



South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation

Editorial

It gives me great pleasure in presenting this Newsletter to our readers. Activities of 2012 at the SAARC Cultural Centre draws to a successful end with great anticipation for the forthcoming year filled with new activities and continuation of the ones that have been already commenced. The 4th meeting of the SAARC Cultural Centre Governing Board, which was held in Colombo on 2 - 3 October 2013, complemented the SAARC Cultural Centre for its spectacular achievement not only in completion of the research projects and carrying forward the academic and cultural programs, but also on expanding as well as diversifying its activities. The SAARC Cultural Centre has brought out two anthologies of poetry and short stories. In addition, a book of abstracts containing the papers that were presented during the Archaeology of Buddhism conference was published. The SAARC Culture the annual research journal of the centre has entered its third year. Two successful programmes on Handlooms in South Asia and a Festival on Traditional Drumming concluded in Delhi, and Bhutan respectively. The SAARC Cultural Centre wishes all its readers a Happy New Year and looks forward to a fruitful year ahead.

- Editor

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Fourth Governing Board Meeting of SAARC Cultural Centre

The SAARC Cultural Centre hosted the Fourth Meeting of its Governing Board on 2 and 3 October 2012 at the Mount Lavinia Hotel, Colombo. The meeting was convened under the Chairmanship of Shri Pramod K. Jain (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India). Other distinguished members who represented their countries at the Governing Board Meeting were: Ms. Parag (Joint Secretary (Admin), Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Bangladesh), Mr. Dorjee Tshering (Director General, Department of Culture, Bhutan), Mr. M. Ramachandran (Director, Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo), Hon. Mr. Ahmed Shameem (Minister of State for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Maldives), Mr. Balkrishna Ghimire (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Nepal), Ms. Tara Sharma (Attaché, Embassy of Nepal in Sri Lanka), Mr. Muhammad Daud Ehtisham (Press Attaché, Pakistan High Commission in Sri Lanka), Mr. Wasantha Ekanayake (Secretary, Ministry of Culture and the Arts, Sri Lanka), Mrs. Damayanthi Rajapakse (Director General (SAARC), Ministry of External Affairs, Sri Lanka) and Mr. Poshitha Perera (Deputy Director (SAARC & South Asia), Ministry of External Affairs, Sri Lanka). Mr. Prasanna Gamage (Director (ESC), SAARC Secretariat) represented the Secretariat and Mr. G.L.W. Samarasinghe, Director of SAARC Cultural Centre represented the Centre.

After reviewing the progress of Centre's work, the Board congratulated the Centre for its aspiring achievements and the strong committed contribution towards safeguarding and promoting diverse aspects of South Asian Culture. The plan of activities and programmes proposed under the five year programme of the SAARC Cultural Centre was approved by the Board of Governors for the year 2013.



Twenty-Eighth SAARC Charter Day



Founded on December 8, 1985, SAARC is the manifestation of the collective will of our Member States to promote regional cooperation and integration in order to promote the welfare of the peoples of South Asia and to improve their quality of life. SAARC Cultural Centre Celebrated the SAARC Charter Day on December 08 with a reception at the Janakala Kendra Battaramulla under the patronage of the Deputy Minister of External Affairs, Sri Lanka Hon. Neomal Perera as the Chief Guest. The event was attended by dignitaries from foreign missions, academics, and other distinguished participants. Mr. G. L. W. Samarasinghe, Director of SAARC Cultural Centre made a Welcome speech and the SAARC Secretary His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Saleem's message on the occasion of the Twenty-eighth Charter Day was read out by Dr. Sanjay Garg, Deputy Director Research, SAARC Cultural Centre. Chief Guest Hon. Neomal Perera, in his address emphasized the role of SAARC in overall development of the region and also commended the programmes and activities of the SAARC Cultural Centre, Colombo in promoting the distinct culture of South Asia.

Continued....

Essay Competition

To commemorate SAARC Charter Day, the SAARC Cultural Centre also organized an Essay competition for school children in Sri Lanka. This competition was organized for all children Ordinary level upwards (Ages 16 and above) and were based on two topics viz., "Role of SAARC in the future" and "How can the SAARC countries make use of their distinct culture for their development?" Children were advised to choose any one of the above topics with a word limit of 1500 words. Essays were selected from among Sinhala, English, and Tamil media. The winners of the Essay Competition were awarded with cash prizes and certificates.

