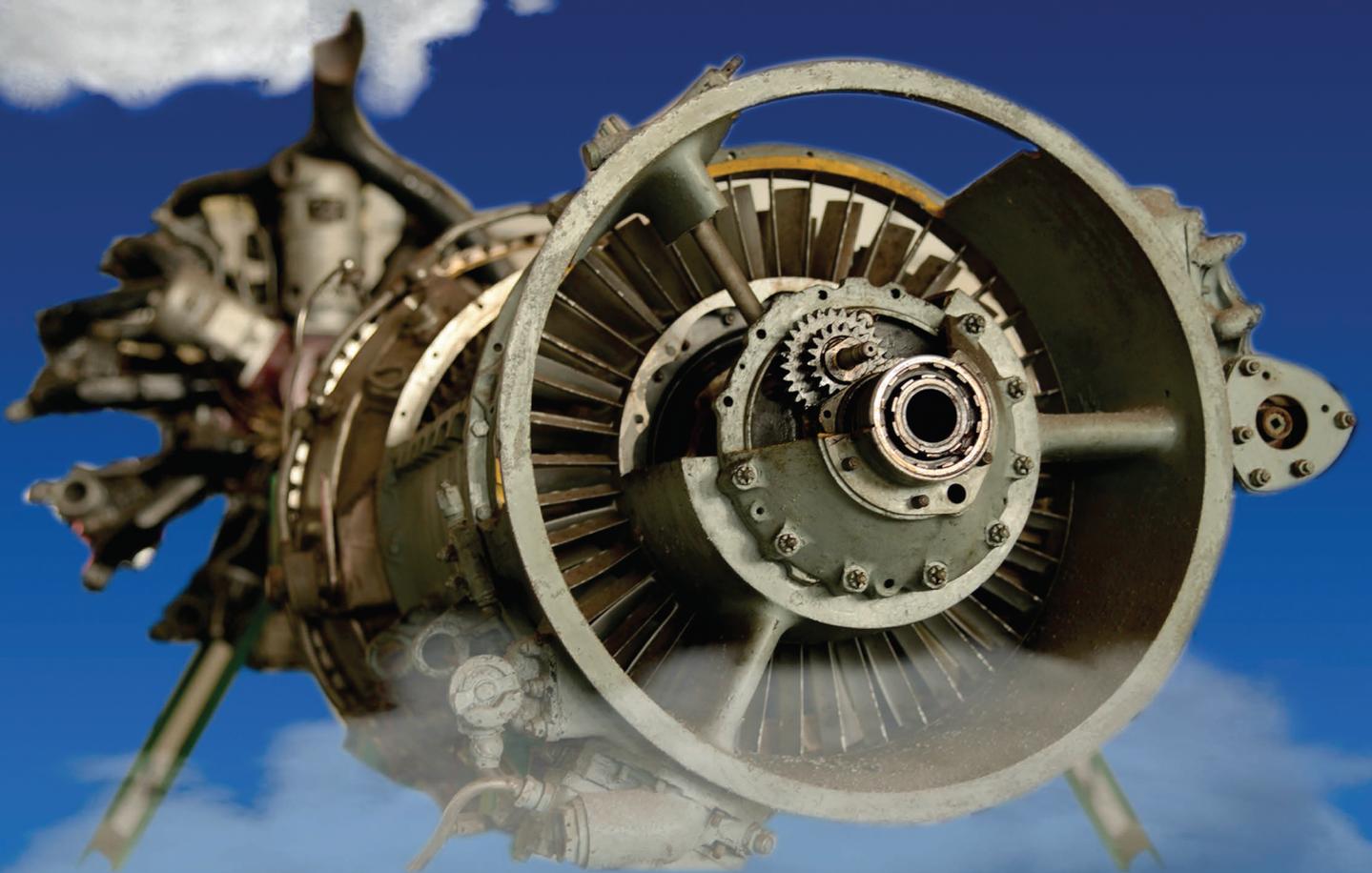


THE OPEN

QUARTERLY

i/2019



Automobile Engineering Laboratory

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THE OPEN UNIVERSITY
OF SRI LANKA

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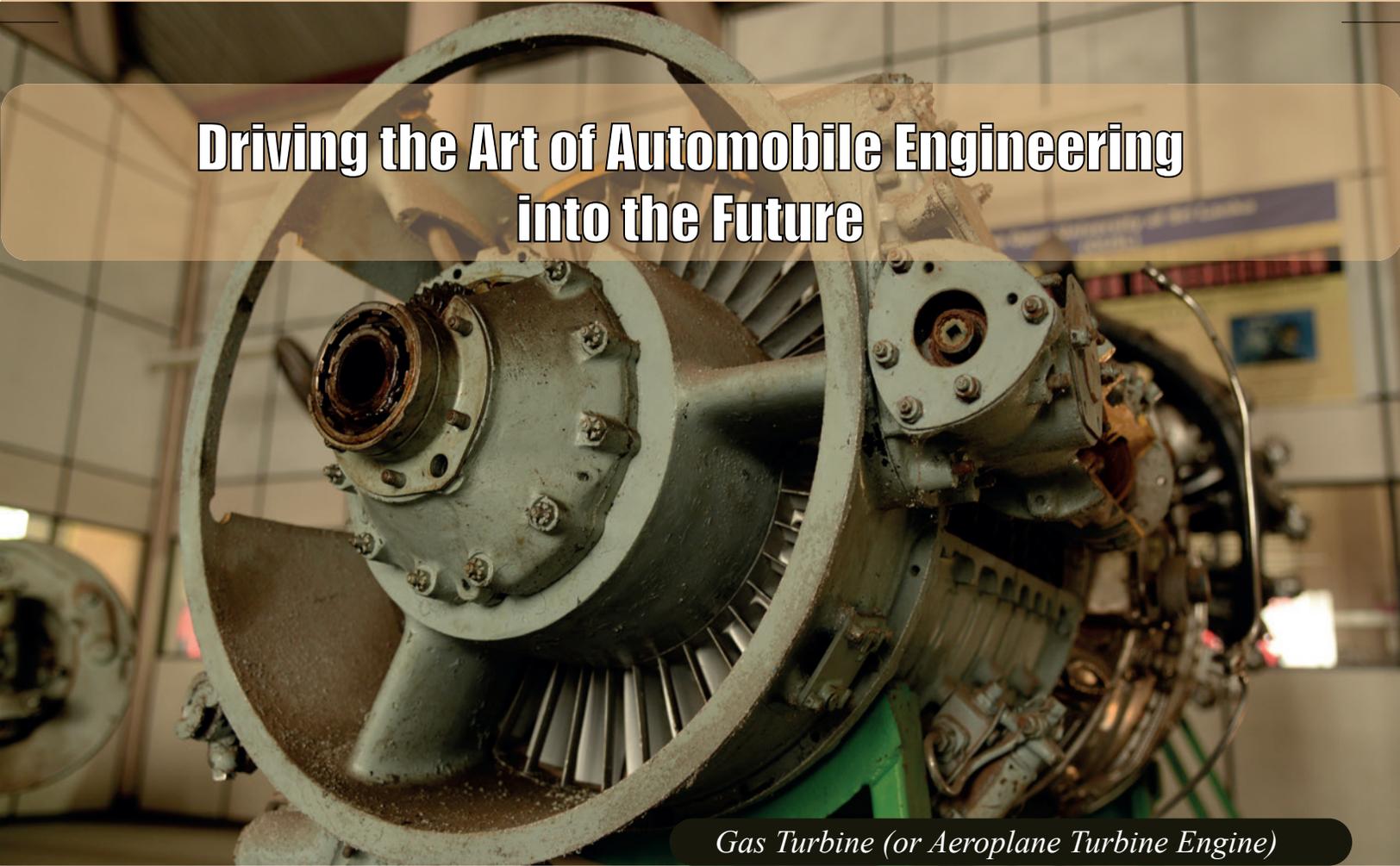
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The dynamics of movement is a fascinating discipline. This primary allure of movement is its transcendence of space and time—and its contributions to compress distances. This was the motive behind our idea to explore and learn the workings of OUSL's automobile engineering laboratory. Thus we open the 2019's first quarterly of the magazine with a journey into this lab in search of understanding and knowledge. The OPEN Quarterly also pays a special tribute to the employees of the university who have given us their commitment and energy for lengthy periods of time. We celebrate them with a special photographic feature. There is also a comprehensive peek into the world of artificial sweeteners through the lenses of chemistry, and a special plea to consider using alternative energy sources. From movement to celebration to environment, enjoy a quarterly full of happy reading experiences.

