

SRI LANKA



INDONESIA

FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

SLIFA Magazine

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Executive Committee 2022/23

Standing from Left: Shanthini Thavaraj, Najimudeen Samsudeen, Alagan Thavaraj, Sha Razeek, Asha Hannah, Lutfi Andaru

Sitting from Left: Iqram Cuttilan, Patrick Rodrigo, N. S. Dayanandan, Boyke Nurdin, Marleena Laxana, HE Dewi Gustina Tobing, Nihal Jayasuriya, Farida Saldin, A. M. M. Amir, Tony Saldin, Felicia Salley

Not In Picture: Priyanka Gunaratne, Nilam Halaaldeen, Fazal Lateef

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Message from Her Excellency the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Sri Lanka and Maldives & Patron of SLIFA

I am delighted to deliver my message to SLIFA Newsletter in early 2023 as the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Sri Lanka and Maldives. I would like to express my gratitude and sincere thanks to President of SLIFA Ms. Marleena Laxana and the SLIFA Executive Committee for all the efforts to further strengthen the friendship between Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

On this opportunity, I would like to thank SLIFA that have organized useful programs in the last year 2022 and early 2023 together with the Embassy of Indonesia to commemorate the 70 th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and Sri Lanka and the 30 th Anniversary of SLIFA through the Charity Bazar on 1 st October 2022 in Embassy's Premises, and charity projects to hand over 740 dry rations packs for the Sri Lankan in need from communities of Buddhist, Hindu, Islam, Christian, and Malay Sri Lankan, in some areas namely Colombo, Moratuwa, Mattegoda, Hambantota, Maskeliya, Hatton, Kandy, and Trincomalee.

The charity projects symbolized a form of solidarity and friendship for Sri Lankan who are affected by the economic crisis. I would like to thank Indonesian communities in Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Western Australia who gave the donation for the charity projects. The Charity was also financed from the proceeds of the Cultural and Charity Bazar in the Embassy.

I appreciated SLIFA for organizing the Culture Nite on 28 January 2023 at the Riptaloka Hall of the Embassy of Indonesia, to show wonderful traditional dance, music, song, and cuisine from Indonesia and Sri Lanka. Hopefully, during the year 2023, SLIFA will continue to organize more activities aims in strengthening people-to-people relations between the two countries.

Finally, I hope this Newsletter will bring a message of togetherness, spirit, and friendship for unity among members of the SLIFA as well as between the peoples of Indonesia and Sri Lanka. My sincere thanks to the SLIFA newsletter team for the hard work put in which contributes significantly to the progress of SLIFA.

Wishing SLIFA always the best in the years to come.

HE Dewi Gustina Tobing

Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia



Message from the President of the Sri Lanka Indonesia Friendship Association

It is with great pleasure that I publish this message in the SLIFA Magazine for the year 2022/23.

I am honoured and privileged to be elected as the 16th President of the Sri Lanka Indonesia Friendship Association for 2022/23 where we commemorate two milestones, the 30th Anniversary of SLIFA and the 70th Anniversary of diplomatic relations between Sri Lanka and the Republic of Indonesia.

This magazine will walk through the activities successfully completed with the collaboration of the Indonesian Embassy from August 05 to December 31, 2022. Many more activities are on the pipeline for this year and will be reflected in our next issue.

SLIFA's main objective is to foster friendship and fellowship among members of Sri Lanka and Indonesia. We invite you to be a part of this prestigious Association where we can build links with Indonesia, create better fellowship amongst members and the Indonesian community. I urge all members to come forward and be a part of SLIFA by participating in our activities.

SLIFA welcomes both Indonesians and Sri Lankan members to contribute articles of interests towards this magazine. Innovative ideas and projects are most welcome.

I am most grateful to Her Excellency Dewi Gustina Tobing, the staff of the Indonesian Embassy and the members of the Executive Committee for their support at all times.

My sincere best wishes to the members of SLIFA and to all readers of this Magazine.

Marleena Laxana

President

Sri Lanka Indonesia Friendship Association



SLIFA wishes to thank all those who submitted articles and also the members of the Publications Committee who contributed to this edition of the magazine. Special thanks to Pak Lutfi Andaru from the Indonesian Embassy for the photographs of the events.