Winners of the Essay Competition

Sinhala Medium

- First Prize:** Nayomi Dilshani Ekanayake, Walala Rathnayake Central College, Kandy
- Second Prize:** A. D. Pamudi Umessa, Sujatha Vidyalaya, Matara
- Third Prize:** H.M. Sujani Senevirathne, Walala Rathnayake Central College, Kandy
- Fourth Prize:** S. Pirathashi Nilanka, Deniyaya Central College, Matara
- Fifth Prize:** Harshani Nadesha Wimalasiri, Walala Rathnayaka Central College, Kandy

English Medium

- First Prize:** Rochelle Benedict, Good Shepherd Convent, Colombo 13
- Second Prize:** Jamunamalar Thurairajah, Jaffna College Vaddukkoddai
- Third Prize:** Sathya Karunaratne, Holy Family Convent, Bambalapitiya
- Fourth Prize:** Noorul Ameen Nibras, Almanar Central College, Kalmunai
- Fifth Prize:** Shehani Rajendra, Holy Family Convent, Bambalapitiya

Tamil Medium

- First Prize:** Sriskantha Rajah Sivaskanthasri, Jaffna Hindu College, Jaffna
- Second Prize:** Jeevaratnarajah Shajeevan, Jaffna Hindu College, Jaffna
- Third Prize:** Mrs. Jeevanantham Neeraha, Wesley High School, Kalmunai
- Fourth Prize:** Mrs. Sangaralingam Kuhadarshi, Wesley High School, Kalmunai
- Fifth Prize:** Ramya Roy Kantharaj, Ramanathan Hindu Ladies College, Colombo



2013 Programme Plan of SAARC Cultural Centre

Based on the Five Year Programme plan presented at the last Governing Board Meeting, the Centre would like to reiterate its theme on “Unity within Diversity-Exploring the Arts and Culture” with specific focus on the SAARC Countries. The programme for 2013, and the theme is in keeping with the SAARC Agenda for Culture and in keeping with the mandate given to the Centre. An outline of the activities for the year 2013 include;

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. SAARC Artist Camp- Maldives | 9. SAARC Exhibition on Handicrafts – Bangladesh |
| 2. Research Project on Traditional Knowledge - Sri Lanka | 10. Literary Festival on Novels- Bhutan |
| 3. SAARC Foundation Day - Sri Lanka | 11. International Conference on Archives – Sri Lanka |
| 4. SAARC Workshop on World Heritage Sites - Pakistan | 12. SAARC Non-Violence Day- Sri Lanka |
| 5. SAARC Cultural Capital Meeting- Afghanistan | 13. SAARC Cultural Festival and Symposium on Song- Sri Lanka |
| 6. SAARC Film Festival - Sri Lanka | 14. SAARC Charter Day - Sri Lanka. |
| 7. Review Meeting – ongoing research – Sri Lanka | |
| 8. Photographic Competition and Exhibition- Sri Lanka | |

Progress of SAARC Cultural Centre Complex, Matara



Achievements: SAARC Non-Violence Day

To mark the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi (2 Oct), which is also observed as SAARC Non-Violence Day and International Non-Violence Day, the SAARC Cultural Centre organized a series of events in Colombo.

Workshop and Symposium:

The SAARC Cultural Centre, in collaboration with the Mahatma Gandhi Centre, Sri Lanka organized a Workshop and a Symposium to mark to highlight the need for Non-Violence in our society. The events were held at Royal College, Colombo where a large number of school children, teachers and many others who value Gandhian principles participated.



Continued....**Workshop on 'Non-Violence and Self-reliance for Social Cohesion and Rural Empowerment'**

The Workshop consisted two sessions viz., 'Community Care and Empowerment' and 'Child Abuse'. Session 1 included presentations on Rural Empowerment and Good Governance, Self-reliance on Food and Energy, Alternative Source of Medicine and Health Care, Public Awareness and Civil Rights, Green Development and Future Development. Session 2 consisted presentations on Child Abuse and Culture of Non-Violence in the Passage of Adolescence-Adulthood Transition.

