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NELOUFER DE MEL
SENIOR PROFESSOR & HEAD, DEPT. OF ENGLISH
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO
SRI LANKA

EDUCATION

Education

1990: PhD. University of Kent at Canterbury, United Kingdom.
1986: MA. (two years, by thesis) University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.
1981: BA. English Honors (Second Class Upper Division) University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka.

**PERSONAL
INFORMATION**

Personal Information

Date of Birth: 3rd July 1958
Citizenship: Sri Lankan
Civil Status: Married

**ACADEMIC
DISTINCTIONS/
RESEARCH
GRANTS/
EXPERT PANELS**

Academic Distinctions/Research Positions/ Expert Panels

Forthcoming (2018 Sept): Scholarly Guest Fellowship, Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, Austria
2017 to date: Member, Expert Panel, *War, Memory and Trauma* Research Project, University of Uppsala, Sweden and University of Colombo
2014-2019: Member, Scientific Steering Group, *Pluralistic Memories* Research Project, University of Lausanne, Switzerland.
2014 Spring: Visiting Research Fellow, Dept. of Geography and Political Geography University of Zurich Irchel, Switzerland.
2013-2014: Principal Researcher, Sri Lanka study, *The Justice Project*. International Development Research Corporation (IDRC) Canada, and AAKAR (India).
2011-2013: Principal Investigator, *Study on Knowledge, Practices and Social Attitudes towards Gender and Gender Based Violence in Colombo, Hambantota, Nuwara Eliya and Batticaloa*. CARE International & UNDP P4P
2010 Fall: Visiting Scholar, Linköping University, Sweden. Full Grant from the Center for Gender Excellence, Linköping University
2009 Spring: Fellow (Post-Doctoral Associate), Women, Religion and Globalization Program, Yale University, U.S.A.
2008 – 2010: Co-Researcher/Co-Project Leader (with Jayadeva Uyangoda), *State Reform from Below: Local and Community Initiatives for Peace Building, Development and Political Reforms in Sri Lanka*. International Research Development Corporation (IDRC) Canada
2007: University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, Award for Excellence in Research at the Faculty of Arts

**TEACHING /
ADMINISTRATIVE
POSITIONS /
ADVISORY
BOARDS/
BOARDS OF
MANAGEMENT**

2006 Fall: Ford Associate in Global Women's Studies, Five College Women's Studies Research Center, USA.
2006 Jan-Aug: Fulbright Senior Research Fellow, Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies, Yale University, USA.
2004 Oct: Visiting Scholar, Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, New York University, U.S.A.
2003 – 2004: Co-Researcher (with Robert Cruz), *Archiving Sri Lankan Women's Experience of War*. International Institute of Social History (IISH) Sephis Program.
2002-2004: Principal Researcher, *Militarization in Sri Lanka*. NORAD-International Centre for Ethnic Studies.
1998-2001: The John D, and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Research and Writing Award: Research project on *Militarism, Gender and the Nation in South Asia*.
1998 Fall: Visiting Scholar, Institute for Research on Women, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, U.S.A.
1998 Spring: Visiting Faculty, Institute of Women's Studies, Lahore, Pakistan. Sponsored by the Applied Social Research Resource Center (ASR), Pakistan.

Teaching

2012 to date: Senior Professor in English, Dept. of English, University of Colombo
2004-2012: Professor in English, Dept. of English, University of Colombo
1991-2004: Senior Lecturer, Dept. of English, University of Colombo
2016: Visiting Faculty, MA in Peace and Conflict Studies, Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Colombo
2016; 2008-2007; 2005; 1999-2003: Visiting Faculty, Postgraduate Diploma and MA in Women's Studies, Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Colombo
2006 Fall: Visiting Faculty, Women's Studies, Amherst College, USA.
1998 Spring: Visiting Faculty, Institute of Women's Studies, Lahore, Pakistan
1982-1991: Assist. Lecturer, Department of English, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka

Administrative Positions

2016 to date; and 1998-2001: Head, Dept. of English, University of Colombo
2008 – 2011: Director, International Unit, University of Colombo
2007-2008; and 2002 –2005: Director of Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

National and International Management/Advisory Boards/Committees/Professional Organizations

2015-2017: Member, Research Committee, National Child Protection Authority
2015 to 2018: Member, Management Committee, Center for Excellence in Disability Research, Education and Practice (CEDREP), University of Colombo
2015 to date: Member, Standing Committee on Gender Equality & Equity, University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka
2015 to date: Member, Board of Governors, Bishop's College, Colombo
2014 to date: Member, Ethics Review in Social Sciences and Humanities Committee, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo
2012 to date: Member, Board of Management, Postgraduate Institute of English, Sri Lanka
2012 to date: Member, Board of Management, Extension Courses, Dept. of English, University of Colombo

PUBLICATIONS

2011 to date: Member, Research Development Committee of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

2010 to date: Trustee, Gratiaen Trust, Sri Lanka

2010 to date: Member, Social Scientists' Association, Sri Lanka

2009-2011: Member, International Advisory Board, Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, Lahore University of Management (LUMS), Pakistan

2005 to date: Member, Management Board, Social Policy Analysis and Research Center (SPARC), University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

2003- 2005: Management Board, Improving Capacity for Poverty Alleviation Project (IMCAP), University of Colombo

Books

2007: *Militarizing Sri Lanka: Popular Culture, Memory and Narrative in the Sri Lankan Armed Conflict*. Los Angeles, London, Delhi, Singapore: Sage.

