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PRATHIBHA







## EDITORIAL

Welcome to the sixth edition of Prathiba newsletter, highlighting activities and achievements of students of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya. We hope you will enjoy reading all about the many colourful happenings in the faculty in our newsletter. If you wish to contribute to the newsletter, please get in touch with Aura Media.

Prof Shamila De Silva (Editor)

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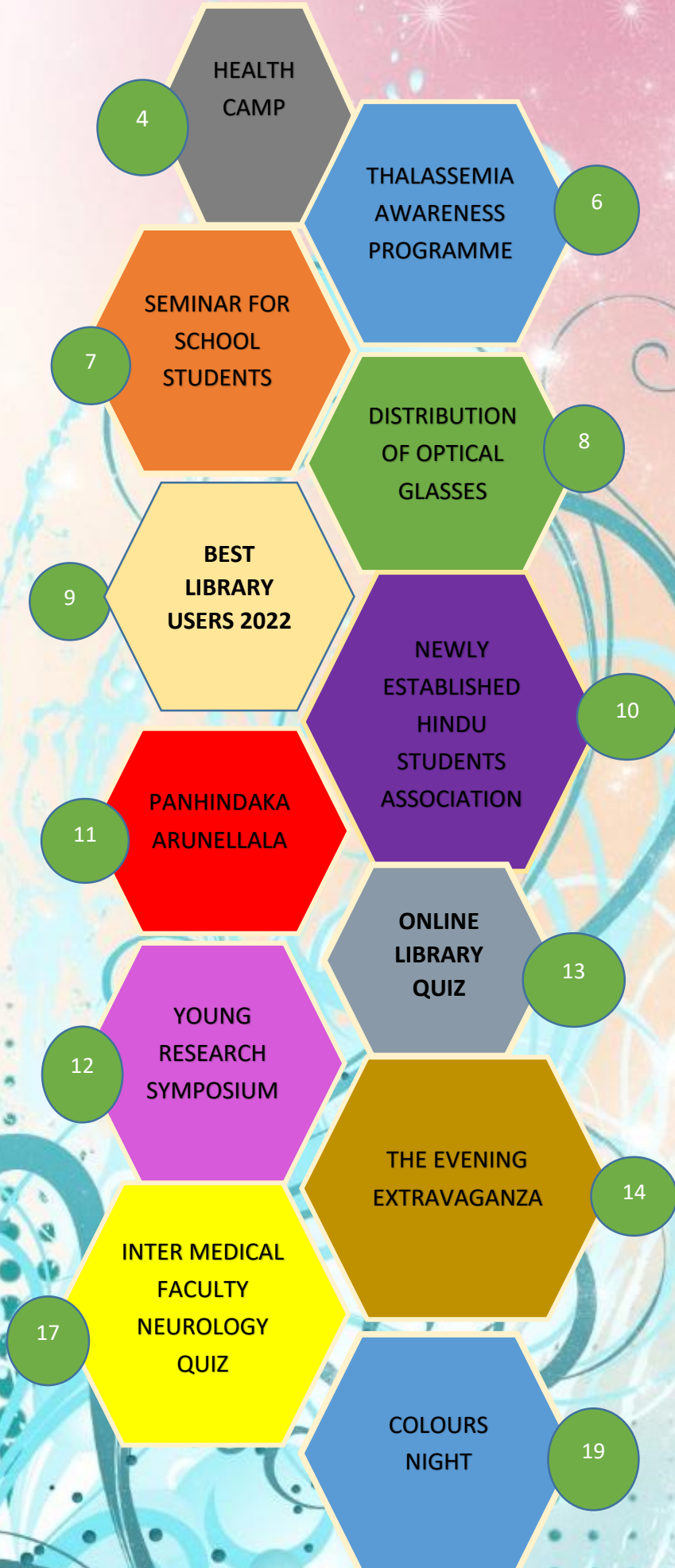
### LAYOUT DESIGN

Dr. Keshan Thudugala

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# CONTENT







# Health Camp

2023

Annual Health Camp of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya was held on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at Mahananneriya Maha Vidyalaya, Galgamuwa. The Camp was based on the theme ‘Suwapath Diviyata Manusath Mehewara’ (A mission of humanity for a healthy life) by the 32<sup>nd</sup> Batch. The main goal of the health camp was to improve awareness and basic health knowledge among school children in this school. Several other programs on primary health education, disease prevention methods, disease care and disease awareness were also implemented. Other services including distributing optical glasses and providing essential blood tests were also done.

