනුරූපී දෘෂ්ටිකෝණ යොදා ගැනීම, දර්ශන කෝණය 50⁰ සහිත සාමාන්‍ය පර්යාවලෝක සහිත කාම භාවිතය, ත්‍රිපාද පීඨ පරිහරණය, අධි සැසඳුමින් තොර මධ්‍යම තත්වයේ මෘදු ආලෝක යොදාගැනීම, වර්ණවත් පින්තාරු රූගතකරණයේ දී අධිතිව්‍රතා සහිත කෘත්‍රිම ආලෝක නොයෙදීම, වැඩි ක්ෂේත්‍ර ගැඹුරක් සහිත ව රූපගත කිරීම, සම්මත මිනුම් හා ක්ෂේත්‍රගත ව්‍යවහාරික මිනුම් ඇසුරින් පරිමාණානුකූල රූ ගැන්වීම යන නිර්ණායක ඒ සඳහා පදනම් විය. එසේ ම යථාව ප්‍රකාශනය උදෙසා පශ්චාත් ඡායාරූපකරණ ක්‍රියාවලියේ දී රාමු සීමාකරණය (Crop), සැසඳීම (Contrast), දීප්තතාව (Brightness) යන තාක්ෂණික හසුරුවාලීම්වලට සීමා විය යුතු බව හඳුනා ගැනුණි. ඊට අමතර ව රූගත කරන ප්‍රතිබිම්බ සංස්කරණ ක්‍රියාවලියකට (Manipulation) බඳුන් නොකිරීමත් රූ ගතකරණය හා අදාළ තාක්ෂණික දත්ත, සිද්ධිමය කරුණු සහ භාෂාමය තොරතුරු වාර්තාකරණයත් පුරාවිද්‍යා ඡායාරූපකරණයේ න්‍යායාත්මක පදනම සේ සැලකිය යුතු බව නිගමනය කළ හැකි විය.

මූලාශ්‍ර පද: ක්ෂේත්‍ර ගැඹුර, පරිමාණානුකූල රූ ගැන්වීම, දීප්තතාව, පුරාවිද්‍යා ඡායාරූපකරණය, සැසඳීම

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කොහොඹාකංකාරී ශාන්ති කර්මය හා බැඳුණු ජල සංකල්පය ආශ්‍රිත රෝග නිවාරණය

ටී.ජී.එම්. ඉමල්ෂාන් ටැංවත්ත^{1*}

¹ලලිත කලා අධ්‍යයන අංශය, මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර හා සමාජීය විද්‍යා පීඨය, පේරාදෙණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

ශ්‍රී ලාංකේය ශාන්තිකර්ම අතුරින් කොහොඹාකංකාරී ශාන්ති කර්මයෙහි ජල සංකල්පය හා බැඳී පවතින රෝග නිවාරණය පිළිබඳ අධ්‍යයනය කිරීම මෙම පර්යේෂණයේ අපේක්ෂාවයි. මානව විද්‍යාත්මක ව බලන විට ජීවියාගේ පැවැත්ම රඳා පවතින්නේ ජලය පදනම්කර ගනිමිනි. මිනිසාගේ උත්පත්තියත් සමග ජලය විවිධාකාරයෙන් මිනිස් ජීවිත හා බැඳී පවතී. එහි එක් අවස්ථාවක් වශයෙන් පූජා කර්ම සඳහා සෙත් ශාන්තිය ලබා ගැනීමේ අරමුණින් ජල සංකල්පය යොදාගනු ලැබීම දැක්විය හැකි ය. ඒ අනුව කොහොඹාකංකාරී ශාන්ති කර්මයේ දී ජල සංකල්පය යොදා ගැනෙන අවස්ථා මොනවා ද? සහ ජල සංකල්පය භාවිත කරමින් රෝග නිවාරණය සිදු කෙරෙන්නේ කෙසේද? යන්න මෙම පර්යේෂණයට අදාළ පර්යේෂණ ගැටලු වේ. ගුණාත්මක පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය යටතේ සිදු කෙරෙන මෙම පර්යේෂණයේ දී පාරම්පරික ශාන්ති කර්ම ඇදුරන් හා විද්වතුන් සමග මූලික තොරතුරු සපයා ගැනීම සඳහා සම්මුඛ සාකච්ඡා සිදුකරන ලදී. මෙම පර්යේෂණය සඳහා දත්ත එක්දස් කර ගැනීමට අන්තර්ජාල පරිශීලනය, විඩියෝ දර්ශන නැරඹීම හා ශාස්ත්‍රීය ග්‍රන්ථ පරිශීලනය මගින් ද දත්ත එක්දස් කිරීම සිදුකරන ලදී. කොහොඹාකංකාරී ශාන්ති කර්මය ආරම්භයේ සිට අවසන් වන තුරු එකිනෙකට බද්ධ වූ පූජා චාරිත්‍රවල ජලය භාවිත කරන ආකාරය දැකගත හැකි ය. මෙහි දී ප්‍රථමයෙන් යක්දෙස්සන් හා අතෝරකරුවන් ස්නානය කොට පිරිසිදු වන්නේ එමගින් ආතුරයාට සිදු කරනු ලබන සෙත් ශාන්තිය මගින් ආයු වඩා දෝෂය දුරු කරලීමට අවශ්‍ය ශාන්තිය උදාකර ගැනීමේ අරමුණෙනි. හත් පදයට කහ දියර භාවිත කෙරේ. කොතල පදය නැටීමේ දී ද පුවක් මල් කිනිත්තක් ආධාරයෙන් කහ දියර මිශ්‍ර ජලය ඉසිමින් නර්තනය කරනු ලබන අතර, එමගින් කංකාරී භූමියෙහි විෂ බීජ හරණය අපේක්ෂා කෙරේ. මෙම ශාන්ති කර්මය සඳහා අවශ්‍ය ජලය ලබා ගන්නා ස්ථානය වන පැත්ත තොට ගොක් රැහැන් ඇද පිරිසිදු කොට උඩුවියන් සහිත පංච තුරය වාදනයෙන් කංකාරී භූමියට රැගෙන එනු ලබන්නේ බුදුන් වහන්සේ ප්‍රමුඛ දෙවියන් උදෙසා භාවිත වන පැත්ත ගෞරවය පෙරදැරි කොට භාවිත කිරීමෙන් රෝග දෝෂ නිවාරණය කිරීමේ අපේක්ෂාව සාක්ෂාත් කර ගැනීමේ අරමුණෙනි. තව ද කංකාරී භූමියේ දී අවශ්‍ය ද්‍රව්‍ය පරිහරණයට ප්‍රථම ජලයෙන් පිරිසිදු කර ගැනීම සිදුවන්නේ රෝග දෝෂ නිවාරණය කර ගැනීමේ අධිෂ්ඨානයෙන් යුතු ව සියල්ල පවිත්‍ර ව සිදු කළ යුතු බැවිනි. මෙහි දී ජල සංකල්පය ආශ්‍රිත චාරිත්‍ර මගින් අපේක්ෂිත රෝග නිවාරණය සඳහා ජල සංකල්පය ඔස්සේ ප්‍රබල පිටුබලක් ලැබෙන බව මෙම පර්යේෂණයෙන් නිගමනය කළ හැකි ය.