If you wish to contribute articles for any of our upcoming issues please send them in to **secretary@slifa.lk**

Annual General Meeting 2022

The Annual General Meeting of the Sri Lanka Indonesia Friendship Association was held at the Riptaloka Hall, Indonesian Embassy Premises on the 5th of August 2022.



New office-bearers. (from left) N. S. Dayanandan (Treasurer), Boyke Nurdin (Vice President), Marleena Laxana (President), HE Dewi Gustina Tobing (Patron), Nihal Jayasuriya (Vice President), Farida Saldin (Secretary)



Session addressed by HE Ambassador Dewi Gustina Tobing



Marleena Laxana, New President



Office bearers and committee members appointed for 2022/23



A. M. M. Amir, Outgoing President

Celebrating Indonesia's 77th Independence Day



The Indonesian Embassy commemorated the 77th Independence Day at the embassy premises on August 17, 2022. HE Dewi Gustina Tobing presided over the ceremony that was attended by many dignitaries and Indonesians living in Sri Lanka along with a delegation from the Sri Lanka Indonesia Friendship Association.

After a wonderful flag hoisting ceremony HE Dewi Gustina Tobing, in a great show of friendship and magnanimity handed over daily essentials worth 2.5 million rupees to needy Sri Lankans via four religious organizations in the country. The funds were donated by Indonesians living in Sri Lanka, Maldives and Western Australia, where Ambassador Tobing was posted prior to her move to Sri Lanka. The event was jointly organized by the Indonesian Embassy along with SLIFA.

Going by the Indonesian national motto 'Bhinneka Tunggal Ika' which means 'Unity in Diversity', the

ambassador handed over the rations to representative from the four main religious communities in Sri Lanka. Ven. Watinapaha, the Director of Education of State Ministry of Dhamma Schools accepted the rations on behalf of the Buddhist community while Mr. Ramachandra Kurukkal Babu Sharma, the Secretary of the International Hindu Religious Federation represented the Hindu community. The Christian and Muslim communities were represented by Reverend Father Anura Perera, Director of the Department of Social Responsibility Methodist Church and Rilwan Lantra the President of the Sri Lanka Malay Association.

The ceremony also included the cutting of Nasi Tumpeng, a traditional cone-shaped rice dish, that is a hall mark of Indonesian celebrations and is a symbol of gratitude. The event was also colored by many patriotic songs sung by the Ambassador along with the people from Indonesia.



**PULIH
LEBIH CEPAT
BANGKIT
LEBIH KUAT**



Unity in Diversity

By Sha Razeek

Between the Indian and the Pacific oceans lie eighteen thousand islands spread across more than five thousand kilometers, making the largest archipelago in the World. To the ancient geographers of India this place was known as 'Swarnadvipa' or the Golden Isles. Today we call it Indonesia.

The fourth most populous country in the World, Indonesia is a patchwork of races, languages, cultures and people. Not long after achieving sovereignty in 1949 the state revealed the national emblem in the form of a Garuda bird with a shield containing the Pancasila. Beneath it on a white ribbon gripped by the claws of the bird, was inscribed the state motto 'Bhinneka Tunggal Ika', Unity in Diversity. Originally a religious motto from a 14th century poem promoting religious harmony, it is said the Sukarno himself had suggested that it be used on the emblem.

This motto which translates to 'Unity in diversity' was to become a political rallying point and a guiding nationalistic ideology in this multi-racial, multi-cultural and multi-lingual society. With a multitude of ethnic groups (at least 30 with a population of more than a million) and more than 700 different languages and numerous dialects and all major religions in the world, this was indeed of great significance of

how Indonesia managed to survive and thrive as one nation.

Prior to the declaration of independence in 1928, at the second youth congress, a potpourri of representatives from different youth groups made a historical pledge known as 'Sumpah Pemuda', where they proclaimed the idea of 'one motherland, one nation and one language'. Sukarno, who understood the importance of a united Indonesia, in declaring independence in 1945 also declared Bahasa Indonesia as the national language.

