

## EDITORIAL NOTE

We are very pleased to present the first issue of the *SGC Review*, an International Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences initiated by the Sigiri Global Campus (SGC). The journal is dedicated to enriching the current scholarly discussions and debates on the discourses in the field of humanities and social sciences, disseminating novel knowledge, interpretations, perspectives, etc., and revisiting the already established norms and opinions. It is a bi-annual peer-reviewed journal which strives to be a model and platform, especially for budding researchers, with no compromise on its quality. The inaugural issue consists of four research papers, among which one is an English translation of a section of the Theravada commentary, while the others are analytical research papers.

The first research paper, titled *The Grammar of Art in Buddhist Mural Paintings of the Kandyan Tradition as a Method of expression* is authored by Prof. Sudarshana Bandara. It begins with providing detailed background information of mural painting tradition in the Kandyan period and then discusses the properties of Kandyan mural paintings and their roles in producing the intended meaning as well as aesthetic beauty. It climaxes with a thorough analysis of how socio-economic, political, and cultural dynamics influenced and impacted Kandyan artworks. He finally argues in favour of the fact that it was a deliberate choice that Kandyan painters made to invent a method and techniques of painting that they employed in

mural paintings in order to facilitate audience for easy understanding.

*An English translation of the Bālavagga of the Tika-nipāta in the Manoratha-pūraṇī* was collaboratively authored by a group of five people: Ven. Nguyen Thi Ai Linh (nun sumanā), Mr. Igalawitanage Pulasti Kumara, Ven. Huynh Thi Bich Thuy, Ven. Kusalanyani and Ven. Medirigiriye Pemananda. Seemingly, the translators attempt to be as faithful to the source, which is an essential aspect of textual criticism and translation. They first provide the text based on the *Manoratha-pūraṇī* edition of the Pali Text Society. It is followed by the English translation. As stated in the paper itself, they translated the above section of the *Manoratha-pūraṇī* with an aim of encouraging particularly young Buddhist scholars to undertake in-depth, analytical and historical studies of commentaries.

Ven. Weliwita Saranankara contributes to the journal with his article titled *Hereditary Officials and Their Traditional Duties in Kandyan Dēvālayas: A Case Study of the Gadaladeniya Viṣṇu Dēvālaya*. At the outset of the article, he gives a brief account of the origin of the *Gadaladeniya Viṣṇu Dēvālaya* and then proceeds to the descriptive introduction to the hereditary officials and finally their duties. It is very important that Ven. Saranankara not only discusses their duties with his own experiences and observations but also with textual evidence from the legitimate ancient sources. The presentation of detailed information and organised data with very lucid explanations in this paper is admirable.

The last paper titled *Globalisation, Neo-colonialism, and Crime: How Does 'The Prisoner' depict the nexus between Globalisation and Crime in South Asia?* is authored by Ven. Pusselle Vineetha. The paper is a critique of the novel *The Prisoner* by Omar Shahid Hamid, with a particular focus on how the novel depicts the nexus between globalisation and crime generally in the South Asian society and particularly in Karachi, Pakistan. Firstly, the author situated the novel in a theoretical framework with which different social institutions of society, which have been subjected to crime and corruption, are analysed. Secondly, he assessed how critically and realistically delineate the society in the backdrop of neocolonialism.

The SGC Review would not have been successful without the excellent teamwork of the SGC team. Therefore, we hereby wish to thank the Rector of the SGC, Ven. Paragala Narada and the Vice-Rector, Ven. Udugama Saranathissa for their leadership, provided for the success of the SGC Review. The SGC Review is a brainchild of Dr. Vijitha Kumara, the Academic Developer of SGC; hence, our special thank is due to him. We would also like to appreciate the contribution made by Ms. Sandani Nirasha Gunarathne, the Director of the Research Unit, Editor, Ven. Dr. Jambugahapitiye Dhammaloka, Language editor, Ms. Dinuka Thamali Gunarathne, and the web manager, Mr. Menaka Jayasundara.

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