



**Heritage as Prime Mover in History, Culture and Religion of South and Southeast Asia**  
**6<sup>th</sup> SSEASR Conference, Colombo, Sri Lanka**

**June 04-07, 2015**

organised by

**South and Southeast Asian Association for Culture and Religion (SSEASR)**

Hosted by

**University of Kelaniya, Kelaniya, Sri Lanka**

Joined by

**International Association for Asian Heritage (IAAH)**

**Sri Lanka Association of Buddhist Studies (SLABS)**

Human beings are much more than what we see them externally. While they constitute living organisms, they carry with them their cultures, religions, ideologies and histories. They belong to some specific space and time, and are basically product of those spatio-temporal contexts. In other words, all human beings have their multi-form heritage behind them.

The academic study of heritage in South and Southeast Asia is much relevant as it encompasses various aspects of culture and religion. The 6<sup>th</sup> SSEASR Conference aims at encouraging scholars from all parts of the world to delve into the issues of both tangible/intangible heritage; problems therein, the crisis of widening gap and the fast changing values in the culture and religion of South and Southeast Asian societies.

The Conference also intends to have a Symposium on **Vestiges of Sri Lankan Heritage** where the experts would make their presentations to make us understand its dynamics. At the same time, the 6<sup>th</sup> SSEASR, like in the past, is most welcomingly open to any other academic presentation on culture and religion which are not covered by the subthemes as shown above.

**Sub-Themes**

- Defining and Understanding of Heritage
- Philosophy, Religion and Heritage
- Archaeology of Religion
- The Heritage of Indigenous Medicines and Healing Systems
- Sacred Leaves, Trees and Flowers in South and Southeast Asian cultures
- Tools of Communication vis-à-vis Culture and Religion
- Tourism and Pilgrimage Sites in South and Southeast Asia
- 'Housing' Heritage: Museology in Action
- Symbols, Art and Architecture in Regional Cultures
- Language, Literature and 'Learning': Linking Culture and Religion
- History, Epigraphy and Numismatics
- Folklore and Oral History as Intangible Heritage
- South and Southeast Asian Diaspora: Carriers of Heritage

Individual panel proposals are also welcome. Please send such proposal with the names of participants (minimum 3) to us by email and online submission for each participant is required to be done afterwards.

**Note:**

The SSEASR operates under the policies and principles of the parent body International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR), which seeks to promote the activities of all scholars and affiliates that contribute to the historical, social, and comparative study of religion. As such, the IAHR is the preeminent international forum for the critical, analytical and cross-cultural study of religion, past and present. The IAHR is not a forum for confessional, apologetical, or other similar concerns.

## **PATRONS**

Ven. Welimithiyawe Kusaladhamma Nayaka Thero, Chancellor, University of Kelaniya  
Prof. Sunanda Maddumabandara, Vice Chancellor, University of Kelaniya

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Prof. Amarjiva Lochan, President, SSEASR (Co-Chair)  
Ven. Prof. Ittadembaliye Indasara Nayaka Thera, Vice Chancellor, Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka  
Prof. Roland Silva, former Director General, Central Cultural Fund, Sri Lanka  
Prof. Athula Ranasinghe, Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo  
Ven. Prof. Kollupitiya Mahinda Nayaka Thero, Professor of Buddhist Studies, University of Kelaniya  
Prof. Seneke Bandaranayake, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Kelaniya  
Prof. Oliver Abenayaka, Former Dean, Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka  
Prof. J. B. Dissanayake, Emeritus Professor of Sinhala, University of Colombo  
Prof. Jayadeva Uyangoda, University of Colombo

## **INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE**

Prof. Rosalind I.W. Hackett, Professor of Religion, University of Tennessee, USA, President, IAHR( Chair)  
Prof. Abdul Toyabb, University of Cape Town, South Africa, Vice President, IAHR( Vice Chair)  
Prof. Ananda W.P. Guruge, USA  
Prof. Arvind Sharma, University of Montreal, Canada  
Prof. Brian Bocking, Professor of Religion, UCC, Cork, Ireland, Treasurer, IAHR