Much like most languages in Indonesia, Bahasa Indonesia belongs to the Malayo-Polynesian, Western Austronesian family. The language evolved from a minority Sumatran Malay dialect, and was used by traders during the Dutch era. But it was not the native language of the majority, which was Javanese. This too, I believe is of a great significance of how Indonesia managed to unite as one. Javanese, Sundanese, Balinese and the Minangkabau, and all the numerous ethnic groups have their own cultures, languages, their own characteristic and even temperament. But they all can now communicate in this one language that unites everyone. And in my personal

Sukarno, the founding father of Indonesia



view, this language was also easy to learn and was very practical (hence its use in trade) and thus was quickly adopted. And it certainly doesn't hurt that the language can also be used and understood for the most part within regional neighbors such as Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei.

In such a situation one might assume that this will result in the decaying of local and regional tongues. On the contrary, most Indonesians are bi-lingual and still speak their local language as their first language. And local



governments may recognize their regional language as an official language alongside Bahasa Indonesia. Hence, in the Special Region of Yogyakarta, Javanese is also recognized as an official language.

The issue of language has been a matter of great historical importance in Independent Sri Lanka as well. Much like Sukarno, Sri Lanka's own founding fathers espoused the ideas of uniting under a single national identity, and in fact carried out a successful struggle to gain independence with the support of leaders from all ethnic groups.

But unfortunately for Sri Lanka, there were political elements that were constantly trying to equate Sri Lankan nationalism to their own ethnic and linguistic identity. The nationalism that emphasized the common interest of all the religious and ethnic groups, while certainly was not unpopular, also needed a strong character as in the father of the nation, D. S. Senanayake to hold in place. With his enormous popularity he attempted to foster this overarching Sri Lankan identity that supersedes any communal differences. But with his untimely death, the sectarian elements



managed to gradually get themselves into power, abuse the sentiments of the masses for their own political gain, and thus pave the way for an ethnic conflict that lasted nearly 3 decades and cost the country dearly, both in terms of lives lost and economic development.

Having said that, I believe the ideals that D.S. Senanayake and the founding fathers tried to impart through the Sri Lankan identity have always been present in most Sri Lankans, and has found new vigor in the recent past. And most Sri Lankans have always recognized that diversity builds strength and is a formidable force for progress and need not be a source of conflict.

But I do sometimes wonder whether Sri Lanka in its attempts to unite the country after centuries of colonial rule could've benefited from such a detailed framework that Sukarno and the founding fathers of Indonesia promoted. From the Pancasila, to that motto that hangs, held high by the great Garuda's feet 'Bhinneka tunggal ika', Unity in diversity.

The author is a member of the Sri Lanka Indonesia Friendship Association and the Royal Asiatic Society of Sri Lanka. The views expressed are the author's own.

Father of the Ceylonese nation,
D. S. Senanayake

Recipe Corner

Kolak Pisang



Kolak Pisang is a simple Indonesian dessert soup that is enjoyed throughout the year but especially during Ramadan.

Ingredients

- Banana 10 pcs cut into 1' slices
- Coconut milk 500 ml
- Palm sugar / jaggery 300g
- Pandan leaves 2 pcs
- Sugar 1 tbsp
- Salt to taste
- Water 1000 ml

Preparation

Heat water mixed with pandan leaves

After boiling, add bananas and palm sugar

When the bananas are half cooked, add the coconut milk

Keep stirring so the coconut milk doesn't boil curdle. It takes around 20 minutes from start to finish

If you wish to make Kolak Pisang Ubi simply add steamed sweet potatoes to the mixture once it cools down

Cultural & Charity Bazaar



The SLIFA Cultural and Charity Bazaar, in collaboration with the Indonesian embassy was held at the embassy premises on October 1, 2022, in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries and the 30th anniversary of SLIFA.

HE Dewi Gustina Tobing, in her opening remarks, mentioned that the purpose of the event is to help Sri Lankans who in need due to the the economic crisis.

Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka, Aruni Wijewardane was the guest of honor at the event, which saw many Ambassadors and dignitaries from various countries participate along with religious leaders, the Malay community and the general public. Secretary

Wijewardane commended the Indonesian Embassy and SLIFA for organising such an event which helps those in need and also promotes the understanding of the diverse cultures in both countries.

The stage show included Kandyan dances, an Angklung ensemble, a Baratha Natyam performance, Indonesian dances from Betawi, Bali and Aceh along with performances by Madhuvy Vaithyalingam of Voice Kids fame, songs and dance acts from various Malay associations and communities in Sri Lanka.