2001: *Women and the Nation's Narrative: Gender and Nationalism in 20th Century Sri Lanka*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, New Delhi: Kali for Women, Colombo, Social Scientists' Association

Edited Volumes

2012: Co-editor (with Jayadeva Uyangoda), *Re-framing Democracy: Perspectives on Cultures of Inclusion and Exclusion in Sri Lanka*. Colombo: Social Scientists' Association

2009: Principal Editor, (with Kanchana Ruwanpura & Gameela Samarasinghe as 2nd and 3rd editors) *After the Waves: The Impact of the Tsunami on Women in Sri Lanka*. Colombo: Social Scientists' Association

2007: Principal Editor, (with Selvy Thiruchandran as 2nd editor) *At the Cutting Edge: Essays in Honour of Kumari Jayawardena*. New Delhi: Women Unlimited

2005: Co-editor (with Robert Crusz), *Bearing Witness: Women's Experiences of Armed Conflict in Sri Lanka*. Video Archive. Kelaniya: Tulana Media Unit and the Hague: The International Institute of Social History

2002: Principal Editor, (with Minoli Samarakkody as 2nd editor) *Writing an Inheritance: Women's Writing in Sri Lanka 1860-1948*. Colombo: Women's Education Research Center

1995: Editor, *Essays on Sri Lankan Poetry in English*. Colombo: English Association of Sri Lanka

Essays in Peer Reviewed Journals

2017: Lead Author, (with Dinesha Samararatne as 2nd author) "The Law's Gender: Entanglements and Recursions - Three Stories from Sri Lanka." *On Culture* 3 (Summer 2017). Giessen, GCSC, Justus Liebig University. <https://www.on-culture.org/journal/issue-3/de-mel-samararatne-laws-gender/>.

2017: "A Grammar of Emergence: Culture and the State in the Post-Tsunami Re-settlement of Burgher Women of Batticaloa, Sri Lanka." *Critical Asian Studies* Vol. 49 no.1, pp.73-91.

2016: "Relocating the Self: The Crisis in Volunteerism." *Journal of Ceylon College of Physicians* Vol. 47, no. 1, pp.53-53.

2009: "Gendering the New Security Paradigm in Sri Lanka." *International Development Studies Bulletin* Vol. 40, no. 2, pp.36-43.

2008: "Prohibited Desires: The Military-Apparel Nexus and its Politics of Sexuality in the Sinhala Language Cinema." *Asian Cinema* 19 (2): 46-60.

- 2007:** "Between the War and the Sea: Critical Events, Contiguities and Feminist Domains." *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies* Vol. 9, no.2, pp.238-254
- 2004:** "Staging Pain: Representation, the Disabled Soldier and the Butterflies Theatre of Sri Lanka." *The Sri Lanka Journal of the Humanities* Vols.29 & 30 nos. 1 & 2, pp.111-129.
- 2004:** "Body Politics: (Re)Cognising the Female Suicide Bomber in Sri Lanka." *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* Vol.11, no.1, pp.75-93.
- 2002:** "Fractured Narratives, Totalizing Violence: Notes on Women in Conflict – Sri Lanka and Pakistan." *Development* Vol.45, no. 1, pp.99-104.
- 1999:** "Fixing Uncertainties: Producing "National" Culture in an Era of Globalization – The Terrain of Sexuality in Sri Lanka." *Asian Women* Vol.8, pp.7-105.
- 1994:** "Woman as Gendered Subject and Other Discourses in Contemporary Sri Lankan Fiction in English." *Kunapipi* Vol. xvi, no. 1, pp. 242-255
- 1993:** "Myth as History: Wole Soyinka's 'A Dance of the Forests'." *Wasafiri* Vol. 18, pp.27-33.

Book Chapters

- 2018:** Co-author (Chulani Kodikara as second author), "The Limits of 'Doing' Justice: Compensation as Reparation in Postwar Sri Lanka." *Contesting Justice in South Asia*, edited by Deepak Mehta and Rahul Roy, New Delhi: Yoda Press. pp.39-73.
- 2017:** "Risky Subjects: Militarization in Post-War Sri Lanka." *Women and Politics of Peace: South Asia Narratives on Militarization, Power, and Justice*, edited by Rita Manchanda, Los Angeles, London, Delhi, Singapore: Sage, pp. 137-154.
- 2016:** "Playing Disability, Performing Gender: Militarized Masculinity and Disability Theatre in the Sri Lankan War and its Aftermath". *Disability in the Global South: The Critical Handbook*, edited by Shaun Grech and Karen Soldatic, New York: Springer, pp.99-116.
- 2014:** "Female Militancy and the Wars on Terror: Revisiting Feminist Interventions from South Asia." *States at War Since 9/11: Terrorism, sovereignty and the War on Terror*, edited by Alex Houen, London & New York: Routledge, pp.67-83.
- 2012:** "Borders, Brokers and the State Effect: State-Social Relations in the Katunayake Free Trade Zone." *Re-framing Democracy: Perspectives on Cultures of Inclusion and Exclusion in Sri Lanka*, edited by Jayadeva Uyangoda and Neloufer de Mel, Colombo: Social Scientists' Association, pp. 201-246.
- 2012:** "Post-Tsunami Resettlements: State-Gender Relations in Batticaloa." *Re-framing Democracy: Perspectives on Cultures of Inclusion and Exclusion in Sri Lanka*, edited by Jayadeva Uyangoda and Neloufer de Mel, Colombo: Social Scientists' Association, pp. 320-350.
- 2012:** Lead Author (with Kumuduni Samuel and C.K. Soysa as 2nd and 3rd authors), "Ethno-political Conflict in Sri Lanka: Trajectories and Transformations." *Handbook of Ethno-Political Conflict*, edited by Dan Landis & Rosita Albert, New York: Springer, pp.93 – 118.
- 2012:** "Citizenship and Post-War Order: Notes on Sri Lanka." *Getting Rid of Violence: Transdisciplinary, Transnational and Transformative Feminist Dialogues on Embodiment, Emotions and Ethics*, edited by Barbro Wijma, Alp Bircik & Ulrica Engdahl, Linköping: GEXcel, pp.177-188.

