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கலாசார அலுவல்கள் திணைக்களம்

Department of Cultural Affairs



8 වන මහල සෙත්තිරිපාය බත්තරමුල්ල 8ஆம் மாடி, செத்திரிபாய, பத்தரமுல்ல. 8th floor, Sethsiriipaya, Battaramulla
 සොළොස් දේශයක පෙරගමන්කරු වளமான தேசத்தை நோக்கி முன் செல்பவர். *Trailblazer of a Beautiful Nation*

මගේ අංකය எனது இல. My No.	DCA / 05 / 04 / 2023	ඔබේ අංකය உமது இல. Your No.	දිනය திகதி Date	26.05.2023
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 அமைதியான, ஒழுக்கமான, முழுமையான சிறந்த மனிதர்களைக் கொண்ட தேசத்தை ஒன்று சேர்ந்து கட்டியெழுப்புவோம்.
 Towards building a blessed nation of compassionate, complete and culturally rich human beings

Departmental Circular No:03 / 2023

District Secretaries/ Divisional Secretaries

Cultural Officers /Cultural Development Assistants /
 Development Officers

Divisional, District and National Literary Festival- 2023

The Divisional and District Literary Festivals, organized annually by the Department of Cultural Affairs will be held in this year at Divisional, District and National levels under 03 stages.

Objectives

- ❖ Promote literary arts as a medium of arts.
- ❖ Develop the attitudes on literary arts in the society.
- ❖ Giving an opportunity for the regional literati to showcase their literary creativity.
- ❖ Develop the interest among the young generation to read and refer books.
- ❖ Guide the children and the youth for novel creations through novel themes.
- ❖ To produce a future generation rich in aesthetic sensibility by socializing the art of literary appreciation.

Proposed plan for the Competition

Competitions of the Divisional, District and National Literary Festival 2023 will be held at Divisional and District Levels. The National Literary Festival 2023 will be conducted by the Department of Cultural Affairs.

Divisional literary Competitions

- ❖ The preliminary level competitions (Divisional level) should be held by Divisional Secretariats. Wide publicity should be given on Divisional and District literary competition by Divisional Secretariats, Art Associations, Arts Schools, Dhamm schools, Universities and Piriven schools and Cultural Boards. Steps should be taken by the Divisional level officers to select quality literary works and a Panel of Judges with a wide knowledge on relevant subjects. (The creations submitted for the national level competitions should be of high quality.)
- ❖ It is the responsibility of the officers to take necessary steps to get most number of individuals participated in the competitions. Similarly, steps should be taken to make a wide publicity on the competition via Schools, Dhamma Schools and WhatsApp Groups

අධ්‍යක්ෂ பணிபாளர் Director	2872035	කාර්යාලය அலுவலகம் Office	2872031 2866731	ෆැක්ස් தொலைநகல் Fax	2866732	ඊ-මේල් மின்னஞ்சல் E-mail	dcanews@sltnet.lk	වෙබ් ලිපිනය இணையத்தளம் Web Site	www.culturaldept.gov.lk
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- ❖ All the literary compositions should be received **before 14th July 2023**.
- ❖ A Panel of Judges with a wide knowledge on the relevant subjects for evaluation should be selected on the recommendation of the Divisional Secretary.
- ❖ The literary compositions of only the first place winners and the results sheets of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners should reach the relevant District Secretary with the approval of the Divisional Secretary **on or before 15th August 2023**. (The creations which secured the 2nd and 3rd places should be kept safely to be inspected as and when necessary)
- ❖ Divisional literary competition should be concluded in the month of September 2023.

District Literary competitions

- Steps should be taken to get down the results of each divisional competitions of each district **before 15th August 2023**.
- All the winning literary compositions of divisional level should be submitted for evaluation to a proficient Panel of Judges, selected on the recommendation of the District Secretary. The literary creations of the First Place winners and the results sheets of the district level winners should be sent to the Director of Cultural Affairs **before 15th September 2023** with the District Secretary's approval.
- Steps should be taken to hold the District Literary Competition in October 2023.
- The National Literary Festival is scheduled to be held on 22nd November 2023.