මූල්‍ය පද: උඩරට, කොහොඹාකංකාරිය, ජලය, නිවාරණය, රෝග

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ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ යටත්විජිත යුගයේ මුද්‍රණ කර්මාන්තයේ ආරම්භය හා විකාශය පිළිබඳ අධ්‍යයනයක් (1737-1948)

මේධාවි මනතුංග¹*

¹පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු විද්‍යා දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව, සමාජීය විද්‍යා පීඨය, කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ මුද්‍රණ කර්මාන්තය ආරම්භ වන්නේ යටත්විජිත යුගයේ දී ය. යටත්විජිත යුගයේ ඉතිහාසය පිළිබඳ පර්යේෂකයන් වැඩිදෙනෙකුගේ අවධානය යොමු වූව ද යටත්විජිත යුගයේ මුද්‍රණ කර්මාන්තයේ ඉතිහාසය පිළිබඳ පර්යේෂකයන්ගේ අවධානය යොමු වී ඇත්තේ අවම වශයෙනි. මෙම පර්යේෂණයේ ප්‍රධාන අරමුණ වන්නේ ලංකාවේ යටත්විජිත යුගයේ මුද්‍රණ කර්මාන්තයේ ආරම්භය හා විකාශය පිළිබඳ අධ්‍යයනය කිරීම යි. ඊට අමතර ව යටත්විජිත යුගයේ දී මුද්‍රණ කර්මාන්තයේ පැවැත්මට ඵල්ල වූ විවිධ බලපෑම්, මුද්‍රණය වූ සාහිත්‍යය, මුද්‍රණාලවල භාවිතය පිළිබඳ අධ්‍යයනය කිරීම යන අරමුණු ද ප්‍රස්තුත වී තිබේ. ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ යටත්විජිත යුගයේ මුද්‍රණ කර්මාන්තයේ ආරම්භය හා විකාශය ආදී විමසුමක් වන බැවින් මෙම පර්යේෂණය ගුණාත්මක පර්යේෂණ ගණයට ගැනෙන අතර, ඓතිහාසික පර්යේෂණ ආකෘතියට පර්යේෂණය සිදු කෙරේ. මේ සඳහා දත්ත ලබා ගැනීමට Ceylon Blue Book, Ceylon Almanac, ෆර්ගියුසන් නාමාවලිය, ලංකාවේ අධ්‍යාපනය සියවස ප්‍රකාශනය, ලංකා පාලි සාහිත්‍ය වැනි ඓතිහාසික ප්‍රාථමික මූලාශ්‍රය භාවිත විය. එසේ ම ජාතික ලේඛනාරක්ෂක දෙපාර්තමේන්තුවේ සහ කොළඹ ජාතික කෞතුකාගාර පුස්තකාලයේ තොරතුරු ද කොළඹ ජාතික පුස්තකාලයේ තොරතුරු ද මේ සඳහා දායක වී ඇත. මෙහිදී පෘතුගීසි, ලන්දේසි සහ බ්‍රිතාන්‍ය යුගවල මුද්‍රණාල ආරම්භය හා ප්‍රකාශන පිළිබඳ විශ්ලේෂණයක් සිදුකර ඇත. මෙම පර්යේෂණ ප්‍රතිඵල අනුව ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ මුද්‍රණ කර්මාන්තය ආරම්භ වීම පිළිබඳ තොරතුරු වාර්තා වන්නේ 1737 ලන්දේසි යුගයේ දී ය. යටත්විජිත යුගයේ දී පරිපාලන සහ ආගමික අරමුණු සඳහා මෙම මුද්‍රණාල භාවිත කළ බව තහවුරු විය. එසේ ම ආගම ප්‍රචාරය, පාලන අවශ්‍යතා හා අධ්‍යාපන ප්‍රතිපත්ති මුද්‍රණ කර්මාන්තයේ පැවැත්මට බලපා ඇත. ඒ අනුව ලන්දේසි මුද්‍රණාලය, බ්‍රිතාන්‍ය රජයේ මුද්‍රණාලය සහ මිෂනාරි මුද්‍රණාල ආරම්භ විය. ශ්‍රී ලාංකිකයෝ දේශීය ආගම් හා දැනුම බෙදා දීමට මුද්‍රණාල පිහිට වූහ. 19වන සියවස වන විට පුවත්පත්, සඟරා හා ප්‍රබන්ධ කතා මුද්‍රණය වීමත් සමග සාහිත්‍යයේ විවිධත්වයක් ඇති විය. මෙම පර්යේෂණ සොයා ගැනීම්වලින් ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ යටත්විජිත යුගයේ දී බටහිර ජාතීන්ගේ අරමුණු ඉටුකරගැනීම සඳහා මුද්‍රණ කර්මාන්තය භාවිත වූව ද එය ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ සාහිත්‍යය, අධ්‍යාපනය හා පුවත්පත් කර්මාන්තයට ද ප්‍රබල බලපෑමක් සිදුකළ බව තහවුරු විය.

මූලාශ්‍ර පද: මුද්‍රණ කර්මාන්තය, මුද්‍රණ තාක්ෂණය, මුද්‍රණ නීති, මුද්‍රණාල, යටත්විජිත යුගය

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නූතන සිංහල බෞද්ධ සිනමාව ඔස්සේ ප්‍රතියමාන වන ප්‍රවණතා පිළිබඳ විමර්ශනාත්මක අධ්‍යයනයක්

මෙත්තිකා කාරියවසම්^{1*} සහ එච්.ඒ. දිලුම් රත්නමාලා¹

¹මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර අධ්‍යයාංශය, සමාජීය විද්‍යා සහ මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර පීඨය, ඇක්වයින්ස් උසස් අධ්‍යාපන ආයතනය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