Medical exhibition under the theme of “Wonderful Human Body” with 15 booths targeting school children was held on the day of the health camp. Remarkable student participation could be seen that day, especially Ordinary and Advanced Level students from the Giriulla educational zone.





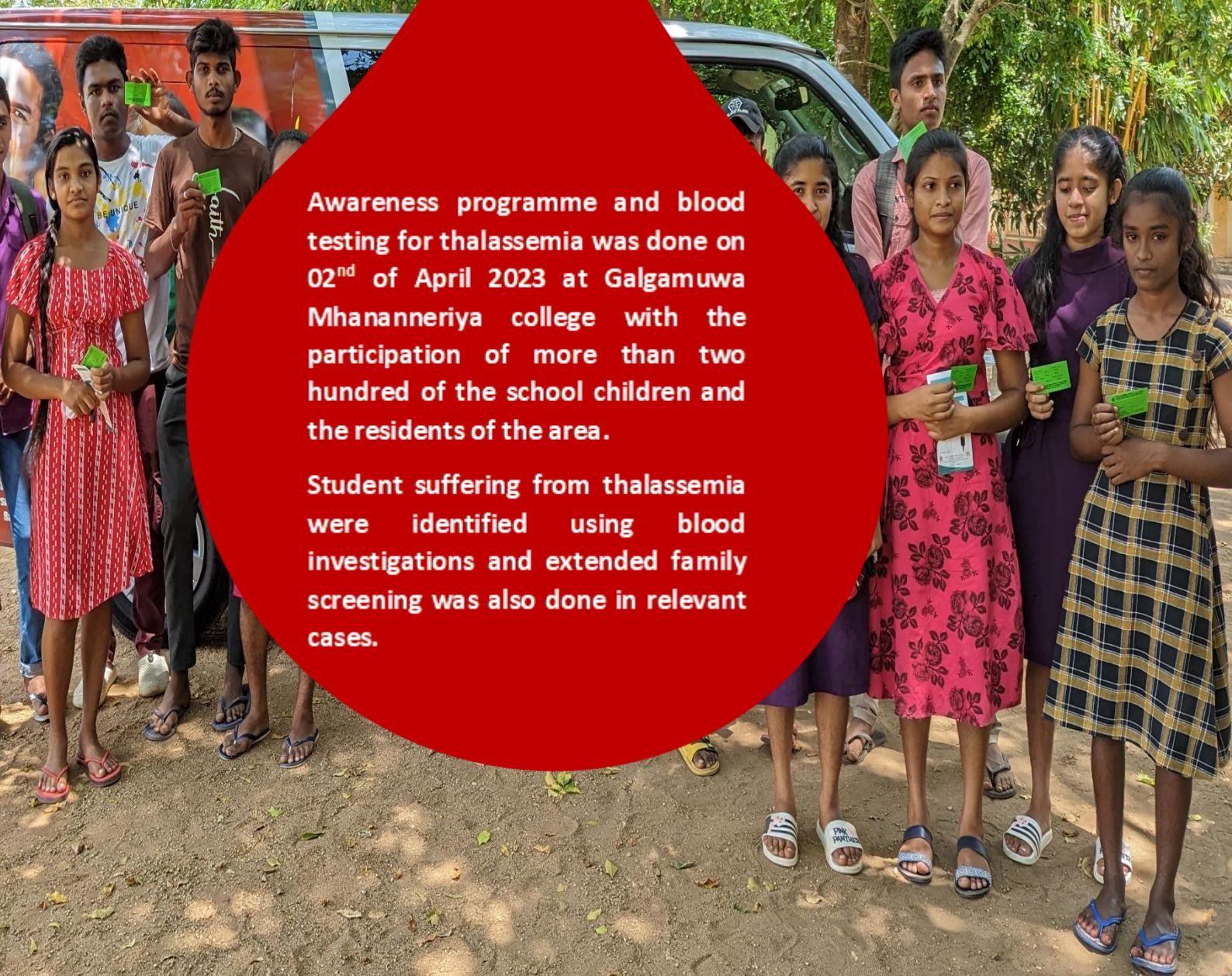




## THALASSAEMIA AWARENESS PROGRAMME

Awareness programme and blood testing for thalassaemia was done on 02<sup>nd</sup> of April 2023 at Galgamuwa Mhananneriya college with the participation of more than two hundred of the school children and the residents of the area.