HE the ambassador also invited all the dignitaries and guests to learn and play the angklung together.

The cultural and charity Bazaar had over 50 trade stalls with great



variety of jewelry, clothing, batiks, household items, handicrafts, cosmetics and fancy articles offered for sale. Attendees were able to savor authentic Indonesian and Sri Lankan cuisine.

A raffle draw was held and many prizes were given away at the end.







The Closeness of the Peoples of the Republics of Sri Lanka & Indonesia.

By Noor Rahim

Our two countries have always been friendly for centuries and have in fact inherited and share very similar qualities in ways of lifestyle in every facet of life – be it in Traditions & Customs; Religious Beliefs; Language & an Easy-going Way of life.

Even in our primary vocations we indulged in Agriculture/Farming and Fishing practices from the days of yore and continue to do so in Modern Times. Traditional ways continue to play a significant role, though with the advancing times we ventured into other Professions; excelling in these ventures too.

Even though a comparison of the land masses indicated that we are 1/29 (one twenty ninth) in size with that of Indonesia, we are blessed with similar terrain and weather patterns that is the envy of other Nations.

Our two great Nations have gone through the gamut of “Invasions” at various stages commencing from “The Indian Dynasties” to that of the later “Colonialist Incursions”, which left its indelible influence on us. They did leave us with a different type of life styles, but being of resilience quality we still follow the Customs & Traditions of our Ancestral inheritance. Into this potpourri we also had a deluge of “Religious Beliefs” which we undoubtedly grasped with open hands and mind sets. After all they all taught us the good ways in leading a life of usefulness and spread of goodwill. Both our Nations did benefit from these invasions, in a manner that we openly see the presence of “Multi-Faiths” that are venerated and free to practice in our lands. We have based most of our Languages on the classical “Sanskrit” language due to our lands being under Indian influence at



some time in the years gone by; many words from the Sanskrit are “loan words” that have crept into our vocabularies. The Buddhism & Indian customs & culture too has had a toe hold in our present day Customs & Traditions. Including architecture and sculpture. The remains of most of the ancient monuments & sculptures have a very striking resemblance common to both countries, especially the Stupas & Temples. They are identical indeed. The renowned & popular puppet play called “Kulit Wayang” in Indonesia depicts the story from the Ramayana – the story of Rama, Sita & Hanuman, very vividly. These stories too are well known in our own Motherland; and so are the “Jathaka Stories” which we have in common within our own countries.

The demeanour of our two Nations border on the “Easy going Lifestyles” we exhibit in keeping with a popular ditty – “Kapanglah; Beepanlah; Jolly Karapanlah; Ata Marunoth Hithata Sapai, Ada Jolly koralah” meaning “Eat, Drink & be Merry today – For if die tomorrow we die with no regrets”. Yes! We are very musically talented and we exhibit such classical arts of dancing oozing with cultural ties, so vibrant and invigorating. Friendliness and sense of fellow-feeling for others is rampant among the peoples of both Nations with their effervescent and beaming smiles that instantly drives all fears away. Even our attire has fashionable apparels that are

similar and in keeping with our climate & climatic changes. Our local cuisine too are very similar and always confining/keeping within the produce of the land, with the staple food being rice & spicy curry. As for fruits and yams our lands are blessed with an abundance of these marvellous edibles.

In commonality one can undoubtedly see the similarities in our Cultures and Traditions and the loan words that we have both adopted from an ancient classical language. Our behavioral pattern, our Traditions & Culture, our zest for living are very apparent.

In closing one must emphasise that this Association of which you are revered members, should go beyond that of being a “meet & greet” type of following, for there is more to learn from each other. Our two countries are entwined in many aspect of life and it is for us to explore and get to know each other, from each other, in all these valuable aspects of commonality in our ways; and contribute our mite towards expanding and cementing our bonds with each other. Peace to all.

The author was Group Captain (Retired) of Ceylon Armed Forces. Former Ground and Cabin Crew Flight Safety and Technical Training School Manager of Air Lanka; Author of first ever Engineering Safety Guide and first Emergency Procedure Manual for Air Lanka. Former Staff member of Ontario Provincial Government, Canada.