ලෝකයේ සත් වැනි කලාව සේ සැලකෙන සිනමාව අනෙකුත් සියලු ම කලාවන්ගෙන් පෝෂණය වන කලාවකි. ලොව සිනමා ධාරාවල අවශේෂ සිනමා ධාරාවක් වන සිංහල සිනමාවේ එක් අතුරු ධාරාවක් ලෙස බෞද්ධ සිනමාපට හඳුන්වාදිය හැකි ය. ඉතා ඈත ඉතිහාසයක් ඇති මේ සිනමාපටවලට වර්තමානයේ ඉහළ ජනප්‍රියත්වයක් හිමිවී ඇත. ජාතික කතා වස්තුවිෂය කරගත් චිත්‍රපට, බුද්ධ චරිතය හා බුද්ධකාලීන චරිත වස්තු විෂය කරගත් චිත්‍රපට සහ බෞද්ධාගමික සංකල්ප පදනම් කරගත් චිත්‍රපට වශයෙන් මේ චිත්‍රපට වර්ගීකරණයකට ලක් කළ හැකි ය. අතිශය දැවැන්ත ගණයේ නිර්මාණ වන මෙකී බෞද්ධ සිනමාපට ප්‍රබල ප්‍රේක්ෂක ආකර්ෂණයකට ලක් වී ඇති බව හඳුනාගත හැකි ලක්ෂණයකි. නමුත් එම නිර්මාණවල ගුණාත්මකභාවය සම්බන්ධයෙන් යම් මතභේදාත්මකභාවයක් උද්ගත ව ඇත. වසර 2000න් පසු ව තිරගත වූ බෞද්ධ සිනමාපට මේ පර්යේෂණයේ දී විමර්ශනයට භාජනය කෙරේ. මෙහි පර්යේෂණ ගැටලුව වන්නේ 'නූතන සිංහල බෞද්ධ සිනමාවෙන් ප්‍රකට වන ප්‍රවණතාවල ස්වරූපය කවරාකාර ද?' යන්න යි. ඒ අනුව නූතන සිංහල බෞද්ධ සිනමාවේ ප්‍රවණතා පිළිබඳ ව අධ්‍යයනයට ලක් කිරීම මෙහි පර්යේෂණ අරමුණ වේ. මෙහි පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය වශයෙන් ගුණාත්මක පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය භාවිත විය. ප්‍රාථමික මූලාශ්‍රය වශයෙන් සංකාරා, මහින්දාගමනය, කුස පබා, ශ්‍රී සිද්ධාර්ථ ගෞතම, සිරි දළදාගමනය, මහරජ අජාසත්, බිම්බා දේවී, ආඝ, ගුත්තිලය හා බුද්ධ මාතා යන චිත්‍රපට යොදා ගැනිණි. එමෙන් ම ද්විතීයික මූලාශ්‍රය ලෙස සිනමාව සම්බන්ධ කෘති හා පර්යේෂණ ලිපි භාවිත විය. මෙම පර්යේෂණය සිදු කිරීමේ දී දත්ත රැස්කර ගැනීම සඳහා අසුන්ගත අධ්‍යයන (Desk Study) ක්‍රමවේදය යටතේ සමාජ සංස්කෘතික සන්දර්භ අධ්‍යයන විධික්‍රමය යොදා ගැනිණි. ගුණාත්මක දත්ත විශ්ලේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදයක් වන ආධ්‍යාන විශ්ලේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය යටතේ තේමාත්මක ආධ්‍යාන විශ්ලේෂණ භාවිතයෙන් දත්ත විශ්ලේෂණ සිදු කරන ලදී. මෙහි ප්‍රමුඛතම පර්යේෂණ සොයා ගැනීම ලෙස නූතන බෞද්ධ සිනමාවෙන් ප්‍රතියමාන වන සිනමාත්මක භාවිතාව දුර්වල වීම හඳුනාගත හැකි ය. වාණිජවාදී, දැවැන්ත සිනමාපට නිර්මාණය වීම සහ පරිණාමයට අනුරූප ව දක්නට ලැබෙන අවනතිය යන ප්‍රවණතා ද හඳුනා ගැනුණි. පර්යේෂණයේ දී සනාථ වූ සාධනීය ලක්ෂණය වන්නේ ඇතැම් සිනමාපටයක බෞද්ධාගමික සංකල්ප නිර්මාණාත්මක ව භාවිත වී තිබීම යි.

මූලාස පද: බෞද්ධාගමික සිනමාව, වස්තුවිෂය, සිනමාත්මක භාවිතාව

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සිංහල හා දෙමළ සමූහිකයකාර සංකීර්ණ කථන වාක්‍යවල සම-විසමතා

එම්.බී. දිල්හානි^{1*}

¹සිංහල හා ජනසන්නිවේදන අධ්‍යයනාංගය, ශ්‍රී ජයවර්ධනපුර විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

අර්ථයෙන් පරිපූර්ණ, සරල වාක්‍ය දෙකක්/කිහිපයක් එක් වී නිර්මාණය වන්නේ සංකීර්ණ වාක්‍ය යි. මේ හැරුණු කොට උපවාක්‍ය හා වාක්‍යාංග යන ඒකක ප්‍රධාන වාක්‍යයකට සම්බන්ධ වීමෙන් ද සංකීර්ණ වාක්‍ය ගොඩනගාගත හැකි ය. සංකීර්ණ වාක්‍යවල දීර්ඝත්වය සීමා කළ නොහැක්කේ පූර්ව ක්‍රියා, සමූහිකයාර්ථයේ නිපාත, සම්බන්ධකාරක පද යනාදියෙන් වාක්‍ය කිහිපයක් එකට සම්බන්ධ කළ හැකිවන නිසා ය. ඒ අනුව මෙහි දී සිංහල හා දෙමළ කථන ව්‍යවහාරවල සමූහිකයකාර සංකීර්ණ වාක්‍යවල පවත්නා සම-විසමතා කවරේ ද? යන ගැටලුව පිළිබඳ විමර්ශනයට ලක් කෙරේ. භාෂා ද්වයෙහි සමූහිකයකරණයට ලක් වූ සංකීර්ණ වාක්‍යවල සමානතා හා අසමානතා හඳුනාගැනීමත් ඒ ඔස්සේ අධ්‍යයනකරුවාට දෙවන භාෂාවක් ලෙස මෙම භාෂා ඉගෙනීමේ දී මතුවන දුෂ්කරතා මග හරවා ගැනීමත් මෙම පර්යේෂණයේ අරමුණු වේ. ගුණාත්මක පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය යටතේ නිරීක්ෂණ මගින් ලබාගත් ප්‍රාථමික දත්ත හා පුස්තකාලයීය පරිශීලනය ඔස්සේ ලබාගත් ද්විතීයික දත්ත තේමාත්මක විශ්ලේෂණය යොදා ගනිමින් අධ්‍යයනය කෙරිණි. නිරීක්ෂණය වූ අයුරින් වාක්‍ය සමූහිකයකරණය උදෙසා නිපාත භාවිතයේදී සිංහල භාෂාවේ සමානාර්ථ සහිත නිපාත කිහිපයක් යොදා ගැනුණ ද දෙමළ භාෂාවේ භාවිත වන නිපාත පද සංඛ්‍යාත්මක ව අවම වේ. පූර්ව ක්‍රියා මගින් සිදුවන සමූහිකයකරණයේ දී සිංහල කථන ව්‍යවහාරයේ භාවිත වාක්‍යවල කාලය පිළිබඳ නිශ්චිත අවබෝධයක් ලබාගැනීම සඳහා අදාළ ප්‍රකරණය පිළිබඳ අවධානය යොමු කළ යුතු වේ. නමුත් දෙමළ භාෂාවේ දී ලේඛන ව්‍යවහාරයත් කථන ව්‍යවහාරයත් යන දෙකෙහි දී ම කාලය දක්වීම සඳහා කාලත්‍රයට අදාළ කාල ප්‍රත්‍ය වෙන් වෙන් වශයෙන් ආඛ්‍යාතයට එකතු කරනු ලබයි. වාක්‍ය සමූහිකයකරණය සඳහා මිශ්‍ර ක්‍රියා භාවිතයේ දී භාෂා දෙකෙහි දී ම ක්‍රියා මූලයට ප්‍රත්‍ය එකතු කිරීම සහ කෘදන්තය සමග නිපාත යෙදීම සිදු වේ. එසේ ම සමාන තර්ක විභක්ති ලෝපනය මගින් සිදුවන වාක්‍ය සමූහිකයකරණයේ දී කර්ම, සම්බන්ධ විභක්ති අතර අසමානතා පවතින අතර අනෙක් විභක්තිවල දී සමානතා දක්නට ලැබේ. යථෝක්ත තේමාත්මක විශ්ලේෂණයට අනුව භාෂා දෙකෙහි සමූහිකයකාර වාක්‍යවල සමානතා මෙන් ම අසමානතා දක්නට ලැබේ. අසමාන අවස්ථා සඳහා වැඩි වශයෙන් බලපා ඇත්තේ ප්‍රත්‍ය ගැන්වීමේ දී සිදුවන වෙනස්කම් ය. මෙම අසමානතා පූර්වයේ දී හඳුනා ගැනීමෙන් දෙවන භාෂා අධ්‍යයනකරුවාගේ භාෂා දෝෂ අවම කරගත හැකි ය.