For Special Attention of the Cultural Officers

- ❖ Any of the competitions held which are not falling under this circular will not be awarded Certificates from the Department of Cultural Affairs. Also it is emphasized that Merit Certificates will not be issued in this year and the results should be sent according to the specimen results sheet attached with the circular.
- ❖ Divisional results should not be sent to the Department of Cultural Affairs for any reason. (Even a copy of results should not be sent to the Department).It is emphasized that Divisional results should be sent only to the District Secretariats.
- ❖ District Cultural Officers should send the results sent by the Divisional Secretariats to the Department of Cultural Affairs as per the format of issuing of certificates.
- ❖ It is emphasized to send only the first place winning creations in the district competition to the Department. The Department will not hold responsibility for any other winning creation sent other than the first place.
- ❖ Certificates are issued only once to the Divisional Secretariats or District Secretariats. These are not issued again under any circumstances. The responsibility of presenting clear, well defined results sheets would lies with the Officers in charge of the subject of culture.
- ❖ The certificates will be delivered to the relevant District Secretariat. The District Secretariat should take necessary steps to inform the respective Divisional Secretariats and deliver the certificates to the relevant Divisional Secretariats. An acknowledgement of the receipt from the Divisional Secretariat should be obtained and copy should be forwarded to the Department of Cultural Affairs.

- ❖ It is compulsory to send a passport size photograph of the first place winners with the application when submitting their winning creations.

Details of the Competition

Category of the competition	Grade	Age Group	Section of the competition
01.	Grades 01 and 02	06-07 years	Primary Section
02.	Grades 03, 04 and 05	08-10 years	Post Primary Section
03.	Grades 06, 07, 08 and 09	11-14 years	Junior Section
04.	Grades 10 and 11	15-16 years	Senior Section
05.	Grades 12 and 13	17-19 years	Senior Secondary Section
06.		Above 19 years	Open Section

1. Primary section – (Between 06 – 07 years of age- Grades 01 and 02)

1.1 Reciting a story Competition

It is expected to present a story with performances between 2-3 minutes time period. As this is the beginning of their schooling, the children will be able to present themselves in this competition more creatively based on the experience they have gained in the pre-school. Students should present the story clad in a suitable dress or school uniform.

Attention will be drawn to correct usage of language, sound control, creative building up and its presentation as well as the message given by it to the society, when giving marks.

2. Post Primary Section –(Between 08-10 years of age- Grades 03, 04 and 05)

2.1 Children’s Stories Competition

It is expected a children’s story of their own topic to develop their creative thinking. The story should be of 16 pages on A4 size papers (single side only) along with the drawings

Handwriting, punctuation, grammar ability, creativity of the overall story and the message given to the society by the story are considered as the scoring criteria.

2.2 Recitation of poems Competition

It is expected recitation of following.
Any two (02) poems of your choice.

(Playing musical instruments will not be taken into consideration when giving marks)

2.3 Hand Writing Competition

One side of foolscap paper should be used and the attention should be paid to correct use of spellings, punctuation, shape of the letters and legibility. The winners of the divisional competition

will be provided with a set of paragraph for transcription within a specified time limit at the District competition.

3. Junior Section –(Between 11-14 years -Grades 06, 07, 08 and 09)

3.1 Folktales Competition

There are number of folktales that have been created by the people since ancient times and then passed down to the present-day generations. The aim of this competition is to encourage the students to read folklore and create their interest in it. It is expected an important advice or a social message to the children's generation by listening to a folktale and enjoying its taste, and presenting in a manner that highlights the literary quality.

The number of words in the folktale should be 500-750. Attention will be drawn to handwriting, language ability, spellings, and presentation in a manner that highlights the literary quality and the message in it when giving marks.

3.2 Poetry Competition –Quatrains (4 lines)

A metrical composition of 4-6 quatrains under one of the following topics

- Parental Affection.
- Love our motherland.
- Appreciate the pride that comes from hard work.
- Let's build our country.