Student suffering from thalassaemia were identified using blood investigations and extended family screening was also done in relevant cases.







# SEMINAR FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS

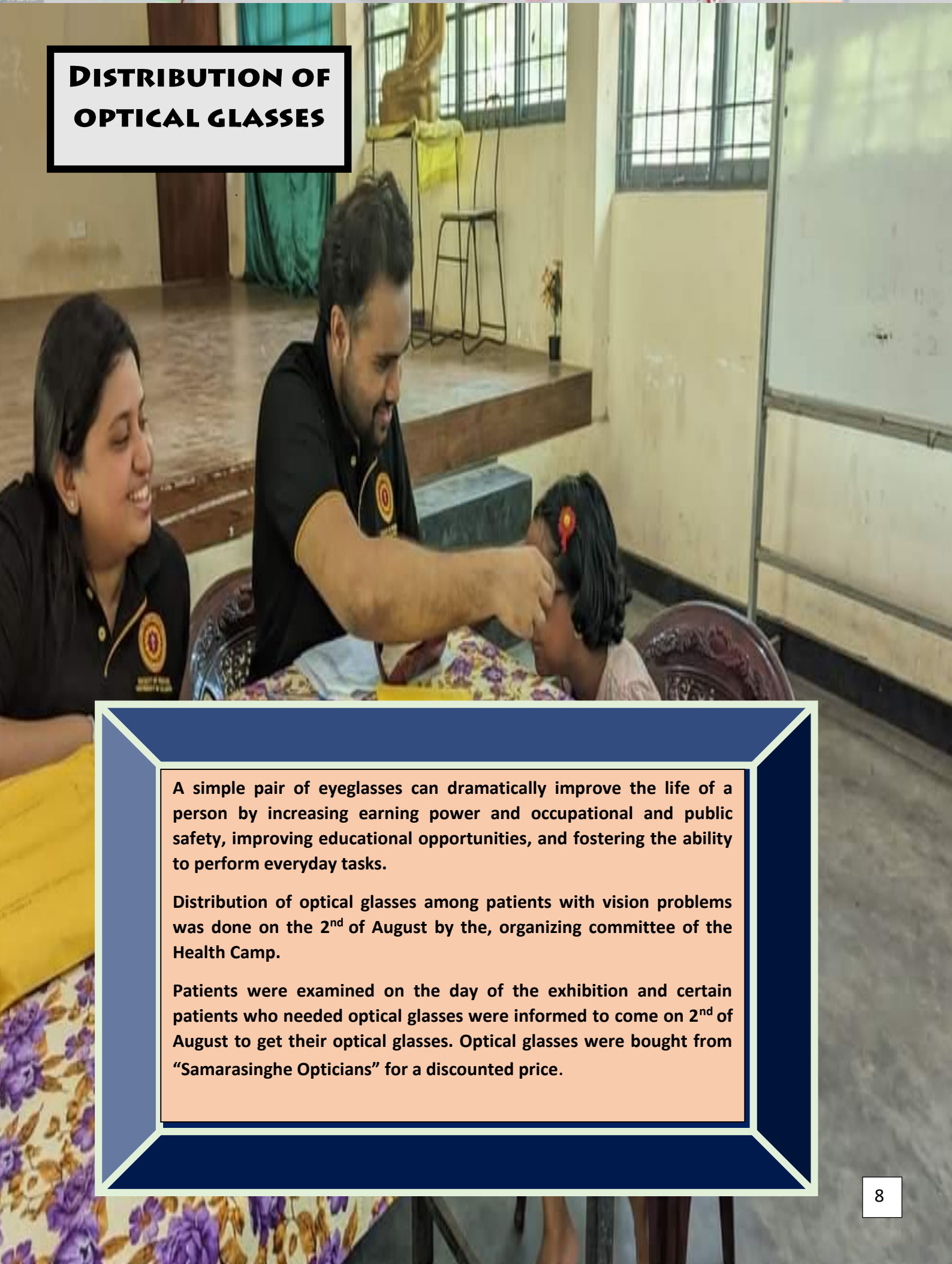


English & Science seminars were organized at the Heath Camp 2023 with the support of students and former students of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya. This seminar was conducting targeting Ordinary Level examination and it was successfully held on 31<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April at Mahananneriya Maha Vidyalaya, Galgamuwa with the participation of more than two hundred school children.





## DISTRIBUTION OF OPTICAL GLASSES



A simple pair of eyeglasses can dramatically improve the life of a person by increasing earning power and occupational and public safety, improving educational opportunities, and fostering the ability to perform everyday tasks.

Distribution of optical glasses among patients with vision problems was done on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August by the, organizing committee of the Health Camp.

Patients were examined on the day of the exhibition and certain patients who needed optical glasses were informed to come on 2<sup>nd</sup> of August to get their optical glasses. Optical glasses were bought from “Samarasinghe Opticians” for a discounted price.



## Best Library Users 2022

The Medical Library, Medical Faculty Library Development Committee, and the Library Student Affairs Committee organized the Award Ceremony to give cash awards and certificates to the best users of the library. For the first time in the faculty library's history, the library rewarded the three best users who borrowed the most number of books from the library. The Library Student Affairs Committee and the library jointly organized this event in parallel with the World Hepatitis Day celebration on the 28th of July, 2023, at the Man Auditorium of the Faculty of Medicine. The event's objectives were to make students aware of the library resources, motivate students to use all the resources of the library, and improve student involvement in library matters. Prof Anuradha Dassanayaka delivered a guest lecture on Hepatitis-free World to mark the World Hepatitis Day celebration. Senior Professor Janaki Hewavisenthi, the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, graced this occasion as the Chief Guest.