මූලාස පද: කථන ව්‍යවහාරය, දෙමළ, සංකීර්ණ වාක්‍ය, සමූහිකයකරණය, සිංහල

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ජන සංගීත අධ්‍යාපනයෙන් සිසුන්ගේ සමාජීය හැකියා සංවර්ධනයට සිදුවන බලපෑම

එච්.එම්.ඩී.එස්. හේරත්^{1*}, සිතාරි තිලකරත්න²

¹මානවවංශ සංගීතවිද්‍යා අධ්‍යයනාංශය, සංගීත පීඨය, සෞන්දර්ය කලා විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

²අධ්‍යාපන මනෝවිද්‍යා අධ්‍යයනාංශය, අධ්‍යාපන පීඨය, කොළඹ විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

රටක ජන සංගීතය යනු විශිෂ්ට පාරම්පරික උරුමයක් පමණක් නොව, ජන ජීවිතය හා බද්ධ වූ හැඟීම්, අභිප්‍රේරණ සහ වටිනාකම් ප්‍රකාශ කරන මාධ්‍යයකි. ජන සංගීත අධ්‍යාපනයෙන් සිසුන්ගේ සමාජීය හැකියා වර්ධනය වන බව අධ්‍යාපනය පිළිබඳ පර්යේෂකයෝ ද පෙන්වා දෙති. ශ්‍රී ලාංකේය පාසල් අධ්‍යාපනයේ අන්තර්ගත ජන සංගීතය විෂයමාලාවෙන් සිසුන්ගේ සන්නිවේදනය, සහයෝගීතාව, නායකත්වය, සමාජ සම්බන්ධතා සහ සහභාගීත්වය යන හැකියා කෙරෙහි ඇති කරනු ලබන බලපෑම විමසා බැලීම අරමුණු කරගෙන මෙම පර්යේෂණය සිදු කෙරිණි. මෙය ගුණාත්මක ප්‍රවේශයෙන් සිදු වූ අතර ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ පළාත් තුනක නාගරික, අර්ධනාගරික හා ග්‍රාමීය යන පාසල් වර්ග ඇතුළත් වන සේ පාසල් නවයක්, ගුරුවරු දහඅටක් සහ 6, 7, 8 ශ්‍රේණි ආචාරණය වන පරිදි සිසුහු අනුවත් නියැදියට අයත් වූහ. පාසල් සහ ගුරුවරුන් තෝරාගැනීමට සහේතුක නියැදිකරණය යොදාගැනුණු අතර, සිසුහු අහඹු නියැදිකරණය යටතේ තෝරා ගැනුණහ. දත්ත රැස්කිරීම සඳහා සම්මුඛ පරීක්ෂණ සහ නිරීක්ෂණ නියමාවලී යොදා ගන්නා ලදී. දත්ත විශ්ලේෂණය කිරීමට අර්ථ නිරූපණාත්මක ව තේමා විශ්ලේෂණය භාවිත කරන ලදී. සන්නිවේදන හැකියා, සහයෝගීතාව හා නායකත්වය ජන සංගීත විෂය ආශ්‍රිත ක්‍රියාකාරකම් ඔස්සේ සැලකිය යුතු මට්ටමකින් වර්ධනය වී ඇති බව මෙහි දී අනාවරණය වූ අතර සංස්කෘතික අනන්‍යතාව පිළිබඳ අවබෝධය වැඩි වී ඇති බව ද අනාවරණය විය. සාමකාමී බව, ගරුත්වය හා එකමුතු බව ආදී මෘදු කුසලතාවල වර්ධනයක් ද සිසුන් තුළ සිදු ව ඇති බව තවදුරටත් අනාවරණය කර ගත හැකි විය.