- 2005:** "Sri Lanka: Mother Politics and Women's Politics." *Gender Mainstreaming in Conflict Transformation*, edited by Rawwida Baksh, Linda Etchart, Elsie Onubogu, Tina Johnson, London: Commonwealth Secretariat, pp. 191-204.
- 2004:** "Journalism and its Domain: Advertising, Globalization and Gender." *Gender and Media*, Colombo: University of Colombo Journalism Unit, pp. 53-59.
- 2003:** "Agent or Victim? The Sri Lankan Woman Militant in the Interregnum." *Feminists Under Fire: Exchanges Across War Zones*, edited by Wenon Giles, Malathi de Alwis, Edith Klein, Neluka Silva, Toronto: Between the Lines, pp. 55-73.
- 1999:** "African Theatre in Sri Lanka: Cross-Cultural Transformations." *(Post)Colonial Stages: Critical and Creative Views on Drama, Theatre and Performance*, edited by Helen Gilbert, Hebden Bridge: Dangaroo Press, pp. 124-135.
- 1998:** "Agent or Victim? The Sri Lankan Woman Militant in the Interregnum." *Sri Lanka. Collective Identities Revisited Vol.2*, edited by Michael Roberts, Colombo: Marga, pp.199-220.
- 1996:** "Static signifiers?: Metaphors of Women in Sri Lankan War Poetry." *Embodied Violence: Communalising Women's Sexuality in South Asia*, edited by Kumari Jayawardena and Malathi de Alwis, New Delhi: Kali for Women, pp.168-189.
- 1996:** "Caliban or Crusoe?: Straddling the Paradigms of "Post-Colonial" Identity: Derek Walcott and Jean Arasanayagam." *Nationalism vs Internationalism: (Inter)National Dimensions of Literatures in English*, edited by Wolfgang Zach & Kenneth Goodwin, Tübingen: G.Narr, pp. 133-43.
- 1995:** "Mediating Origins: Moyez Vassanji and the Discursivities of Migrant Identity" *Essays on African Writing Vol.2*, edited by Abdulrazak Gurnah, London: Heinemann, pp. 159 - 177.

Monographs / Reports/ Working Papers

- 2013:** Lead Author of 4 chapters in a 6 Chapter report on *Broadening Gender: Why Masculinities Matter*. Colombo: CARE International Sri Lanka.
- 2013:** *The Promise of the LLRC: Women's Testimony and Justice in Post-War Sri Lanka*. Colombo: International Center for Ethnic Studies
- 2007:** *Marketing War, Marketing Peace*. Colombo: International Center for Ethnic Studies
- 2006:** Co-author with Kanchana Ruwanpura, *Gendering the Tsunami: Women's Experiences from Sri Lanka*, Report, Colombo: International Center for Ethnic Studies

Book Introductions

- 2009:** "The Production of Disaster: The Impact of the Tsunami on Women in Sri Lanka." *After the Waves: The Impact of the Tsunami on Women in Sri Lanka*, edited by Neloufer de Mel, Kanchana Ruwanpura and Gameela Samarasinghe, Colombo: Social Scientists' Association, pp.3-16.
- 2007:** "Affirmations at the Cutting Edge: Feminist Debates and Key Texts." *At the Cutting Edge: Essays in honour of Kumari Jayawardena*, edited by Neloufer de Mel & Selvy Thiruchandran, New Delhi: Women Unlimited, pp. xv – xxxvi.
- 2005:** "Women and the Sri Lankan Armed Conflict." *Bearing Witness: Women's Experiences of the Sri Lankan Armed Conflict*, edited by Neloufer de Mel and Robert Crusz, Kelaniya: Tulana Media Unit and The Hague: The International Institute for Social History
- 2002:** "Tracing a Genealogy: Introduction." *Writing an Inheritance: Women's Writing in Sri Lanka 1860-1948*, edited by Neloufer de Mel and Minoli Samarakkody, Colombo: Women's Education Research Centre, pp. 3- 57
- 2002:** "Complex Journeys." Foreword to *Middle of Silence* by Ruwanthie de Chickera, Colombo: International Centre for Ethnic Studies, pp.11-13

2001: "The Half-Truths of Classification: The Wooden Dolls and the Census." *The Wooden Dolls* by Karoor, Colombo: Asian Film Centre, pp. 2-11.

