

# ODYSSEY

July – September Issue

**Cricket Fiesta:  
Fiesta of sixes and  
wickets**

**28TH  
INSTALLATION  
CEREMONY**

The grandeur where  
futures Ignited,  
torches passed

**SANDTASTIC**

The trio separated by  
land, united on the sand,  
fellowship festival among  
the Rotaract clubs.

**BINARA  
PADURA**

Good music, good  
vibes





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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we embrace this new chapter, brimming with passion and purpose, let's fortify our club's reputation together, inspiring others to follow our lead. It's our shared duty to strengthen our core, tapping into our members' talents to drive growth and transformative change in our communities, society, and beyond.

In the vibrant tapestry of Rotaract Mora, we celebrate the power of individual stories, each thread contributing to the rich fabric of our club's history. This year, I encourage you to unlock your full potential. Let your journey become a captivating story, a narrative of actions that uplift those who have the privilege of being a part of our Rotaract family.

Raise your glasses to the exciting journey ahead! Just as "Lights, Camera, Action!" signals the start of a grand production, we embark on our cinematic masterpiece. With the spotlight on us, let's craft a legacy that leaves our audience awestruck.



To the esteemed members of the 28th chapter of Rotaract Mora, I wholeheartedly welcome you. Let's orchestrate a year like an epic blockbuster, leaving an everlasting impact on our community and the world.

**Rtr. Yasiru Athugaldura**  
**President 2023-24**  
**Rotaract Club of University of**  
**Moratuwa**

# From the Editors



With immense pride, we present the First Quarter Newsletter of Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa for the RI year 2023/24. As newly inducted board members, we share a vision of making a significant impact on our community and fostering fellowship and personal growth within our club. In recent months, we've witnessed the incredible power of teamwork and our members' boundless energy.

Our commitment to service is unwavering. We're delighted to report completed projects and numerous initiatives currently in progress, spanning club, community, education, health, and environmental sustainability.

We're immensely grateful for your unwavering support and dedication to our shared goals. Together, we create lasting change, strengthen bonds, and enrich our lives.

Stay tuned for updates, exciting projects, and opportunities in the upcoming quarter. Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa will continue to make a significant impact. Thank you for being part of this incredible journey. Let's inspire and make a difference!

**Rtr. Buvani Guruge**

**Rtr. Uthpala Karunwardhana**

**Rtr. Abineyan Ravichandran**

**Co-editors 2023-24 - Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa**



# CLUB SERVICE

## Binara Padura

**Co-chairs:** Rtr. Thiyara Ranasinghe, Rtr. Ilampoornan Raguparan, Rtr. Shehan Lokuwella, Rtr. Benul Wijayarathna, Rtr. Ravindu Thamodya

Left with a heart filled with echoes of joyful laughter and harmonious echoes, binara Padura was concluded successfully. The notes once vivid and alive, now resonate in the chambers of our hearts, etching stories of delight and harmony. This project was initiated in hopes of getting together the newest 22nd batch and introducing them to Rotaract Mora.

The pre-event planning started with forming an organizing committee inclusive of singers, dancers, instrument players, content writers, video editors, and so on. Event promotion and marketing activities were carried on precisely. On-site event setup and decoration were later carried on transforming the Lagaan premises into a vibrant tapestry of music. Thus on 23rd of August, Binara Padura was held in the university premises; giving a timeless performance that will surely continue to resonate in our hearts.

With closing the musical flourish; its echoes remain an indelible part of our personal symphony. It was a night of shared enchantment, and in its end, we found solace and inspiration.



# Sandtastic

**Co-chairs:** Rtr.Theekshana Perera, Rtr. Theoda Hettiarachchi, Rtr. Sarindu Wijekoon

Sandtastic was an entertaining event which took place on 27th of August at Mt. Lavinia Beach from sunrise to sunset. This was a joint project of the Rotaract Club of the University of Moratuwa, the Rotaract Club of the Faculty of Science of the University of Colombo, and the Rotaract Club of Sir John Kothelawala Diffeence University.



It was a sunny Sunday and the event went on perfectly with everyone bickering and laughing so much. All the participants were divided into 4 groups and given the chance to do a group performance. Then the most anticipated event of the evening, crowning the sand king and sand queen was done amongst roars of cheers. After the delicious lunch, the evening was devoted to fun games, photoshoots and singing. It was a cherished day that coloured beautiful memories and bloomed new friendships that'll stay for a lifetime, a day spent relaxed among rotaractor's busy lives.

