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PRATHIBHA



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All Island FIRST PLACE



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"NOCHÉ DE PAZ" 2021

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## Editorial

Welcome to the inaugural issue of "Prathibha", the newsletter of the Student Affairs Division of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya. Prathibha will be published every two months hereafter and will highlight the achievements of our students in sports, music and the performing arts, literature, social service, and other extracurricular activities.

The talents and abilities of our students are many and varied. We hope this newsletter will become a forum for showcasing these talents to the whole faculty as well as the university. Copies of Prathibha will be emailed to all staff and students of the faculty, and hard copies will be displayed on faculty notice boards. Prathibha will also be available on the Student Affairs Division webpage.

If you would like to contribute information about a student activity to this newsletter, please email us on [medsad@kln.ac.lk](mailto:medsad@kln.ac.lk)

**Prof Shamila De Silva**  
 Editor  
 Prathibha

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The following parties are greatly acknowledged for their support in providing news and pictures.

- Prof Nirmala Perera
- Dr Miyuru Chandradasa
- Dr Lathika Athauda
- Dr Kushan Medagoda
- Prof Shaluka Jayamanne

### **Editorial Board:**

- |                              |                          |
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| • Prof Chamila Mettananda    | • Ms EMND Ekanayaka      |
|                              | • Ms KMND Pramodi        |

**Layout Designer:** Dr JMYK Jayasinghe





Winners of English Category



Winners of Sinhala Category

## Prof Carlo Fonseka Memorial Inter-Batch Debate Competition

The Prof. Carlo Fonseka Memorial Inter-Batch Debate Competition was organized in parallel with the 30<sup>th</sup>-anniversary celebrations of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya. Professor Carlo Fonseka was the founding Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, and this competition was organized in memory of this great personality.

The main purpose of organizing this event was to facilitate the personal and professional development of medical students and to improve their critical thinking and communication skills. This event also helped to strengthen the bonds between batches of students in the faculty despite prevailing COVID-related restrictions.

Under the guidance of senior advisors Dr. Lanka Ranaweera and

Dr. Lathika Athauda, the competition commenced on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021 with preliminary rounds on a virtual platform. The competition was in both English and Sinhala languages, with the participation of students from the 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> batches of the MBBS and SHS degree programs. The grand finale was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 at the main auditorium of the faculty. The event was graced by Senior Prof. Nilanthi De Silva, Vice-Chancellor and Senior Prof. Janaki Hewavisenthi, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya.

The topic of the final round in the Sinhala category, "Attention given by the authorities towards mental health is sufficient/insufficient in the current Sri Lankan context", was proposed by the team from the SHS degree program and

opposed by the team from the 32<sup>nd</sup> batch of the MBBS degree program. After a great battle of words, the 32<sup>nd</sup> batch team emerged victorious. Isuru Jayasekara from the 32<sup>nd</sup> batch secured the title of Best Debater in Sinhala.

The topic of the final round in the English category was "Expansion of higher educational opportunities with public-private partnership is necessary in the current Sri Lankan context". This was proposed by the team from Batch 32 and opposed by the Batch 29 team. Mahdi Siraj from the 32<sup>nd</sup> batch was the Best Debater in the English category.

The Prof. Carlo Fonseka Memorial inter-batch debate competition was a successful event that will pave the way for many more such events in the years to come.





# Green World Explorer

## Photography Competition 2021



Faculty of Medicine, Ragama is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Parallel to this event, the Green Practice Committee of the faculty organized a photography competition open to students and staff of the faculty and extended faculty of the Teaching Hospital, Ragama.

There was great enthusiasm for the event and many beautiful photographs were uploaded to

the contest site. More than 100 photographs were submitted by medical students. The judges had a hard time selecting the best photos.

The enthusiasm shown by the medical students was encouraging; photography may have been a relaxing experience for many during the COVID-19 pandemic with seemingly endless lockdowns.

Professor H. J. Hewavisenthi, Dean, Faculty of Medicine awarded the prizes and certificates to the winners. The competition was the brainchild of Prof. Nirmala Perera, Chairperson of the Green Practice Committee. The event and the cash prizes were organized by Dr. Kushan Medagoda.

