

Annual Research Symposium – 2026
Department of Sinhala, University of Colombo
Call for Extended Abstracts

The Department of Sinhala, University of Colombo, invites submissions for its Annual Research Symposium 2026, to be held on 06 August 2026 at the University of Colombo.

The theme of this year's symposium is "The Legacy of Sinhala Language, Literature, and Culture: Influence and Identity".

Submissions are invited from university academics, undergraduate and postgraduate students, researchers affiliated with academic or research institutions, and independent scholars.

Prospective contributors are requested to submit extended abstracts based on original research, prepared in accordance with the guidelines below. Submissions must be made in both MS Word and PDF formats to sss2026@sinh.cmb.ac.lk on or before 06 June 2026.

Important Dates

- * Submission deadline (extended abstracts): 06 June 2026
- * Notification of acceptance: 26 June 2026
- * Deadline for revised submissions: 10 July 2026
- * Submission of presentation materials (soft copies): 26 July 2026
- * Symposium date: 06 August 2026

Guidelines for Extended Abstracts

- * Submissions must be based on original, unpublished, and completed research that is not under consideration elsewhere.
- * Abstracts must align with the symposium theme and fall within one of the following areas:
 1. Sinhala Language, Grammar, and Linguistics
 2. Classical Sinhala Literature and Literary Criticism

3. Modern Sinhala Literature and Literary Criticism

4. Sinhala Culture and the Arts

* A maximum of two (2) extended abstracts per author or research group may be submitted.

* The extended abstract must not exceed 1,500 words, excluding references.

* Submissions may be made in Sinhala or English.

* Font:

- Sinhala: Iskoola Pota
- English: Times New Roman

* Font Size:

- Sinhala: Title 15 pt; Subheadings 13 pt; Body text 11 pt
- English: Title 16 pt; Subheadings 14 pt; Body text 12 pt

* Line spacing: 1.5

* Manuscripts must be free from errors in spelling, punctuation, and word spacing, as well as grammatical inaccuracies in word formation and sentence structure.

* Consistency in word spacing must be maintained throughout the extended abstract.

* Authors are required to organize the extended abstract according to the structure outlined below:

1. Title

The title should be concise, clear, and accurately reflect the content of the study.

2. Author Details

Include the names of all authors, their institutional affiliations, and email addresses.

3. Short Abstract (275–300 words)

The short abstract should provide a concise yet comprehensive summary of the study and must be presented as a single paragraph (without indentation, subheadings, tables, figures, or references).

It should include:

- * Brief introduction outlining the research gap, objectives, and research problem or hypothesis (approximately 20% of the abstract)

* A summary of the methodology and theoretical framework (approximately 30% of the abstract)

* The principal findings of the study (approximately 40% of the abstract)

* Key conclusions and recommendations (approximately 10% of the abstract)

The abstract should be written primarily in the past tense, with present or future tense used where appropriate.

4. Keywords (5 Words)

Keywords are terms that indicate the core content discussed in your research. They signal to scholars searching for specific topics whether this study is relevant to their work. Therefore, five (5) keywords reflecting the content of your research must be provided in alphabetical order.

5. Introduction

The introduction should outline the research background, research gap, objectives, research problem or hypothesis, research questions, and the relevance of the study to the symposium theme.

6. Methodology and Theoretical Framework

This section should describe the research design, study context, sample and sampling techniques, data collection and analysis methods, theoretical framework, and the rationale for methodological and theoretical choices.

7. Results and Discussion

Present the key findings of the study along with a concise discussion.

8. Conclusions and Recommendations

Summarize the principal conclusions of the study and outline key recommendations.

9. References

* All in-text citations and references must adhere to the APA (7th edition) referencing style.

* For detailed guidance, authors are encouraged to refer to the guidelines available at:

<https://library-guides.ucl.ac.uk/APA/7th-edition>

Important Considerations

- * All extended abstracts must conform to the theme of the symposium. Submissions that fail to meet this requirement will not be considered for the review process and will be rejected.
- * Prospective contributors are expected to comply fully with the prescribed instructions and guidelines. Failure to adhere to these requirements will result in the rejection of the submission by the Editorial Committee.
- * Authors whose abstracts are accepted will be eligible to submit full research papers following the conclusion of the symposium. Based on the recommendations of the review committee, selected papers will be considered for publication in the scholarly journal published by the Department of Sinhala in conjunction with the subsequent year's research symposium.
- * Certificates will be awarded exclusively to researchers who present at the research symposium.
- * The registration fee is Rs. 3,000.00, and presenters may register by making the relevant payment on the day of the event.