The following students were rewarded as Best Library Users for the Year 2022. They received a cash prize of Rs.2500 each and a certificate.

- Miss H. D. Melani Rashmika (ME/2015/122)
- Mr. P. A. Dion Sashen Perera (ME/2019/008)
- Mr. W. Ashan Kavishka (ME/2020/205)





# A newly Established Hindu Students' Association

One of Sri Lanka's leading medical faculties, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya attracts thousands of students from diverse religions and cultures. Hindu Tamil culture has not been reflected in any student union since the very beginning, which has been a drawback to Hindu students and others studying in the faculty. Therefore, it was decided to create a forum for Hindu students. A significant step was taken to start this union in 2021. Hindu students formed this union after two years of joint efforts and mutual understanding. The Society has come alive with the help of the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Senior Lecturers, and the Student Union President.



The Ragama Medical Faculty Hindu Society was established, and the first General Meeting was successfully held on 18th of May 2023 at the Faculty of Medicine Main auditorium with the presence of Professor Paranitharan, and representatives of the Student Union, and religious groups. Hindu Students' Association president congratulated the first executive committee of the Association in his speech. The audience was entertained by cultural musical performances.



Hinduism has taught many good ideas since time immemorial. Through the Hindu Union, culture will be reflected and an opportunity to spread good thoughts to all through religious and cultural events will be provided. Hindu Union has created an environment where all students can work together and it will be a platform for students to showcase their talents. It is also noteworthy that this Union will engage in many social activities as well. Irrespective of ethnic and religious differences, all the students of the Faculty are eager to work together in upcoming events.





# Panhindaka Arunella-2023

**A**n outstanding artistic student Amila Wijethilake with several nation level awards has again bought victory to the Faculty. He has won first place in short films category (open section) and second place in photography (open section) in the competition organized by the Students' Union of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Ruhuna. Competitions were held concurrently with the Students' Art Festival, "PANHINDAKA ARUNELLA", 2023.