## **NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

Prof. A. H. M. H. Abayarathna, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Kelaniya (**Chair**)  
Prof. Sophana Srichampa, Secretary General, SSEASR (Co-Chair)  
Prof Asanga Tilakaratne, Professor of Pali and Buddhist Studies, University of Colombo(Co-Chair)  
Prof. Anura Manatunga, Director, Centre for Asian Studies, University of Kelaniya (**Secretary**)  
Prof. A.A.D. Amarasekera, Professor, Dept of Archaeology, University of Kelaniya, Kelaniya  
Prof. Subhangi Herath, Department of Sociology, University of Colombo  
Rev. Uduhawara Ananda Thera, Buddhist Studies Program, University of Colombo, Colombo  
Dr. Anuttaradevi Widyalandara, Dept of History, University of Colombo, Colombo (Co-Secretary)  
Prof. S. Pushparatnam, Dept of History, University of Jaffna, Jaffna  
Dr. Chulani Rambukwella, Dept of Archaeology, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya  
Prof. Praneeth Abeyundara, Dept of Sociology, University of Sri Jayawardanapura, Nugegoda  
Dr. Pushpa Kulanatha, Faculty of Indigenous Medicine, University of Colombo, Colombo  
Prof. Mapa Thilakarathna, Dept of Mass Communication, University of Kelaniya, Kelaniya  
Dr. Indika Bulankulama, Dept of Social Studies, Open University of Sri Lanka, Colombo

As the Vesak Celebrations ( Buddha Purnima), the biggest Buddhist Festival is on June 01, pre-Conference Tour is being worked out for the participants. We are also working on a 3 day post conference tours which would take you to all marvels of tangible heritage. Other details regarding the accommodation, the amount of registration fees and the mode of payment would be announced very soon. For details, and registration form online filling, please visit the link: [www.sseasr.org/registration-form-wsc.php](http://www.sseasr.org/registration-form-wsc.php)

## **Important Dates**

Early Registration Deadline: February 28, 2015  
Last Submission of Abstract: April 30, 2015

## REGISTRATION FEES

### Local Participants

### Foreign Participants

### Developing Countries Participants

Early Registration: 4500 SLR	Early Registration: US\$ 300	Early Registration: US\$ 250
Late Registration: 5000 SLR	Late Registration: US\$ 350	Late Registration: US\$ 300
Full Time Students: 3000 SLR	Full Time Students: US\$ 250	Full Time Students: US\$ 200
Overseas Persons: US\$ 200	Retired Academicians: US\$ 250	Retired Academicians: US\$ 200
SSEASR/IAAH/SLABS Life Member: 3000 SLR	SSEASR/IAAH/SLABS Life Member: US\$ 250	SSEASR/IAAH/SLABS Life Member: US\$ 200

*Registration fee covers conference day meals, dinners, coffee break and conference publications. It does not include air tickets, hotels, and other personal expenses. We are working on airport pick-up and drop service at a nominal cost.*

## ACCOUNT DETAILS

All payments for the Conference are required to be made at the SSEASR regional Office bank Account in Bangkok;

**Name of the Account:** SSEASR

**Bank Name:** SIAM COMMERCIAL BANK PUBLIC LIMITED

**Sub branch:** Mahidol University, Nakhonpathom, Thailand

**Bank Account Number:** 3332 165037

**Swift Code:** SICOTHBK

*(Please cover all transaction cost while transferring the money.)*

## HOTEL AND TOUR DETAILS

Already Posted ([http://sseasr.org/images/pdf/6th\\_SSEASR\\_conference\\_second\\_announcement.pdf](http://sseasr.org/images/pdf/6th_SSEASR_conference_second_announcement.pdf))