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Driving the Art of Automobile Engineering into the Future

Gas Turbine (or Aeroplane Turbine Engine)

Automobile Engineering Laboratory

OUSL's Automobile Engineering Lab—or AEL—offers veritable sights for the eyes, yet no food for the ears. Still, the conspicuous absence of sound, an inevitable feature one could say in a zone featuring motor vehicles, is deliberate. Because, this space is for disseminating knowledge and experience; this plot is for those with an inclination for fuel and engines, energy and motion—or in more generalized terms for the human spirit determined to overcome time and space.

AEL began as a joint imperative between the University and the Korean government under the latter's development nurturing arm KOICA at the turn of the new millennium. With technology facilitated by KOICA and the intellectual energy ignited by OUSL personnel, led by Emeritus Prof. N. R. Arthanayake, Eng. P.D. Sarath Chandra and Eng. W. R. G. A. Wijesundara this Lab

to play a direct role in the automobile engineering of the country as well as the employment sector.

Many a keen student learned the principles of mobility and engineering in this lab under careful observation of the staff of the Department of Automobile Engineering and Korean experts. Today this lab is the centre of activity for the students who are specializing in the subject under the Diploma in Mechanical Engineering and Bsc in Mechanical Engineering, two important programs offered by the department.

The lab offers the students the opportunity to obtain hands-on knowledge of the principles that govern automobile engineering. In addition, the lab exposes students to the notions and realistic aspects of Vehicle Emission Testing—a service also offered to students who are specialising in Environmental Science and Civil Engineering.

The lab also opens its doors for relevant research from the world outside. Some important scientific research recently carried out with respect to fuel additives and alternative fuels were conducted in this lab—and that speaks about its significance not only to OUSL, but for the nation at large.

Much more modest and humble is the Motor Vehicle Repair Garage of the Department, which is situated towards the Nawala section of the University.

Yet, the too obvious humility of this space conceals its critical importance to the University: this is the vital clinic for all the vehicles of OUSL. This is where the vehicles are tested

and nurtured for maximum road efficiency and performance. With the presence of two mechanics, this garage gives a new meaning to the notion of ‘nuts and bolts’ as it keeps the wheels of the university in motion.

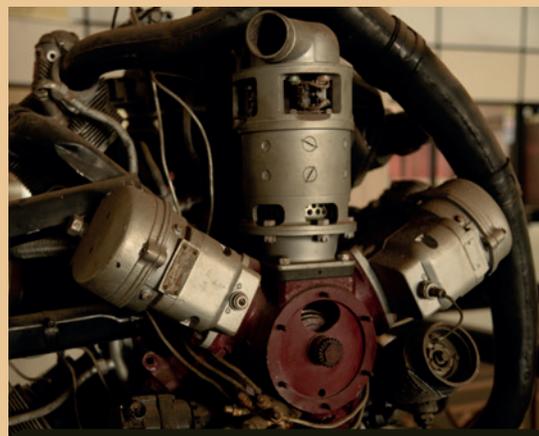
Text by Lal M



Probing into the heart of an engine



Rotary Engine (or Helicopter Engine)



Rotary Engine Extra Close Up



Carburettor (unit that mixes petrol & air to appropriate ratio)



Automatic Gear Box

Learning Analytics in ODL



Committee on Research Advice in Distance Education (CRADE) has identified the potential use of Learning Analytics at OUSL and organized five-day sessions/activities including a 2-day residential workshop on Use of LEARNING ANALYTICS in ODL and way forward at OUSL. International Relations Unit (IRU) of OUSL facilitated the workshop, which was held from 21st to 25th January 2019. The Outbound Residential Workshop was conducted at Pegasus Reef Hotel Wattala on 22nd and 23rd January 2019.

Professor Bart Rienties, Professor of Learning Analytics from Institute of

Educational Technology at the Open University UK provided his services as the resource person for the five-day workshop. Expected outcomes of this workshop were: to identify and explain the potential use of learning analytics in higher education, with specific focus on Open and Distance Learning environment at OUSL; to identify the potential research areas of focus for future strategic planning at OUSL; to identify the relevant tools and techniques that could support the research on learning analytics at OUSL; and to identify the technical areas needed for capacity building.

New Appointments



Deputy Vice Chancellor Assumes Duties

The 4th Deputy Vice Chancellor of the OUSL, Dr. A P. Madurapperuma assumed duties on 17 January 2019 at a formal ceremony attended by the Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Deans of Faculties and other senior academics.

Other New Appointments

Director, Staff Development Center – Dr. (Mrs.) D.D. M. Ranasinghe

Director, International Relations Unit – Dr. M.S.T. Priyadarshana

Director, Center Self-funded Academic Programmes – Dr. L.S.P. Gamini

Director, National Online Distance Education Services – Prof. C.N. Herath

Director, Internal Quality Assurance Unit – Prof. S.A.M.A.N.S Senanayake

Director Learner Support, Dr. D.G.S.K Doluweera

Director, Center of Environmental Studies and Sustainable Development - Dr. Deelipa Witharana

Actg. Director, Physical Education Unit – Mr. T.S. P Fernando

Managerial Administrative Competency Development Programme

A team of Administrative Officers of OUSL visited The University Puthra Malaysia (UPM), Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia with the objective of Developing higher levels of Managerial Administrative Competency Development. The following officers with varying administrative skills participated in this programme.



Front Row (left to right)

Ms. K.P.P. Dilrukshi (Assistant Registrar/ IQAU), Ms. R.L.W. Rajapakse (Senior Assistant Registrar/ Legal & Documentation), Ms. W.L.V. Jayasena (Registrar), Prof. Uma Rani Sinniah (Deputy Director University Community Transformation Centre, UPM), Ms. M.W.S.D. Perera (Senior Personal Secretary to the Vice Chancellor), Ms. S.M.D.B. Jayawardena (Senior Assistant Registrar/Establishment), Ms. N.T.A. Weerasinghe (Senior Assistant Bursar/ Accounts), Ms. P.I.I. Pathirana (Senior Assistant Registrar/ Examination)

Back Row (left to right)

Ms. G.S. Amarathunga (Senior Assistant Registrar/ Capital Works), Ms. K.K. Chethiyamali (Senior Assistant Bursar/ Salaries), Ms. K. Sivashankari (Assistant Registrar/ Examination), Mr. D.S.D. Kasun (Assistant Registrar/ Capital Works), Mr. A.W.S.P. Dayananda (Assistant Bursar/ Supplies), Mr. Dammika B. Katupulle (Assistant Bursar, KRC), Mr. E.A.D.S. Udayanga (Assistant Registrar/ Transport & Postal Services)

R.K.W. Goonesekere Memorial Programme on Law and Justice 2018

Oration delivered on *The Elusive Quest for Rule of Law: Building it & Backsliding from it* by Prof. Erik Jensen, Stanford University, USA.

The Department of Legal Studies of the HSS Faculty organized the memorial lecture of the R.K.W. Goonesekere Memorial Programme on Law and Justice 2018. Mr RKW Goonesekere was the first Sri Lankan to graduate with a degree in law in this country from the then University of Ceylon. He was a renowned legal scholar and practitioner who began his career serving in the university system and contributing to legal education in the University of Ceylon Peradeniya and as the Principal of the Law College. While in active practice in the Appeal Courts, he made immense contributions to OUSL, serving on its advisory board for the development of the LL.B programme. This programme seeks to realise his vision of legal

education as the means of creating a strong and socially responsible legal profession. The speaker at this year's memorial lecture was Prof. Erik Jensen, Professor of the Practice of Law and Director of the Rule of Law Program at Stanford University, USA. Professor Jensen was a valued colleague in the department in its early years and authored a text on International Law which is still used as a resource by students. The Department was happy to welcome him back to OUSL after several years. Prof. Jensen spoke on the topic *The Elusive Quest for Rule of Law: Building it and Backsliding from it*. The lecture was open to the public and was attended by lawyers, academics, students and many others.