### Faculty environment -With captions



© Nimnadi Kalansuriya (ME/2016/073)

*"One of the many reasons why we love it here. Sri Lanka's first ever green state university ♥"*



© Chinthaka Jayakody (ME/2015/063)

*"Godrays"*



© Tshering Phuntsho (F/ME/2015/167)

*"Right timing, Right place..."*

*Captured from the Third floor of B1 Boys Hostel focusing Ayati Center.*

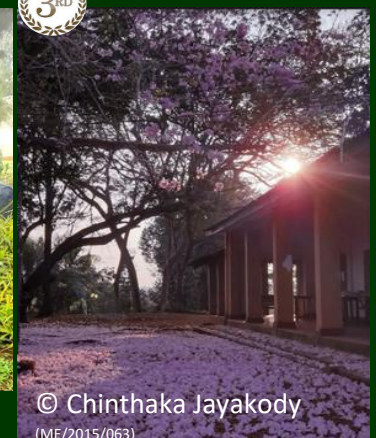
### Faculty environment -Without captions



© Ruhaima M.F.F (ME/2016/125)



© Binuri Lochana (ME/2018/098)



© Chinthaka Jayakody (ME/2015/063)



**Outside the faculty environment - With captions**

1<sup>ST</sup>



© W.A.Sanaa (ME/2017/129)  
*"Peeking Lizard"*

2<sup>ND</sup>



© Punsara Liyadipita (ME/2015/080)  
*"No complaints raised, No questions asked; just guided the way"*

3<sup>RD</sup>



© Punsara Liyadipita (ME/2015/080)  
*"Still believe in heavens above"*

**Outside the faculty environment - Without captions**

1<sup>ST</sup>



© Udaaran Selvaratnam (ME/2016/135)

2<sup>ND</sup>



© Ruhaima M.F.F (ME/2016/125)

3<sup>RD</sup>



© Mayura Nimnajith (ME/2016/156)





## Student Free Paper Sessions-30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Academic Sessions

This year the 30th Anniversary celebrations of the Faculty of Medicine took a different angle due to safety reasons related to COVID-19 pandemic related precautions. The Academic Sessions were organized in a hybrid manner starting with two days of research symposia and one day of free paper sessions, which was a physical event.

The free paper session was held on 31st of October 2021 at the Main Auditorium from 8.30 am to 5 pm. A student committee co-chaired by Mr. Pasindu Walsinghe (Batch 30) and Mr. Udaaran Selvaratnam (Batch 29) organized the event, under the supervision of the Conference Organizing Committee and the 30th Anniversary Celebrations Steering Committee. The committee secretary Ms. Priyanjalaa Sumanasekera (Batch 30) along with many representatives from MBBS Batches 29, 30, 31 and 32 and SHS students helped to make this event an immense success.

The free paper session provided an opportunity for health care and allied health students from public and private universities to present their research in an innovative format. A total of 25 oral and 51 poster presentations were published under the themes Basic Applied and Clinical Sciences, Allied Health Sciences, Public Health, Primary Care and Health Professions Education. The abstracts of each theme were reviewed by members of the academic staff and presentations were judged by a two-member panel.

At the free papers, a total of 27 papers were presented by UOK undergraduates, of which 11 were from the MBBS students and others from the SHS strand. The following students of the University of Kelaniya obtained places as the best poster and best oral presentations.



### **Oral presentation winners – FOM UOK**

#### **BASIC APPLIED AND CLINICAL SCIENCES**

- A retrospective descriptive study on deaths due to firearm injuries  
 D.N. Alwis, D.P.S. Govinnage, D.L. Kulathunga, W.N.S. Perera, P. Paranitharan  
*Department of Forensic Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH AND PRIMARY CARE**

- Violence seen on Facebook and YouTube videos: a qualitative study  
 P. Harshani<sup>1</sup>, C. Jayananda<sup>1</sup>, N. Hapuarachchi<sup>1</sup>, U. Harshana<sup>1</sup>, H. Kularathna<sup>1</sup>, L. Athauda<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Medicine and <sup>2</sup>Department of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya

### **Poster Presentation winners – FOM UOK**

#### **ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES 11 & HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATION**

- A survey on current knowledge and practices of teleaudiology among audiology professionals in Sri Lanka  
 Vindya Geeganage, Bandini Jayasena  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*



