



SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION (SAARC)

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Wish you a Happy and a Peaceful New Year 2012



## Editorial

It is with great pleasure we present the Fourth Issue of the Newsletter (Vol.1: No.4: December 2011). SAARC Cultural Centre is happy to mark the successful completion of its scheduled activities for 2011. We have been able to bring together academics, artists, practitioners and other interested individuals in the field of culture and their priceless contribution in the activities of the Centre is commended by all with heartiest appreciation. We look forward to the forthcoming year - 2012, ensuring the continuity of our mandate for the promotion and protection of culture in South Asia with dedication and perseverance. We wish all our readers a Happy and a Peaceful New Year.



## SAARC Cultural Centre Celebrates the SAARC Charter Day 2011

SAARC Cultural Centre, organized a reception at the Water's Edge, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka on 8 December 2011, to celebrate the 26th Charter Day of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). The occasion was utilized to increase awareness and to renew the commitment of Governments to the SAARC process.



Arrival of the Chief Guest

Hon. Neomal Perera, Deputy Minister, Ministry of External Affairs, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Among the other distinguished guests were the Ambassadors and Diplomats of SAARC Member States and Observer Countries, Government Officials including Secretaries of the Ministries, and renowned cultural activists and artists.

The reception included speeches, a dance performance, and a presentation on the role and activities of SAARC Cultural Centre. The reception ceremony was convened by Dr. Sanjay Garg, Deputy Director, Research, SAARC Cultural Centre. Mr. G.L.W. Samarasinghe, Director of SAARC Cultural Centre delivered the Welcome Address and also read out the message from HE Mahinda Rajapakse, the President of Sri Lanka. The Message from Her Excellency Uz. Fathimath Dhiyana Saeed, Secretary General, SAARC was read out by Ms. Nirekha De Silva, Research Officer, SAARC Cultural Centre. Chief Guest Hon. Neomal Perera, in his address emphasized the role of SAARC in the 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.




Director, SAARC Cultural Centre delivering his Welcome Address


# SAARC Cultural Centre NEWSLETTER




## Five Year Programme Plan of SAARC Cultural Centre

The theme of SAARC Cultural Centre's Five Year Programme is "Unity within Diversity – Exploring the Arts and Culture." The key areas of the Five Year Plan are:

 **Establishing Linkages between culture and other sectors:** Cultural Cooperation is key to the SAARC Cultural Centre. The Centre will work closely with the SAARC Secretariat, as well as the other Regional Centres, not merely to establish linkages, but to reach out to a wider audience to promote culture within the Region. The SAARC Cultural Centre would also commemorate events like the SAARC Charter Day Celebrations, the SAARC Non- Violence Day, the International Women's Day, the World Poetry Day, and the SAARC Cultural Centre Foundation Day, amongst others.


 **Promotion of SAARC Culture online:** In a day and age where the use of the world wide web, and the internet is essential for knowledge sharing, the SAARC Cultural Centre use these tools to promote culture on line and to highlight various aspects of culture. Links of SCC Website, Web Portal and Social Networking tools are the website, facebook, blog, twitter, youtube, and SAARC Culture Portal.

 **Promotion of Cultural Festivals in the Region:** Cultural Festivals give artists an opportunity to work together, exchange ideas, develop friendship and mutual understanding, while representing talent in the SAARC Region. Through such Cultural Festivals all Member States will be given an opportunity to attract tourists from all over the world. This will help Member States to promote their economic activities for the benefit of the people. The aim of a festival would be to give not only artists a chance to meet, but also to inspire culture and increase awareness on the many aspects of culture in the SAARC Region.

 **Development of Archaeology, Architecture, Archives and Museology:** To date South Asian countries have not been able to fully utilize the

cultural resources for the benefit of the people of their countries. Considering this fact, SAARC Cultural Centre has planned to introduce a series of interactive programmes for archaeologists, architects, activists, museologists and other professionals in the region to identify and develop their resources. Regional conferences, workshops, symposiums, seminars and exchange programmes for these professionals will be implemented under this programme.


 **Development of Cultural Industries:** The SAARC Cultural Centre identifies the need to look into cultural industries, in the region. Lying at crossroads between the arts, business and technology, the cultural industries sector is largely unorganized. This sector, nevertheless, has huge economic potential which the SAARC Member States are yet to optimize. The SAARC Cultural Centre, therefore, proposes to develop a 'Map of cultural industries in the SAARC Region', and introduce products of cultural industries of the SAARC Region to the world market. It will also conduct workshops, seminars and exchange programmes for development of cultural industries of the SAARC Region.