Commitment, Continuity & Appreciation

Commitment and continuity are bonded attributes so much so that OUSL has always been quick to appreciate such qualities.

This year too we appreciated our long-standing employees with symbolic gestures.

35 Years of Continuous Meritorious Service



Mr. S. A. D. Upali, Office Machine Operator



Mr. W. K. L. Thilakarathna, Senior Staff Assistant



Ms. R. D. Hettiarachchi, Lecturer in Physics



Ms. K. K. M. R. Malkanthi, Senior Staff Assistant



Dr.(Ms.)B. G. Jayatilleke, Senior Lecturer
in Centre for Educational Technology & Media

30 Years of Continuous Meritorious Service



Prof. S. A. Ariadurai,
Senior Professor in Textile & Apparel Technology



Mr. U. P. Weragala, Labourer- Special Grade



Ms. K. I. C. Amarasinghe, Lecturer in Botany



Mr. W. B. Kusumarathna, Senior Assistant Staff



Ms. T. A. N. Siriwardena, Senior Staff Assistant



Dr. W. V. J. Perera, Senior Lecturer in Zoology



Prof.(Ms.) C. S. De Silva, Senior Professor in
Agricultural & Plantation Engineering



Mr. K. A. D. Wijedasa, Office Assistant

30 Years of Continuous Meritorious Service



Ms. I. A. R. P. Perera, Staff Assistant



Dr. (Ms.) N. N. Punchihewa,
Senior Lecturer in Zoology



Mr. P. A. J. Sisira Kumara, Staff Technical Officer



Prof. (Ms.) C. E. Guneratne, Professor in Legal Studies

35 Years of Continuous Meritorious Service

Mr. K. D. L. S. Samaraweera, Senior Draughtsman
Ms. D. R. Abeydeera, Lecturer in Physics

30 Years of Continuous Meritorious Service

Mr. G. A. M. Sudamsiri, Store – Keeper
Mr. L. L. W. P. Kumara, Litho Machine Attendant
Mr. M. K. L. K. Gunawardana, Staff Assistant
Mr. H. P. Wijedasa, Health Services Labourer
Ms. S. B. R. Priyadarshani, Senior Staff Assistant
Mr. N. P. S. Kumarasinghe, Senior Staff Assistant

25 Years of Continuous Meritorious Service

Dr. (Ms.) N. N. Punchihewa, Senior Lecturer in Zoology
Mr. H. G. A. Wijesinghe, Driver- Special Grade
Ms. T. S. S. Jatunarachchi, Senior Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering
Ms. G. G. A. N. Shanthy, Pre-School Assistant
Mr. R. W. M. Rathnayake, Labourer - Special Grade
Mr. W. G. Jayasena, Labourer
Mr. O. D. A. Wijesinghe, Shroff
Mr. W. A. B. P. Dabarera, Senior Educational Assistant in Management Studies
Mr. K. G. D. B. Katupulle, Senior Assistant Bursar
Mr. A. S. Chandrasena, Audio Visual Technical Officer
Mr. L. Karunaratne, Health Service Labourer- Special Grade
Ms. D. M. N. S. Pathirana, Health Service Labourer- Special Grade
Mr. P. K. Seneviratne, Deputy Registrar
Ms. S. A. C. P. Athukorala, Staff Assistant
Ms. H. P. D. R. U. M. Gunasekera, Senior Staff Assistant
Dr. N. Karthikeyan, Senior Lecturer in Physics
Mr. I. M. R. N. Seneviratne, Clerk

Those staff members not in the photographs



25 Years of Continuous Meritorious Service



Prof.(Ms.) G. R. R. Ranawaka, Senior Professor in Zoology



Ms. B. H. L. R. de Silva, Senior Staff Assistant



Ms. T. A. N. Priyadarshani, Senior Staff Assistant



Ms. T. M. N. D. N. T. Medagedara ,
Senior Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering



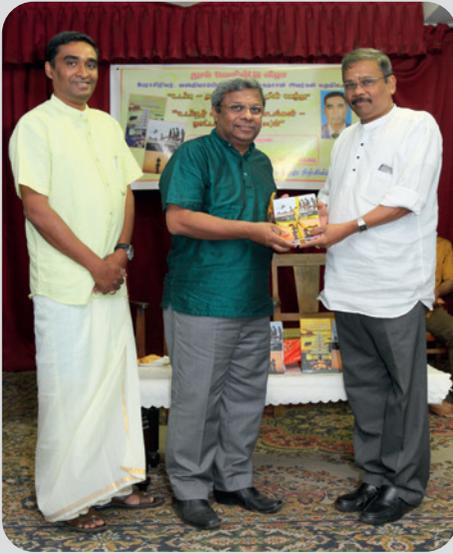
Ms. K. P. I. W. Karunanayake, Senior Staff Assistant



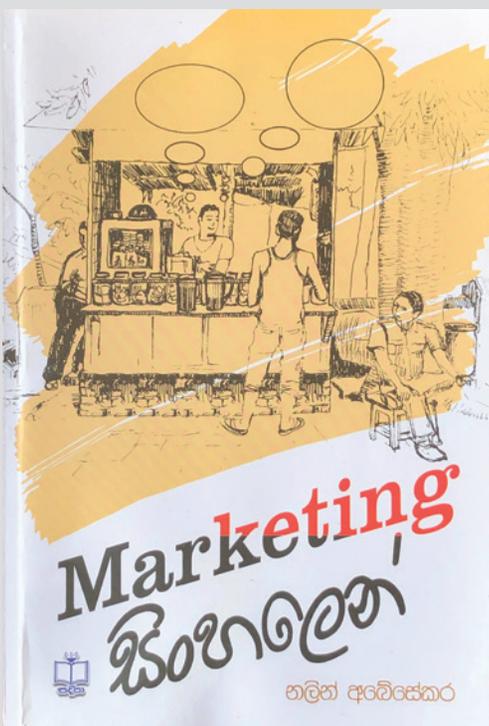
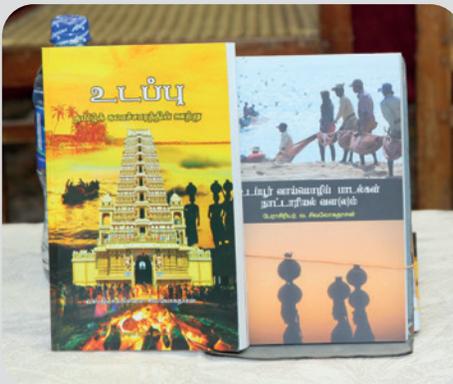
Dr. (Ms.) D. G. S. K. Doluweera, Senior Lecturer in RES



L. H. N. P. De Silva, Senior Staff Assistant



Two Tamil books titled *Udappu Tamil Kalasarathin Ootru* (The Spring of Tamil culture) and *Udaoor Vaimozhi Paadalkal* (The Udappoor Folk Songs) written by Prof. V. Sivalogathan were launched at the Colombo Tamil Sangam recently. The special guests at the event were Prof. V. Maheswaran (University of Peradeniya) and Professor. J.C.P. Rajendra (OUSL). The event was organized by the team friends of Udaapoor Art and Literature. The first copies of the books were handed over to Mrs. Pakkiyam Vasthiyampillai, mother of Prof. V. Sivalogathan.



Marketing Singhalen is the title of the newest book by Prof. Nalin Abeysekera of the Department of Management Studies. He attempts to simply this principles of marketing in order to reach a wider audience.

Godage National Literary Award for OUSL Academic

Dr. Vivimarie V.

Medawattegedera, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Language Studies, OUSL was awarded the Godage National Literary Award for English poetry for her third collection of poems, "Borrowed Dust" (2017: Sarasavi Publishers) in September 2018.





Dr. A.S. Chandrabose from the Department of Social Studies released a book titled *The Plantation Community in Sri Lanka, 150 years (1867-2017)*. This is an ethnographic study of the plantation community of Sri Lanka and it is published by Express Newspapers Ceylon Ltd.