Published Full Conference Papers/Abstracts

2016: "Amongst the Disciplines: Histories, Anxieties and Profits – Lessons from English Studies and the Humanities." Full Paper, Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science 2016 Academic Sessions, Colombo, SLAAS, pp.60-74

2016: Second Author (with Esther Surenthirajah as first author) "Two homes, refugees in both': transitions and resettlement – the case of the Northern Muslims in Sri Lanka." Abstract, *Empowering Humanity: Challenges and Opportunities*, University of Colombo Annual Research Symposium, p.74

2015: "Concrete Utopias: The Politics of Aesthetic Interventions on Post-War Urban Development in Sri Lanka." Abstract, *Changing Socio-Economic Dynamics in Sri Lanka: Contexts, Cultures and Imaginations*, Faculty of Arts Research Symposium, University of Colombo, p.71

2014: "The Call of Culture: Cultural Action as Social Responsibility in Post-War Sri Lankan Theatre." Abstract, *Revisiting Social Responsibility in Contexts of Crisis: Challenges and Possibilities in Sri Lanka*, Faculty of Arts Research Sessions, University of Colombo, p.7

2014: "Embodied Variations: Re-assigning Disabilities through Cultural Action". Abstract, Symposium on *Exploring Disability: Towards an Inclusive Society*, Center for Disability Research, Education and Practice (CEDREP), University of Colombo p. 4

2013: "States of War in the Postcolony: Feminist Readings and Transitions." Abstract, *The Postcolonial in Transition*, Colombo, the Sri Lanka Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies

2013: "The Life of the Death Certificate: The Law, Documental Regimes, and Gendering Justice in Post-War Sri Lanka." Abstract, *Critical Legal Studies* Conference, Queens University, Belfast, UK

2013: "Cultural Work as Actants: Mediating Space, Gender and Violence in Post-war Sri Lanka". Abstract, *International Art Critics Seminar: Unpacking Multiple Identities within Gender-based Art through Critical Writing*, Colombo, Goethe Institute

2011: "Post-War Order and Citizenship in Sri Lanka: Notes on a Politics of Transition." Abstract, *Aftershocks: Legacies of Conflict*, University of Texas School of Law & Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice, U.S.A.

2010: "Re-framing Comparativism for Post-War Sri Lanka." Abstract, *Feminism and the Politics of Comparison* Pre-Conference, 39th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin.

Keynote Addresses

2016: "Doing Gender: Assemblages, Frameworks and (Beyond) Dichotomies – Notes from Sri Lanka." Keynote Address, *Gender Knowledge in Pakistan: Production, Dissemination and Contestation*, Center of Excellence in Gender Studies, Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan, 28-30 September.

2015: "Ghostly Cravings: Pluralities and the Quest for Post-War Justice in Sri Lanka." Annual Meeting of the Scientific Steering Group, Pluralistic Memories Project, University of Lausanne

2012: "Speaking of Justice: Women, Witnessing and the LLRC in Post-War Sri Lanka." Keynote address at Asian and Asian American Film Festival, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, USA.

Essays / Book Reviews

- 2018:** "The Bent Woman: Gendering the Question of Access: A Tribute to Revd. Canon Malini Devananda." *Vagdevi: Journal of Religious Reflection* Col. 24, no.2, pp.10-22.
- 2013:** Review of *Terror and Reconciliation: Anglophone Literature, 1983-2009* by Maryse Jayasuriya, *Postcolonial Text* Vol. 8, no. 1, <http://postcolonial.org/index.php/pct/issue/view/42>.
- 2012:** "History in the Making." Review of *Making a Difference: Memoirs from the Women's Movement in India* edited by Ritu Menon. *Economic and Political Weekly* Vol. XLVII, no. 7, pp.31-34.
- 2012:** "Reforming the Sri Lankan State: The Implications of its 'Effect.'" *Vagdevi: Journal of Religious Reflection* Vol. 6, no. 11, pp. 83-90.
- 2011:** "Militarization and its Legacies." *Vagdevi: Journal of Religious Reflection* Vol. 5 no.1, pp.17-24.
- 2010:** "Framing Sri Lanka" (Review essay on the inaugural volume of *Nethra*, published by the International Centre for Ethnic Studies), *Polity* Vol. 5 no 5, Social Scientists' Association, pp.26-9.
- 2008:** "Mourning Sri Lanka: The Writer as Witness." Review of *Like Myth & Mother* by Sumathy Sivamohan, *Himal* Vol. 21 no. 7, pp.76-77.
- 2007:** "Critical Premises: The Nation and its Borders in Contemporary Sri Lankan Literature in English." Review of *Writing Sri Lanka* by Minoli Salgado, *Polity* Vol. 4 no. 3, Social Scientists' Association, pp. 21-5.
- 2005:** "The labours of peace: feminist peace activism and agendas for the future." Review of *Peace Work: Women, Armed Conflict and Negotiation*, edited by Radhika Coomaraswamy and Dilrukshi Fonseka. *Bayan* Vol. 1V, September, Lahore, Simorgh, pp.96-9.
- 2004:** "Survival in the Jungle: Gender, Militaries and Nihal Silva's *The Road from Elephant Pass*." *Options* Vol. 35 no.3, Colombo, Women & Media Collective, pp. 14-16.
- 2002:** "The cinematic Suicidal Body and its Politics." *Cinesith* No. 2, Colombo, Asian Film Center, pp.45-48.
- 2001:** "Theatre and the State." Review of *Sri Lankan Theatre in the Time of Terror* by Ranjini Obeysekera, *Pravada* Vol. 7 no. 7, Colombo, Social Scientists' Association, pp.25-27.
- 1997:** Co-author (50%) with Ramani Muttetuwegama (50%), "Sisters in Arms: The Eksath Kantha Peramuna." *Pravada* Vol. 4, nos.10 & 11, Colombo, Social Scientists' Association, pp.22-26.
- 1993:** "Stage Echoes: Tropes of Nationalism in the Modern Sinhala Theatre." *The Thatched Patio* Vol. 6 no. 2, Colombo, International Centre for Ethnic Studies, pp.8-28.
- 1993:** Review of *Monkfish Moon* by Romesh Gunasekera, *Wasifiri* 17, London, Association for Teaching of African, Caribbean, Asian Literatures, pp. 54-55.
- 1991:** "Nadine Gordimer: Notes on a White Writer's Burden." *Pravada* Vol. 1 no. 1, Colombo, Social Scientists' Association, pp. 23-27.