 **Development of Literature in the Region:** SAARC Cultural Centre has introduced a programme in 2011 to promote the literary writings of the authors and poets of the Member States. Under this particular programme two series of Collection of Contemporary Short Stories and Poems will be launched shortly. This will be continued annually. In addition to contemporary writings, the Centre will also launch a programme for translation of outstanding works of classical literature of the Member States into English as well as other national languages of the Member States. The SAARC Cultural Centre will organize participatory events for the benefit of poets, and writers of the region, which will enable them to review new trends and emerging new areas in the regional and international arena of literature.





## **Promotion of Visual and Performing Arts in the SAARC Region:**


The promotion of Visual and Performing Arts in the SAARC Region will be one of the ongoing programmes of the SAARC Cultural Centre, in which it will organize Cultural Festivals every year. In addition, the SAARC Cultural Centre proposes to have Symposiums, Workshops and Seminars for Inter-Cultural Exchange of knowledge and experience. Other proposed programmes include: Artist Camps, Exhibitions (including Travelling Exhibitions), Linkages with Art Festivals around the world, and promoting 'SAARC ART'. In addition to the above, the Centre proposes to have the following events:

 **Paintings and Sculpture:** Promoting arts and sculpture through organizing of Artist Camps, workshops, seminars, training programmes, exchange programmes for students within the SAARC Region.

 **Film Industry:** The Centre would like to recognize and award creativity in regional cinema. The SAARC Film Festival will be held as an annual event with workshops and seminars for film directors and artists to discuss new issues and new trends of the industry.


 **Photography:** Photographic competitions and exhibitions on different themes will be organized every year. Selected photographers exhibits will be showcased at a global Festival for photographers.


 **Preservation of Folklore in the SAARC Countries:** With a view to preserve the oral traditions in South Asia, for posterity, the SAARC Cultural Centre will initiate a series to collect and publish folklore, wherein the regional collections of folk stories and folk songs would be published.

 **Research Programme:** Many aspects relating to culture and the arts in each of the Member States merit in-depth research to promote a better understanding. The SAARC Cultural Centre will strive to identify such areas and


initiate new research projects to be developed and highlight the importance of those areas for promoting cultural development strategies of Member States.

The Research Agenda of the SAARC Cultural Centre will be based on a three-step methodology, viz: Needs Assessment, Development of Objectives, Outputs and Target Audiences, and Development of Activities to Achieve the Stated Objectives and Outputs.

 **Publication Programme:** SAARC Cultural Centre has a continuous programme for publication, both academic as well as promotional, so as to generate a pool of information resources on the culture of the region.

 **Reports and Monographs:** As an outcome of various workshops, seminars, symposium etc. SAARC Cultural Centre regularly publishes reports. In addition, Reports prepared under the research project, Diminishing Cultures in South Asia, would also be published.

 **SAARC Cultural Journal:** SAARC Cultural Centre will publish **SAARC Culture**, with articles contributed from scholars of Member States. It will be an important collection of reference materials on culture for researchers, and other scholars.

 **Other publications:** The SAARC Cultural Centre has initiated steps to develop a Visual Archives comprising pictures and moving images of various aspects of culture of the South Asian region. These images are intended to be used for reference/ exhibitions purposes as well as for various academic and promotional publications of the Centre, including: **Calendars, Newsletter, Brochures, and promotional material.**

 **SAARC Exchange Programme on Culture:** This will include training programmes, regional cultural coordination and exchange programmes among the Member States.



# SAARC Cultural Centre NEWSLETTER



ABOUT THE CENTRE

## Progress of SAARC Cultural Centre Complex in Matara

A review meeting for the construction of SAARC Cultural Centre complex at Matara was held at the SAARC Cultural Centre on 12 December 2011. Professional Staff of the Centre, the architects from the University of Moratuwa, including Ms. Arosh Gamage, Project Architect, and Prof. Samitha Manawadu, Project Coordinator, together with the representatives from the contractors, Sri Lanka Army were present at the meeting which was chaired by Mr. G.L.W. Samarasinghe, Director, SAARC Cultural Centre. A presentation was made on the proposed floor plan, the main phases of the building, and the interior and the architect was informed of the changes to be made to the floor plan. Construction work is expected to be completed and handed over to the SAARC Cultural Centre by December 2013.