DAAD SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Hashani Amarasinghe, who graduated with a Bachelor of Industrial Studies Honours-Agriculture (First Class) degree from OUSL and currently working as a Temporary Demonstrator at the Department of Agricultural & Plantation Engineering, Faculty of Engineering Technology, Kandy Regional Center, has been awarded a scholarship by the DAAD to follow the Development-Related Postgraduate Course, International Horticulture at the Leibniz University of Hannover, Germany for two years. DAAD (The German Academic Exchange Service) is a joint organization of universities and other institutions of higher education in the Federal Republic of Germany. Supported by public funds, DAAD promotes international academic cooperation,



especially through the exchange of students and academics. DAAD scholarships are awarded by selection committees comprising of panels of independent academics.

OUSL Student at Bio Diversity Conservation Workshop

Mr. Wathsaridu Karunarathna, a student of the Department of Social Studies of the HSS Faculty following the Higher Diploma in Youth Development attended an international workshop on Capacity Building on Bio-Diversity Conservation held in Hyderabad, India organized by

Global Youth Bio Diversity Network (GYBN). Nearly 30 young people from South East Asian Countries attended the workshop and Mr. Karunarathna was a panellist and presented the South Asian regional action plan from a Sri Lankan perspective.



Workshop on Wise Use of Medical Devices

A workshop titled *Wise use of Medical Devices* was organized by the Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Health Sciences, on 10th December 2018 at the Seminar Room, Faculty of Natural Sciences. This was targeted to both academic and non-academic staff to make them aware of the available medical devices and their correct use.

Among the devices that came under focus were: insulin pens and inhaler devices for Asthma. Mr. N. R. Gunasekara, former Manager, Rajya Osusala, Bambalapitiya, was the resource person and there were about 70 participants at the workshop.



Seminar for School Students in the Kesbewa Divisional Secretariat

The Kesbewa Divisional Secretariat organized a career guidance seminar for the GCE O/L and A/L students of the Piliyndala Madya Maha Vidyalaya on 12th February 2019. The Career Guidance Unit and the Public Information Division of OUSL conducted a seminar for 750 students. The participants were given comprehensive information about the OUSL programmes with the emphasis on Open and Distance Learning mode.



Workshop on Free Software in Higher Education

A Workshop on Free Software in Higher Education was successfully conducted by the Buckyball Society of the Department of Chemistry in collaboration with the Section E2 of Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS) and the OUSL Industrial Liaison Centre (ILC) on 13th February 2019.

Over 70 undergraduate and postgraduate students of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, OUSL participated in the workshop. Dr. Theshini Perera (University of Sri Jayewardenapura), Dr. Lahiru Wijenayaka (OUSL), Dr. M. N. Kaumal (University of Colombo) and Dr. Neranga Abeyasinghe (University of Colombo) were the resource persons.



Public Information Division at the Higher Education Opportunities Workshop

OUSL's Public Information Division participated at an interactive session with the schools of the Nathandiya Divisional Secretariat on 14th February 2019. Around 700 Students currently following G.C.E. Advanced Level and the Ordinary Level classes participated at this event.



Postgraduate Diploma in Bilingual Education

Bilingual Education, commonly known as the English medium education in the secondary education system, was introduced to Sri Lanka in the early 2000. The aim was to bridge the existing gap in the English language proficiency required for higher education and for the employment market. However, no systematic teacher education or training program for Bilingual Education has been in place. Recognizing this national requirement, PGIE conceptualized and designed a postgraduate-level teacher education and development course.

In November 2018 the Ministry of Education signed an MOU with PGIE to sponsor 40 in-service Bilingual Education teachers. Subsequently, PGIE enrolled the first cohort of teachers from all the provinces of the island through a competitive selection test. The program was inaugurated on 17th of November 2018. The Vice Chancellor of OUSL, Prof Anbhan Ariyadurai, was the Chief Guest and the Director of Bilingual Education of the Ministry of Education, other ministry officials, officials from the National Education Commission and the National Institute of Education, Deans of the university and many other eminent academics participated at the event.



First batch of the programme



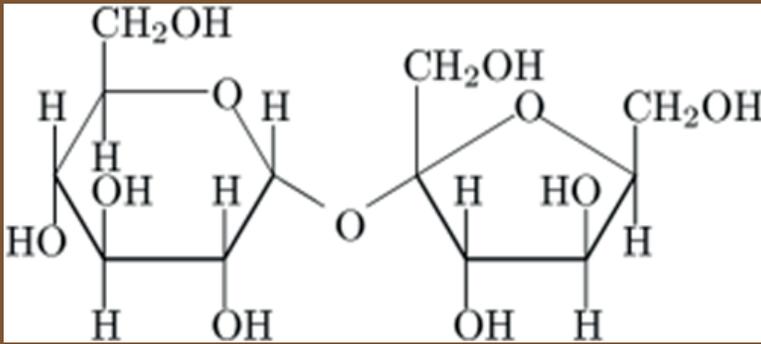
Eminent academics & officials at the inauguration



Director PGIE addressing the audience

Artificial Sweeteners

is it the way out for diabetes and obesity?



The sweet taste is an irresistible sensation that often rules our lives. Sugars, sugar alcohols, amino acids and peptides are some of the compounds that give the sweet taste. Sugar is an important flavouring substance that gives the sensation of sweetness and energy. Table sugar is a sweet-tasting carbohydrate called sucrose. It is a disaccharide made up of glucose and fructose.

However, excessive use of sugar is linked with a number of health problems including tooth decay, obesity and diabetes. Alternative sweeteners have therefore been developed.

Artificial sweeteners are divided into two broad categories:

- Bulk sweeteners
- Intense sweeteners

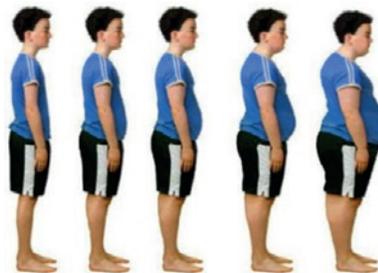
Bulk sweeteners

This group is predominately composed of the polyols, which are derivatives of normal sugars. These substances are used to replace sucrose in the process of food manufacture and in household settings to provide sweetness and body or bulk to food and beverages. Some of the bulk sweeteners and their (E-numbers) are given below.

Erythritol (E968) - A naturally occurring sugar alcohol, which is made commercially by the fermentation of glucose. It is about two-third as sweet as sucrose, but has almost no calories. It does not contribute to tooth decay and have no laxative effect.

Isomalt (E953) - A sugar alcohol with similar physical properties to sucrose, but tooth-friendly and has half the calories. Like many other bulk sweeteners, it can have laxative effects.

Lactitol (E966) - About 40% as sweet as sucrose.



Sorbitol(E420) - The oldest bulk sweetener. It is commonly found in diet food and drink products. Additionally, it is used to retain the freshness of confectionary products.

Maltitol (E965) – This has about three-quarters of the sweetness of sugar, but almost half of its calories and it does not promote tooth decay. However, it can have a laxative effect.

Xylitol(E967) - A naturally occurring sugar alcohol. It has about two-thirds of the calories of sugar and does not cause tooth decay but sometimes has a laxative effect.



Intense sweeteners

These are much sweeter than sugar and are therefore typically used at very low levels to replace the sweetness normally provided by sugar. They have virtually no calories. Some of the widely used intense sweeteners are given below.

Saccharin -E954(3-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1,2-benzisothiazole-1,1-dioxide) Saccharin is about 300 times as sweet as sucrose. It exhibits a bitter, metallic aftertaste and this effect becomes more evident with increasing concentration. In humans, saccharin is rapidly absorbed and then is rapidly excreted in urine. However, a health warning statement is required on packages.

Aspartame-E951(L-aspartyl-L-phenylalanine methyl ester) - Aspartame is about 200 times as sweet as sucrose. It is a caloric sweetener because it is a dipeptide that is completely digested after consumption. Aspartame is noted for a clean, sweet taste that is similar to that of sucrose and only very small amounts are needed for sweetening purposes.

Cyclamate-E952(cyclohexyl cyclamate)- Cyclamates are about 30 times sweeter than sucrose, taste much like sucrose without significant interfering taste sensations and are heat stable. Cyclamate sweetness has a slow onset and persists for a period of time that is longer than that for sucrose.