Consistent rhyme scheme and metrical pattern is expected.

3.3. Poetry Competition – Free Verse

A composition of 5-15 lines under one of the following topics.

- Parental Affection.
- Love our motherland.
- Appreciate the pride that comes from hard work.
- Let's build our country.

3.4 Recitation of Poems Competition

It is expected recitation of following.

Any three (03) poems of your choice.

(Playing musical instruments will not be taken into consideration when giving marks)

4. Senior Section – (Between 15-16 years- Grades 10 and 11)

4.1 Literary Criticism Competition

Discuss and evaluate on one of the following using 750-1000 words.

1. "The vendor of sweets" by R.K. Narayan.
2. "Madolduwa" by Martin Wickramasingha.

4.2 Poetry Competition - Quatrains (4 lines)

A metrical composition of 4-6 quatrains under one of the following topics

- Effects of the breakdown of social relationships.
- Parental Affection.
- Appreciate the pride that comes from hard work.
- Unforgettable incident.
- Beauty of the Youth.

Consistent rhyme scheme and metrical pattern is expected.

4.3 Poetry Competition -Free verse

A composition of 05-20 lines under one of the following topics.

- Effects of the breakdown of social relationships.
- Parental Affection.
- Appreciate the pride that comes from hard work.
- Unforgettable incident.
- Beauty of the Youth.

4.4 Composing lyrics Competition

It is expected a lyric composition under one of the following topics

- Effects of the breakdown of social relationships.
- Parental Affection.
- Appreciate the pride that comes from hard work.
- Unforgettable incident.
- Beauty of the Youth.

Lyrics should be suitable for a song. It should be composed to fit a simple art song format.

4.5 Short Stories Competition

It is expected a short story to depict the creative ability of the children of the relevant age. The Short Story should be written as per the rules of composing short stories and the number of words should be 750-1000.

4.6 Recitation of Poems Competition

It is expected recitation of following.

1. I Want It Now by Roald Dahl.
2. Any poem of your choice.

(Playing musical instruments will not be taken into consideration when giving marks)

5. Senior Secondary Section (Between 17-19 years - Grades 12 and 13)

5.1 Literary Criticism Competition

Discuss and evaluate on one of the following using 1000-1500 words.

1. "Giraya" by Punyakanthi Wijenayaka.
2. "Gamperaliya" by Martin Wickramasingha.

5.2 Poetry Competition - Quatrains (4 lines)

A metrical composition of 4-6 quatrains under one of the following topics

- Religious Harmony.
- Effects of the breakdown of social relationships.
- Drugs weaken the mind and body.
- Appreciate the pride that comes from hard work.
- Beauty of the Youth.

Consistent rhyme scheme and metrical pattern is expected.

5.3 Poetry Competition –Free verse

A composition of 05-20 lines under one of the following topics.

- Religious Harmony.
- Effects of the breakdown of social relationships.
- Drugs weaken the mind and body.
- Appreciate the pride that comes from hard work.
- Beauty of the Youth.

5.4 Appreciation of Songs Competition

It is expected a literary appreciation of 750-1000 words on the following song by Michael Jackson

Earth Song

What about sunrise?

What about rain?

What about all the things

.....

5.5 Short Stories Competition

It is expected a short story to depict the creative ability of the children of the relevant age. The Short Story should be written as per the rules of composing short stories and the number of words should be 1000-1500.

5.6 Recitation of Poems Competition

It is expected recitation of the following

1. "Song of Myself" by Walt Whitman
2. Any poem of your choice.

(Playing musical instruments will not be taken into consideration when giving marks)

6. Open Section (above 19 years)

6.1 Composing lyrics Competition

It is expected a lyric composition under one of the following topics

- Appreciate the pride that comes from hard work.
- Human Love.
- Various Social Issues.
- Religious Harmony.

Lyrics should be suitable for a song. It should be composed to fit a simple art song format.

6.2 Short Stories Competition

A short story on a topic of your choice written as per the rules of composing a short story.