Symposium on 'Swaraj and Non-Violence'

The Inaugural Address at the Symposium was delivered by Director, SAARC Cultural Centre. Prof. K.N. Sirinanda read two messages received from HE the President of Sri Lanka and the Secretary General of the SAARC. The Chief Guest at the symposium was Dr. Rashpal Malhotra, Director General, Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh (India) referred to the Mahatma and current favourable trend in his address titled; 'Cooperative Development, Peace and Security in South Asia: Focus on India and Sri Lanka.' Elimination of violence as advised by the Mahatma and cooperation followed to a great extent by India and Sri Lanka, featured in his talk. With a view of bonding together youth with the concept of Non-Violence, a 'Resolution of the Non-Violence Youth Force,' was adopted at the Symposium. Ven. Olande Ananda Thero in his Keynote Address spoke on 'Relevance of Gandhian Swaraj-development models for today.'

Art Competition- 'No to Violence'

The SAARC Cultural Centre also organized an Art Competition for Children which was themed on "Celebrating Non-Violence in the SAARC Region." Titled as 'No to Violence' this Art Competition was aimed at creating awareness on the need to revive and inspire peace, tolerance, non-discrimination, co-existence, non-violence and respect for each other in our societies.

The paintings were submitted by two age groups; 5 years to 14 and 14 years to 19 and were based on two quotations from Mahatma Gandhi's speeches, viz.,

"You must be the change you want to see in the world," and

"My religion is based on truth and non-violence. Truth is my God, Non Violence is the means of realizing him".



Continued....

There was an overwhelming response to the call for entries and over 525 entries from 52 schools from all over Sri Lanka were received. In a glittering Award Ceremony, punctuated with cultural performances, Cash Prizes were awarded for first, second and third places in both categories. In addition, 20 Certificates of Honourable Mention were also awarded in both the categories.



Winners of Art Competition:

Junior Category:

1st Prize (Cash Award of Rs. 25,000)



P. Imashi Nimthara Peiris
13 yrs, St' John's Girls School,
Colombo

2nd Prize (Cash Award of Rs. 20,000)



W.T.Sathiya Sathsarani Fernando
11 yrs, Holy Family Convent, Kalutara

3rd Prize (Cash Award of Rs. 15,000)



Zara Sanderson
13 yrs, Elizabeth Moir School,
Colombo

Senior Category:

1st Prize (Cash Award of Rs. 25,000)



Hui Gyeong Song
Colombo International School,
Colombo

2nd Prize (Cash Award of Rs. 20,000)



Ishara Prasad Atulugama
Ananda College, Colombo

3rd Prize (Cash Award of Rs. 15,000)



R.D. Pamith Yugantha Ranwala
Ananda College, Colombo

To mark the event, an exhibition of all award winning and selected paintings were exhibited by the SAARC Cultural Centre at the foyer of Navarangala Hall, Royal College.

Achievements: Research Fellows 2012/13 Announced (Diasporic Cultures of South Asia during 18th to 20th Centuries)

SAARC Cultural Centre, as part of its mandate in promoting cultural diversity in South Asia and part of its research project for 2012-13 invited proposals for research on various aspects of the Diasporic Cultures of South Asia during 18th to 20th Centuries. Accordingly four research proposals were selected from India and Maldives on various themes and sub-themes. The selected Research proposals are;

- Assessing South Asian Diaspora during Twentieth Century; A case Study of Bhojpuri speaking people in Eastern India by Dr. Waseem Raja, Assistant Professor in History, Centre of Advanced Study in Medieval History, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, U.P., India, India.
- Greater India or the Global Indian: Reflecting on Indian Ocean journalism in the 19th and 20th Centuries by Prof. Lakshmi Subramanian, Centre for Study in Social Sciences, Kolkata, India.
- You are what you eat? Gustatory Negotiations and Articulations of Identities in Indian Diaspora in London (UK) by Dr. Amit Kumar Mishra, Centre for Study of Indian Diaspora, School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad, P.O. Central University, Gachibowli, Hyderabad, India.
- Conceptualizing Diaspora: Interconnectedness of 'home' and 'host' culture by Ms. Aishath Shafina and Mr. Midhath Abdul Rasheed, Republic of Maldives.