Acesulfame K - E950(6-methyl-1,2,3-oxathazine-4(3H)-one-2,2-dioxide)- Acesulfame K is about 300 times as sweet as sucrose and it exhibits a sweetness quality between that of cyclamate and saccharin. Since it possesses some metallic and bitter taste, it is especially useful when blended with other low-calorie sweeteners.

Sucralose - E 955 (1,6-dichloro-1,6-dideoxy-β-fructofuranosyl-4-chloro-α-D galactopyranoside)- Sucralose is produced by the selective chlorination of the sucrose molecule and it is about 600 times sweeter than sucrose. It is quite stable at the pH of carbonated soft drinks and only limited hydrolysis to monosaccharide units occurs during usual storage of these products.

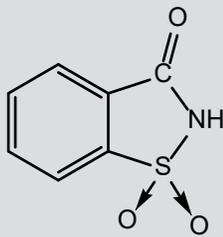
Alitame- E956(L-α-aspartyl-N-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl-3-thietanyl)-D-alaninamide)- Alitame is an amino acid-based sweetener that possesses a sweetening power of about 2000 times that of sucrose and it exhibits a clean sweet taste similar to sucrose. It is highly

soluble in water and has good thermal stability and shelf life, but prolonged storage in some acidic solutions may result in off flavour.

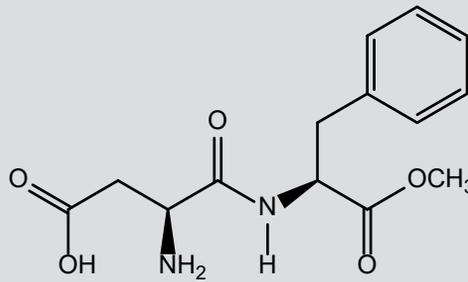
Should we consume Artificial Sweeteners? Sugar substitutes have been around for centuries; even the ancient Romans attempted to use lead acetate in their food as a form of sweetener. Nowadays, the use of Artificial Sweeteners as a sugar substitute in the food industry is increasing. However, the health risks (such as diabetes, heart diseases, metabolic syndrome,

pre-term delivery, cancer and unnecessary weight loss) of regular consumption of Artificial Sweeteners are still under consideration because there is little clinical evidence of risk. Ultimately, while Artificial Sweeteners are perhaps not as scary as some might believe, you may include them in your diet sensibly.

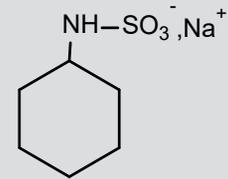
Prof.K. Sarath D. Perera
and Kanishka De Silva
Department of Chemistry
Faculty of Natural Sciences
OUSL. (email: ksper@ou.ac.lk)



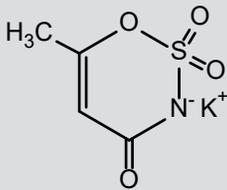
Saccharin



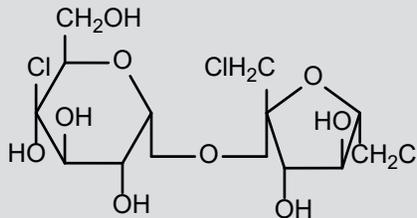
Aspartame



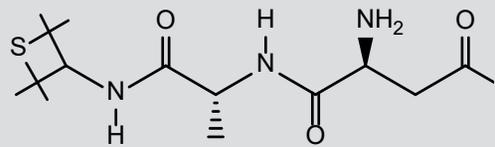
Cyclamate



Acesulfame K



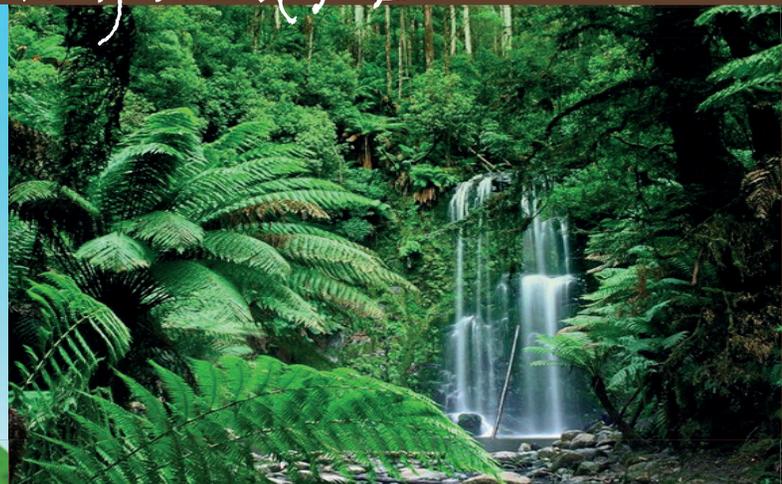
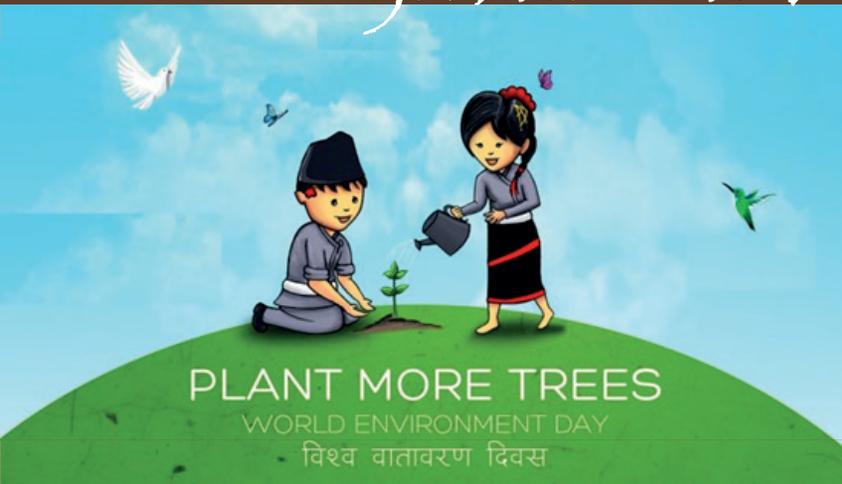
Sucralose



Alitame



Global Warming and RE



The present world is ruled by energy, specifically oil. But we have now realized the adverse effects of burning oil to fulfill our energy requirements. Though it brought conveniences and comforts it has also brought destruction to the world. We are now looking for solutions for the primary issue of Global Warming.

People believe that the laws were created by people to control and discipline people. But, nature runs contrary to our rules. If you do not obey nature, the punishments are much more painful.

Global Warming did not happen within a day. It is a result of a continuous process of various activities of people. The world was green before we found fossil fuel. Natural beauty, flora and fauna, clean air were the real assets of the ancient people.

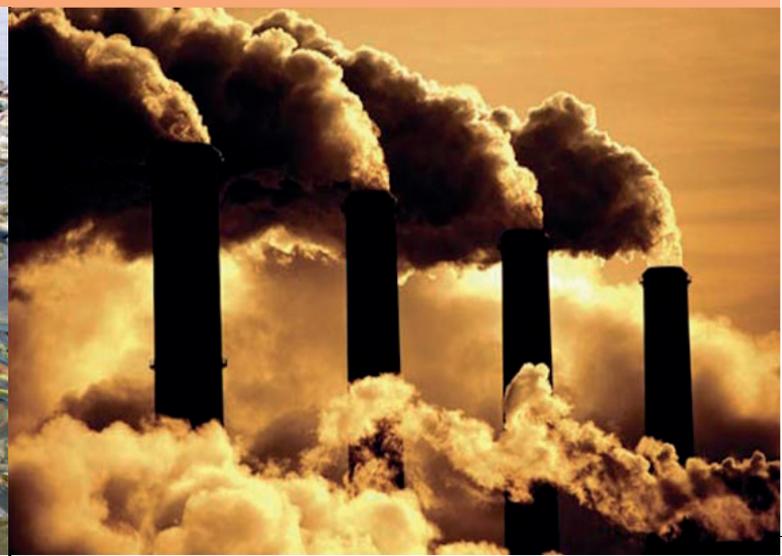
They inhaled fresh air and led healthy lives. But unfortunately, after the two world wars and the industrial revolution we began to disrupt nature. We dug the earth to possess oil. Our engineers created machines to extract fossil fuel. Yet, after a limited period of time, we now question those same acts.