Invited Conference Papers/ Public Talks

- 2017:** "Concrete Utopias: Postwar Urban Development and the Politics of Aesthetic Interventions in Sri Lanka." Zurich Humangeographies Colloquium, University of Zurich, Switzerland
- 2017:** Co-presenter (with Dinesha Samarakkody), "The Law's Gender: Entanglements and Recursion – Three Stories from Sri Lanka." Paper presented at Law and Society Trust, Colombo.

2017: Discussant, panel on “Feminism and TWAIL”, Workshop on *Third World Approaches to International Law*. Dept. of Public and International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo

2016: Panelist, *South Asian Politics and Society: The Major Challenges Ahead*. Re-launch of the Center for South Asian Studies, University of Edinburgh, UK

2015: “The Life of the Death Certificate: The Law, Documental Regimes, and Gendering Justice in Post-War Sri Lanka.” Paper presented at conference on *Law’s Pluralities: Cultures/Images/Narratives/Genders*, Justus Liebig University, Giessen, Germany

2015: “Concrete Utopias: The Politics of Aesthetic Interventions on Post-War Urban Development in Sri Lanka.” Paper presented at the Faculty of Arts International (Icon Arts) conference on *Changing Socio-Economic Dynamics in Sri Lanka: Contexts, Cultures and Imaginations*, University of Colombo.

2015: “Ghostly Appetites: Ethical Frameworks and Zones of Justice in Post-War Sri Lanka.” Paper presented at *The Humanities Studio*, University of California at Santa Cruz, USA.

2015: “Female Militancy and the Wars on Terror”. Paper presented at workshop on *Religion, Gender and the Politics of Security*, Yale University, USA.

2014: “Embodied Variations: Re-assigning Disabilities through Cultural Action.” Paper presented at symposium on *Exploring Disability: Towards an Inclusive Society*, Center for Excellence in Disability Research, Education and Practice, University of Colombo.

2014: “The Call of Culture: Cultural Action as Social Responsibility in Post-War Sri Lankan Theatre.” Paper presented at the Faculty of Arts International Conference on *Revisiting Social Responsibility in Contexts of Crisis: Challenges and Possibilities in Sri Lanka*, University of Colombo.

2014: “Timely Justice: Reparations in Postwar Sri Lanka.” Paper presented at conference on *Rights, Reform and Politics in Sri Lanka*, University of Zurich (Irchel), Switzerland.

2014: “Cartographies of (Il)Legibility: Locating Female Militancy in South Asia”. Public lecture at the Zürcher Humangeographisches Kolloquium, University of Zurich, Switzerland.

2013: “Borders and Brokers: Garment Factories in Post-War Sri Lanka.” Paper presented at conference on *Traveling Norms and the Politics of Contention*, University of Zurich, Switzerland

2013: “The Life of the Death Certificate: The Law, Documental Regimes, and Gendering Justice in Post-War Sri Lanka.” Paper presented at the *Critical Legal Studies* conference, Queens University, Belfast, UK.

2013: Panelist on “Militarization and Security: Promoting Women’s Substantive and Transformative Participation in Peace Processes and Post-Conflict Reconstruction.” UN Women’s Expert Group South Asia conference on *The Changing Dynamics of Peace building in South Asia: Recasting Women’s Agency and Transformative Strategies*, Kathmandu, Nepal.

2013: “States of War in the Postcolony: Feminist Readings and Transitions.” Paper presented at conference on *The Postcolonial in Transition*, Sri Lanka Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies, Colombo.

2012: Guest Lecture, “Speaking Justice: Women’s Testimonies in Post-War Sri Lanka”, *Asian and Asian American Film Festival*, Miami University, Ohio, USA

2012: Panelist, “Post-War Sri Lankan Film and its Diaspora.” Annual South Asia Studies conference, Madison, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

2012: Panelist, “Knowledge Hierarchies: Whose Knowledge Counts?” Symposium on *Re-Imagining Development*, Center for Poverty Alleviation (CEPA), Colombo, Sri Lanka.