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 PANHINDAKA ARUNELLA  
 STUDENTS' ARTS FESTIVAL 2023  
 AMILA WIJETHILAKA  
 UNIVERSITY OF RUHUNA  
 First place in the Category of  
 SHORT FILMS (OPEN)





# Young Researchers' Symposium 2023

The Faculty of Medicine University of Kelaniya has an excellent reputation for research and encourages students to participate in multidisciplinary research. The Young Researchers Symposium, an annual event of the Faculty of Medicine, is a part of the research culture of the university providing a platform for the young MBBS and SHS undergraduates to enhance their knowledge in research and to gain confidence in presenting their work. Conducting their own research projects enables students to apply their theory learning in practice and gain better understanding of research. The Young Researchers' Symposium is organized annually with the collaboration of the Department of Public health and the Department of Medical Education in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya. This year, it was successfully held on 12<sup>th</sup> May at the main auditorium with the presence of Senior Professor Janaki Hewavisenthi, Dean of the Faculty, academic staff, and students.

The Young Researchers' Symposium was conducted under five main sections, oral presentation 1, and 2 and Plenary sessions 1,2, and 3. Both MBBS and SHS undergraduates presented their published full paper articles and abstracts in the Symposium. Awards were given to best oral presentations in sessions 1 and 2.

## Dean's award of excellence

1-Knowledge and attitudes on organ donation among undergraduate students with and without medical education studying at the University of Kelaniya.

2-A Descriptive Study on the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Prevalence of Depression, Anxiety and Stress among Undergraduates in Selected Universities in the Western Province

3.Food allergy among students in University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka: prevalence, knowledge and beliefs





## Online Library Quiz

Online Library Quiz was the first collaborative activity completed jointly BY the Medical Library and the Library Student Affairs Committee. The following students who completed the quiz accurately within three minutes were rewarded as quiz winners. The first three places received cash prizes of Rs. 3000, Rs. 2000, and Rs. 1000 respectively, together with certificates. Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth places received merit certificates.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place : Miss M H Maryam (F/ME/2020/201)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place : Miss A. A. Nadeera Abayasundara (OT/2020/015)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place : Miss W. H. Gayathma Jayavi Perera (F/ME/2020/200)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Miss A. S. Sewmini Somarathna (ME/2017/141)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place. Miss M. N. Fathima Sumaira (ME/2021/046)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Place. Miss M. A. G. Mandira Chamodi Mahaarachchi (OT/2020/009)





Perambara - 2023

# The Evening Extravaganza

An Evening to Remember



Perambara, which literally means the rising sun, was an event organized by the First Year students of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya (34<sup>th</sup> Batch MBBS, 15<sup>th</sup> Batch SHS and 2<sup>nd</sup> Batch OT). The event was held on the 17th August 2023 at the 'wala', which holds a special meaning in the hearts of all students for upholding tradition.

This magical night of color, dancing, singing, and joy was a display of talent, brotherhood, and bonding. The event was graced by Dean Prof. Janaki Hewavisenthi and other academic staff. The audience was full of senior students who very enthusiastic and supportive of their juniors.





The evening commenced adhering to Sri Lankan traditions with lighting the traditional oil lamp. The 'wala' amphitheater was a treat to the eye. It was adorned with beautifully handcrafted decorations made by the students themselves using mostly recycled material. Spending countless sleepless nights to rehearse, the performances that were put together by the students were a marvel to all that witnessed the event.

The performances included,

- ◆ A pooja dance (Sinhalese folk dance)
- ◆ A traditional dance, which was a fusion of the traditional forms Udarata, Pahatharata and Sabaragamuwa
- ◆ Tamil folk dance, which was a mashup

The dances were choreographed and performed with utmost precision and grace. They were mesmerizing but captivated the hearts of the audience.





The students showed competence in dancing as well as singing. The melodious voices of the freshers along with the enchanting music of the orchestra was honey to the ears. Starting from the carefully selected song choices to the harmonizing of the notes everything was put together with immense care and dedication.

The drama that was enacted was a masala of wit and brilliance, greatly enjoyed by the audience. The prolonged applause of the audience said it all. The numerous sleepless nights, the many hours of time and the tons of energy that had been invested in making Perambara 2023 a success was evident by the smiles that were omnipresent in the faces of the spectators. Perambara 2023 was a magnificent evening that will forever be embedded in the memory of the performers and spectators alike.