That is why we are looking for sources of Renewable Energy (RE) that could replace oil, gas and coal. One of the important sources of RE is the energy from the sun.

Sun gives light and heat, which is properly utilized can account for all our energy needs. Perhaps the reason why the sun was worshipped by our ancestors...think about it. Depend more on RE and save the world for our future generations.

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Department of Mechanical Engineering
The Open University of Sri Lanka



මේ තරම් සියුමැලි ද කවිකම්

මේ තරම් සියුමැලි ද කලුගල්
හිතන්නට වත් බැරි නිසා
මම ගියා අවුකන බුදුන්ටත්
දැස් දුන් මිනිසා සොයා

කලාවැව් ලග ඉලුක් හෙවණක
මැටි පිලක පැදුරක් එලා
රිදුම් පිරිමදිමින් බලයි ඔහු
මැරෙන ඉපදෙන රළ දිහා

ඉසුරුමුණියේ නුඹ තැනු
පෙම්බරිය කොතැන ද කියා
මා ඇසු විට හිනැහුනා ඔහු
තවම තනිකඩ යැයි කියා

පද රචනය - රජී වසන්ත වෙල්ගම
මිශැසිය - දර්ශන රුවන් දිසානායක
ගායනය - සුනිල් එදිරිසිංහ

කාලාන්තරයක් කවියකුගේ පන්හිද අසල දැවටි දැවටි සිට කාව්‍ය ප්‍රේමීන් අතර ජනපද කලාමාණියක වූ නිර්මාණයකි මේ. දසවසරකට පෙර සීමිත රසික ප්‍රජාවක පැවති කාව්‍ය නිර්මාණයක් මිශැසියක කැවී දනන් තුඩ තුඩ රාව දෙන ,අද දවසක්, මහා කාල සත්තාව විසින් උදා කර ඇත. කුමාරගම කිව්දුන් මෙකී කාලය නම් වූ මහා සත්තාව මහා නිමැවුම්කරු ලෙස ද දුටුවේය. ,කාලය විසින් හැරුව නුග ගසක බෙහේ, යනුවෙන් හෙතෙම එය සුහුගත කලේය. මාර්ටින් වික්‍රමසිංහගේ සිය අසම කෘතිය වූ ගම්පෙරලිය අරඹන්නේ ද හිරිගලක හැඩනිමැවුම් සිදුකල මේ මහා නිර්මාණකාරී සිහිපත් කරමිනි. මෑත කාලීනව කාලය නම් වූ මහා නිර්මාණකාරී සුන්දරත්වයේ උගුලට හසුකරගත් අගනා නිර්මාණය අප විවට කරගත යුතුය දැන්.

මේ තරම් කලුගල් සියුමැලිදැයි කවියේ කථකයා අපෙන් අසන්නේ අවුකන පිලිමයේ ගලාහැලෙන ගල්රේඛා දුටු සිහිනි. විමතියෙනි. අවුකන බුදුන්ට දැස් දුන් මිනිසා යන්නට ඇතැම් බුද්ධිවාදී රසිකයෙකු අන් මතයක් දැරිය හැකිය. බුදුන්ට දැස් දීමට සමත් කිසිවකු ලොවේ නොමැති ය යන්න ඔහුගේ තර්කය විය හැකිය. මෙහි බුදුන් යනු කලා කෘතියක් බවට පත්වුණු අවුකන බුදුන් මිස මහා බුද්ධකාරී නොවේ. එනිසා කලා කෘතිය සහ කලාකරුවා අතර අන්‍යෝන්‍ය සාපේක්‍ෂ වූ ද ප්‍රතිරෝධී වූ ද ද්වන්ධාත්මක වූ ද ආපෝහකාත්මක වූද සහසම්බන්ධය මේ නිර්මාණයේ මොනවාට ගැබ්වී ඇත්තේය.

කලාකෘතියකට ස්වකීය දෘෂ්ටිවාදය සහ ඉසියුම්භාවය කැවූ කලාකරුවාගේ ජීවිතය එකී දෘෂ්ටිවාදය තඩත්තු කරන,



සියුම්භාවය තලා පෙලා පිරික්සන විපාක ලෝකයක විඳින විඳවන බේදවාචකයකි. කලාකරුවාගේ සැබෑ තතු සොයා යන කවියා දකින්නේ ඇස් අදහාගත නොහැකි දසුනකි. කලාකෘතියේ වූ තේජස්වී ස්වරූපයෙන් ද, ඉසියුම්භාවයෙන් ද පරාරෝපිත වූ අල්පේශාකාරී වූ දිලිඳුවූ මිනිසෙකි. මේ මිනිසා වසන්නේ වැවක් අසල ඉලුක් පැලකය. එහෙත් ඒ වැව කලා වැවකි. මැරි මැරී ඉපදී ඉපදී විඳන විඳවන ජීවිතය නමැති වැව ද මේ. එකී වැව මැද මැරෙන ඉපදෙන සැප දුක් නම් රළ පතර පැසෙන අනාතයෙක් නොවේද මේ මිනිසා. එහෙත් මේ අනාත බව තුලම සනාතනත්වයේ පුළුඟු දල්වා ගැනීමට හෙතෙම සමත් නොවන්නේ ද? බුද්ධ නම් වූ සනාතන සත්‍ය ඔසවා තැබීමට ඔහුගේ දෘෂ්ටිවාදය පොහොසත් නොවන්නේ ද? ගලාහැලෙන ගල් රේඛා මතින් මහාකරුණාව තේජස් වී නිශ්ශබ්දකාරී මගින් මහා ප්‍රඥාව මනුෂ්‍යත්වයට දුරාවබෝධ යථාර්තයක් නොවන බව හෙතෙම සපථ කර නොසිටින්නේද? එසේ නම් ඔහු කිසිසේත්ම දිලින්නේදකු විය හැකිද? ඉසුරුමුණි පෙම්යුචලට සරිලන මනෝරම ප්‍රේමයක් කලු ගලට කාවැද්දූ මේ මිනිසා තවමත් තනිකඩයෙකු බව හිනැහී පවසන්නේ ගුප්ත සංවේගයකින් ද? නො එසේ නම් සංකල්පීය රාගය නම් වූ මායා මූලාවට හසුනොවනා ප්‍රඥාවකින්ද?

සුමින්ද ගුණරත්න
අධ්‍යාපන තාක්ෂණ මාධ්‍ය මධ්‍යස්ථානය

வியப்பு

ஊரில் ஆறுமுகத்தின் கொட்டிலில்
தலைமுடி வெட்டிக் கொண்டு வீடு திரும்புகையில்
“என்னடா முழுமயிரையும் விட்டு வெட்டிக்கிடக்கு”
என்று எனை ஏசி ஆறுமுகத்திடம்
இழுத்துக் கொண்டுபோய் தலைமுடியை
ஓட்ட வெட்டுவித்த அப்பா சொல்கிறார் இன்று
“ ஏன் இப்படி வெட்டினனி..கொஞ்சம் விட்டு வெட்டினால்
வடிவாய் இருக்கும் “

மதியம் சாப்பிடுகையில்
“ வேண்டாம் வேண்டாம் ..”என்று
நான் கத்தக் கத்த பிசைஞ்சு தீர்த்திய
அம்மா சொல்கிறா இன்று
“ அளவாய்ச் சாப்பிடு தம்பி. கொலஸ்ரோல் வந்திடும்”

படிக்கும் காலத்தில்
பல்கலைக் கழகத்தில் நூலகப் படிக்கட்டில்
இருந்து மணிக்கணக்காய் கதைத்த நண்பன் சொல்கிறான்
“ டேய், இதிலை இருந்து கதைக்கிறது சரியில்லை..
வாடா போய் ‘கொமன் றூமிலை’ இருந்து கதைப்பம் “
காலம் செல்லச் செல்ல இங்கு
நானும் மாறிப் போக வேண்டுமோ?