Sri Lanka



Indonesia



Bridal attire

Some delicacies and games that are popular during the Sinhala and Tamil New Year in Sri Lanka that are also popular in Indonesia.

Kokis



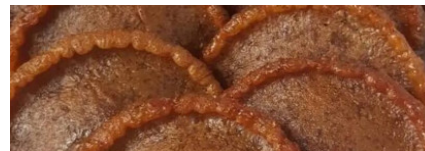
Kembang Goyang



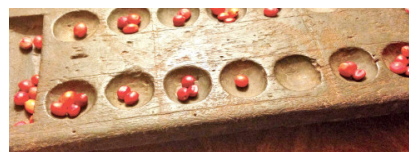
Kevum



Kue Cucur



Olinda Keliya



Congklak



Kotta Pora



Gepuk Bantal



Dry Ration Donation Drive

The Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Colombo together with the Sri Lanka Indonesian Friendship Association (SLIFA) organized a joint charity program for the distribution of dry rations to deserving Sri Lankan families who are affected by the present economic crisis as a form of solidarity and friendship.

The charity program commenced under the auspices of Her Excellency Dewi Gustina Tobing – Ambassador of Indonesia in Sri Lanka and Ms. Marleena Laxana – President of SLIFA. The social service program was initiated on August 17th, 2022, the National day of the Republic of Indonesia and culminated on December 19, 2022.

Indonesian Ambassador Dewi Gustina Tobing handed over packages consisting of various types of dry rations directly to needy Sri Lankan families from the four religious communities of Buddhist, Hindu, Christian, and Muslim from selected places in Hambantota, Colombo and its suburbs and Maskeliya. The respective religious dignitaries were present at these distributions.

The donation was obtained from the Indonesian community in Western Australia. In total 440 packages of dry rations were distributed amongst deserving families from the four main religious denominations in Sri Lanka totaling approximately to **LKR Rs. 2,159.120 (AUD. 9,193)**.

All communities expressed gratitude to the Indonesian Embassy in Sri Lanka and the Indonesian community in Western Australia that provided the dry ration packages to needy Sri Lankan families at this difficult time of the economic crisis.

In addition, on August 17, 2022, the Indonesian Ambassador to Sri Lanka and Maldives, Dewi Gustina Tobing, symbolically commenced the handing over donation packages to four religious coordinators after the flag-hoisting ceremony commemorating the 77th Indonesian



Independence Day, which took place in the Indonesian Embassy courtyard in Colombo. Each religious representative received symbolically 10 packages. The Donation was obtained from Indonesian Community in Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Western Australia, worth LKR 2.5 million.

This social service project is to commemorate two milestone events which are the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and Sri Lanka and the 30th anniversary of SLIFA. For the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and Sri Lanka this year, the commemoration reflects the long-standing, strong bond relations between the two countries, proven throughout their long history since many centuries ago and became stronger with the establishment of diplomatic relations on the 6th of August 1952.

During the economic crisis in Sri Lanka, Indonesia magnanimously supported Sri Lanka by providing humanitarian aid in April and May 2022 as a symbol of the strong bonds between the two nations, Indonesia provided humanitarian aid for the people of Sri Lanka to the value of US\$ 1.6 million of essential medicines and medical equipment due to the severe shortage in Sri Lanka.



PERSONAL SAFETY AND SECURITY DURING CHALLENGING TIMES!

Wazir Sourjah

F.ISF – SL, M. ISMI –UK, CiiSCM – Singapore

We are indeed living in challenging times. Theft, robbery, intimidation, assault and fraudulent activity are rampant. You read any newspaper or watch TV or radio news, there is always incidents of crimes or any other offenses against persons are invariably reported and are on the increase by the day. Last week there was the incident of a Magistrate being locked up in his own property in Piliyandala area and his vehicle stolen by a criminal who responded to an advertisement, the owner had placed for the rent of his house. The media also reported on the unfortunate death of a 34-year-old tuition master in Kalutara area., following an aggravated assault by three teenagers, who were advised by the deceased against motor bike speeding and also for not wearing their riding helmets. The challenges come from a variety of areas ranging from adverse socio-economic conditions, weak policing, political instability, drug abuse etc. These challenges do impact our private and personal lives and also threaten the safety and security of personal and private property. The objective of this essay is to focus on the personal realm. There is a general sense of all-round insecurity today. This is noticeable in highly populated areas as well as less densely populated areas, as both environments offer conditions that favor in the indulgence of criminal activity, both by seasoned criminals as well as opportunity criminals, who resort to criminal activity or petty criminal activity, when opportunities are presented to them.