## Installation Ceremony

**Co-chairs:** Rtr.Theekshana Perera, Rtr. Kavin Siriwardana, Rtr. Nawoda Thathsarani

The 28th Installation Ceremony of the Rotaract Club at the University of Moratuwa was held on the 24th of September at the Robert Pieris auditorium from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. All the members of the organizing committee and chairpersons were present at the venue. The chief guest of the event was Rtr. Brian Selvanayagam, and the guest of honor was Dr. Ranga Rodrigo. The participants in the event included the board members, both incoming and outgoing, as well as their parents and invited guests from other Rotaract clubs, Interact clubs, members of the district, and other Rotarians, totaling around 150 attendees at the Installation ceremony.





## Fashion Forge

**Co-chairs:** Rtr. Tashen Silva, Rtr. Isurangi Nethmini Koralage, Rtr. Dewanga Kuruppu

At the installation ceremony, there were dedicated videos for the outgoing Presidents, videos showcasing the talent and work the new Presidents have put in to deserve their positions of responsibility, and a special video dedicated to the board of directors. The Installation ceremony also featured an entertainment item, and eventually, the attendees of the event were served dinner."

In the pulse of fashion evolution, a new chapter is about to be written at Rotaract Mora. A trailblazing initiative marking a significant first in the Rotaract legacy. We are unveiling "Fashion Forge" an innovative project which uses a fusion of style; and the language of fashion to convey a message to our community.

Currently in the strategic planning phase, the "fashion forge" is set to be a testament to a groundbreaking venture of fashion with power. As we set a promising platform for "Fashion Forge", we are currently seeking sponsors who share our vision of making an impact on our community through fashion.

As we thread our way through the final stages of planning; Rotaract mora forefront of a positive evolution where fashion is the guiding light.

# COMMUNITY SERVICE

## Hand In Hand

**Co-chairs:** Rtr. Sayuni Sooriyaarachchi, Rtr. Shehan M. Lokuwella, Rtr. Amantha S. Bandara

*"There's always hope beyond what you see."*

The "Hand in Hand" initiative is one of the largest charitable endeavours of the Rotaract Club of the University of Moratuwa. The project aims to increase public awareness about the struggles endured by child cancer patients daily.

The sticker and wristband campaigns in Book Fair 2023 and the Colombo shopping festival (April and December) went on successfully. The event "Colours" will take place in the CCC house Maharagama, which will be an entertaining day for inpatient children where an art competition will be held in hopes of raising the spirits of the children as well as selecting drawings for the next Hand-in-Hand project.

In this Rotaract year, we expect to collect more donations through the website. In addition, we plan to host a concert for fundraising.





# Assalamu Alaikum

**Co-chairs:** Rtr. Mohamed Asry, Rtr. Tharindu Madhusanka

Assalamu Alaikkum is a project done by the Rotaract Club in which we reach a rural community school in Trincomalee and conduct tutorial sessions and a workshop about robotics, and electronics. The workshop consists of a practical demonstration of applications in the above-mentioned areas so the students get the experience and learn more practically rather than theoretically. Moreover, the Assalamu Alaikkum project aims to provide support by handing out dry rations and groceries to the rural area of Trincomalee.