මූලාස පද: ජන සංගීත අධ්‍යාපනය, ජන සංගීතය විෂයමාලාව, සමාජීය හැකියා

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ගංවතුර සඳහා සුදානම වැඩිදියුණු කිරීමට ජංගම දුරකථන භාවිතය (මාතර දිස්ත්‍රික්කයේ අවදානම් කණ්ඩායම් අතර ඩිජිටල් ප්‍රවේශය පිළිබඳ පර්යේෂණාත්මක අධ්‍යයනයක්)

කේ.එස්. සිල්වා^{1*}

¹මානව සම්පත් දියුණුව පිළිබඳ ආයතනය (IHRA), කොළඹ විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ පසුගිය වසරවල දී ගංවතුර වැනි ස්වාභාවික ආපදා සිදුවීම් වැඩි වීම හේතුවෙන් ප්‍රාදේශීය සහ ජාතික මට්ටමින් ආපදා කළමනාකරණ ක්‍රියාවලිය වඩාත් ඵලදායී කර ගැනීමට අවශ්‍යතාවක් උදා කර ඇත. විශේෂයෙන් ම, ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ ආපදා කළමනාකරණය හා තොරතුරු තාක්ෂණය සම්බන්ධ පර්යේෂණ බහුල වුව ද, ජංගම දුරකථන භාවිතය ඔස්සේ ඩිජිටල් ප්‍රවේශය වර්ධනය කරමින් අවදානම් කණ්ඩායම්වල ආපදා සුදානම වැඩිදියුණු කිරීම පිළිබඳ ගැඹුරු විග්‍රහයක් සිදු වීම අවම වේ. මෙය මෙම පර්යේෂණයේ ප්‍රධාන පර්යේෂණ හිදැස ලෙස හඳුනාගත හැකි ය. ඒ අනුව, මෙම පර්යේෂණයේ අරමුණ වූයේ ගංවතුර සඳහා දැඩි ව මුහුණ දෙන මාතර දිස්ත්‍රික්කයේ ප්‍රජාව අතර ජංගම තාක්ෂණය භාවිතයෙන් ඩිජිටල් ප්‍රවේශය වැඩිදියුණු කිරීමේ හැකියාව විශ්ලේෂණය කිරීම හා එමඟින් ආපදා සුදානම ශක්තිමත් කිරීම යි. පර්යේෂණය සඳහා මිශ්‍ර පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදයක් භාවිත කරන ලදී. ප්‍රමාණාත්මක දත්ත රැස් කිරීම සඳහා මාතර දිස්ත්‍රික්කයේ ගංවතුරෙන් බලපෑම්වේණික ප්‍රදේශවල සිට යාදුම් පදනම් ව තෝරාගත් පුද්ගලයින් තුන්සිය දෙනෙකු අතර ප්‍රශ්නාවලියක් බෙදාහරින ලදී. එමෙන් ම, ගුණාත්මක දත්ත ලබා ගැනීමට ප්‍රාදේශීය ලේකම්වරුන්, ආපදා කළමනාකරණ නිලධාරීන් සහ ප්‍රජා නියෝජිතයින්ගෙන් සමන්විත පුද්ගලයින් දොළොස් දෙනෙකු සමග සම්මුඛ සාකච්ඡා සිදු කරන ලදී. ප්‍රමාණාත්මක දත්ත SPSS මෘදුකාංගය මගින් සංඛ්‍යාත්මකව විශ්ලේෂණය කරන ලදී. ගුණාත්මක දත්ත තේමාත්මක විශ්ලේෂණය (Thematic Analysis) ක්‍රමය යටතේ ද සම්මුඛ සාකච්ඡා අන්තර්ගත විග්‍රහයක් කරමින් ද විශ්ලේෂණය කරන ලදී. පරීක්ෂණය කළ ප්‍රජාව අතර ජංගම දුරකථන හිමිකම සාමාන්‍යයෙන් ඉහළ මට්ටමක තිබුණ ද, ගංවතුරට අදාළ අනතුරු ඇඟවීම් සහ ආපදා තොරතුරු භාවිතය සීමිත බව හෙළි විය. ප්‍රධාන අවහිරකාරී සාධක ලෙස භාෂා බාධා, තාක්ෂණික දැනුම අඩු වීම සහ තොරතුරු විශ්වාස නොකිරීම හඳුනා ගන්නා ලදී. එමෙන් ම, සම්මුඛ සාකච්ඡා මගින් දේශීය භාෂා සහිත යෙදුම්, සරල පණිවිඩ පද්ධති සහ ප්‍රජාමූලික පුහුණු වැඩසටහන් සඳහා දැඩි අවශ්‍යතාවක් පෙන්නවා දෙන ලදී. එම නිසා ගංවතුර සඳහා සුදානම වැඩිදියුණු කිරීමේ අරමුණින් ජංගම දුරකථන තාක්ෂණය භාවිතයේ දී ප්‍රාදේශීය භාෂා සහ සංස්කෘතික සාධක සැලකිල්ලට ගත් ආපදා තොරතුරු යෙදුම් හා පුහුණු ක්‍රමවේද සංවර්ධනය කිරීම අවශ්‍ය බව පර්යේෂණයෙන් තහවුරු විය.

මූලාසනය: ආපදා, ගංවතුර, ඩිජිටල් ප්‍රවේශය

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සීගිරි පද්‍යවල සඳහන් සර්ව නාම පිළිබඳ වාග්විද්‍යාත්මක අධ්‍යයනයක්

අයි. මුණවීර^{1*}

¹වාග්විද්‍යා අධ්‍යයනාංශය, මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර පීඨය, කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