2011: "Post-War Order and Citizenship in Sri Lanka: Notes on a Politics of Transition." Paper presented at conference on *Aftershocks: Legacies of Conflict*, University of Texas School of Law & Bernard and Audre Rappaport Center for Human Rights and Justice, USA.

2011: "Post-War Settlements: Locating Cultural Interventions in Sri Lanka." Paper presented at the South Asia Institute, University of Texas, Austin, USA.

2010: "Citizenship and Post-War Order: Cross-Currents of State, Trans/Nation, Gender and Development, Civilians and Citizenship." Paper presented at conference on *Ethnographic and Political Economy Perspectives on Civil War in South Asia*, Dept. of Sociology, University of Delhi, India.

2010: Panelist, "Conflict, Masculinities and Responses to Gender-based Violence Prevention." UNDP & Aakar, Bangkok, Thailand.

2009: Panelist on "Masculinities." *Cross-Regional Feminist Dialogue on Gender, Development and Culture*, Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands.

2009: "Citizenship and Post-War Order: Locating Women, Religion, Cross-Currents." Paper presented at conference on *Women, Religion, Globalization*, Yale University, USA.

2008: "Peace Building, Conflict and Democracy: Bringing Women In." Presentation at Project Inception Workshop of the *Peace, Conflict and Development Competition: Democratization & Peacebuilding*, International Development Research Corporation, Ottawa, Canada.

2008: "The Military Turn, Gendered Conditions of Labour and Emergent Communities in Sri Lanka." Paper presented at the American Association of Asian Studies Conference, Atlanta, USA.

2007: Co-convenor, Working Group on *Gender, Global Colloquium on Transforming Security and Development in an Uneven World*, International Center for Ethnic Studies, Sri Lanka

2007: Chair, Panel on "Addressing Vulnerabilities of Minority Groups." *The 8th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific* (ICAAP), Colombo Sri Lanka.

2006: Panelist, "Gender and Armed Conflict." *United Nations Consultation on the Status of Women*, New York, USA.

2007: Panelist, "Cinema of Violence: A Workshop on the Films of Prasanna Vithanage", *35th Annual Conference on South Asia*, Madison, Wisconsin, USA.

2006: "Between the War and the Sea: The Work of Memory and Gender in Contemporary Sri Lanka." Paper presented at Wellesley College, USA.

2006: "Allegorical Futures: The Politics of Mourning and Melancholia in the Tales from the Butterfly Peace Garden." Paper presented at conference on *Non-Violence: The Social Life of a Concept*, The New School, New York, USA.

2006: "Figure of Speech: The Female Suicide Bomber, Censorship and the Cinematic Site." Paper presented at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada.

2006: "Allegorical Futures: The Politics of Childhood and Peace Pedagogy in the Butterfly Peace Garden, Batticaloa Sri Lanka". Paper presented at the Faculty of Education Seminar Series, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada.

2006: "The Promise of the Archive: Memory as Testimony and Feminist Domains." Paper presented at the Five College Women's Studies Research Center, Mount Holyoke College, USA.

2005: "Sri Lanka's Critical Events: Militarization, the Tsunami and Armed Conflict." Paper presented at conference on *Religion and Social Fragmentation and Economic Development in South Asia*, Cornell University, USA.

2005: "Representing Victimhood: Pain and Transitional Justice." Paper presented at conference on *Gender and Transitional Justice, International Council for Transitional Justice*, Bellagio, Italy.

2005: "Between the War and the Sea: Disasters, Gender and Citizenship in Post-Tsunami Sri Lanka." Paper presented at *The XI National Conference on Women's Studies*, Indian Association for Women's Studies, Goa, India.

2004: "Staging Pain: The Sri Lankan Armed Conflict, its theatre of Disability and Memory." Paper presented at the Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies Seminar, Yale University, USA.

2004: "In the Interregnum: Bodies, Sexualities and Ambivalent Empowerment: The Case of the Women Combatants of Sri Lanka." Paper presented at the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality Seminar, New York University.

2004: "Gender and Sexuality Studies in Sri Lanka." Paper presented at the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality Seminar, New York University, USA.

2004: "Gender and Non-Traditional Security: The Issues." Paper presented at *The South Asia Forum 1V: The New Security Agenda in South Asia*, Wilton Park, Sussex, UK.

2004: "Staging Anomy: Notes on the Contemporary Sri Lankan Theatre," Paper presented at the *Theatre of Provocation – South Asian Drama Theatre Festival*, The Japan Foundation, Tokyo, Japan.

2003: "Body Politics:(Re)Presenting the Female Suicide Bomber in Sri Lanka." Paper presented at conference on *Gendered Bodies, Transnational Politics*, Centre for Gender and Sexuality New York University and American University Cairo, Egypt.

2003: "Consuming Militarism: Globalization and Advertising the Military." Paper presented at panel on "Globalization, Militarism and Resurgent Patriarchy". *The Asian Social Forum*, Hyderabad, India.

2000: "Body Politics – Re-Presenting the LTTE Female Suicide Bomber." Paper presented at the summer symposium on *Human Security in the New Millennium*, WISCOMP, Delhi, India.

1999: "Militarization and Nuclearization in South Asia: The Sri Lankan Response." Presentation at *The Hague Appeal for Peace Conference*, The Hague, Netherlands.

1998: "Setting the Stage, Gendering the Nation: The Nationalist Theatre of John de Silva." Paper presented at *The Annual South Asia Studies conference*, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA.