## AYA

**Co-chairs:** Rtr. Jalina H. Gunathunga, Rtr. Chamod N. Perera

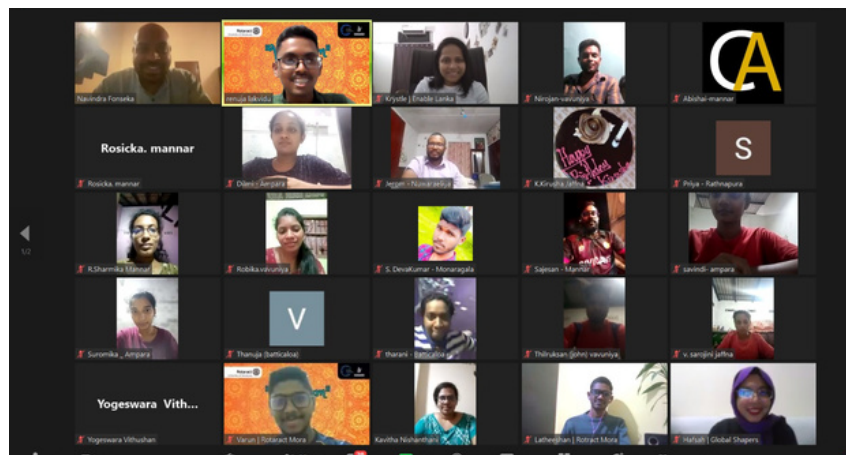
Project AYA was initiated to empower low – resource languages. Low – resource languages are the languages that have a limited amount of data available for training conversational AI systems. This project is a collaboration between the Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa and Cohere AI, and the targeted low – resource language of this project is Sinhala. With over 50 dedicated, passionate volunteers, a robust dataset for the AI model was built. Substantial steps will be taken to enhance the technology's inclusivity and accessibility for the Sinhala – speaking community by this project

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# Vanakkam

**Co-chairs:** Rtr. Poobalaraja Varun, Rtr. Latheeshan Thiruchanduran

The "Vanakkam" is a project initiated in hopes of helping everyone learn the basics of the universal language; English, and grow their confidence in themselves as well as in public speaking. In all the sessions, the focus is on creating a safe and comfortable environment where children are allowed to talk freely , learn from their mistakes, get over the awkwardness of speaking and ultimately improve their knowledge. This project is a joint project of Enable Lanka foundation, Global shapers and Rotaract club of the University of Moratuwa. Currently 5 sessions have been completed and every session were scheduled on Sunday each week from 7p.m to 8.30p.m .This is a grandeur platform for all enthusiastic learners who look forward to improving their English language skills.



# Ayubowan

**Co-chairs:** Rtr. Makewitage Ashen Dilantha Perera, Rtr. Thubulle Lekamalage T. Manohara

"Ayubowan" project will be set in motion aiming at Hambantota Buduraja Sri Sumedharama vehere Pirivene and the surrounding villages and its Sinhala community. Art competitions and a few fun games will be organized under this project and gifts will be given in hopes of bringing a smile to these young ones. This sub-project also aims to donate school equipment, school shoes, bags and books to these children and an almsgiving ceremony will be arranged as well.



# Manusath Handa

**Co-chairs:** Rtr. Kumbukage R. Thamodya, Rtr. Ginimella Hewage Tharusha Adithya,  
Rtr. Chamudi Vihanga Liyanage

Manusath Handa is a significant milestone of Rotaract Club's community services avenue. It is all about supporting the visually impaired child community. As our prime goal is to give equal access to high-quality educational and entertainment experiences to blind children, we are maintaining an e-library as our main task. This special e-library includes voiced recordings of stories, hands-on computer science courses, past papers in science, math, chemistry, physics, and more. Anyone can freely access the e-library via the link "[manusathhanda.roteractmora.org](http://manusathhanda.roteractmora.org)"

To expand our e-library, we are currently writing scripts for new audio content. We anticipate holding a voice donation campaign where volunteers can donate their voices to audio content by dubbing. Gladly, we would like to say that the Manusath Handa project has won an international award, and we expect to donate a part of the cash prize to the e-library. Furthermore, we are planning to host some events to make the Manusath Handa e-library popular among local and international communities.

## Grama Prabodaya

**Co-chairs:** Rtr. G. A. Savithi Hansadi, Rtr. Gunasinghage  
K. Pansilu Silva, Rtr. Teshadi Senanayake

Grama Prabodaya is a project initiated in 2016 under community service avenue which mainly focuses on supporting rural villages in Sri Lanka which are in dire need of assistance and developing them into self-sustaining units. This year, under this project it was proposed to provide chosen facilities, such as computer labs, classrooms or any requested buildings to a school and to give the village that the school is related to a glimpse of hope by providing a water filtration system and to teach some children of the rural area about the subject matter and what they can hope to achieve in the future. Helping rural areas and their people is the best way to make sure there is no loss in talent and Grama Prabodaya is certainly doing its best to accomplish that vision.

# ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

## Pure wave

**Co-chairs :** Rtr. Manuri Boralugoda, Rtr. T.I.U.Gunasekara, Rtr. S.A. Kalana Jayasankha

The objective of the Pure Wave Project is to remove Common Water Hyacinths from Bolgoda Lake. Spreading Common Water Hyacinths over a lake is capable of reducing oxygen levels in the lake and it can be a challenge for fish and other aquatic organisms. In addition to reducing the oxygen levels, there is a possibility of creating an ideal habitat for disease-carrying mosquitoes. The Pure Wave project was commenced for the first time and this was a project proposal brought by Manuri and Isurika (Team JJ) at revelation 22. The Club collaborated with EMACE to complete this massive project successfully. Prior to the official commencement, a trial session was conducted to remove them at the Bolgoda Lake near Pandura and the trial was completed successfully.





# Zooxanthellae

**Co-chairs:** Rtr. D.M.Nilanga Dilhara Dissanayaka, Rtr. Mihan Dimath Tilakaratne,  
Rtr. H.M.Sasvi Nimethya Kulatunge

Zooxanthellae is a project where the rotaractors and authorities are doing a great service to society by trying to preserve the coral reef. The project has been ongoing for a few years. This year, a cleaning session at Mirissa and a monitoring session at Kamburugamuwa have been held so far to protect underwater coral farms that were planted in previous years. Additionally, Zoox is actively seeking partnerships with local communities and organizations to expand their efforts and establish more underwater coral farms in various locations, further contributing to the conservation of these fragile ecosystems.

Authorities and rotaractors are working together in zoox project to protect the ocean and coral reefs. A few years have passed since the beginning of the project. To date this year, a cleaning session has been undertaken in Mirissa and a monitoring session has been undertaken in Kamburugamuwa to check the protection of underwater coral farms that were sown in previous years. In order to increase their efforts and set up more underwater coral farms in other regions zoox is also actively discussing with some organizations. This will help to promote the protection of this delicate ecosystem.



# INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

## RMMUN

**Co-chairs :** Rtr. Hirushi Rathnayaka, Rtr. Danika Rodrigo

Rotaract Mora Model United Nation; the flagship project of the international service Avenue with a core objective of providing Undergraduates a platform to discuss diplomacy and negotiation, global awareness and overall preparing for active participation in the global community. Further RMMUN promotes and encourages to engage in discussions about global issues while providing a deeper understanding of global affairs.

UN Days- this subproject is designated so as to raise awareness of important global issues and to promote actions on these critical global issues. This becomes a platform for individuals and organizations to take the initiative to bring about meaningful contributions. We disseminate flyers and blogs to share the vision about the notable UN days and an opportunity for action.



# Tourism Day

**Co-chairs :** Rtr. Chandler Vonhaght, Rtr. Piumini Tishani



Rotaract Mora is gearing up for "The Tourism Day-2023" event on September 27, 2023, with a fantastic response from the University of Moratuwa undergraduates who have eagerly joined our organizing committee.

Our main goal for this event is to celebrate World Tourism Day 2023 while advocating for sustainable tourism growth and green investments. We're currently distributing informative flyers for both invitations and participant registration. This event serves as a platform to promote responsible tourism practices and underscore the importance of eco-friendly investments in the industry.

## Peace Day Debate

**Co-chairs :** Rtr. Kavindu Harshana, Rtr. Bhathiya Kulathunga

The Peace Day debate competition organized by the University of Moratuwa Rotaract Club will be held this October. This will be an interschool debate competition. A Q&A session will be held parallelly to the debate. The debate will be judged by a panel of impartial judges. This will undoubtedly be a massive stage for school debaters.



**Co-chairs :** Rtr. Indumini Theekshana de Alw Rtr. Dilka Sandhunhari

'Boon DigiTi' is an ambitious service project with a mission to enhance the foundational understanding of Information Technology (IT) among undergraduates, students, and educators in Tanzania. In a significant expansion of its scope, the project has taken a momentous step by launching a website and planning the creation of additional courses, marking the second phase of its journey. This strategic move not only reinforces its commitment to elevating IT literacy but also extends its reach to the African and South Asian regions. Furthermore, the project showcases its progress and dedication

through a series of informative videos available on the newly established 'Boon DigiTi' YouTube channel. Beyond these updates, 'Boon DigiTi' is actively shaping a dedicated learning platform website designed to be a thriving center for knowledge, innovation, and community engagement. Currently undergoing meticulous refinement and maintenance, the website aims to offer an unparalleled user experience, abundant educational content, and seamless navigation, demonstrating the project's unwavering commitment to fostering a collaborative learning environment.



# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## MentHer

**Co-chairs:** Rtr. W.D.Devini Kavindya Kariyawasam, Rtr. A.M.A.Devanga Malsini Alagiyawanna, Rtr. J.P. Pawani Uthpalawanna

In the glory of Empowerment and revelation, Rotaract Mora unfolds its 4th chapter of "MentHer" a women's mentorship program hosted by trailblazing female industry leaders.

This Initiative is a testament to a unique opportunity that offers empowerment, resilience and boundless achievement. Through MentHer, we connect undergraduates of the University of Moratuwa with accomplished mentors, providing them with guidance and knowledge and also empowering them to lead and inspire others.

Overall as we step into our 4th chapter we anticipate further growth and the realization of our project's full potential.





**Co-chairs :** Rtr. Charith Belpage, Rtr. Nethra Bandara

Catalyst, the board training program organized by the Rotaract Club, plays a pivotal role in preparing the incoming Board of Directors for their upcoming year of service. This intensive program typically comprises five main sessions, each designed to equip these young leaders with a diverse skill set that will serve them well in their roles. These sessions cover a wide array of topics, including leadership, ethics, defining the essence of Rotaract, personality development, exploring career opportunities within Rotaract, and delving into the rich history of Rotaract.

One of the key strengths of the Catalyst program is the invaluable contribution of corporate trainers who generously lend their expertise to guide and mentor the future office bearers of the Rotaract Club. These trainers not only share their knowledge but also offer practical insights, drawing from their experiences in the corporate world. This exposure provides the board members with a unique perspective on how to apply the principles they learn within the context of their roles, both within the Rotaract Club and in their broader careers. The presence of these corporate trainers is a testament to the commitment of Rotaract to nurturing the potential of its members and ensuring that they are well-prepared to make a positive impact on their communities and the world at large.