Achievements: Research Project on Diminishing Cultures of South Asia Third Mid-Term Review Meeting

A third Mid-term Review Meeting for the above-mentioned Research Project was held on 10 December 2012 at SAARC Cultural Centre to review the progress of research of Dr. Meenakshi Rajan (India) and Prof. Kalinga Tudor Silva (Sri Lanka), both of whom were awarded research projects as per the recommendation of the Second Meeting of the Review Committee held on 15 June, 2012. The Research Review Committee (RRC) went through the revised progress report submitted by Dr. Rajan and watched the presentation made by her. The RRC appreciated the progress made by Dr. Rajan in her research grants and complemented her on her excellent presentation. The RRC went through the revised progress report submitted by Prof. Silva and held an interactive session with him through video conferencing. The RRC expressed its satisfaction on the progress made by Prof. Silva. After a round table discussion, the RRC reiterated its general recommendation made during the Second Meeting, viz. "The high academic standard that the SAARC Cultural Centre has set for its research projects should not be diluted under any circumstances and stress should be laid on qualitative research of international standard by all research fellows selected by it." As per the recommendation of the RRC, first installment of the grant amount was released to Dr. Meenakshi Rajan and Prof. Kalinga Tudor Silva.



Achievements: "Wheel of Life" - Traditional Handloom of South Asia

The SAARC Cultural Centre, in collaboration with Ministry of Culture, Government of India, and Development Commissioner for Handlooms Ministry of textiles, Government of India with the objective of identifying and protecting the fading traditional art of crafts, with specific focus on the handloom sector of the SAARC Member States organized an Expo/Shop on Traditional Handloom in the SAARC Region. Weavers from Bangladesh, Bhutan India, Maldives and Sri Lanka participated at this exhibition, where handloom products from their respective countries were on display and on sale at the Exhibition at the Handloom Pavillion, Pragati Maidan, Delhi. Reputed weavers showcased some of their work, and there was a rich variety of handloom ranging from lace makers, IkatSaree weavers, Jamdani, Pashmina Kani, Batik, and looms from Bhutan and the Maldives with its rich texture as a great feast for the general public.



The objectives of the event were to execute and display the skills of the weavers, as well as bring them to one platform for interaction, and help them find new markets and new market trends. Most importantly, it was to educate visitors, both domestic and foreigners about the unique and fascinating technique involved in weaving and to highlight the traditional handloom of the region.

To coincide with the Exhibition several other events were organized, including a Design Workshop, an Exporters/Buyers Meet and a Conference on Mapping out cultural industries. The Design Workshop on the theme "Tradition to Trend" was organized on the 2nd of November 2012, at the Craft Museum, Pragati Maidan, Delhi. Presentations were made by Resource Persons from India, as well as presentations from other countries with interactive sessions by visiting delegates. This workshop highlighted means of promoting knowledge, highlighting newer techniques and designs while still maintaining the authenticity of traditional handloom. The workshop was indeed a success as it generated a lot of discussion and interaction on emerging trends in the Handloom industry. The Exporters/Buyers Meet, organized on the 4th of November 2012, at the Exhibition venue, gave an opportunity for Exporters and Buyers to meet the participants from the region giving them an opportunity to work beyond their country. This was also one of the main objectives of the programme, in order to give a chance to weavers from the SAARC Region to be able to make known and sell their products in the region.



An integral part of this project organized by the SAARC Cultural Centre, will be a report, based on surveys and compilation of data on Cultural Industries in the SAARC Region. The Centre proposes to develop a SAARC Map of Cultural Industries in the Region, introducing products of Cultural Industries of the SAARC Region to the World Market, and this will be done through compilation of volumes of source books, which will also be available online. The first volume will focus on the Handloom Industry. A conference on the Mapping of Cultural Industries was organized on the 3rd of November 2012, to set in place a methodology and working plan for this project, that will look into a comprehensive report on the Handloom Industry. It will focus on data of employment, intellectual property rights, new products and exports. Resource persons from the Region attended this conference were facilitated by the SAARC Cultural Centre at the IGNCA (Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts).

The programme, a first of its kind was a success in keeping with the objectives of the programme. In 2013 the SAARC Cultural Centre will hold a similar Exhibition/Workshop on Handicrafts in Bangladesh.

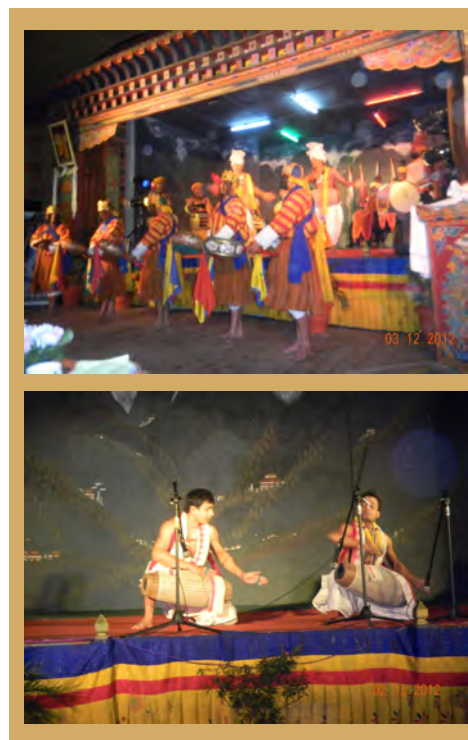
Achievements: Cultural Festival on Traditional Drumming in South Asia