*Review Meeting*



*Construction work in progress*

## SAARC Culture 2011

SAARC Cultural Centre is happy to present the Volume 2 (2011) of its annual Journal, *SAARC Culture*. The Journal is based on the theme Diminishing Cultures of South Asia, and includes ten articles and a book review by academics and researchers of the Region.



### Contributors

#### Prof. Firoz Mahmud

The Art of Filigree in Dhaka: An Example of Diminishing Tangible Culture

#### Gengop Karchung

Diminishing Cultures of Bhutan: Costume of Merag Community

#### Prof. Surjeet Singh

Performing Arts and Traditions of the Nomadic (Gypsy) Tribe of Bazigars

#### Dr. B.N. Sarkar

Diminishing Culture of the Tribes of Andaman Islands: Bio-Cultural Perspectives

#### Prof. Desmond Mallikarachchi

Why Indigenous Cultures Diminish or Face a Danger of Extinction? Local Politics and the Role of Globalisation

#### Prof. Kalinga Tudor Silva

Globalisation, Marginality and Cultural Challenges of the Rodiya Communities in Sri Lanka

#### Prof. Premakumara de Silva

Diminishing or Struggle for Survival: Case of the Veddhas' Culture in SriLankas

#### Prof. Yasanjali Jayatileka

The Puberty Ritual of the Vedda

#### Asitha G. Punchihewa

Ancestral Worship among the Muslim Community in Sri Lanka

#### Dr. Charmalie Nahallage

Portuguese Community in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka

#### Dr. Anamika

Deconstructing Everyday Reality. Review article based on *Bhog and Other Stories* by Ankur Betageri.

4 ACHIEVEMENTS





## SAARC - Symposium on Folk Dances in the SAARC Region concludes successfully - Dhaka Bangladesh 2011

The SAARC Cultural Centre, Colombo, together with the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Bangladesh, jointly organised the SAARC Symposium on Folk Dances in the SAARC Region, from the 22 - 25 October 2011. The objective of the Symposium was to forge stronger ties among SAARC nations through upholding their cultural identity. The Cultural Minister, Ministry of Cultural Affairs Bangladesh, Hon. Minister Abul Kalam Azad, was the Chief Guest at the inaugural ceremony. It was truly a fusion of cultures as troupes from Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal, India and Sri Lanka participated and exchanged ideas. In addition to the dance performances, a workshop was organised on 23 and 24 Oct 2011 in which eminent scholars, dancers and researchers exchanged ideas and debated about the issues pertaining to folk dance and art. This event marks the first cultural event organised by the SAARC Cultural Centre in another SAARC Member State.



*The Cultural Minister, Ministry of Cultural Affairs Bangladesh, Hon. Minister Abul Kalam Azad inaugurating the symposium*



*The parade at the symposium*



*Head table panelists at the inauguration*



*A troupe from India*



*Group photograph of participants*

# SAARC Cultural Centre NEWSLETTER



### Research Project on Diminishing Cultures

As part of the Research Project on Diminishing Cultures in South Asia, SAARC Cultural Centre awarded eight research projects for 2011-12. A research grant of US\$ 2000 has been made to each of the research projects which commenced in November 2011, and are scheduled to be completed by September 2012. All research grants are subjected to a mid-term review in which the awardees will present the progress of their researches before a panel of experts.