1998: "Gender, Militant Nationalism and Questions of Agency." Paper presented at the Dept. of Political Science, Amherst College, Massachusetts, USA.

1998: "Framing Bourgeois Respectability, Gender, Nationality and the Male Gaze: A Look at Anil de Silva." Paper presented at the South Asian Studies Centre, Cornell University, Ithaca, USA.

1998: "Nation, Women and Theatre - Stagings from South Asia 1850-1930: The theatre of John de Silva and the actress Annie Boteju." Paper presented at the South Asia Regional Studies Centre, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA.

1993: "Theatre as Intervention: Wole Soyinka's *Opera Wonyosi* as Trilingual Production." Paper presented at the course on *Drama Within the English Curriculum*, Corpus Christi College, University of Oxford, UK.

**CONFERENCES /
TRAINING
PROGRAMS**

Conferences /Training Programs

- 2017:** "Untangling the Present and the Past in Historical Writing." American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies. Open University, Colombo.
- 2017:** Research Workshop on "Imaginations of the 'Rural' in Sri Lankan Social Sciences, Politics and Art." American Institute for Sri Lanka Studies. Open University, Colombo.
- 2017:** "Comparative Peace Building in Asia." London School of Economics, York University, Office of National Unity Sri Lanka, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- 2016:** Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science, 72nd Annual Sessions.
- 2016:** "South Asian Politics and Society: The Major Challenges Ahead." Center for South Asian Studies, University of Edinburgh, UK.
- 2016:** "Gender Knowledge in Pakistan: Productions, Contestations, Disseminations." Center for Excellence in Gender Studies, Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan.
- 2016:** "IconARTS." International Conference, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo.
- 2015:** "Law's Pluralities: Cultures/Images/Narratives/Genders." Justus Liebig University, Giessen, Germany.
- 2014:** "Exploring Disability: Towards an Inclusive Society." Center for Excellence in Disability Research, Education and Practice, University of Colombo.
- 2014:** "Revisiting Social Responsibility in Contexts of Crisis: Challenges and Possibilities in Sri Lanka." Faculty of Arts Research Symposium, University of Colombo.
- 2014:** South Asia Expert Group Consultation on Substantive Equality, UNIFEM, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- 2014:** "Rights, Reform and Politics in Sri Lanka." Political Geography Unit, University of Zurich (Irchel), Switzerland
- 2014:** UN Women Expert Group Consultation on Women in South Asia, Nepal
- 2013:** Commonwealth Peoples' Forum, Sri Lanka
- 2013:** "Traveling Norms and the Politics of Contention." University of Zurich, Switzerland
- 2013:** Critical Legal Studies Conference, Queens University, Belfast, UK
- 2013:** "War and Peace: Visual Narratives from Contemporary Sri Lanka." American Institute of Sri Lanka Studies
- 2013:** "The Changing Dynamics of Peace building in South Asia: Recasting Women's Agency and Transformative Strategies." UN Women's Expert Group South Asia conference, Kathmandu.
- 2013:** "The Postcolonial in Transition." Sri Lanka Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies, Colombo
- 2012:** "Re-Imagining Development." Annual Symposium, Center for Poverty Alleviation, Colombo
- 2012:** Annual South Asia Studies Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, USA.
- 2011:** "Aftershocks: Legacies of Conflict." University of Texas School of Law & Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice, USA.
- 2010:** "A Global Surveillance Society?" City University, London, UK.
- 2010:** "Civilians and Citizenship: Ethnographic and Political Economy Perspectives on Civil War in South Asia." Dept. of Sociology, University of Delhi, India
- 2009:** "Cross-Regional Feminist Dialogue on Gender, Culture and Development." Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands.
- 2009:** "Women, Religion, Globalization." Yale University, USA.
- 2008:** Project Inception Workshop on Peace Building, Conflict & Democracy, International Development Research Corporation, Ottawa, Canada.

2008: American Association of Asian Studies Conference, Atlanta, USA.

2007: Global Colloquium on "Transforming Security and Development in an Uneven World." International Center for Ethnic Studies, Sri Lanka.

2007: The 8th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP), Colombo Sri Lanka.

2006: Expert Panel on Gender and Armed Conflict. United Nations Consultation on the Status of Women, New York, USA.

2006: "Non-Violence: The Social Life of a Concept." Seminar, The New School, New York, USA.

2005: "Religion and Social Fragmentation and Economic Development in South Asia." Cornell University, USA.

2005: "Gender and Transitional Justice." International Council for Transitional Justice, Bellagio, Italy.

2005: The XI National Conference on Women's Studies, Indian Association for Women's Studies, Goa, India.

2004: South Asia Forum 1V: The New Security Agenda in South Asia, Wilton Park, Sussex, UK.

2004: "'Theatre of Provocation' - South Asian Theatre Festival." Japan Foundation, Tokyo, Japan.

2003: "Gendered Bodies, Transnational Politics." Centre for Gender and Sexuality, New York University and American University, Cairo, Cairo, Egypt.

2003: "Peace and Masculinity." ROZAN, Islamabad, Pakistan.

2003: Asian Social Forum, Hyderabad, India.

2002: "Gender, Youth and Conflict Transformation." Commonwealth Secretariat, London, UK.