Why Personal Safety and Security?

It is clear in the present context as to why individuals of all ages, need to be security conscious, to ensure their personal security and safety, especially when out of their homes or work places and also while travelling in their own vehicles or using public transportation. The frequency of protests and agitations occurring round the Island, presents criminal elements to infiltrate these gathering and indulge in pick pocketing and other forms of petty crimes such as snatching personal valuables such as jewelry, cellphone, wallets and even wrist watches.

Identifying Vulnerabilities:

The present times, compel us to take stock of our vulnerabilities in order to evade being victimized or to mitigate loss, damage and injury, when targeted. Given the possibility of huge increases in crime occurrence in the future, it would not be a waste of time to allocate quality personal time to reflect on possible threats and vulnerabilities that could be peculiar to varying individuals given their particular circumstances. In this, it is recommended that individuals seriously identify what threatens them in terms of home security and safety, threats during travel and other social interactions that may make them vulnerable or exposed to various kinds of threats. Once an individual identifies the vulnerabilities, such action itself leads to being protected to an extent. The saying “forewarned is to be forearmed”, lends much credence in context.

A simple threat/vulnerability assessment

Types of suspects	Personal Property to be protected	Anticipate possible attack forms
Thieves/Burglars	Home	Theft, Burglaries, mischief/damages
Vehicle thieves/ criminals masquerading as beggars	Vehicle: side mirrors, valuables inside, wheel covers	Remove vehicle parts or break ins
Street urchins, pick pockets and petty thieves	Personal items: Jewelry, watches, phones etc.	Grabs or snatches

Safety of Private/Personal Property and Assets;

Homes to be sweet must be secured from thieves, robbers and unauthorized intruders. Walls or fences demarcating one's property must be examined for shortcomings and repaired. The same applies to gates. Once the perimeter of a home is secured it makes it difficult for criminals to enter. Households could implement "**Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED)**", measures. These include keeping their gardens and open spaces pruned, clean and tidy that would deter prospective thieves from taking undue cover during intrusions into homes. Next examine the front and rear doors and if there are any damages, upgrade to have them made strong. Next is the inspection of all windows, both small and large. Window grills too need to be examined and strengthened, it is better to check all doors and windows at night before going to bed. The next item is to review the quality and strength of the roof of the house or building. Ceilings to must be sealed off. Safety and security of a home at night is in contrast to day light security and safety. Criminals love to work at night as cover of darkness affords them much natural concealment of their actions. In these days when electricity rates have become so expensive, many may opt to have minimum or no lighting outside their houses at night. A balance has to struck between likelihood of crimes taking places and their overall impact and then decide to switch on minimum lights and achieve maximum lit area to deter criminals. Security technology helps deter crimes. Installation of CCTV cameras, Access control and electronic alarms all aid and reinforce and harden physical security. These must be installed after consulting a security professional with adequate experience and knowhow.

Travel security and wearing or carrying valuables: In regards to travel safety, plan out your route, check out for possible protests or agitations along the commute and try to avoid it, if possible. If travelling in your own vehicle check fuel, tire pressure and mirrors are properly set up to suit you. Lock vehicle doors when held up at traffic lights etc. and do not lower shutters to strangers/ beggars, if you need to engage in charity do so with proper care. A word of caution with regard to hiring of Trishaw taxis, especially at night. Recently a worker in a restaurant hired a Trishaw to

get to his home in Ragama from Grandpass. Whilst getting into the vehicle a person had approached him and requested for a lift, since it was late in the night, the restaurant worker had obliged the request and accommodated the stranger. On the way the former had taken out his mobile phone and when attempting to get a call, the stranger had suddenly grabbed the mobile and pushed the restaurant worker out of the taxi and the Trishaw and the assailant had sped away. The Trishaw driver and the assailant, apparently were partners in crime.