ක්‍රි.ව. 8, 9, 10 ශතවර්ෂවල භාවිත වූ සිංහල භාෂාව පිළිබඳ අධ්‍යයනය කිරීමේ දී සීගිරි කැටපත් පවුරේ ලියා ඇති ලේඛන වාර්තා ඉතා වැදගත් තැනක් ගනී. මෙම අධ්‍යයනයෙහි මූලික අරමුණ නම් සීගිරි පද්‍ය වල අන්තර්ගත සර්ව නාමවල සංස්ථිතියෙහි ස්වරූපය විමසා බැලීම යි. මේ අවධියේ දී සර්ව නාම හා සම්බන්ධ ව්‍යාකරණ ප්‍රයෝග පිළිබඳ ව විමර්ශනය කර බැලීම ද මෙහි තවත් එක් අරමුණක් බවට පත් විය. මෙම අධ්‍යයනයේ දී දත්ත රැස්කිරීම සඳහා ද්විතීයික මූලාශ්‍රය භාවිත කෙරුණු අතර, සෙනරත් පරණවිතාන සූරිත් විසින් රචිත *Sigiri Graffiti* කෘති ද න්‍යායාත්මක පැතිකඩ, වෙනත් දැනුම හා පර්යේෂණාත්මක කරුණු තහවුරු කර ගැනීම උදෙසා සීගිරි පද්‍ය පිළිබඳ රචිත වෙනත් පොතපත ද සිංහල භාෂාව හා සම්බන්ධ ඓතිහාසික කෘති මෙන් ම වාග්විද්‍යාත්මක කෘති ද පරිශීලනය කරන ලදී. ශුණාත්මක දත්ත විශ්ලේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය ලෙස භාවිත කරන ලද අතර, සීගිරි පද්‍ය පරිශීලනයෙන් අහඹු ලෙස තෝරා ගත් සර්ව නාම පද ලැයිස්තුවක් මේ සඳහා භාවිත කරමින් වාග්විද්‍යාත්මක සිද්ධාන්ත අනුසාරයෙන් පර්යේෂණයට අවශ්‍ය දත්ත විශ්ලේෂණය කරන ලදී. සිංහල භාෂාවේ සර්ව නාමවල ආදි ම විස්තර සහිත රූප මේ ලිපිවලින් හඳුනාගත හැකි ය. එමෙන් ම නිරතුරු කථා ව්‍යවහාරය හා ගැටීම නිසා සිංහලයෙහි සර්ව නාමවල ප්‍රකෘති ස්වරූප වෙනස් වී ගොස් ඇති අතර පුරාණ සිංහල ශිලාලේඛනවල සර්ව නාම බහුල ව සඳහන් වී නොමැත. මේ පද්‍යවල සඳහන් සර්ව නාම බොහෝ විට සැසඳිය හැකි වන්නේ මධ්‍ය ඉන්දීය සර්ව නාම සමඟ ය. මෙම පද්‍ය මගින් පුරුෂාර්ථ සර්ව නාම, අන්‍යකාරක සර්ව නාම, ප්‍රශ්නාර්ථ සර්ව නාම, ස්වාර්ථ සර්ව නාම වශයෙන් සර්ව නාමවල ප්‍රවර්ග කිහිපයක් හඳුනාගත හැකි විය. එමෙන් ම මෙම සර්ව නාම අධ්‍යයනයෙහි ලා සිංහල භාෂාවේ පරිණාමය පිළිබඳ තොරතුරු හා ශබ්ද විද්‍යාත්මක තොරතුරු ද අනාවරණය කරගත හැකි ය. ප්‍රකෘති පදිම, සර්ගක පදිම හා පද සාධන ප්‍රත්‍ය යනාදියෙහි විශේෂතා හඳුනා ගැනීමට හැකි වීමත් සර්ව නාම හා සම්බන්ධ ව්‍යාකරණාත්මක ප්‍රයෝගවල විශේෂතා හඳුනාගැනීමට හැකි වීමත් මෙම අධ්‍යයනයේ වැදගත්කම් වශයෙන් දැක්විය හැකි ය. තව ද මෙම සර්ව නාම පද වාක්‍ය හා සම්බන්ධ වීමේ දී එම සර්ව නාමයට අදාළ සර්ගය පමණක් දැක්වීම, අදාළ සර්ව නාමය දක්වා ඊට අයත් සර්ගය නොදැක්වීම වැනි විශේෂතා කිහිපයක් ද හඳුනාගත හැකි ය. ඒ අනුව සීගිරි පද්‍යවල සර්ව නාමවල සංස්ථිතියෙහි හා ඊට සම්බන්ධ ව්‍යාකරණ ප්‍රස්තරයේ විවිධතා පවතින බවත් මෙම අධ්‍යයනය මගින් නිගමනය කළ හැකි ය.

මූලාස පද: ව්‍යාකරණ ප්‍රයෝග, සංස්ථිතිය, සර්ව නාම පද, සීගිරි පද්‍ය

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උඩරට නර්තන සම්ප්‍රදායේ භාවිත හස්ත මුද්‍රා පිළිබඳ සංඥාර්ථවේදී අධ්‍යයනයක්

බී.ඩබ්ලිව්.ආර්.ඩී. විජේරත්න^{1*}

¹උඩරට නර්තන අධ්‍යයනාංශය, නර්තන හා නාට්‍ය කලා පීඨය, සෞන්දර්ය කලා විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

මෙම පර්යේෂණය උඩරට නර්තන සම්ප්‍රදායේ භාවිත හස්ත මුද්‍රාවන්ගෙන් නිරූපණය වන අර්ථය, සංඥාර්ථවේදයේ මූලික සංකල්ප පදනම් ව සිදුකරනු ලබන විමර්ශනාත්මක අධ්‍යයනයකි. මෙම අධ්‍යයනයෙන් එම හස්ත මුද්‍රා සංඥාවක් ලෙස අර්ථ නිරූපණය කරනුයේ කෙසේ ද යන්න කොහොඹා කංකාරියෙහි අන්තර්ගත ආචාර්‍යද්‍රම නර්තනාංගය ඇසුරෙන් විමර්ශනය කරනු ලැබේ. මෙහි දී උඩරට නර්තනයේ සාම්ප්‍රදායික ව භාවිත හස්ත මුද්‍රා හඳුනා ගනිමින් එය වලන ප්‍රකාශනයට ඇති දායකත්වය විග්‍රහ කරනු ලැබේ. මෙම හස්ත මුද්‍රාවල අර්ථ ප්‍රකාශනය සම්බන්ධ ව සිදුකර ඇති සාහිත්‍යමය විවරණ අවම ය. එමෙන් ම අද්‍යයනයේ දේශීය හස්ත මුද්‍රාවල නාම භාවිත කිරීමට වඩා බොහෝ විට ව්‍යවහාර වන්නේ භාරතීය හස්ත මුද්‍රාවල නාම යි. මෙයට හේතුව වන්නේ භාරතීය හස්ත මුද්‍රාවල සමාන වූ ලක්ෂණ දේශීය හස්ත මුද්‍රාවල නිරූපණය වීමත් දේශීය නර්තන සම්ප්‍රදායන්ට සාපේක්ෂ ව භාරතීය හස්ත මුද්‍රා පිළිබඳ තොරතුරු සාහිත්‍යමය වශයෙන් ව්‍යාප්ත ව පැවතීම සහ දේශීය හස්ත මුද්‍රාවල ශාස්ත්‍රීය පදනම පිළිබඳ ව ඇති අධ්‍යයන අවමවීම යි. මෙම උග්‍රණ පූරණය උදෙසා උඩරට නර්තන සම්ප්‍රදාය හා බැඳි හස්ත මුද්‍රා පිළිබඳ ව සංඥාර්ථවේදී ප්‍රවේශයකින් මෙම පර්යේෂණය සිදුකරනු ලබන අතර ඒ සඳහා සාහිත්‍ය මූලාශ්‍රය පරිශීලනය, ක්ෂේත්‍ර අධ්‍යයනය සහ සම්මුඛ සාකච්ඡා ඇසුරින් ගුණාත්මක දත්ත ඒකරාශී කරගනු ලැබේ. සත් කෝරලය සහ මහනුවර නර්තන ගුරුපරම්පරා පොකුරු නියැදියක් ලෙස ගනිමින් කොහොඹා කංකාරියේ ආචාර්‍යද්‍රම නර්තනාංගයේ “දොගර ගජිංගන” වට්ටමේ හස්ත මුද්‍රා භාවිතය විමර්ශනය කර වාල්ස් සැන්ඩර්ස් පියර්ස්ගේ සංඥාර්ථවේදී න්‍යායාත්මක ප්‍රවේශයෙන් විග්‍රහ කෙරේ. මෙම අධ්‍යයනයේ දී ආචාර්‍යද්‍රම නම් පඨිතයෙහි නිරූපකය සහ එහි දී භාවිත හස්ත මුද්‍රා අතර දෘශ්‍යමය සමාන බවක් නිරීක්ෂණය විය. එහි අන්තර්ගත “දොගර ගජිංගන” වට්ටම අභිවහනයේ දී හස්ත මුද්‍රා අර්ථ ජනනය වන ලෙස යොදා ගැනෙන අතර එය අර්ථ ප්‍රකාශනයට සෘජු ව ම ඇති සම්බන්ධතාව හේතුවෙන් පියර්ස්ට අනුව දර්ශකයක් ලෙස පවතින බව හඳුනාගත හැකි ය. මේ හරහා සාම්ප්‍රදායික කේතයක් ලෙස ගොඩනැගී ඇති මෙම හස්ත මුද්‍රා, සංඥාවක් ලෙස අර්ථ නිරූපණය වන බව නිර්ණය කළ හැකි ය. ඒ අනුව උඩරට නර්තන වලනයෙහි ප්‍රකාශනාත්මක බව සහ දේශීය හස්ත මුද්‍රා ගොඩනැගීම සඳහා පදනම් වූ ඥාන මූල මෙම අධ්‍යයනයෙන් හඳුනාගන්නා ලද අතර ශීය නර්තන වලන විශ්ලේෂණය හා සම්බන්ධ පර්යේෂණ ක්ෂේත්‍රයටත්, සාම්ප්‍රදායික නර්තනය සහ හස්ත මුද්‍රා සම්බන්ධ ව සංවිධිත වූ නව මානයන් විවර කිරීමටත් වැදගත් වනු ඇත.