2002: "Women, Peace Building and Constitution Making." International Centre for Ethnic Studies, Colombo.

2001: "National Longings: A Lens into South Asian Women's Cinema." Film Festival, Wellesley College, Massachusetts, USA.

2001: "Human Security." Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad, Pakistan.

2000: "Theatre and InterCulturalism." Workshop, University College Northampton, UK.

2000: "Human Security in the New Millennium." WISCOMP, Foundation for Universal Responsibility, New Delhi.

1999: United Nations Prepcom for the International Criminal Court, New York, USA.

1999: The Hague Peace Appeal Conference. The Hague, Netherlands.

1998: South Asia Studies conference. University of Wisconsin, Madison, U.S.A.

1998: The 8th Indian Association of Women's Studies conference. Pune, India.

1997: "Roots of Conflict in Society." Conference sponsored by MARSHAL, Islamabad, Pakistan.

1996: Fact-finding visit to the UK on Gender Sensitizing programs in the training of the British Police Force.

1996: "Violence Against Women: Victims and Ideologies." The Social Science Research Council, Colombo.

1995: The 7th Indian Association of Women's Studies conference, Jaipur, India.

1995: "The Arts in Africa '95: Mediums of Change." Royal African Society, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, UK.

1995: The 10th Triennial Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies conference, Colombo.

1995: The 5th Bi-Annual Subaltern Studies Conference, Colombo.

	<p>1995: "Scholarly Authority and Intellectual Production in African Studies." Northwestern University, Illinois, USA.</p> <p>1995: "Terror: Its Representations and its Politics." University of Kent at Canterbury, UK.</p> <p>1995: National/ South Asian workshop on issues for the <i>World Conference on Women in Beijing</i>. Lahore, Pakistan.</p> <p>1994: The Wole Soyinka Drama Festival, The National Theatre, Lagos, Nigeria.</p> <p>1993: "Feminism, Ideology and the Women's Movement." ASR Resource Centre, Abbotabad, Pakistan.</p> <p>1993: "Nationalism vs Internationalism." European Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies Conference, Graz, Austria.</p> <p>1993: "Drama Within the English Curriculum." Residential Course, Corpus Christi College, Oxford University, UK.</p> <p>1992: "South Asia Dialogue 1992." The International Centre for Ethnic Studies, Kandy, Sri Lanka.</p> <p>1992: "Identity Politics, Ethnicity and Gender in South Asia." Summer course, The International Centre for Ethnic Studies, Sri Lanka.</p> <p>1992: The South Asian Conference on <i>Women: The State, Fundamentalism and Cultural Identity</i>, Sri Lanka.</p> <p>1989: The Triennial Conference of The Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies, University of Kent at Canterbury, UK.</p> <p>1988: "Teaching Literature in English: Directions and Issues." Residential training course, Department of Literary Linguistics, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK.</p> <p>1987: "Teaching Literature Overseas." Residential training course, St. Hilda's College, Oxford University, UK.</p>
DICTIONARY ENTRIES	<p><u>Dictionary Entries</u></p> <p>2008 & 2005: "The Years of Terror." <i>A Historical Companion to Postcolonial Literatures in English</i>, edited by Prem Poddar & David Johnson (eds.) Edinburgh, Edinburgh University Press, pp. 539-40</p>
EDITORIAL BOARDS	<p><u>Editorial Boards</u></p> <p>2013: International Editorial Board, <i>Studies on Contemporary South Asia</i>, Palgrave Book Series</p> <p>2008: Editorial Advisory Board, <i>Social Justice</i>, Routledge (Taylor and Francis)</p> <p>2007 to 2015: Editorial Advisory Board <i>Journal of Women's History</i>, Johns Hopkins University, USA.</p>
THEATRE/ FILM/ LITERARY AWARDS JURIES	<p><u>Theatre Productions/Film and Literary Awards Juries</u></p> <p>2016: Judge, DSC Prize in South Asian Literature.</p> <p>2013: Judge, Agenda 14 Short Film Festival, Colombo (sponsored by the European Union).</p> <p>2008: Judge, Commonwealth Writer's Prize, (Euro-Asia Region).</p> <p>2007: Judge, State Short Drama Festival, Sri Lanka.</p> <p>2004: Judge, Presidential Film Awards Sri Lanka.</p> <p>2002: Co-Director, street theatre production of <i>Kaduwa on Trial</i>, University of Colombo Carnival, sponsored by the University of Colombo Alumni Association</p>

2000: Judge, State Drama Festival, Sri Lanka.

1997: Judge, "Film South Asia 1999." (South Asian Documentary Film Festival, Katmandu, Nepal).

1996: Judge, Gratiaen Award for the best work of Sri Lankan creative writing in English.

1995: Co-director of the play *Africa Ni! Nkurmah Ni!* by Femi Osofisan, Lionel Wendt, Colombo

1995: Co-Director, *Build Me No Shadow* by Madhubashini Dissanayake, Inter-University Drama Festival, Lionel Wendt, Colombo

1993: Director, *Party Time*, for the Inter-University Pinter Festival, Lionel Wendt, Colombo

1992: Co-director and co-script editor, Trilingual production of *Opera Wonyosi* by Wole Soyinka, English Drama Society of the University of Colombo

1991-1995: Judge, State Drama Festival, Sri Lanka.

Neloufer de Mel

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