தேவராசா முகுந்தன்
கல்விப் பீடம்



ශ්‍රී මහා බෝධියේ අංකුරය
රැගෙන වැඩියේ තෙරණියක්..
නමුත් ඇයි අද ලඟට යනු බෑ
ඇය ඉදිරියේ රන් වැටක්...

ධන්ත ධාතුව හිසේ සඟවන්
රැගෙන ආවේ කුමරියක්...
ඒ තරම් පින් සපිරූ “ඇ” හට
ඇයිද අද තහනම් ගොඩක්...

ගැහැණු සිත්වල පිරෙන පින් ගඟ
ගලන්නට දෙනවද ඉඩක්...
වැටී බිම දණ තබා නලලත
නිමකරන්නට හව දුකක්....



ශාන්තිකා හංසනී කිතුල්ගොඩගේ
Public Information Division

ගුරුකුල ධර්ම කතා වස්තුව

කරුණානිධාන වූ අප ආනන්ද නම් බුදුරජාණන් වහන්සේ ඉදිපත් නුවර නාලන්දාරාමයෙහි වැඩ වසන සමයෙහි එක් ගුරුකුලයකින් තෙරපා දැමූ යහපත් ඇදුරෙකු අරඹයා මෙම ජාතකය වදාළ සේක.

ඉදිපත් නුවර එක් ගුරුකුලයෙක ශාස්ත්‍ර හදාරා එහි මැ ඇදුරෙකු වීමට උත්සාහ කළ යහපත් මානවකයෙකු, ගුරුකුලයේ අධිපතීන් විසින් නුසුදුස්සෙකැයි කියා තෙරපා දැමීන. මේ නම් කෙතරම් අකටයුත්තක්දැයි හික්ෂුන් වහන්සේලා දම්සභා මණ්ඩපයෙහි කතිකා කර හුන් තැනට වැඩි තථාගතයන් වහන්සේ “මා එන්නා ට පූර්ව භාගයෙහි කිනම් කතාවක යුක්ත වූවහුදැයි විචාරා, එපවත් අසා, පෙර ඇදුරන් කෙතරම් බාධක පැමිණිය ද අත් නොහළ වීර්යයෙන් ලෝකෝපකාරයම සැලසූහ” යි අතීත කතාව වදාළහ.

යට ගිය දවස බරණැස් නුවර බ්‍රහ්මදත්ත නම් රජ්ජුරු කෙනෙකුන් රාජ්‍ය කරන සමයෙහි එනුවර ශාස්ත්‍රවර්ධන නම් ගුරුකුලයක් විය. එකල අප බෝසතාණෝ ඉස්සාර මානවක නමින් ඉපිද ශාස්ත්‍ර හැදැරීමෙහි සුදුසු තැන් බලා ශාස්ත්‍රවර්ධන ගුරුකුලය තෝරාගෙන, එහි විජ්ජු නම් ශාස්ත්‍රය වෙසෙස් කොට හැදැරිය. සාවුරුද්දකින් සියලු ශාස්ත්‍ර අතැඹුලක් සේ උගත් නමුත්, පෙර අත්බැව්හි දී ඇදුරෙකු ව හිඳ ශිෂ්‍යයන් ඇගයුමෙහි දී “මොවුනට අඩු ලකුණු දෙව!” යි කී අකුසලයෙන් මෙකල්හි ශිෂ්‍යයෙකු ව හිඳ ඉහළ සාමාර්ථ නොලබා පහළ සාමාර්ථම ලැබුවාහුය.

බෝසතුන්ගේ දස්කම් හැඳිනගත් දෙටුඇදුරෝ, මොහු මෙහි මැ ඇදුරෙක් වී නම් යහපතැයි සිතා දැවුරුද්දකට පමණක් ඇදුරු පදවි දී යහපත් නම් ස්ථිර කෙරෙමු යි ගිවිසා වැඩ සැලසූහ. බෝසතාණෝ ශිල්ප, ශාස්ත්‍ර, පර්යේසන, පරිපාලන යන සිවුවැදැරුම් විෂයෙහි දස්කම් දක්වා ඉන් ද නොනැවත ඇදුරු, නොඇදුරු, අතවැසි සියලු දනන් කෙරෙහි සම සිත් පතුරුවා සිටියහ.

මෙකල එගුරුකුලයට හීනකේස නම් යක්ෂයෙකු මිනිස් වෙසින් පැමිණ මහානුභාව පෙන්වා ඇදුරන් බියවද්දා ඇදුරුනායක පදවි අත්කරගෙන සිටියේය. දැවුරුද්දක් මනාපැවැත්මෙන් සිටි බෝසතුන් දැන් ස්ථිර කෙරේ නම් මැනවැයි ඇදුරු නායකගෙන් ඉල්ලූ කල, “ස්ථිර වීමට නම් ඉහළ සාමාර්ථයෙක්ම වුවමනායැ. පහළ සාමාර්ථලත් තොප එයට නුසුදුස්සෙකැ” යි අපවාද නැගීය. බෝසතුන් ස්ථිර කිරීමට අවකාශ තිබියදීත් හීනකේසයා වංචාවෙන්, තමාට හිතැති යක්ෂණයකටද ඕනට අතවැසි නුගත් ස්ත්‍රියකටද ස්ථිර ඇදුරු පදවි ලබාදීය. එකල බෝසතාණන්ට හිතැති එ ගුරුකුල දෙටුඇදුරු හේමමාලා නම් දෙසොවුරියෝ ද කුමාරෝදය නම් බමුණා ද බෝසතාණන් කෙරේ දාරක ස්තේහ උපදවා, “පුත! අප කෙරේ ක්‍රෝධ නොකරව, ගුරුකුල නීතියට අවනත වෙව” යි නායක ඇදුරාගේ වංචාව සඟවමින් කීහ.

ගුරුකුලයට සිදුවන විපත දුටු බෝසතාණෝ යක්ෂණයගේ හා අතවැසි ස්ත්‍රියගේ අසමත්කම් හෙළි කළහ. එබස් ඇසූ සෙසු ඇදුරෝ, තනතුරු අහිමි වූ හටගත් ක්‍රෝධයෙන් අන් අයට දොස් නගන්නේ යැයි බෝසතුන්ට ම අවලාද නැගූහ. හැම නින්දා ඉවසූ බෝසත් හට ඇතමුත් “මේ නම් කිනම් අඥානකමක්දැ? තොපගේ ගති ස්වභාව ගුරුකුලයට නොවටතේයැ. නින්දා නොවිඳ අත් තැනෙකි යව” යි කීහ. අනෙකක් තබා, බෝසතුන්ට මෙහෙසි වූ ධීරා කුමරිය ද යක්ෂණයගේ බසට රැවටිගෙනැ “තොප කිසිත් තෙතමනයක් නැතිව අන් ඇදුරන්ට දොස් නගාපියැ. තොප කෙරේ මින් මතු මා ලයෙහි ස්තේහ නොමැත්තේමයැ, අදම තොප හැර යමි” යි බොසතුන් හැර ගියාය.

මෙ වෙලෙහි උණුවූ පඬුපුල් අසුනෙන් නැගී දෙදෙවි ලොවට අධිපති සක්දෙවි රජතෙමේ, හිමාල අඩවියෙහි සිට ලුණු සොයා වැඩි වෘද්ධ තවුසෙකු වෙස් ගෙන බෝසතුන් හමුවී, “මානවකය! මෙකල ගුරුකුල ස්වභාව මෙයමැ වියැ, ශාස්ත්‍ර නොදත් සොර ඇදුරෝ, ශිෂ්‍යයන්ටම දොස් නගති.

ඉහළ සාමාර්ථ ගෙන ඇදුරුකම් ගත්තවුන් ශිල්පයෙහි අසමත්ව ඇදුරුකම් මනා කොට නොකරති. නොකළ පර්යේෂණ කළ සේ පෙන්වා වැටුප් ලබති. පරිපාලනයෙහි අසමර්ථයෝ සම්පත් අපහරණ කරති. සුදුස්සන් හැරපියා හිතවතුන්ට ම ඇදුරු පදවී දෙති. රාජකාරි පසෙක තබා සන්ථාගාරයෙහි මැ අල්ලාප සල්ලාපයෙහි යෙදෙති. මෙතෙකින් යහපත් ඇදුරෝ මන්දෝත්සාහී වෙති. නමුත් තොප විසින් යම් යහපත් කරුණක් පෙරදැරිව අත් නොහරින විරියයෙන් යුතුව දුසිරිත් ඇදුරන්ගේ නොපනත්කම්ද ඉවසා ශිෂ්‍යයන් හික්මවන්නම්, එයම තොපගේ සැනසීමට හේතු වේයැ” යි පවසා හැම ඇදුරන් පිලිපැදිය යුතු සිව්වැදැරුම් ගුරුකුළ ධර්මය කියාදීය.