## The list of Free Papers from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya

### 01. Prevalence of distress and associated factors among G.C.E. A/L students in Gampaha District: A descriptive cross-sectional study

W.G.B Wickramarachchi, Bimanga Wickramarachchi  
*Faculty of Medicine University of Kelaniya*

### 02. Supportive facilities and challenges for education during covid-19 pandemic among orphaned children in child development centers in Gampaha district

Madurangi Jayarathne, Yasara Jayasooriya, Nethmu Jayasooriya, Piumi Jayasundara, Bagya Jayalath, Manuja Perera  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 03. Use of spontaneous gesture patterns of people with aphasia at conversational level

Harshani Jayathissa  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 04. The analysis of conversational features between the individuals with dementia and their communication partners in natural conversation

Thanuja Jinadasa, Dinushee Atapattu-Bakmeewewa  
*Department of Disability Studies, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 05. Challenges and opportunities for inclusive education: Perceptions of parents of children with disabilities receiving speech and language therapy services in Colombo District

N. Begam, L. Daskon  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 06. Anxiety and Depression among the patients with Dysphagia following Oral Maxillofacial and Neck surgeries in four selected hospitals in Western Province, Sri Lanka.

Kethaki Fernando, Roshan Fernando, Dumini De Silva  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 07. Antibiotic Prescription and Resistant Pattern in Wards of Professorial Unit and Intensive Care Unit of Colombo North Teaching Hospital

Mohamed Azhar  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 08. Administering Sinhala Pedi-EAT to detect feeding difficulties in children with disabilities: Evidence from a university clinic in Sri Lanka

Supun Priyadarshana  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 09. A survey on current knowledge and practices of teleaudiology among audiology professionals in Sri Lanka

Vindya Geeganage, Bandini Jayasena  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 10. Effect of a play-based training program on interactive skills of caregivers of children with autism

Pamoda M. Wanniarachchi, Samanmali Sumanasena  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 11. Paediatric dysphagia assessments used by speech and language therapists in Low and Middle-Income countries: A Scoping Review

Dinushi Sumanasiri  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 12. Translation, adaptation and, validation of the Communication Matrix parent version to use with Sinhala speaking parents

Chiranthi Kumarage, Nimisha Muttiah  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 13. A scoping review on psychosocial impacts on adults with dysarthria

Govindi Sankalpani  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 14. Content Validation of an Informal Auditory Skill Assessment Tool for Sinhala Speaking Primary School-Age Children in Sri-Lanka; A Delphi Study.

Michelle Bernadette Xavier, Samadhi Priyanwada Kumari Gunathilaka, Jayani Inosha Marambage  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

### 15. Prevalence and associated factors of voice disorders among older adults: an updated systematic review

Sashikala Herath  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*



**16. Oral feeding difficulties among children with cerebral palsy, aged between birth to 5 years: special challenges faced by primary caregivers during the COVID19 pandemic**

C.S.D. Serasinghe, Shyamani Hettiarachchi  
*Department of Disability Studies, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

**17. A retrospective descriptive study on deaths due to firearm injuries**

D.N. Alwis, D.P.S. Govinnage, D.L. Kulathunga, W.N.S. Perera, P. Paranitharan  
*Department of Forensic Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

**18. Assessment and comparison of knowledge, attitudes and practices on usage of paracetamol among people (both males and females) within 20-30 years and 50-60 years attending Outpatient Department at Divisional Hospital, Wellawa**

T.S. Galhenage<sup>1</sup>, E.W.W.M.M.B. Gangoda<sup>1</sup>, H.H.A.U. Hewawasam<sup>1</sup>, J.K.H. Hiran<sup>1</sup>, H.M.M.P.K. Illangasinghe<sup>1</sup>, A.S. Dassanayake<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya and

<sup>2</sup>Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya

**19. Knowledge, attitudes and practices on the use of European Number System and International Numbering System for coding food additives, among medical students of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya.**

E.M.J.C. Ekanayake, W.I.U. Fernando, D.G.H.N. Gamage, SomNath Gurung, S.P.N. Ekanayake, C.W. Subasinghe  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

**20. Attitudes towards homosexuality, bisexuality and transgenderism among medical students of a Sri Lankan university**