6.3 Poetry Competition – Quatrains (4 lines)

A metrical composition of 07-10 quatrains under one of the following topics

- Appreciate the pride that comes from hard work.
- Human Love.
- Various Social Issues.
- Religious Harmony.

Consistent rhyme scheme and metrical pattern is expected.

6.4 Poetry Competition -Free verse

A composition of 05-25 lines under one of the following topics.

- Appreciate the pride that comes from hard work.
- Human Love.
- Various Social Issues.
- Religious Harmony.


6.5 Composing Children’s Stories Competition

It is expected a creative children’s story book on a theme suitable for the children in the age of 05 -10 years. It should be computerized on A4 size papers with not more than 16 pages (single side only) Font size 20.

6.6 Folklore Study Competition

The topic is “Folklore associated with games/sports”. It is expected a research script of 10000-15000 words, computerized on A4 size papers (single side only) with Font size 12.

- ◆ All the literary compositions should be originals and those shouldn't be either submitted or won at any competition conducted by the Department of Cultural Affairs or by the Ministry of Buddhasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs before. Applicants could submit their creations on any medium. (Sinhala, Tamil, English)
- ◆ All the applicants should submit the dully filled application issued by the Department of Cultural Affairs along with the entries to the Divisional Secretary. (The specimen application form is given in **Schedule I**)
- ◆ Applicants should certify their creations as their own creations by the Chief Incumbent of the Temple, Chief Priest, Divisional Secretary, Grama Niladhari, Principal or the Head of Kalayathana with Official Frank and the Signature. All the applicants should be informed not to mention either their names or any details on the creations.
- ◆ Applicants can take part in more than one competition under given rules and regulations of the competition. A single applicant will not be entitled for any single competition from several institutions.
- ◆ Any creation submitted contradictory to the given rules and regulations will be rejected by the Divisional Secretary, the District Secretary and the Director of Cultural Affairs at the Divisional, District and National levels respectively.
- ◆ Investigation would be carried out if there are any complaints with regard to the winning literary compositions and if found guilty the awards and certificates would not be awarded. Further if the complaints get proved after the awards presentation, action will be taken to withdraw the certificates and the awards.
- ◆ All the written literary compositions could be submitted on A4 single side papers or in foolscap papers either in legible hand writing or type-writing.
- ◆ Please refrain from making any mark or special note on the papers containing the literary composition.
- ◆ The age limit should be calculated as at 31st January 2023.
- ◆ The decision of the panel of judges would be the final.



Bhagya C. Katudeniya

Director of Cultural Affairs (Acting)

Schedule – I

Divisional, District and National literary Festivals - 2023
Specimen Application for participation in literary competitions

1. Name in full :
2. Name with initials :
3. Private Address :

Y	Y	Y	Y	M	M	D	D
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4. Date of Birth :

5. Private Telephone Number :

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6. Telephone No: with WhatsApp:
7.

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8. Age as at 31st January 2023 : Years

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 Months

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 Dates

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9. Age group :

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- Primary Post Primary Junior Senior Senior Sec. Open

10. Particulars of the school/institution represented by the applicant if any

Name of the school/ Institution:.....

Address :

Telephone No:.....

11. Divisional Secretary's Division :

12. **District** :

13. **Name of the competition:**.....

14. **Language medium** : **Sinhala**

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Tamil

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English

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15. **Name of your composition:**
.....

Statement of the Applicant

I do hereby declare that the particulars above are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. The literary composition mentioned under No. 13 of this application has been composed by me and it is not a winning creation in a competition earlier. I agree to comply with the conditions of the competition laid down by the Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs.

.....

Date

.....

Signature of Applicant

Certification as an original creation by the applicant

I certify that the literary composition mentioned in above No. 13 is composed by Ven. / Mr./ Miss / Mrs.
.....
who resides atand placed his/her signature
before me on.....

.....

Date

.....

Signature and the Official Frank of the attester

I certify that the above particulars are found to be true and correct

.....

Date

.....

(Cultural Officer/ Cultural Development officer/
Development Officer)