මූලාශ්‍ර පද: ආචාර්‍යද්‍රම, කොහොඹා කංකාරිය, නර්තනය, සංඥාර්ථවේදය, හස්ත මුද්‍රා

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නූතන සුභාවික ගීතයේ අනාගත වලංගුභාවය පිළිබඳ විමසුමක්

ඒ.එම්.ටී.ඩී. අබේසිංහ^{1*}

¹මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර අධ්‍යයනාංශය, ශ්‍රී ලංකා රජරට විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

සුභාවික ගීතය ආකර්ෂණීය සන්නිවේදන ව්‍යවහාරයකි. එහි නව ආකෘතික හැඩතල විවිධ ශාන්තීය අවකාශ ඔස්සේ ගොඩනැගී තිබේ. සුභාවික ගීතයේ අනාගත වලංගුභාවය කවරාකාර ද යන්න හඳුනා ගැනීම මෙම පර්යේෂණයේ අරමුණයි. නූතන ගීත ශ්‍රාවකයා සුභාවික ගීතය කෙරෙහි දක්වන ආකල්පය කුමක් ද යන්න නිශ්චය කිරීම පර්යේෂණ ගැටලුව යි. හැත්තෑව දශකයේ ජනප්‍රියත්වයට පත්, තවමත් ජීවතුන් අතර සිටින ගුවන්විදුලියේ විශිෂ්ට ශ්‍රේණියේ ගායනවේදීන් පස් දෙනෙකුගේ නිර්මාණ අධ්‍යයනයට පාදක කර ගැනිණි. එම නිර්මාණ සඳහා වන ශ්‍රාවක ප්‍රතිචාර මත පදනම් ව සුභාවික ගීතයේ අනාගත වලංගුභාවය මෙහි දී විමසුමට පාත්‍ර කෙරුණි. ප්‍රමාණාත්මක පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය මෙහි දී යොදා ගැනුණි. වයස අවුරුදු 30ට අඩු සහ 30ට වැඩි යන වයස් කාණ්ඩ දෙකෙන් 100 බැගින් අහඹු ලෙස තෝරා ගන්නා ලද ශ්‍රාවකයන් 200ක් වෙත ප්‍රශ්නාවලියක් ඉදිරිපත් කොට දත්ත ඒකරාශී කෙරිණි. එහි දී වයස මත පදනම් ව ශ්‍රාවක ප්‍රතිචාර විශ්ලේෂණය කර ඇත. වයස අවුරුදු 30ට අඩු ශ්‍රාවකයන් අතරින් 43%ක් රැජින ද 37%ක් වේගරිද්ම ගීත ද 20%ක් සරල ගීත ද ශ්‍රවණය කරන බව අධ්‍යයනයෙන් තහවුරු විය. වයස අවුරුදු 30ට වැඩි ශ්‍රාවකයන් අතරින් 46%ක් සරල ගීත ද 40%ක් වේගරිද්ම ගීත ද 14%ක් රැජින ද ශ්‍රවණය කරන බව තහවුරු විය. වයස අවුරුදු 30ට අඩු ශ්‍රාවකයන් අතරින් 62%ක් ගීතයේ ශබ්ද රසය කෙරෙහි ද 38%ක් අර්ථ රසය කෙරෙහි ද අවධානය යොමු කරන බව හඳුනා ගැනුණි. ඉහත ගායනවේදීන්ගේ ගීත මුල් කොට ගෙන නිර්මාණය වූ දෘශ්‍ය රූප සහිත පසුකාලීන නව සංගීත සංයෝජනවලට රුචිකත්වයක් දක්වන්නන් අතර වයස අවුරුදු 30ට අඩු 58%ක සහ 30ට වැඩි 27%ක ශ්‍රාවක පිරිසක් හඳුනාගත හැකි විය. වයස අවුරුදු 30ට අඩු ප්‍රතිචාරකයන් අතරින් 78%ක් සහ අවුරුදු 30ට වැඩි ප්‍රතිචාරකයන් අතරින් 31%ක් ගීතයේ සීමා ඉක්මවා ගීත දෘශ්‍යකරණය (Music Video) කෙරෙහි නැඹුරුවක් දක්වන බව හෙළිදරව් විය. වයස අවුරුදු 30ට අඩු ප්‍රතිචාරකයන් තුළ සුභාවික ගීතය අබ්බවමින් වේගරිද්ම සහ රැජින කලාව ඉදිරියට පැමිණ ඇති අයුරු හඳුනාගත හැකි ය. සුභාවික ගීතය රසවින්දන මාධ්‍යයක් ලෙස පැවතිය ද තාරුණ්‍යයේ රැජින ඇතුළු නව සංගීත ප්‍රවේශ හමුවේ එය අභියෝගයට ලක් ව ඇති ආකාරයත්, සුභාවික ගීතයට නව අලංකාර එක් කරමින් ගොඩනැගෙන නිර්මාණ වටා රසිකත්වයක් ගොඩනැගෙන ආකාරයත් මෙම අධ්‍යයනයෙන් තහවුරු විය.