# SPORTS AND SPECIAL SERVICE

## Cricket Fiesta

**Co-chair:** Rtr. D.G. Akila Kumanjana, Rtr. Dilusha Prabashwara Olaboduwa

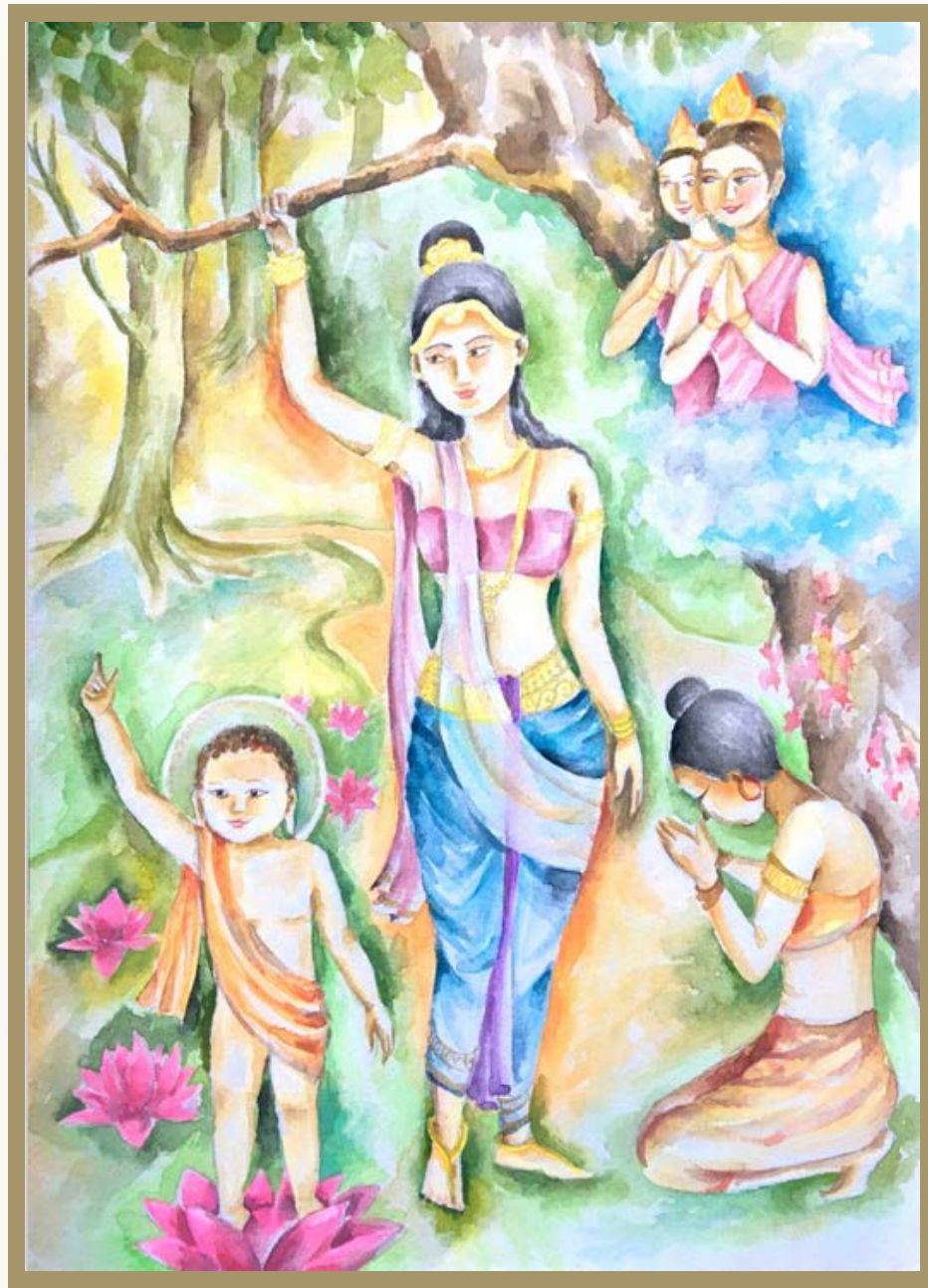
This year's cricket fiesta project was an eight-a-side tournament held in hopes of strengthening the ties between other Rotaract clubs and universities on 16th September, with 2 teams playing from the University of Moratuwa, 1 team from KDU and 5 teams from other Rotaract clubs. The matches were played at the Piliyandala ground and the tournament was held in 2 stages. In the first stage, 8 teams were divided into 2 groups and the winners of the 2 groups competed in the finale. A total of 13 matches were played with 5 overs.

The winning team received a cash prize of Rs.20000 and the 1st runner-up team received a cash prize of Rs.10 000. Trophies were awarded to the winning team,

1st runners-up team, best player, best bowler and the best batsman. This project received two sponsorships from Caribbean Pizza and Supergen Lanka engineering company, to make the tournament successful. It was a fun-filled day with lots of shouts, laughter, and overflowing energy from both the players as well as the supporters.



# MIRROR WALL



R.N.S.Lenora  
Faculty of Engineering  
Textile and Apparel Engineering







# Death

Death is a beautiful feeling  
Peaceful feeling  
Place surrounded by the people you love  
Nature that cries for your bygone  
Loved ones that yearns for you to come back  
Yet you lie there  
Gradually closing your eyes  
Giving them a long break  
With a single tear drop falling from your eye  
And a small grin from your mouth  
As you have conquered the life  
It won't bring the same beauty  
If you try to break the rules  
Of the mother nature  
Leaving her clueless  
Writing down the end  
Taking down her role  
Leaving with incompleteness

Kasuni Umayangana Ranathunga  
Faculty of Engineering  
Textile and Apparel Engineering







# Unrequited love


In my heart, i try to forget, hope's denied,  
No match, your words confirm, feelings set aside.  
Yet, each time i console my heart's aching plea,  
Seeing a substitute of you, hope rises in me.

Life's test, it's hard to give up and move on,  
Thoughts torment, what if you love someone known?  
Tears fall, accepting i'm not your chosen one,  
It's okay, not your type, let an unknown heart be won.

You're the talk among friends, a secret i hold,  
I promise not to speak, but emotions unfold.  
They tease my infatuation, what have you done to me?  
Obsessed, i yearn for you, possesiveness i'll flee.