# Inter Medical Faculty Neurology Quiz -2023

The Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya emerged second runners-up at the Inter-medical faculty Neurology Quiz 2023 organized by the Association of Sri Lankan Neurologists (ASN). Twelve medical faculties from around the island took part in the event which was held on the 09<sup>th</sup> of July 2023 at the Courtyard by Marriott, Colombo.

The Quiz team—Mr. Kaveendra Pathirage, Miss Hiruni Abeysinghe, Miss Madurangi Jayarathne, Miss Chamathka Piyabani and Miss Imasha Lakshani from the 28<sup>th</sup> batch was mentored by Prof. Udaya Ranawaka, Consultant Neurologist. Several academic staff members were involved in preparation for this event which spanned over a period of two months.

A panel of eminent lecturers from the country and stationed overseas guided the team in training: Prof. Udaya Ranawaka (Consultant Neurologist), Dr. Amodha Medagedara (Senior Lecturer in Pharmacology), Dr. Rimal Fernando (Lecturer in Pharmacology), Dr. Sunethra Senanayake (Consultant Neurologist), Dr. Ishani Rajapakshe (Consultant Neurologist), Dr. Dunya Luke (Consultant Neurologist), Dr. Hasini Munasinghe (Consultant Clinical Neurophysiologist), Dr. Sanjaya Fernando (Consultant Neurologist), Dr. Shanika Nandasiri (Consultant Neurologist), Dr. K.A. Salvin (Consultant Ophthalmologist), and Dr. Chinthaka Appuhamy (Consultant Radiologist). The training sessions were coordinated by Dr. Amodha Medagedara and Dr. Rimal Fernando from the Department of Pharmacology with the assistance of Dr. Matheesha Jayarathne, Miss Sanduni Ishara, Miss Jeneesha Silva and Miss Eshani Ranasinghe from Team Kelaniya 2023.

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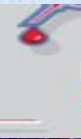
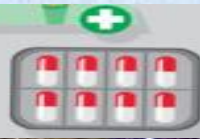
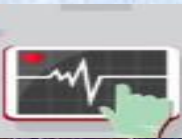


# COLORS NIGHT 2020/2021

Prestigious Colours Night of University of Kelaniya was held on the 27th of July in the Dharmaloka Hall of the University, to celebrate achievements in sports.







## 30<sup>th</sup> BATCH

**A. D. T. S. Jayawardhane** -Baseball, Track and Field

**W. L. T. Senarathne** -Baseball

**S.A. N. Samarasundara** -Basketball

**J. D. Karunaratne** -Scrabble

**N. M. Rupasinghe** -Scrabble

**W. M. P. H. Walisinghe** -Tennis

**A. S. Abeywardena** -Track and Field

**P.S. K. Monarawila** -Basketball

**L. C. D. Peiris** -Chess

**B. E. Premaratne** -Hockey

**A. L. S. N. Gunaratne** -Swimming

**P. M. S. T. Pathinisekara** -Tennis



## Special Awards

### 30th batch

**J.D. Karunaratne**- National representation award & Best male player of the year

**W. M.P. H. Walisinghe** – Best male player of the year -Tennis

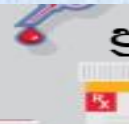
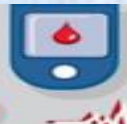
### 31st batch

**T. M. K. M. Tennakoon** -Scrabble best player women

### 32nd batch

**A. A. P.D. Karunananda** -Table tennis best player men





### 31st batch

**B. M. C. R. Basnayake** -Tennis

**C. D. Thanthriwattha** -Basketball

**T .M. K. M. Tennakoon**-Scrabble

### 32nd batch

**I .M. Imshad** -Football

**H. S.V. I. Fernando** -Scrabble

**P. R. C.Peiris** -Swimming

**A. A. P.D. Karunananda** -Table tennis

**P. L. A. Anuradha** -Table tennis

**K. N.N.R. Perera** -Basketball

**G .W. J. K.k Weerasinghe** -Chess







33rd batch

**D. A. T. Abeysekera -Basketball**

**U. Wangchuck -Football**

**T. A.Gunaruwan -Badminton**

**T. A.T. Jayakody -Swimming**

**S.M.W.A.Subasinghe -Rugby**