J.S.R.L. Rajapaksha, R.G.D.T. Rajapaksha, A.U.R. Ranawaka, R.D.M.P. Rangalla, R.D.E.B. Ranwala, M.N. Chandratilake  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

**21. Contraceptive knowledge among first year students of Science, Commerce and Arts streams of University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka.**

D.L.A.A. Jayathilake<sup>1</sup>, P.H.T.N. Jayathissa<sup>1</sup>, P.H.S. Jayaweera<sup>1</sup>, S.C. Karunathilake<sup>1</sup>, B.M.N.D. Kularatne<sup>1</sup>, B.D.W. Jayamanne<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Medicine and <sup>2</sup>Department of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya

**22. Violence seen on Facebook and YouTube videos: a qualitative study**

P. Harshani<sup>1</sup>, C. Jayananda<sup>1</sup>, N. Hapuarachchi<sup>1</sup>, U. Harshana<sup>1</sup>, H. Kularathna<sup>1</sup>, L. Athauda<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Medicine and <sup>2</sup>Department of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya

**23. Accessibility to Disability-care Institutions and Public Health Services in Ragama Medical Officer of Health Area**

C.K. Pathirage<sup>1</sup>, U.G.M. Padmasiri<sup>1</sup>, N.S.R.P. Nuwarapakshage<sup>1</sup>, W.D. Panditharatne<sup>1</sup>, S.N. Hewawardhane<sup>1</sup>, T. Phuntsho<sup>1</sup>, K.M.N. Perera<sup>2</sup>  
*Faculty of Medicine and Department of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

**24. Accessibility challenges for the disabled community accessing public health care services and disability care institutions in Ragama Medical Officer of Health area**

C.K. Pathirage<sup>1</sup>, U.G.M. Padmasiri<sup>1</sup>, N.S.R.P. Nuwarapakshage<sup>1</sup>, W.D. Panditharatne<sup>1</sup>, S.N. Hewawardhane<sup>1</sup>, T. Phuntsho<sup>1</sup>, K.M.N. Perera<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Medicine and <sup>2</sup>Department of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya

**25. Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease in the South Asian Region: A systematic review and meta-analysis**

Madhuri Yasodha Withanage, Madunil Anuk Niriella, Dileepa Ediriweera, Shamila Thivanshi De Silva, Arjuna Priyadarshin De Silva, Hithanadura Janaka de Silva  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

**26. Infection control and hand hygiene (ICHH) practices of Audiology service providers in the Western Province of Sri Lanka**

Ransi Wijethunga  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*

**27. Views of patients admitted to professorial units of Colombo North Teaching Hospital, regarding issues related to personal space and privacy during clinical training in of medical students**

Keshali Senanayake  
*Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya*





# American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Convention 2021



## About the ASHA Convention

The ASHA Convention is the premier annual professional development and networking event for speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and speech, language, and hearing scientists. Plan to join your peers for the ASHA Convention in November.

Seven students from the Department of Disability Studies presented their final year research projects at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Convention 2021. Of them, five students were selected for ASHA's PROmoting the next GENeration of Researchers (PROGENY) programme. This programme highlights, recognizes and encourages promising undergraduate researchers in the fields of communication sciences and disorders. "The ASHA Convention is the strongest educational program for audiologists, speech-language pathologists, speech and hearing scientists, and related professionals." The 2021 ASHA convention was held from November 18-20 in Washington, D.C.

- **Akila Dinethra Ariyasena** (PROGENY Awardee)  
*Speech and Language Therapy Interventions for Dysarthria in Parkinson's Disease: An Updated Systematic Review*
- **Ruwanthi Dissanayaka** (PROGENY Awardee)  
*Developing a Questionnaire to Evaluate Emotional and Behavioral Problems among Adolescents with Dyslexia*
- **Vindya Geeganage** (PROGENY Awardee)  
*Survey on Current Knowledge and Practice of Teleaudiology Among Audiology Professionals in Sri Lanka*
- **Niluka Madubhashini Kumarathunga** (PROGENY Awardee)  
*Scoping review on voice changes and assessments used with people undergoing thyroidectomy*

- **Thushani Umesha** (PROGENY Awardee)  
*Speech Therapy Interventions for Acquired Apraxia of Speech: An Updated Systematic Review*
- **Madhubashi Perera**  
*Translation and Adaptation of a Dysarthria Assessment to be Used in the Sri Lankan Context*
- **Mahesha Dilshani**  
*Speech Therapists' Knowledge of Safety Practices and Service Delivery During COVID-19 in Sri Lanka*

## Two hundred volunteers join hands for A BEACH CLEAN UP

The Green Practice Committee of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya and the Green Society partnered with the “Pearl Protectors” environmental volunteer organisation and organised a beach clean-up programme on the Negombo beach on 4th December 2021.