Traditional Drumming, through the years has very often been used as a tool of communication, for religious and social festivities. The SAARC Cultural Centre organized a Festival of Traditional Drumming, in collaboration with the Department of Culture, Ministry of Home & Cultural Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan inviting drummers from the SAARC Countries with an opening parade of drummers, culminating with an orchestration of drumming specially choreographed and scored for the event. The Festival had special performances by each of the countries for 3 days as well as an exhibition of photographs of drums from the Region. The Cultural Festival also conducted a Symposium on “Socio-Cultural Significance of Drummers in the SAARC Region” and “Drumming as a Modern Performing Art” at the venue Hotel Riverview 3rd December. The Chief Guest for the Symposium was the Indian Ambassador H.E Mr.Pavan Kumar Verma.

The main objective of the Drumming Festival was to:

1. Encourage knowledge sharing, research and practice of Traditional Drumming from across the SAARC region.
2. To exhibit drums from the region, and share knowledge on existing drumming forms in the SAARC Region.
3. To identify and highlight the potential of cultural diversity through drumming in the SAARC Region.

The Drumming Festival was inaugurated by HE Lyonpo Dorji Wangdi, the Minister for the Ministry of Labour & Human Resources. The opening was well attended by important dignitaries of the Ministries of the Royal Government and was a success not only in terms of crowds attending the many events, but also in terms of knowledge sharing and showcasing the rich tradition of drumming in the region. The opening ceremony was held at Changlimithang ground near Walking Buddha. The evening performances were held at the lovely settings of the Royal Academy of Performing Arts Hall. Both days had crowds who thoroughly enjoyed the rhythmic drumming beats of the drummers. The concluding session was graced by HE Lyonpo Yeshey Zimba, Minister for the Ministry of Public Works and Human Settlement. Unique at the concluding ceremony was the specially orchestrated item of drums by Sri Lanka's very own Vidiyapathy Ravi Bandu, which saw the pulsating rhythm of drumming from all the SAARC countries.



The Symposium generated much discussion, and the papers presented at the Symposium were very informative touching on the different roles of drums in the respective SAARC countries. In attendance were drumming troupe leaders, members of the troupe and experts on drumming, researchers, media and interested parties. This was an ideal forum to interact with and exchange knowledge and information on drumming from the region. The SAARC Cultural Centre hopes that such interactive knowledge sharing and deliberations on traditional drumming will be able to foster a cultural bond amongst the representatives of the Member States. For 2013, the SAARC Cultural Centre will organize a song festival in Sri Lanka where song traditions of the region will be highlighted.

Achievements: SAARC Film Day- December

The SAARC Film Day Series featured a movie from Pakistan in the month of December under the patronage of the High Commission of Pakistan in Sri Lanka. The movie titled 'Khuda Kay Liye' which in English means "in the name of God" is a film by Shoaib Mansoor. The film is about the difficult situation in particular and the Muslims in general are caught up since 9/11.



Achievements: SAARC Calendar 2013

The theme for the SAARC Calendar 2013 is drawn from the paintings of contemporary artists in South Asia showcasing an array of colours and hues depicting various themes and styles. The impressive flair of the paintings derives their inspirations from purely personal expressions to the natural and cultural context of the artists. The paintings are from the works displayed during the SAARC Artist Camps 2011 and 2012 held in Colombo themed 'Unity in Diversity – Contemporary Modern Art' and 'Nature and Art at its Best'.



Announcements: The SAARC Film Festival 2013

The SAARC Film Festival 2013 will have in addition to Feature Films and Documentary Categories, and Open Entry Category for Feature and Documentary, which will give all those interested and upcoming young film makers in the SAARC region, an opportunity to feature their films at the Festival. The open entry category will be carefully screened by a panel, prior to be shown at the Festival. This year too, the Centre will invite 3 imminent adjudicators from outside the SAARC region. This programme could be implemented as a collaborative programme with any of the Member States that intends to give more assistance for the SAARC Cultural Centre. As a parallel event to the Film Festival, the Centre would also have a Seminar conducted with visiting Film Directors during the same period for addressing some of the issues faced by the Film Industry.



SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION (SAARC)

Announcements: Research on Traditional Knowledge in the Region



SAARC Regional Seminar on
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND
TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS



The SAARC Cultural Centre would launch a Research Project on Safeguarding Traditional Knowledge of South Asia. As part of this project a regional seminar will be held to identify current situation of traditional knowledge in South Asia, analyze the applicability and impact of prevailing international and national instruments in protecting traditional knowledge: Examine the role and the impact of Government institutions and Non-Government Institutions actions related to safeguarding traditional knowledge and to identify effective ways of safeguarding traditional knowledge in South Asia.

Based on the findings of the Conference, the SAARC Cultural Centre will call for proposals and will award research grants for projects amongst the Member States to conduct an in-depth study on their Traditional Knowledge (TK) systems and identify and protect the productive components for the benefit of their people.



Announcements: SAARC Artist Camp 2013

SAARC Artist Camp 2013 will be held in the Maldives. Artists will paint on site for duration of 4 days and their paintings will be on display at an exhibition which will run parallel to this. Visit the SAARC Culture website for more information.



Announcements: SAARC Workshop on World Heritage Sites

World Heritage Sites (WHS) are places of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) to humanity. Outstanding to the extent that it means cultural or natural significance that transcends national boundaries. The permanent protection of the world's cultural and natural heritage is of high importance to present and future generations.

To help in promoting conservation and management of World Heritage Sites in South Asia by capacity-building amongst the mid-level professionals, the SAARC Cultural Centre would organize a 06 day Workshop on Management Systems of World Heritage Sites in South Asia, in Pakistan. The workshop will focus on the shared understanding of the diverse systems and mechanisms in the SAARC region that exist for the management of a variety of sites (monuments, religious places, archaeological sites, cave sites etc.) and would aim at developing and improving their own authenticity and integrity of respective properties.



Announcements: SAARC Film Day 2013

In order to establish linkages as well as create awareness of the SAARC Region through culture, the SAARC Cultural Centre will continue the proposal to have a film from the different SAARC Countries shown every month. This was a very popular programme implemented in 2012 in collaboration with High Commissions and Embassies of Member States in Sri Lanka. SAARC Cultural Centre proposes to continue this programme for the Year 2013.



Announcements: SAARC Cultural Journal

Annual Journal of the SAARC Cultural Centre, *SAARC Culture* vol.4 (2013) would be compiled, edited, published and distributed. The journal seeks to provide a platform to the academics, practitioners and policy makers of culture in the region to present their research findings and to debate on issues of mutual and common interest. It is widely disseminated as an on-line publication and also as hard copy to project cultural richness and cultural diversity of the SAARC Region. Research articles and book reviews are invited for the next issue of the *SAARC Culture* (Vol. 4: 2013).



Announcements: SAARC Collections of Contemporary Short Stories and Poems 2013

A programme of compiling anthologies of Contemporary Short Stories and Poems in the SAARC region was launched in the 2011. Recognizing the growing popularity of the South Asian Literature, it was felt that these literary anthologies should be given wider circulation. These anthologies will be published in partnership with the leading publishers in the field.

New Publications

No to Violence is a catalogue of paintings brought out on the occasion of painting competition and exhibition organized for children to mark SAARC Non-Violence Day and the Catalogue features 107 paintings by children.



SAARC Culture 2012 (vol.3)

The SAARC Culture Vol. 3 has reached its third year and is bringing out 10 articles written on various subjects on culture and allied areas.



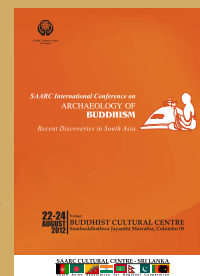
Diasporic Cultures of South Asia- Conference Report

The report consists of the conference proceedings of the SAARC International Conference on Diasporic Cultures in South Asia held in March 2012.



Archaeology of Buddhism in South Asia- Monograph

A monograph containing the full papers accepted to be presented during the SAARC International Conference on Archaeology of Buddhism will soon be published.



Culture Quote



“ If knowledge does not liberate the self from the self, then ignorance is better than such knowledge. ”

**- Hakim Abul-Majd Majdūd ibn Ādam Sanā'ī Ghaznavi,
Sufi Poet, Afghanistan (1080- 1131)**

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