

COLOMBO YOUNG MEN'S BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION
THE LIGHT OF ASIA CONTEST - 2024

The light of Asia oratory contest generally known as "*Light of Asia Contest*" is an important annual 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 has to be within the prescribed age limits as at 01/01/2024. 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 have to be prepared to explain the meaning of the passage recited in two to three minutes based on the candidates understanding 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 (02.01.2003) - (01.01.2007) *Reciting lines 30
Junior Division	II	Girls	Over 13 years and under 17 years of age (02.01.2007) - (01.01.2011) *Reciting lines 25
	III	Boys	
Primary Division	IV	Girls	Over 11 years and under 13 years of age (02.01.2011) - (01.01.2013) *Reciting lines 20
	V	Boys	
Basic Division	VI	Girls	Over 9 years and under 11 years of age (02.01.2013) - (01.01.2015) *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 (02.01.2003) - (01.01.2007) *Reciting lines 30
Junior Division	-	IX	Over 13 years and under 17 years of age (02.01.2007) - (01.01.2011) *Reciting lines 25
Primary Division	-	X	Over 11 years and under 13 years of age (02.01.2011) - (01.01.2013) *Reciting lines 20

Basic Division

- XI

Over 9 years and under 11 years of age
(02.01.2013) - (01.01.2015)

***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 CYMBA.*

Candidates who have previously won the first prize at the “Light of Asia” Contest are not be eligible to participate 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 20th February 2024.

This contest will commence in the month of May 2024 at the Colombo YMBA (No. 70, D.S. Senanayake Mawatha, Borella, Colombo 08) and Outstations as mentioned in the admission card.. Admission cards will be posted to every eligible candidate by 15th April 2024. Any eligible candidate who does not receive an admission card should contact this office on Telephone 011-2698083/2695786. The date for the Finals will be intimated to the selected contestants.

The candidates attending through Dhamma Schools are also to enter their Dhamma School 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:

<u>GROUP</u>		<u>AWARDS</u>
Senior Division (Girls & Boys) 1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Places	I	Challenge Cup presented by Mr. Samud Gunasekera, Director, Alpha Fire Service PLC. 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	V	Challenge Cup presented by Mr. Lakshman M. Kuruppu in Memory of Late Mr. Linton Kuruppu Prize, memento and Certificate Prizes and Certificates
1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Places		
Basic Division (Girls)	VI	Challenge Cup presented by YMBA Prize, memento and Certificate Prizes and Certificates
1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Places		
Boys	VII	Challenge Cup presented by YMBA Prize, memento and Certificate Prizes and Certificates
1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Places		

b) Outstation Dhamma Schools & the other Schools:

<u>GROUP</u>		<u>AWARDS</u>
Senior Division (Girls & Boys)	VIII	Challenge Cup presented by YMBA Prize, memento and Certificate Prizes and Certificates
1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Places		
Junior Division (Girls & Boys)	IX	Challenge Cup presented by Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Piyatissa Prize, memento and Certificate Prizes and Certificates
1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th 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
1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th 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
1 st Place 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th 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.

Lakshman Perera
19/11/24

Lakshman Perera, President's Counsel
Hon. Secretary for Literary Activities (English)
Colombo YMBA
No. 70, D.S.Senanayake Mawatha,
Colombo 08.

Tel. No.011-2698083/011-2695786

YOUNG MEN'S BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION, COLOMBO

Application for Admission to the
"THE LIGHT OF ASIA" CONTEST - 2024

NAME IN FULL : -
.....
(in capital letters)

DATE OF BIRTH : AGE :
(as at 01st January 2024)

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