*“The beach clean-up campaign was a wonderful experience for all of us. The enthusiasm and satisfaction we felt made us realise the value of a team effort. At the end of the day, we were able to accomplish all our targets. Thank you for organising such an amazing event. It was a great privilege for us to work with the academic staff as a team of volunteers.”*

- **Rasula and Minura** (Batch 29 students)

*“We were happy to support such an eco-friendly community service.”*

*“The beach clean-up was a successful attempt. We gained experience in the separation, collection and disposal of plastic nurdles. The clean-up campaign made us realise how humans harm the environment by adding waste every day. So, we have to think twice before we use non-biodegradable material. The beach clean-up campaign was a wonderful experience for us, and we look forwards to joining volunteer campaigns increasingly in the future.”*

- **Dion** (Batch 32 student)

*“It was a great pleasure for us to lend a hand towards preventing marine coastal pollution. This project would have definitely contributed to protecting marine lives. It was a relief for us to get away from the hectic routine life of studies. It was definitely good for our mental well-being. The time we spent with nature was enjoyable. So, we should encourage everyone to make time for this type of activity.”*

- **Dulangi** (SHS student)

*“The undergraduate students of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya are striving to be the change, to help the environment and to be a force of good to the world. In celebration of the 30th anniversary of our faculty, the beach clean-up project was organised to remove nurdles and plastic litter that had been washed ashore. There was an overwhelming response from the staff and students to participate in this project. The students and academic and non-academic staff worked in teams, and this has built lasting friendships. We hope our efforts made an impact on all those who participated and observed, and we hope many will be inspired by our students to continue the work to make the beaches safe for all to enjoy.”*

- **Dr Tania** (Project Coordinator)







*“Students, academic and non-academic staff and their families joined hands in this project. I was happy to see the eagerness of the students to volunteer and their dedication in participating in this activity. We had the opportunity to clean up nurdles, plastic, glass and other non-biodegradable materials that can harm marine life and the environment. It is a great experience of physical work, cool breeze, wet sand, soothing waves and teamwork among the students and the staff.”*

– **Prof Nirmala Perera** (Chairperson- GPC)

*“We and our family members enjoyed this event. We as staff members very much like to engage with students in this kind of activity.”*

– **Ms Nandani** (Non-academic staff member)



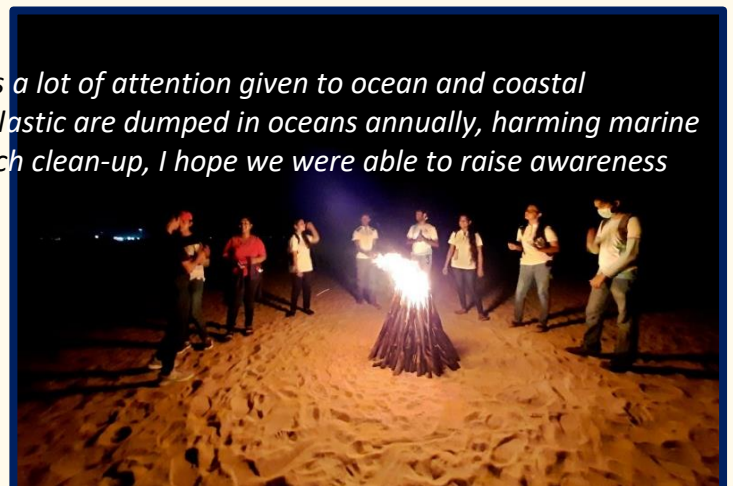
*“Students of the Green Society have shown their commitment to volunteering and environmental protection, achieving sustainability goals. This event was an eye-opener on harm that can be caused by human activities. As future doctors, we must play a huge role in educating people to maintain a clean environment to promote better health.”*