### SAARC Cultural Centre Research Fellows 2011/ 2012

#### Bhutan

**Project :** *Diminishing Food Traditions in Bumthang- the central district of Bhutan*

**Research Fellow :** Mr. Jigme Choden

**Affiliation :** Research & Media Division, National Library & Archives of Bhutan.

**Project :** *Traditional Cultural Expression of Merag Community: Mask Dances of Yak & Arpha*

**Research Fellow :** Mr. Gengop Karchung

**Affiliation :** Research & Media Division, National Library & Archives of Bhutan.

#### India

**Project :** *Musico-religious expression of Saama Veda singing.*

**Research Fellow :** Dr. Roy Subroto Mihir Chandra

**Affiliation :** Centre for Advanced Studies in Sanskrit (CASS), University of Pune, (India)

**Project :** *Traditional Cultural Expressions: Folk Theatre in India and Maharashtra.*

**Research Fellow :** Prof. Susannah Malkan

**Affiliation :** S.K. Somaiya College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Mumbai (India)

**Project :** *Ancient Aromatic Culture of India.*

**Research Fellow :** Dr. Jyoti Marwah

**Affiliation :** ICLES Motilal Jhunjunwala College of Arts Science and Commerce, Mumbai, (India)

#### Sri Lanka

**Project :** *Ecological and Economic Potentials of Traditional Kandyan Home Garden Systems.*

**Research Fellow :** Mr. Prasad Dharmasena

**Affiliation :** SANASA Campus Ltd. Paragammana, Kegalle, (Sri Lanka)

**Project :** *Determining the bio-cultural aspect of Kaffir population living in Sirambiadiya, located in Puttalam District.*

**Research Fellow :** Dr. Chamalie Nahallage

**Affiliation :** University of Sri Jayawardenepura, (Sri Lanka)

**Project :** *The Biological Indicators of Nature and How They are Associated with Folklore and Myths.*

**Research Fellow :** Mr. Asitha G. Punchihewa

**Affiliation :** Social Policy Analysis and Research Centre, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo, (Sri Lanka)





### SAARC Collections of Contemporary Short Stories and Poems 2012



With the aim of promoting South Asian Literature, the SAARC Cultural Centre, Colombo has taken steps to publish two collections of Contemporary Short Stories and poems written by writers in the SAARC Region.

All SAARC Member States are requested to select five English translations of best short stories, and poems on any theme originally published in local languages of respective Member States and submit them to the SAARC Cultural Centre, Colombo, for consideration to publish in its Compilations of Contemporary Short Stories and Poems.

#### Short Stories and Poems Submissions

Only English translations of Short Stories will be accepted for publication. Poems will be published in both original and the English language.

#### Submission Guidelines

The following information should be submitted with each short story or poem,

1. Author's/ poet's name, affiliation, postal address, e-mail address, phone numbers

2. Brief biographical entry of the author/ poet, not exceeding 100 words (This will be published with the short story/ poem)
3. Title and the poem (in native language and the edited version of the English translation)
4. Translator's name, to be published
5. Editor's name, affiliation and brief bibliographical entry
6. Software to open the text in native language

The short stories/ poems should be sent to the SAARC Cultural Centre, 224, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7, Sri Lanka. (or e-mailed to -sccpublications@gmail.com)

All short stories/ poems should be submitted as a hard copy and in electronic format. The electronic document could be e-mailed or sent via a CD. The document should be saved in Microsoft word, Rich Text Format.

The copyright in the Compilation of the Short Stories will remain with the SAARC Cultural Centre.

#### Deadline for Submission

Edited version of the short story/ poem and all the requested information should be submitted to the SAARC Cultural Centre, on or before 31 May 2012.

### SAARC Translation Programme

The South Asian region boasts of rich literary tradition since ancient times. However, a majority of these literary masterpieces remain confined within the language and script barriers. In 2012, the SAARC Cultural Centre proposes to launch a programme for translation of classical literature of South Asia to English as well as other national languages of the Member States. The proposed Translation Programme will ensure that such literary works of classical importance are made available to a wider readership within

the region and also to the outside world. It would thus create a cultural resource pool which will facilitate the transmission of ideas and knowledge across the societies.

In the first phase of this programme, literary masterpiece(s) from the principal languages of the Member States would be translated into English, which, in turn, will serve as bridge for their translations into other national languages of the Member States.



# SAARC Cultural Centre NEWSLETTER



## Lecture Series

The SAARC Cultural Centre proposes to have lectures from academics, scholars, artists, film directors, performers on a regular basis at the Centre or a nearby venue. Very often, Sri Lanka is the destination for many scholars and artists, whether they be travelling on work or on holiday. The SAARC Cultural Centre would like to make use of such opportunities and invite visiting scholars and artists for a lecture which will be open to the public. This lecture series will help the Centre establish networks with a wide range of scholars and artists in the sphere of culture.



### International Women's Day Oration (8 March):

International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the economic, political and social achievements of women in different societies and cultures. It has been observed since in the early 1900s – a time of great expansion and turbulence in the industrialized world that saw booming population growth and the rise of radical ideologies. The first International Women's Day event was organised in 1911, and 2011 marks its Global Centenary Year.

