

The magnificence of ancient Polonnaruwa

Resting on the banks of the tranquil 'Parakrama Samudraya' lies the ancient capital of Polonnaruwa. Its glory will never be demolished, after the benevolent kings have devoted their power to make the majestic cultural sites, where many people come. By seeing these places, you can understand how intelligent our ancestors were in the past. To name a few, there is a moonstone or *Sandakada Pahana* which shows the way to nirvana. It starts with fire (problems) and then geese

(purity and truth), which is followed by the elephant and horse (reincarnation) and the creepers of flowers (correct path) and finally the lotus (nirvana).

In an inscription written by King Parakramabahu, it is said that no commoners are allowed to the palace by saying a swan cannot be compared to a crow and a lion cannot be compared to a fox etc.

The fine and exquisite architecture is shown in places like the royal palaces of the great kings Nissankamalla and

Parakramabahu. The charming lotus pond and royal baths that bring water is taken by clay pipes an extensive way from the Parakrama Samudra. These ruins show the intelligence of the many famous kings and queens.

Let us preserve the magnificence of ancient Polonnaruwa!

Narendra Samarasekara (11 years)
Colombo International School, Kandy

Myself



My name is R. Viprapavan. I am eight years old. I am studying at St.

Michael's College. I am in Grade Three. I have one brother. My favourite colour is red. My favourite subject is Maths. My favourite movie is Spiderman. My favourite food is noodles. My favourite game is cricket.

R. Viprapavan (Grade 3)
St Michael's College, Batticaloa

Disabled...? No, differently abled

Looking at a blind or crippled person, one would sympathise... but hark! Whatever for? Is he not able to do things we are not capable of? Growing up with all the pleasure and comfort, if we had lost an eye or leg, we would definitely not last a day. So, for once why not drop sympathising their disabilities and start admiring their abilities?

Modern technology has played a big part in developing differently abled persons' physical and psycho-social abilities. People have even developed ways of letting the blind gain vision.

But, still the unbearable criticism of the mean, selfish people, carries on, dropping our differently abled population's

mentality.

The younger generation and many more elders too, look down upon the mentally retarded and the differently abled, but this is definitely not the right attitude.

The next time you either criticize, or sympathise, think twice; they too are human and would only be too grateful to be treated that way. They too would love to lead normal lives. So give them your helping hand in order for them to out-shine as... the differently abled!

Piumi Wijesundara (Grade 9)
Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy

My school

My school is Girls' High School, Kandy. It is a big school. It has a playground. I like my school.

Numaya Ekanayake (Grade 1)
Girls' High School, Kandy



Nature



Janith, Joel, Shinal, Pasindu, Akash, Chamidu (Grade 4)
Sri Lanka International School, Riyadh

Birds



Pushpitha Sharmal (11 years)
Kuliyapitiya Saranath College

Sinhala New Year 2007



Rasoja, Hasithya, Himasha, Dinithi, Shavindya (Grade 4)
Sri Lanka International School, Riyadh

The happiest day in my life

The happiest day in my life was the day I passed the Scholarship Exam. When I wrote the exam, I was in Keenlee and Willems International. All the children in the International School wrote this exam. I got the highest marks in the school. Now that I passed the exam I go to St. Joseph's Balika Maha Vidyalaya.

The awards ceremony was held on July 18, 2007 at Royal College, Colombo. Thousands of school children came for this ceremony. I got a gold medal and a certificate. I would like to thank all the teachers in Keenlee and Willems International School. My parents also helped me a lot. They are very happy. I studied hard. There

were only six subjects in this exam. They are Science, Maths, Buddhism, Sinhala, English and General Knowledge. I am very happy. It was the happiest day in my life.

**Pamalka
Abeywardana
(11 years)
St. Joseph's B.M.V.,
Kegalle**

Bathing at the river



**Harini Nanayakkara
(Class 4)
Lyceum International School,
Panadura**

Ice-cream parlour



**Miska Miswar
(12 years)
Naleem Hajjar Ladies College,
Beruwala**

Collecting firewood



**Zeenath Sabri
(8 years)
Girls' High School, Kandy**

Note

Please remember that all articles, poems and paintings sent, will not be published unless they are certified by a parent or teacher as your own work.

The spotted beauty

The Dalmatian is one of the most beautiful dog breeds. Its body is covered with spots. The Dalmatian is very intelligent. The Dalmatian is a good pet.

Because it is very beautiful it has become a good show dog. It is very obedient too. In the past it was a hunting dog and a good war dog. This spotted beauty is a favourite dog all over the world.

**Samith Ailapperuma
(8 years)
Trinity College, Kandy**



A Poem for the Week

Create your own little poem and send it in to us. This competition is open to age groups from 4 - 14 years. The poems will be judged according to the age of the competitor.

Please remember that the poems you send should be your own original composition and not copied from anyone or anywhere. Entries should be in your own handwriting and clearly certified as your own creation by a teacher or parent.

**Word limit: 100 words
Please write 'A POEM FOR THE WEEK' at the top of your entry.**

The winner will receive a book voucher for Rs. 500.

Going back to school

One month seems to have gone so fast
Holidays have come to an end at last
I can't decide whether to be happy or sad
Now that those carefree days have passed

Those lovely carefree days are no more
It brings little tears to my eyes to know
That it's time for school and no more playing
As we had during the holidaying

Looking at the bright side brings a smile
To know that holidays are just for a while
Going to school and learning is better than all
That fine great place where we belong

**Praveenya de Silva
(10 years)
Good Shepherd Convent,
Panadura**