For day-to-day engagements wear suitable and comfortable clothes. Avoid expensive jewelry and other items, especially for ladies. Comfortable foot wear is also important, as it helps quick reactions and movements in an emergency. High heeled foot wear impairs these actions.

Interactions with strangers; be it at home, on the way or in office, be observant and prepare your mind for sudden counter actions. Do not entertain strangers without proper identification inside your home. In addition to preparation of a Threat or Vulnerability assessment (see table above), the individual has got to consider other factors such as **LIKELIHOOD** of particular crimes being committed and its possible **IMPACT** on the asset and adopt suitable **CONTROLS** to prevent, avoid or deter such adverse actions being inflicted on their person or property.

Domestic aids / part time labor

Vetting of domestics is a must. Request for NIC with original and a copy, also take a latest photo of the person to ensure proper identification and perhaps an introduction from a known party is added security.

Conclusion:

Personal safety and security can be achieved for individuals, by merely being practical and using common sense. Developing your perceptions in regards to anticipation and awareness is another plus point to your repertoire of safety and security actions.

Be safe and secured, be ever conscious of your safety and security, be curious of the environment round you and yours!

The author is a Certified Corporate Physical Security Professional and a Retired Superintendent of Police

SLIFA Fellowship Evening

SLIFA organized a fellowship evening for its members and their guests on Saturday, November 26, 2022. The objective of this event was to bring together the members so that they could get to know each other, socialize as well as get them involved in the activities of SLIFA and support the events which are being organized.

The event commenced with the arrival of the Chief Guest, Her Excellency Dewi Gustina Tobing, Ambassador of Indonesia and spouse, Mr. Bintang Pinem.

2 Minutes silence was observed in remembrance of all those who passed away due to the devastating earthquake which struck Cijurni, West Java, Indonesia,

A charity box was set up to collect funds for those affected by the earthquake.

Since we were approaching Christmas, the program started with Carols and a Nativity by the choir of the Methodist church, Moratuwa. Thereafter those present were given the opportunity to mingle around with other members and guests.

The members and guests were served a sumptuous meal that was provided by the Ambassador and SLIFA.



We had around 75 members present

This event was spear headed by the Chairperson Fund Raising, Mr. Roshan M. Fernando and his team in consultation with Pak Boyke Nurdin, Vice President and Counselor of the embassy.

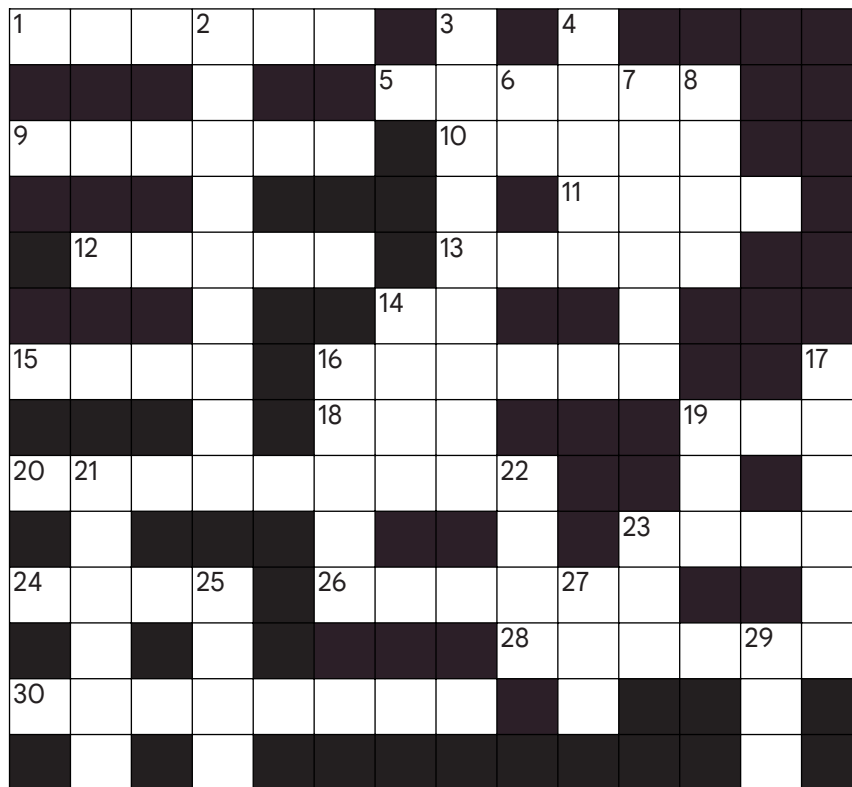
SLIFA wishes to thank Her Excellency, the ambassador and the staff of the embassy for all the assistance rendered for this event