The SAARC Cultural Centre has instituted an annual SAARC International Women's Day Oration to celebrate the achievements of South Asian women and to inspire the younger generations. The First SAARC International Women's Day Oration will be organised by the Centre at Colombo, on 8 March 2012.

### Foundation Day Lecture (25 March):

The SAARC Cultural Centre was established in Sri Lanka on 25 March 2009. To mark this occasion, the SAARC Cultural Centre, Colombo has instituted an annual Foundation Day (25 March) Lecture wherein eminent speakers would be invited to share their thoughts on a chosen aspect of culture of South Asia.



Ambassador Nihal Rodrigo  
Speaker

The First Foundation Day Lecture will be organised by the SAARC Cultural Centre at Colombo, on 25 March 2012.

## SAARC Regional Conference on 'Circulation of Cultures and culture of circulation: Diasporic Cultures of South Asia during 18th to 20th centuries'

SAARC Regional Conference on 'Circulation of Cultures and Culture of Circulation: Diasporic Cultures of South Asia during 18th to 20th Centuries' will be a brainstorming session to discuss the key issues; moot research questions and also to identify themes and sub-themes of diasporic cultures of South Asia that merit independent and in-depth research. Objectives of the Conference is to identify the diasporic cultures in and of the Region; to discuss the country situation (of the SAARC Member States) related to diasporic cultures; to identify research topics and questions related to diasporic cultures in the Region that need further investigation; and to recognize research approaches and methods for further research in diasporic cultures of the region.

The Project will address issues within three broad themes, viz.: Circulation of South Asian Peoples and Commodities; Circulation of Ideas and Cultural Expressions; and Monetary and Trade Networks, both within and outside the SAARC region. Academics and experts on the subject are invited to participate in the conference and present their papers on a relevant theme.

The SAARC Regional Conference on Diasporic Cultures will be held in Galle, Sri Lanka for 3 days from 15 to 17 March 2012. One day Post-Conference tour will be organized on 18 March 2012 to Kathargama.

**Participation at the Conference:** The last date for sending the Nominations/ Registration Forms is **20 February 2012**. For more details visit-[www.saarcculture.org](http://www.saarcculture.org)





## SAARC Cultural Festival



Culture within the region is diverse, and is influenced by many factors. Culture rich in tradition and diverse in nature, brings together the peoples of nations, in an exchange of art that has no barriers. Seeing and participating in Cultural Festivals is the best way in experiencing culture, traditions, life and people, and to promote cultural cooperation and development. The SAARC Cultural Centre, Colombo, will organize a Cultural Festival, from 17 - 19 February 2012 which will celebrate diversity of culture, ethnicities and peoples of the SAARC Region. The Cultural Festival will take place over three days. It will specifically focus on traditional dance and music from the region, and also have fringe events, which will include an Exhibition on traditional music of the region and a Food Festival.

## SAARC Film Day

With a view to promote the Regional Cinema, the SAARC Cultural Centre proposes to hold a SAARC Film Day every month, in collaboration with the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka. Films and documentaries from the Member States will be screened every month for the general public and to promote young Film Directors, artists and writers of Member States. The next film day will feature a film from Bangladesh and is scheduled for 23 February.



## SAARC Calendar 2012



The SAARC Cultural Centre has published a Wall Calendar for 2012 which showcases dances of South Asia. Through this Calendar for 2012 the SAARC Cultural Centre pays a visual tribute to the well-known as well as lesser-known dances of South Asia, and celebrates the spirit of gaiety and festivity of our people.

# SAARC Cultural Centre NEWSLETTER



ANNOUNCEMENT

## SAARC International Conference on 'Archaeology of Buddhism: Recent Discoveries in South Asia'.

SAARC International Conference on 'Archaeology of Buddhism: Recent Discoveries in South Asia' would focus on Buddhist sites and remains that have been worked up during the last six decades or so. Some of the questions that the proposed conference will seek to address are: how does one define a Buddhist site? How can one show the relationship between a religious centre and the lay community through archaeological work? Is it possible to meaningfully interpret a multi-religious and multi ethnic landscape through archaeological means? The proposed conference will greatly facilitate advanced research in the archaeology of the region by the comparison of data from various parts of the Subcontinent.