I never believed in love, elusive it seemed,  
Lost in these feelings, with you i have dreamed.  
Seeing you from afar, a glimpse i desire,  
But fate says, i'm not the one you'll acquire.

Kasuni Umayangana Ranathunga  
Faculty of Engineering  
Textile and Apparel Engineering






N. T. O. Lasal  
Fashion Designing  
22nd Batch

## ජ්‍යෙෂ්ඨ ප්‍රජ්ජපය

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Banule Gunathilaka  
Faculty of Engineering  
22nd Batch





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Banule Gunathilaka  
Faculty of Engineering  
22nd Batch







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5.30 හැමදාම අපි කරනු සෙල්ලම  
පිටි කුර අරන් අපි උඩ ඉඳන් පැත්ම  
බිම වැටිල හිනා උනේ සාලෙ මැද දෙන්නම....

දන්නවද නුඹේ ඔය තෝඩු වල ලස්සන  
මං අරන් දුන් නිසා කියනවා නොවේ ගුණ  
පළවෙනිම පඩිය මගේ පොඩි වුණත් දෙන්නට  
නුඹ තමයි මතක් වුනේ අම්මටත් ඉස්සර....

ලියනකොට අඬ අඬා මේ ලියුම තනියම (කොල්ලේ පිටිපස්සේ ඇති)  
කඳුළු පිහලමද නුඹේ රතු උනේ ඇස් දෙක  
ඒ නිසා නේද මං එන්නටත් ඉස්සර  
ඇස් වසා ගත්තේ නුඹ කාටවත් නොකියාම....

මුහුදේ තිබුණාට වතුර හෝ ගාලා පිරෙන්නට  
බොන්න එක් බිඳක්වත් ගත හැකිද තිබහට  
ඒ වුණත් පැංචියෙ තනිකමට අඬන්නට  
අමතකව ගියා දෝ මේ මෝඩ අය්යව....

රණ්ඩුවට නෑ කෙනෙක් හවස් වරු පිරෙන්නට  
මේසේ උඩ තාම ඇති දුම් දමන කෝප්ප ය  
අනේ මගේ නංගියේ සමාවෙන්න අයියට  
අද උදෙන් මං කෑව පපඩමක් තනියම....

දකිනකොට නුඹේ නිසල් රුව මගේ ඉදිරියේ  
කකුල් දෙක වෙවිලුවා ඇයි මගෙ නංගියෙ  
අඬනවා අම්මා අර දොර මුල්ලෙ කුස්සියේ  
එක්වරක් බලාපත් මගේ දිනා නංගියේ....

G. Ama Indeewari De Silva  
Faculty of Engineering  
21st Batch





## For you

I would die for you,  
thousand times over,  
Again and again,  
Rather for you than for me;  
whose heartbeat matches mine.  
But then I'd be gone  
Leaving a lifetime behind,  
Of moments rather lived  
And memories rather shared.  
So I would rather live for you,  
Thousand times over,  
For you my twin flame,  
Whose essence matches mine.

Thiyara Ranasinghe  
Faculty of Engineering  
Textile and Apparel Engineering  
22nd Batch

G. Ama Indeewari De Silva  
Faculty of Engineering  
21st Batch





## Waiting

They say wait is worthwhile  
And a promise binds the time  
But in a different timeline  
I was the one left behind.  
Between a sensitive soul,  
And a torn reckless heart  
Who is graced to fall  
Or bound stake it all?  
But half a heart is good for a soul,  
Because half empty is still half full.  
Maybe time is the answer After all,  
Because some people are worth it all.

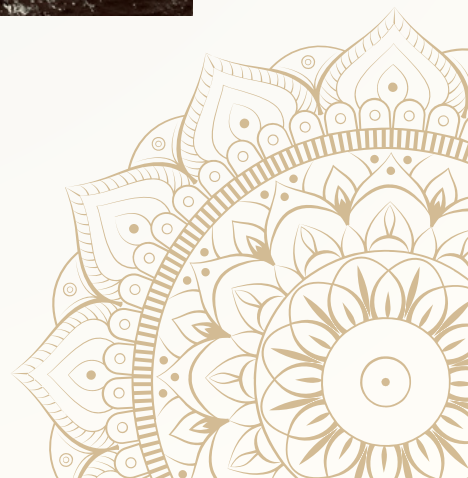
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