- නොකළ දේ කළ සේ නොපෙන්වන්න.
- සුදුස්සාට පමණක් සුදුසු තැන් දෙන්න.
- ශිල්ප, ශාස්ත්‍ර, පර්යේෂණ, පරිපාලන නොඅඩුව සපුරන්න.
- ඇදුරු, නොඇදුරු සියල්ලන්ට සමසිත් පතුරන්න.

බෝසතාණෝද අත් නොහළ විරියයෙන් තවත් දෑ වුරුද්දක් ගිවිසවාගෙන කිසි-වකුට ක්‍රෝධ නොකොට දෙටු ඇදුරෙකු හා සම සේවාචක්ද කොට දැවුරුදු අවසන ගුරුකුළය හැරදමා මහාවාලුකා නදී තෙර අසපුවක තවුස් ඇසුරේ කල් යැවී යෑ. කල් යත්ම යක්ෂණය සිය ස්වාමී යක්ෂයා ද සමග එගුරුකුළ වැසි සිසුන් කා දැමීමට පටන් ගත්තීය. අතවැසි ස්ත්‍රිය ද තමන්ගේ නොහැකිකම් සඟවාලීමට ශිෂ්‍යයන්ට මැ දොස් නැගීය. ගුරුකුළ ධර්මය අකුරට මැ ඉටු කළ බෝසතුන් නොමැතිව ශාස්ත්‍ර දිය නොහී, සිදුවන විපත මැනවින් පෙනී ගියෙන් හේමමාලා දෙසොවුරියෝද කුමාරෝදය බමුණාද බෝසතුන්ට පෙරලා පැමිණෙන ලෙස ආරාධනා කළහ. බෝසතුන්ද “කිම? තොප විසින් මා වෙනුවට තෝරාගත් ඇදුරන් ලවා එය කරවාගත නොහිදැ? උන් දෙදෙනා සුදුස්සන් යැයි තීරණය කළාහු නම් නුඹලාම

නොවේදැ?” කී කල්හි තතු අවබෝධ කොටගත් ඇදුරෝ “උන් වැනි අසමර්ථයින්ගෙන් ගුරුකුළයට කවර පිහිටක් ද? නුඹ වහන්සේම පැමිණ ස්ථිර ඇදුරු තනතුරු භාරගනු මැනවැ” යි කීවුහ. එකල්හි ගුරුකුළයට වැඩි බෝසතාණෝ සියලු දුසිරිත් ඇදුරන්ට නිගා කොට මෙතැන් පටන් දියුණු වන්නාහු යි සිංහනාද කළහ. එකෙනෙහි ම මහපොළෝ විදාරණ වැ ගිනිදැල් අවුත් හීනකේසයා නිරයට ඇද වැටිණ. යක්ෂණය හා අතවැසි ස්ත්‍රිය ද ධීරා කුමරිය ද ලජ්ජාවෙන් නුවර විදි බැස දිව යන්නට වන. ගුරුකුළ වැසි ජනයා මොවුන් දැක “මෙතෙක් ගුරුකුළය විනාස කළවුන් දැන් විදි වැද ඇතැ” යි කියමින් දණ්ඩෙන් පහර දීමට සැරසින. බෝසතුන් උන් වලකා මෙත් වඩන ලෙස උපදෙස් දීය.

නොබෝ කලකින් මහැදුරු පදවී ලැබූ බෝසතාණෝ ගුරුකුළ ධර්මය රත්පත් වල ලියා සියලු දෙනාට ලබා දී එය දිවිහිමියෙන් රැකීමට සලස්වා ධර්ම දේශනා කොට ආයු කෙළවර මිය ගොස් දෙවිලොව උපන්න.

එකල හීනකේසයා නම් මෙකල වසවර්ති මාරයායි. යක්ෂණයන් අතවැසි ස්ත්‍රියන් ධීරා කුමරියන් මෙකල මාර දුවරු තිදෙනය. දෙටු හේමමාලාවෝ අග්‍රදායිකා නන්දා උපාසිකාවයි. කණ්ටු හේමමාලාවෝ අග්‍රශ්‍රාවිකා විශාඛා තෙරණියයි. කුමාරෝදය බමුණා අග්‍රදායක නන්ද සිටාණන්ය. සක්දෙවි නම් පළමු දම් දෙසුමෙහි මන්දෝත්සාහී වූ බුදුනට ආරාධනා කළ සුද්ධාවාස වැසි යසවඩ්ඪන බුන්මරාජයා යි. ඉස්සාර මහැදුරු නම් බුදුවූ මම් ම වේයැ යි පූර්වාපරසන්ධි ගලපා, විරිය පාරමිතා සම්පාදනය කළයුරු දක්වා, මේ ජාතකය නිමවා වදාළ සේක.

(මෙහි එන නම් ගම් සහ වරිත සියල්ලක්ම මනාකල්පිත බව සලකන්න.)

ඉසුරු ප්‍රේමරත්න
විදුලි හා පරිගතක ඉංජිනේරු අධ්‍යයනාංශය
ඉංජිනේරු තාක්ෂණ පීඨය

The ensnare

I am trapped
I am caught
I am caught in 'something'
Something endless
Afar I can conceive
I don't care
I don't know

I can't see anything
I don't feel anything
Beauty, Desire, Love, even Hate!
I am caught
I am caught up in an endless 'something'
I want to know, but I don't care
I care, but I don't

I haven't 'seen' my beloved for ages
Neither ME!
I look at them, see them every day
Kindness, compassion, love
Through I saw them Are gone!
I can't see the beauty of Gatapichcha
I don't feel their delicate fragrance
I don't hear birds chirp feasting in my garden
I don't see them eating food on my parapet wall
They are there every morning, but I don't see

Not anymore! Why don't
I want to know, but I don't care
I care, but I don't

When I be fleeing and free?
I am caught, I am trapped
In an endless something
I want to know, but I don't care
I care, but I don't

There are miles and miles to go
There are mounds and mounds to crawl
There are valleys and valleys to trail
There are mounds and mounds to leap and fall
A leap of faith ultimate
Before my reincarnation
Reincarnation after my Journey
A Journey of utter disgust,
A Journey of utter droopiness
A Journey of utter insanity
But I don't care
I care, but I don't
Because I am not I am
Not anymore!

Written during my PhD journey
Harsha Dulari Wijesekera

ඒදා ඔබ මා ලඟින් සිටිනා විට දී
දැනුන සුව කෝ ඇද දිනේ
ඒදා ඔබ මා ලඟින් සිටිනා විටදී
දැනුන සුව නෑ ඇමිමේ
ඒදා ඔබේ සුවඳ පවා මට නෑ

සදා සෙහෙහස පුදා දිවියට
ලගේ උණුසුම ලබා දී
මන මෙරකවින් මගේ දුක් ගිනි නිවාලා ඇමිමේ
ඔබ මෙසේ මා හැර ගියේ ඇයි
ඒදා ඔබේ සුවඳ පවා මට නෑ

යලිත් දවසක මගේ දිවියට
ඔබේ උණුසුම ලැබේ නම්
සුරලොවකවින් ඔබේ සෙහෙහස දැනේව් ඇමිමේ
ඔබ මෙසේ මා හැර ගියේ ඇයි

ඒදා ඔබ මා ලඟින් සිටිනා විට දී
දැනුන සුව කෝ ඇද දිනේ
ඒදා ඔබ මා ලඟින් සිටිනා විටදී
දැනුන සුව නෑ ඇමිමේ
ඒදා ඔබේ සුවඳ පවා මට නෑ

සිසිර ජයමහ
යාන්ත්‍රික ඉංජිනේරු ආයතන