The objectives of the conference are to discuss the country situation (of the SAARC Member States) related to recent excavation/ explorations of the Buddhist Archaeological sites and remains; to develop and adopt a shared document on excavation, documentation and conservation methodology; to publish the Conference Proceedings in a book form.

The Conference will be held at International Buddhist Cultural Centre, Colombo, Sri Lanka from 22 to 24 August 2012. It will include Paper Reading Sessions, Poster Session, Photographic Exhibition, Book Exhibition, and Screening of Documentaries/ Films. One day Post-Conference Tour to Anuradhapura will be organized for all registered delegates on 25 August 2012.

### **Participation at the Conference**

The last date for sending the nominations/ registration forms is **31 March 2012**. For more details visit- [www.saarcculture.org](http://www.saarcculture.org)

## Forthcoming Publications

**SAARC Culture (Volume 2) 2011** - is the annual research journal of the SAARC Cultural Centre. SAARC Culture Volume 2 of the journal focuses on the theme Diminishing Cultures of South Asia. The Journal is available in hard as well as soft copy.

**SAARC Collection of Contemporary Poems 2011** - is a collection of poems featuring contemporary poets in the region. The themes of poems are varied and are influenced by the contemporary realities and sentiments of the society. The collection would be a novel experience to those who study South Asian poetry as a distinct genre and to the enthusiastic readers of poetry alike.

**SAARC Collection of Contemporary Short Stories 2011** - brings out English translations of the Contemporary Short Stories from the Region. The collection brings together eminent as well as budding writers, whose sentiments on varied themes reflect subtle nuances of contemporary socio-cultural phenomena. Through this endeavor SAARC seeks to offer its readers a novel experience of exploring short stories written in the region by our own writers.

**Folk Dances in SAARC Region** - is based on the Symposium on Folk Dances in SAARC Region held on 22-25 October 2011 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. It contains the proceedings of the Symposium.

PUBLICATIONS

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### Diminishing Cultures in South Asia



In South Asian Vocabulary the performing behavioral activities of the society is known as *Sanskriti*. What makes a *sanskriti*? It is an evolved product of the influence of climate and the living environment that different groups of people are subjected to and in association with their inheritance, belief, social practices, social values, language used, dress, food variations, arts and crafts etc. This *sanskriti* or culture of different social groups both small and large have inherited those in two forms as intangible and tangible. It is found that all tangible components of a cultural heritage are a conscious designed product created to cater for the performance of the intangible heritage of that particular culture and the society.

All these cultures are subjected to the time theory of change, but the rate of change varies in relation to the changing requirements of the people, the influences that they are subjected to and the advancement of technology. This is not applicable only for small groups of the society but for all societies. It is a continuous change that one cannot stop, and all societies are subjected to in

this process of change. Many of the cultural activities and values that created a sustainable society, with their own identity may be lost due to ignorance and bad practice. On any subject, learning history will provide a proper foundation to understand the present and without understanding the present it is not possible to design for the future. Present discussion is on vanishing culture of Asia and therefore it is necessary to comprehend their origins, values, practices and facing danger through scientific research. To get a proper understanding on a subject there are three avenues to follow: literary sources that gives direct and indirect information of the subject, archaeological or available tangible material on the subject and the current practices and situations.

Generally culture includes everything that man practice and it is a rolling phenomenon. Fashion comes and vanishes, styles remain for a period of time, traditions sustain for generations, but still change. In cultural research documentation plays a major role. Historic documentation found in the cultural field is of immense help to understand the background of present cultural practices. Scientific research on culture should highlight the values that provided identity, social harmony and the ingredients required for a sustainable healthy society.



Professor Nimal De Silva  
Director General, Central Cultural Fund, Sri Lanka.

# SAARC Cultural Centre NEWSLETTER



## GSS Category Vacancies

SAARC Cultural Centre will be shortly advertising for the following posts:

1. Post of Computer Operations Officer (GSS II)
2. Post of Documentation Assistant (GSS III)
3. Post of Receptionist (GSS IV)

Please visit our website - <http://www.saarcculture.org> regularly for updates on vacancies.



## Culture Quotes



*"Of all the forces that stand in the way of a cultural synthesis, or...in the way of a mutual understanding, the greatest are those of ignorance and prejudice."*

Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy (1877-1947),  
Sri Lankan Art Historian,  
Philosopher and Metaphysician.

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