# Undergraduate Research Symposium of Faculty of Social Sciences (URSS - 2024)

# "Ensuring Sustainable Development through the power of Social Sciences."

30th August 2024

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Message from the Vice Chancellor



Message from the Conference Chair/Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Kelaniya.

As the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and the organizer of this symposium, I am thrilled to extend my best wishes for the success of the Undergraduate Research Symposium 2024.

The Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Kelaniya has a rich legacy of nurturing some of Sri Lanka's leading scholars. We are dedicated to empowering undergraduates eager to explore new frontiers in their research fields. I firmly believe in the importance of providing a platform for these budding academics. The ongoing efforts of our academic departments to foster research skills through various initiatives are commendable, and this symposium offers an exceptional platform for our students to share their findings with a broader audience.

Putting together an event like this is no small feat. It requires the dedicated support and collaboration of many individuals. First, my heartfelt thanks go to Senior Professor Nilanthi Renuka de Silva, Vice Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya for her leadership and unwavering support. I also want to express my appreciation to Professor A. G. Amarasinghe, the Director of the Research

Center for Social Sciences, along with Dr. K. R. N. Harshani the Conference Secretary for their commitment to making this symposium a reality. Additionally, I am grateful to the Editorial Board of the Conference proceedings, Organizing Committees, Academic and non-academic staff of the faculty as well as the student volunteers for their immense support in making this event a massive success.

Professor M. M. Gunatilake

Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences University of Kelaniya gunatilake@kln.ac.lk



# **Message from the Conference Secretary**

As the conference secretary, it is with much delight that I pen down a few words for the conference proceeding which is a tremendous effort of the faculty of social sciences and is also bringing out a "Book of Abstracts" to highlight the recent research outcomes in the related field. Undergraduate Research Symposium (URSS 2024) is a special chance for undergraduates to meet up and examine unique parts of research connected with their disciplines. This is an abundant platform for undergraduates to grab new movements and analyze the world from new dimensions and compile new knowledge.

It brings me great pleasure to share my thoughts on the URSS-2024 of the Faculty of Social Sciences organized by the Research Center of social sciences in Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Kelaniya. Looking at this symposium, I believe that this symposium would provide the undergraduates, who are also considered to be emerging scholars with a platform to share research findings and at the same time, attending academic events of this nature would boost their confidence and motivation to pursue further research.

This conference is not just an event; it is a community. It is an opportunity for us to come together, to learn from each other, and to build lasting partnerships. Would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to all the authors, reviewers, members of advisory and organizing committee who have worked tirelessly to make this conference a reality. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Guest Speaker, paper reviewers, session chairs, our generous sponsors, and the numerous volunteers whose contributions have been invaluable. Their efforts have ensured that we can come together in this forum to share, learn, and collaborate.

I wish to express my appreciation for those who submitted abstracts to the conference without which this event would not have been possible. Enjoy the conference, and I look forward to the many insightful conversations and innovative ideas that will begin from our time together.

Wishing you a stimulating and rewarding conference experience!

Dr K R N Harshani Conference Secretary Faculty of Social Sciences University of Kelaniya 05<sup>th</sup> June 2024



Message from the Convener/Director, Research Centre for Social Sciences, University of Kelaniya



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Dr K R N Harshani Conference Secretary Faculty of Social Sciences University of Kelaniya 05<sup>th</sup> June 2024

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Note from the Keynote Speaker

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Section I - Archaeology

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