We wish to convey our sincere appreciation to Reverend Father, Anura Perera and the members of Methodist church, Moratuwa for volunteering to sing carols.

The Members and guests who attended the event had an enjoyable evening.



Crossword Puzzle



Across

1. Javanese dish behind Lamprais
5. Popular name of Indonesian President
9. Kalimantan
10. Famous Javanese salad dish
11. Yummy
12. King of Dangdut - Rhoma ____
13. Hill, also ____tinggi, city in Sumatra
14. Ma'am
15. Arabic script
16. Culture
18. I / me
20. Sri Lanka's most famous export
13. Proposed new capital of Indonesia
23. West Papua once known as Irian ____
24. Fabric
25. Traditional blouse worn in Indonesia
28. Large lizard endemic to Indonesia
30. Ceylonese Spice

Down

2. Five principals
3. Largest Buddhist temple in the World
4. Indonesian super app, for rides, food etc.
6. Short form of me
7. Woman
8. Tie
14. Open
16. Dyed fabric
17. Capital of North Sulawesi
19. Old
21. Sri lankan singer with Indonesian ancestry
22. Child
23. Time / Clock / Hour
25. Unmarried woman. Also wife in Sinhala
27. Lu in Indonesian slang / Betawi dialect
16. Gus ____, former Indonesian President

Book Review

Saga Indonesia

by Manel Ratnatunga

Considered to be her magnum opus, by far the most famous book by Sri Lankan author Manel Ratnatunga, is her 1994 novel *Saga Indonesia*. It won the Arts Council Award for Fiction in 1995, State Literary Award for the Best Novel and was also shortlisted for the Gratiaen Prize in 1994. On reading its manuscript, the Oxford University Press's Jakarta manager had told her, "It is not good. It is very good. I shall send it to the head office in Kuala Lumpur."



The author lived in Indonesia for many years, while her husband served in the FAO and had gained a deep and personal knowledge and understanding of the people of Indonesia, the culture and their history.

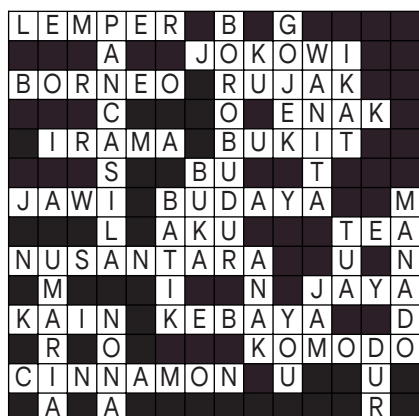
The book is published by Quill Press in Australia and is available at Vijitha Yapa in Colombo.

Through a fictional set of three sweeping stories spanning two centuries, *Saga Indonesia* covers the history of Indonesia and in particular Java in vivid intimate terms. From the complexities and struggles of colonial rule to the rise of nationalism and the role of Sukarno and his legacy, the book documents the politics, history and culture not in the typical historical narrative style, but in terms of real characters and the struggles they faced in their lives.



Manel Ratnatunga with Sultan Hemangku Buwono IX, the Vice President of Indonesia in January 1977

Crossword Solution



New members who joined SLIFA

We warmly welcome the new members who joined SLIFA during the period August to December 2022

M.Z.M. Rushdi

Mohamed Rilwan Lantra

Vasudevan Rasiah

Mohamed Inaamullah Hashim

Shameel Mohideen

A.A. Mohamed Mafaz

M.H.K.M. Hameez

Koshala Gunasekara

Shyamalee Mahibalan

B. Mervyn Lye

Noorul Razeena Zarani

Gerard Udugama

Kamar Hameem

Tuan Bilawal Hassim

Arundathie Shiela Chandratillake

Gnei Nazeera Raban