

Recent Books from Sri Lanka – March 2022

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Blk 231, Bain Street
#03-05, Bras Basah Complex
Singapore 180231
Tel : +65-6883-2284/6883-2204
info@marymartin.com
www.marymartin.com

Anthropology

Shared Sanctities / Hasini Haputhanthri & Sujeewa de Silvia
Colombo: International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES), 2021
xx, 68p.
Includes Bibliography
9786245502080
\$ 40.00 / HB
450gm.

Since times immemorial, people have experienced the divine spiritual through art and architecture. In Shared Sanctities, museologist and writer Hasini Haputhanthri explores some of the historically sacred spaces in Sri Lanka together with photographer and film maker Sujeewa de Silva, producing five visual narratives on religious confluence. Hasini and Sujeewa situate Sri Lanka as an island of encounters, where people, ideas and traditions from all over the world arrived via sail boats and ships and then took root, adapted and grew into new forms. By exploring heritage sites of Polonnaruwa, Nalanda, Kandy, Galle and Colombo they document how temples and kovils, churches and mosques have all borrowed, shared and evolved through time, making the island, as Marco Polo says 'undoubtedly the finest island of its size in the world'.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=798941>

Indigenous Knowledge Traditions Culture and Lifestyles Practices in Ancient Sri Lanka : A Compilation – Enriched with The Poetic Luster of Over 100 Popular Folk Poems / M. Asoka T. De Silva, National Science Foundation
Colombo: Vijitha Yapa Publications, 2022
xxiii, 332p.
Includes Index
9786242050126
\$ 50.00 / HB
732gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799145>

The Creation of the Hunter : The Vadda Presence in the Kandyan Kingdom : A Re-Examination / Gananath Obeyesekere

Colombo: Sail Fish (Perera Hussein Publishing House), 2022

192p.

9786245993000

\$ 35.00 / PB

262gm.

Who are the Vāddas? Where do they come from? Where have they gone?

While many continue to accept the storyline represented by colonial era thinkers that of the romantic and benign image of Vāddas as children of nature living in tune or harmony with their environment. Anthropologist Gananath Obeyesekere brings back into our contemporary discourse the voices of Vāddas silenced by history or misrepresented in Western scholarship, dispelling the prevailing view of primitive hunters and gatherers living in isolated pockets in the wilds of Bintanna.

In this bold and captivating account, drawing on his research conducted during the periods 1999-2001 and 2007-2009, Obeyesekere presents an alternative narrative of these Vāddas of Sri Lanka with a fresh look at their crucial role in society. Further, Obeyesekere cautions that they are a disappearing "tribe" that may soon vanish from the world's ethnological museum

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799372>

Education

The 'Principal' Factor / Goolbai Gunasekara

Nugegoda: Sarasavi Publishers (Pvt) Ltd, 2021

208p.

9789553122360

\$ 15.00 / PB

240gm.

It's The 'Principal' of It, is a collection of articles written by Mrs. Gunasekara, which have been published in the Lanka Monthly Digest over several years. In the form of a book, these articles can be termed as The Educationalist's Bible– a treasure trove of quintessential guidelines on educating and nurturing young minds. While most are aimed at teachers and parents, enunciating the need to understand what the student/child really needs and how their own mindset and competence can affect the growth of student/child, some of the articles highlight the abysmal state of education in the country, due to the lack of foresight by policymakers.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799375>

History

Sinhala Only Act to Supersede English : The Sinhala Language Act Was Passed In Sri Lanka In 1956 : English: A Language Without Its Own Letters / Paul Pieris

Nugegoda: Sarasavi Publishers (Pvt) Ltd, 2020

184p.
Includes Bibliography
9789553117779
\$ 18.00/ PB
234gm.

For sometimes it has been clear that there is a need for a more up to date account of the reasons for making Sinhala the state language. This is a brief but compelling account. The telescope of national and geopolitical history unfolded in the works gives you the valuable opportunity to better understand the, established colonial cultural status-quo shattering, political movements of the 1950s; their motives and the foresight of the late leaders who were supported by masses of people to make those changes.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799378>

Law

Disability Policy Brief for Law Makers, Administrators and Other Decision Makers /
Padmani Mendis and Binendri Perera
Colombo: International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES), 2021
vi, 24p.
9789555802406
\$ 10.00 / PB
82gm.

This publication is meant to be used by law makers, administrators and other senior decision makers to assist them in deciding on appropriate rights-based policies and how these may be implemented. It forms persons with disabilities and all interested parties about the current status of the ongoing Dialogue on Disability Rights. In so doing it aims to further enhance continuing discourse, discussion, debate and consensus leading to action that will draw closer the realization of the rights of persons with disabilities in Sri Lanka.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799390>

A Critique of the Supreme Court's Judgement on the Dissolution of Parliament / Dharshan Weerasekera
Nugegoda: Sarasavi Publishers (Pvt) Ltd, 2021
336p.
9789553125088
\$ 25.00 / PB
392gm.

If a Constitution is to be embraced by the people as a whole it must ultimately emerge from among the people themselves and this can only happen if there is a vibrant and informed discussion of all aspects of constitutional reform among members of the public. This book is intended to encourage such a discussion.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799391>

Literature

Like Moths to a Flame: To Die / Manuke Wijesinghe

Colombo: Vijitha Yapa Publications, 2022

x, 470p.

9786242050195

\$ 25.00 / PB

646gm.

In this book Manuka Wijesinghe takes her readers to regions and times, faiths and passions, poetry and prose, long gone, but yet present. One cannot shut this book as the same person one was, when one began to read it. That is, if one still has a heart, after the many years of war which bled it, or froze it. LIKE MOTHS TO A FLAME is a journey to the soul of humanity.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799392>

Official Publications

Sri Lanka University Statistics 2019 (Universities & Higher Educational Institutes established under the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978) / University Grants Commission
Colombo: Management Information Systems Division, University Grants Commission, 2020
1v.

ISSN: 2279-2104

\$ 40.00 / PB

394gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=798228>

Sri Lanka University Statistics 2020 (Universities & Higher Educational Institutes established under the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978) / University Grants Commission
Colombo: Management Information Systems Division, University Grants Commission, 2021
1v.

ISSN: 2279-2104

\$ 40.00 / PB

436gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=798229>

Economic and Social Statistics of Sri Lanka 2021, Volume XLIII
Colombo: Statistics Department, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, 2021

1v.

ISSN: 1391-3611; 9789555754132

\$ 50.00 / PB

682gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=798230>

Performing Arts

Music and Song Traditions of the Muslims of Sri Lanka: An Overview / Nadine Vanniasinkam

Colombo: International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES), 2021

viii, 22p.

9786245502035

\$ 5.00 / PB

86gm.

This article draws from personal interviews with individuals from the Muslim community and secondary sources and outlines the devotional, cultural, and popular music and song traditions of the Muslims of Sri Lanka. It discusses local, regional, and international influences on Muslim music trends and reasons for the decline in musical engagement around the turn of the century. The article provides hyperlinks to the music of specific artistes and song traditions and calls for wider discussion on and cross-sharing of the different music traditions of the Muslims of Sri Lanka <http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799393>

Sociology

Drug Addiction in Sri Lanka: A Guide to Understanding and Managing Addictions / (Eds)

Mahendra Perera & Howard Ross-Parker

Colombo: Colombo Medical Faculty Publishers, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, 2021

xii, 154p.

9789553981226

\$ 15.00 / PB

254gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799394>
