

COLOMBO YOUNG MEN'S BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION
THE LIGHT OF ASIA CONTEST - 2025

The light of Asia oratory contest generally known as "*Light of Asia Contest*" an annual major event organized by Colombo Young Men's Buddhist Association since 1824. This year too the contest is organized for groups and divisions mentioned in subsequent paragraphs.

Eligible candidates to be within the prescribed age limits as at 01/01/2025. They should recite the number of lines from the "**LIGHT OF ASIA**" book by Sir Edwin Arnold as mentioned in the relevant groups.

The participants will be judged on (a) the Accuracy of text (b) Pronunciation (c) Audibility and Clarity of Voice (d) Vocal and Facial Expressions (e) Understanding of the Text. Candidates will be questioned by the judges and they to be prepared to explain the meaning of the passage recited in two to three minutes as to what the candidate understood from the lines recited.

The groups and divisions are:

A) Colombo District Dhamma Schools and Schools in General

GROUP

Senior Division	I	Both Genders	Over 17 years and under 21 years of age (02.01.2004) - (01.01.2008) *Reciting lines 30
Junior Division	II	Girls	Over 13 years and under 17 years of age (02.01.2008) - (01.01.2012) *Reciting lines 25
	III	Boys	
Primary Division	IV	Girls	Over 11 years and under 13 years of age (02.01.2012) - (01.01.2014) *Reciting lines 20
	V	Boys	
Basic Division	VI	Girls	Over 9 years and under 11 years of age (02.01.2014) - (01.01.2016) *Reciting lines 12
	VII	Boys	

B) Outstation Dhamma Schools and Schools in General

GROUP

Senior Division	VIII		Over 17 years and under 21 years of age (02.01.2004) - (01.01.2008) *Reciting lines 30
Junior Division	IX		Over 13 years and under 17 years of age (02.01.2008) - (01.01.2012) *Reciting lines 25
Primary Division	X		Over 11 years and under 13 years of age (02.01.2012) - (01.01.2014) *Reciting lines 20
Basic Division	XI		Over 9 years and under 11 years of age (02.01.2014) - (01.01.2016) *Reciting lines 12

**Preliminary rounds are scheduled to be held in Kandy, Kurunegala, Galle, Rathnapura and Colombo under the supervision of the association and the panel of judges appointed by YMBA.*

Candidate who have previously won the first prize at the “Light of Asia” Contest are not be eligible to partake in the Same Division again.

Applications for the contest will be uploaded and placed in the YMBA website. Applications to reach undersigned not later than 17th February 2025.

This contest will commence in the month of May 2025 at the Colombo YMBA (No. 70, D.S. Senanayake Mawatha, Borella, Colombo 08) and Outstations as mentioned in the admission card. Any eligible candidate who does not receive an admission card should contact this office on Telephone 011-2698083/2695786. The date of Finals will be intimated to the selected contestants.

The candidates attending through Dhamma Schools are also to enter their regular schools names.

The candidates attending through Schools are also to enter their School names - Primary, Middle, Junior, Secondary, Senior Secondary or post-secondary in addition.

All candidates are advised that they should be dressed in white and refrain from wearing identifiable marks or colours when they present themselves at the contest.

Prizes and Awards

a) Colombo district Dhamma Schools and the other Schools:

GROUP

AWARDS

Senior Division (Girls & Boys) 1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Places	I	Challenge Cup presented by Mr. Samud Gunasekera, Prize, memento and Certificate Prizes and Certificates
Junior Division (Girls) 1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Places	II	Challenge Cup presented by YMBA Prize, memento and Certificate Prizes and Certificates
Boys 1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Places	III	Challenge Cup presented by YMBA Prize, memento and Certificate Prizes and Certificates
Primary Division (Girls) 1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Places	IV	Challenge Cup presented by Mr. Lakshman M. Kuruppu in Memory of Late Mr. Linton Kuruppu Prize, memento and Certificate Prizes and Certificates
Boys 1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Places	V	Challenge Cup presented by Mr. Lakshman M. Kuruppu in Memory of Late Mr. Linton Kuruppu Prize, memento and Certificate Prizes and Certificates
Basic Division (Girls) 1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Places	VI	Challenge Cup presented by YMBA Prize, memento and Certificate Prizes and Certificates

Boys
1st Place
2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Places

VII

Challenge Cup presented by YMBA
Prize, memento and Certificate
Prizes and Certificates

b) Outstation Dhamma Schools & the other Schools:

GROUP

AWARDS

Senior Division (Girls & Boys)

VIII

Challenge Cup presented by
M. P. Wanigaseker memorial trophy
Prize, memento and Certificate
Prizes and Certificates

1st Place
2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Places

Junior Division (Girls & Boys)

IX

Challenge Cup presented by
Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Piyatissa
Prize, memento and Certificate
Prizes and Certificates

1st Place
2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Places

Primary Division (Girls & Boys)

X

Challenge Cup presented by
Mr. Lakshman M. Kuruppu in
Memory of Late Mr. Linton Kuruppu
Prize, memento and Certificate
Prizes and Certificates

1st Place
2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Places

Basic Division (Girls & Boys)

XI

Challenge Cup presented by
Mr. Suren Abeyagoonasekera in
Memory of Late Mr. A.W.A. Abeyagoonasekera
Prize, memento and Certificate
Prizes and Certificates

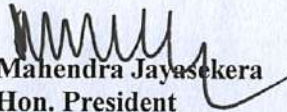
1st Place
2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Places

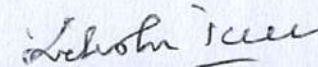
BEST OVERALL CONTESTANT

The CHALLENGE CUP in memory of Late Mr. D.N.W.de Silva, the organizer of the First 'Light of Asia' Contest held in 1925 and Rs.25,000/= in cash will be awarded to the overall winner of the contest.

PRIZES FOR OTHER WINNERS

Vouchers from leading bookshops and books along with certificates will be awarded to all winners of the individual categories.


Mahendra Jayasekera
Hon. President
Colombo YMBA
No. 70, D.S.Senanayake Mawatha,
Colombo 08.


Lakshman Perera, President's Counsel
Hon. Secretary for Literary Activities (English)

Tel. No.011-2698083/011-2695786

YOUNG MEN'S BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION, COLOMBO

Application for Admission to the
"THE LIGHT OF ASIA" CONTEST - 2025

NAME IN FULL : -

(in capital letters)

DATE OF BIRTH : AGE :
(as at 01st January 2025)

GENDER :

DIVISION & GROUP :

POSTAL ADDRESS :

CONTACT DETAILS : Mobile WhatsApp No.

EMAIL ADDRESS :

PRESENT SCHOOL :

LAST SCHOOL IF APPLICABLE

ADDRESS OF SCHOOL :

DHAMMA SCHOOL :

ADDRESS OF DHAMMA SCHOOL :

TELEPHONE NO :

NAME OF THE
TEACHER IN CHARGE :

CONTACT NO :

.....
Signature of Applicant

DATE :

I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the particulars stated above are true and correct.

.....
Principal/Head of Institution/Parent/ Guardian
(Official Seal)

.....
Date