– **Lahiru** (Batch 28, Chairperson, Green Society)



*“When the Express Pearl incident occurred, there was a lot of attention given to ocean and coastal pollution. However, in reality, over 8 million tons of plastic are dumped in oceans annually, harming marine animals and the environment. By organising this beach clean-up, I hope we were able to raise awareness among the volunteers about the impact of plastic pollution. It was rewarding to see the enthusiasm and dedication of the volunteers and the volume of garbage collected. It was quite an exhausting physical activity in the scorching heat, yet It was also a time for teamwork and having fun on the beach.”*

– **Dr Wasanthi Subasinghe** (Deputy Director-CSS)



## CHANGE A LIFE IN 5 MINUTES

විනාඩි 5 න් ජීවිතයක් වෙනස් කරමු!

### Short Film Competition for Future Clinicians



Students are selected to study medicine after a highly competitive examination. The Faculty of Medicine of the University of Kelaniya is blessed with multi-talented young Sri Lankan men and women seeking a career in medicine. Only the most academically brilliant and emotionally resilient students can withstand this gruelling course of five years' duration. Understandably, undergraduate medical education could be cognitively and physically demanding to young university students and induce emotional stress. However, it is frequently noted that university students lack essential emotional awareness skills, coping skills, and problem-solving techniques that would help in optimal stress management. Apart from the theoretical and clinical learning in their core subjects, it is important to learn emotional regulation and psychological stress management to

be effective learners and empathetic future doctors and clinicians. Otherwise, their maladaptive ways of coping will persist into their work-life in their medical careers.

The project aimed to improve emotional awareness, psychological mindedness, and coping skills among medical students, recognise and celebrate the creativity of medical undergraduates in artistic domains, and learn to design and produce effective mental health promotion material.

Academic guidance was provided by Dr Miyuru Chandradasa - Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist, Professor Nirmala Perera - Consultant Judicial Medical Officer, Dr Shobhavi Randeny - Consultant Paediatrician, Dr Lathika Athauda - Public Health Expert, and Dr Manuja Perera - Consultant Community Physician. The student Coordinators were Amila Wijethilake and Minura Laksith.

#### The winning short films:



“ව්‍යාකූල”

By Ayeshan, Theekshana, Pasindu and others  
of the 30<sup>th</sup> Batch





## “පඩිපෙළ”

By Nethra, Thisara, Dulshan and others  
of the 12<sup>th</sup> Batch of the Speech and Hearing Sciences Course



## “විඩාව”

By Amila Wijethilake and others  
of the 29<sup>th</sup> Batch

## Children's Day Celebrations



**භීන පාට කරමු**

විනෝද වෙත ගමන් ම පිවිසේට යමක් ඉගෙන ගන්න කැමතිද?

එහෙයමි මේ අවස්ථාව ඔයාලා වෙනුවෙන්මයි

**කවදාද?** 17 වෙනි ඉරිදා හවස 3.00ට

**කොහෙද ?** Zoom තිරය ඉදිරිපිට

**කවුද සංවිධානය කරන්නේ ?**

**රාගම වෛද්‍ය පීඨයේ අධ්‍යයලා අක්කලා**

පිවිත කාලයට ම අමතක නොවෙන නැවුම් අත්දැකීම් ගොන්නක් එකතු කරගන්න එදාට නොවරදවා ම අපිත් එක්ක එකතු වෙන්න....

රාගම වෛද්‍ය පීඨයේ 30 වන සංවත්සරයට සමගාමීව සිදුකරන සමාජ සේවා ව්‍යාපෘතියකි

The recreational programme, "භීන පාට කරමු" for the Children's Day, was conducted on 17th October 2021 by the medical students of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Batch as a part of the events organized celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya. The programme was mainly focused on adolescents in Children's Homes in the Western province. The objective of the event was to guide the children to have a healthy lifestyle and motivate them to have a life goal. A special session regarding physical fitness and sports was also conducted by a physical instructor. A song and a drama created by the 32<sup>nd</sup> Batch added further variety. The event was successfully concluded with the participation of more than 70 children's homes, and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive.