මූලාශ්‍ර පද: ගායනවේදියා, ගීත දෘශ්‍යකරණය, ශ්‍රව්‍ය දෘශ්‍ය මාධ්‍ය, ශ්‍රාවකයා, සුභාවික ගීතය

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ක්‍රිස්තු වර්ෂ 18 සහ 19වන සියවස්වල බස්නාහිර සහ දකුණු පළාත් බෞද්ධ විහාරවල ප්‍රසාදාහිමුඛයන්හි දැකගත හැකි යටත් විජිත ගෘහ නිර්මාණ ලක්ෂණ

එම්. පාලින්ද රසාංගිත් මැදගේ*

¹ලලිත කලා අධ්‍යයනාංශය, මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර පීඨය, කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

ක්‍රිස්තු වර්ෂ 18 සහ 19වන සියවස්වල දී ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ බස්නාහිර සහ දකුණු ප්‍රදේශවල පාලනය ලන්දේසීන් සහ බ්‍රිතාන්‍යයන් සතු විය. යටත්විජිත පාලකයින් විසින් මෙරට ගෘහ නිර්මාණකරණයේ දී ස්වකීය මට්ටමෙහි ගෘහ නිර්මාණ ශිල්පය ආභාසය කරගන්නා ලදී. පෘතුගීසීන් විසින් මෙරට මුල් ම දේවස්ථාන නිර්මාණය කරන ලද අතර, මූල්‍ය වත්කම් අඩු වීම මත දේවස්ථානයේ ඉදිරිපස විශාලවත්, පසුපස මධ්‍යම ස්වරූපයෙන් නිර්මාණය විය. ලන්දේසී හා බ්‍රිතාන්‍ය සමයන්හි දේවස්ථානවල ඉදිරිපස ප්‍රතාපවත් ස්වරූපයෙන් බැරොකෝ, රොකෝකෝ, ග්‍රීක, රෝම ගෛලීන් ආභාසය කර ගනිමින් නිර්මාණය විය. පර්යේෂණයේ අරමුණ පහතරට විහාරයන්හි නිර්මාණය වූ ප්‍රසාදාහිමුඛයන්හි අන්තර්ගත යටත්විජිත ගෘහ නිර්මාණ ලක්ෂණ පිළිබඳ ව අධ්‍යයනය කිරීම යි. පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රම ලෙස සාහිත්‍ය, ක්ෂේත්‍ර අධ්‍යයන ද ක්‍රමවේදය ලෙස දෘශ්‍ය කලාවේ භාවිත වන ගෛලී විශ්ලේෂණය පාදක කරගත් දෘශ්‍ය විශ්ලේෂණය සහ රූපාර්ථවේදී විශ්ලේෂණය (රූප හේද, සාහිත්‍ය පදනම් කරගත්) මෙහි දී යොදාගෙන ඇත. රූපාර්ථවේදී විශ්ලේෂණය යටතේ ගෛලීය ලක්ෂණ සහ අන්තර්ගත ලක්ෂණ විග්‍රහ කිරීම සිදුකර රූප විද්‍යාව යටතේ තත්කාලීන සමාජ, දේශපාලනික, ආගමික සහ ආර්ථික පසුබිම් කරගත් සාධක පිළිබඳ ව අවධානය යොමු කරමින් විශ්ලේෂණය කිරීම සිදු කෙරේ. මෙම අධ්‍යයනය පර්යේෂණ සැසිය වෙනුවෙන් සිදු කරන ලද අතර නියැදි ලෙස දකුණු පළාතේ කතඵව පූර්වාරාමය, කතඵව රන්වැල්ල, කුමාරකන්ද විහාරය, දොඩන්දුව ගෛලබිම්බාරාමය ද බස්නාහිර පළාතේ අළුත්ගම කන්ද විහාරය, පානදුර රන්කොත් විහාරය, කරගම්පිටිය සුබෝධාරාමය යන විහාරස්ථාන හත යොදා ගන්නා ලදී. ඉහත විහාරස්ථානවල ප්‍රසාදාහිමුඛයන් සඳහා පොදුවේ භාවිත වූ අංග පිළිබඳ වත්, එකිනෙක වෙනස් වන අංග පිළිබඳ වත් සංසන්දනාත්මක ව අධ්‍යයනය කරන ලදී. යටත් විජිත ගෘහ නිර්මාණවල භාවිත ප්‍රසාදාහිමුඛයන්, බැතිමතුන් විහාරය වෙත ආකර්ෂණය කර ගැනීම අරමුණු කරගෙන බෞද්ධ ගෘහ නිර්මාණ සඳහා භාවිත කරන ලදී. බෞද්ධ සිද්ධස්ථානයක ඉදිරිපස හෝ වෙනත්යෙහි හෝ පිළිමගෙයි වැනි ස්ථානවල පිවිසුම සඳහා ප්‍රසාදාහිමුඛ භාවිත විය. රන්වැල්ල සහ කරගම්පිටිය හැර අනෙක් විහාර පහෙහි VOC හෝ බ්‍රිතාන්‍ය ලාංඡනය, රැජිනගේ හෝ රජුගේ රුව මාණය කිරීමට අවකාශ පැවතීම වැනි සාධකවලින් තත්කාලීන දේශපාලනික බලපෑම ප්‍රකට වේ. එමගින් පැවති දේශපාලනයට ප්‍රතිවිරුද්ධ නොවී බෞද්ධ කලාවක් ගොඩනැගීමට ගත් උත්සාහය හඳුනාගත හැකි ය. පූර්වාරාමය, කන්ද විහාරය, රන්කොත් විහාරය, ගෛලබිම්බාරාමය, රන්වැල්ල, කුමාරකන්ද විහාරවල සිට ගත් සිංහ රූප, රෝස මල්, විදේශීය මල්, ගරාදි වැනි ලක්ෂණ මගින් විදේශීය සංස්කෘතික ලක්ෂණ උකහා ගැනීම ප්‍රකට වේ. සුබෝධාරාමයේ ගෘහ නිර්මාණවල ඩොරික් කුළුණු සහ මොසෙක් නිර්මාණ ප්‍රධාන තැනක් ගනී. පර්යේෂණයේ නිගමනය ලෙස බෞද්ධ පුනරුදයත් සමඟ ම සැදුහැටුනු විහාර කෙරෙහි ආකර්ෂණය කිරීම අරමුණු කර, එවකට ජනප්‍රිය වූ යටත් විජිත ගෘහ නිර්මාණකරණය සමාජ, දේශපාලනික, ආගමික සහ සංස්කෘතික සාධක යටතේ එලෙස ම බෞද්ධ ගෘහ නිර්මාණකරණය සඳහා භාවිත කර ඇති බව පැහැදිලි ය.

මූලාසනය: ගෘහ නිර්මාණකරණය, පහතරට, ප්‍රසාදාහිමුඛය, බෞද්ධ, යටත් විජිත

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