**ප්‍රංචි මුඛගත මල් හසරාල්**

17 වෙනි ඉරිදා උදේ 9.00 ඉදන්

**ආදරණීය නංගියේ මල්ලියේ**

රාගම වෛද්‍ය පීඨයේ අධ්‍යයලා අක්කලා ඔයාලත් එක්ක නටන්න, සිංදු කියන්න, චිත්‍ර අඳින්න වගේ ගොඩක් දේවල් අරගෙන ZOOM හරහා ඔයාලා එක්ක සතුටු වෙන්න එන්නයි යන්නේ...

අපිත් එක්ක සතුටු වෙන්න... එදාට අනිවාර්යයෙන්ම ඔයාලත් එන්න සිනේ හොඳේ...

රාගම වෛද්‍ය පීඨයේ 30 වන සංවත්සරයට සමගාමීව සිදුකරන සමාජ සේවා ව්‍යාපෘතියකි

This event was organized in commemoration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya. It celebrated Children's Day in a memorable way for less privileged children under the age of 12 years. Children from 50 orphanages in the Western province participated. Events in the programme included a health education programme that emphasized the importance of having a lifestyle with good hygiene and health habits, a motivational programme to inspire the children to develop good skills, a mind game to expand their thinking and memorizing abilities, a drawing event to uplift their creativity, and a physical education programme teaching how to overcome common physical obstacles. Two science-related experiments were also performed to educate and entertain the young children and build a positive attitude towards science and experimental learning. Several songs were performed to entertain the children, who sang along and danced. The participants thoroughly enjoyed the programme.



# "NOCHÉ DE PAZ" 2021

"NOCHÉ DE PAZ", the Annual Christmas Carol Service of Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, was held on 5th December 2021. The carol service was conducted onsite and simultaneously telecasted on social media with the purpose of enhancing accessibility. Rev. Fr. Lalith Felix, the Parish Priest of St. Peter and Paul's Church, Ragama was the chief guest.

The carol service included a Grand Choir and orchestra conducted by master Don Vishan Lahiru, with four batch choirs of MBBS students in collaboration with SHS students.





## All Island FIRST PLACE at the 42<sup>nd</sup> National Youth Awards!



The 42<sup>nd</sup> National Youth Awards, jointly organized by the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the National Youth Services Council, was held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at the Nelum Pokuna Mahinda Rajapakse Indoor Theatre,

graced by an audience of prestigious national artists. The skills and dedication of young talented individuals who had excelled in numerous fields were recognized at this event.

S.P. Amila Madushan Wijethilake, a fourth-year medical undergraduate at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, won First place in Poetry - Sinhala at the national level. Born and brought up in the Sabaragamuwa Province and a past pupil of Kegalu Vidyalaya, Amila has won several prizes previously too, bagging the Martin Wickramasinghe memorial award for short stories at the “Kalana” awards night in 2018.



## The World English Language Scrabble Players Association Championship 2021

The World English Language Scrabble Players Association (WESPA) Championship 2021 was held from 20<sup>th</sup> November to 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021. WESPAC has participation of top players from member countries. This year the tournament was hosted by Pakistan and, owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, was conducted online. One hundred and twenty participants from more than 25 countries qualified to play based on a quota system offered to each country, after which the national associations decided on who qualified to represent the country.

Janidu Karunarathne, a student from the 30<sup>th</sup> Batch of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, and the 9<sup>th</sup> highest rated player in the country, qualified to represent Sri Lanka along with five others. Amidst fierce competition over 32 games, he was placed 81<sup>st</sup> at this year's world championship.

Alastair Richards of New Zealand, David Eldar of Australia and Will Anderson of the USA emerged 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively, at the WESPA Championship 2021.

## The Annual Inter-Medical Faculty Paediatric Quiz WINNERS

The annual Inter-Medical Faculty Paediatric Quiz organized by the Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians was held this year as a virtual event on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021. All nine medical faculties of Sri Lanka contested. The University of Kelaniya Medical Faculty Paediatric Quiz Team emerged as champions winning the trophy this year, defeating teams from eight other medical faculties. The winners were awarded the trophy, certificates, and stethoscopes as prizes.



### The University of Kelaniya quiz team:

- Pawanthi Samudini
- Sonali Gunasekara
- Taniya Martin
- Hiruni Kalanika Thilakarathna
- Kumudu Wimalasiri (Reserve)