

Newsletter

ZOOLOGICAL STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY/UOJ

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PRAYING MANTIS

PHOTOGRAPH BY: M.A. AZMANUL HAQ

Editor's Notes

Welcome to the first issue in the 7th volume of the ZSA newsletter.

This issue offers the information regarding the performance and achievements of our team, their contribution and leadership in each event where the effort brought them to a successful end.

I would like to thank our patron, Dr. Mrs. Abyerami Sivaruban for her support and for giving us opportunities to make the events occur, Senior treasurer, Ms. Nithiyagowry Ratnasabapathy for her precious support and immense coordination, all the staff of Department of Zoology for their new ideas, guidance and support and all members of ZSA for their help which made each and every event a success.

It's is pleasure to release this newsletter on behalf of the ZSA.

Editorial team



Mr. M.A. Azmanul Haq



Miss L. Luxshana



Miss R. Rajamanokari

New Committee

New committee of Zoological Students Association (ZSA) had been selected. Ms. Nithiyagowry Ratnasabapathy was proposed as the senior treasurer.

Executive Committee members are:

- Miss L. Luxshana (President)
- Miss N.N. Dhilani (Vice President)
- Miss S. Kokularathai (Secretary)
- Miss D.M.S.Gayathri Dissanayaka (Vice Secretary)
- Miss R. Rajamanokari (Junior treasurer)
- Mr. M.A. Azmanul Haq (Editor)
- Mr. W.M.B. Umesh (Executive Member)
- Mr.E. Praveenraj (Executive Member)
- Mr.N. Vithushan (Executive Member)
- Miss.S.F. Aqeela (Executive Member)



Ms. Nithiyagowry
Ratnasabapathy
Senior Treasurer



Miss L. Luxshana



Miss N.N. Dhilani



Miss S. Kokularathai



Miss D.M.S.Gayathri
Dissanayaka



Miss R. Rajamanokari



Mr. M.A. Azmanul Haq



Mr. W.M.B. Umesh



Mr.E. Praveenraj

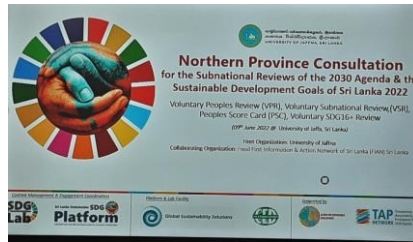
Gardening

A small gardening event was organized by Zoological Students' Association (ZSA) on 18th of June 2022 for celebrating the environmental day 2022. Flowering plants were planted in front of the Department of Zoology entrance by students.



Northern Province Consultation

Northern Province consultation for the subnational reviews of the 2030 agenda & the sustainable development goals of Sri Lanka 2022 was hosted by Zoological Students' Association in Social Welfare Centre on 09th June 2022. The collaborating organization for this programme was Food First Information & Action Network of Sri Lanka (FIAN).



Responsible Green Leaders for Better Tomorrow

Sri Lanka Global Youth Biodiversity Network in partnership with UOJ volunteers and Zoological Students' Association organized a workshop on "Responsible Green Leaders for a better tomorrow" on 13th of November 2023 in University of Jaffna.

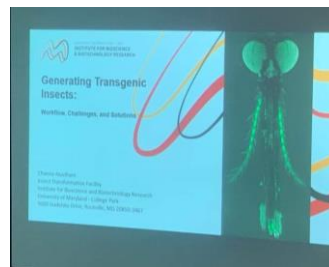
Prof. R. Ganeswaran gave a speech and the ZSA president Miss L. Luxshana gave a presentation on the past activities of ZSA. Student activities such as poster preparation were done by the participating students.



Guest Lecture on

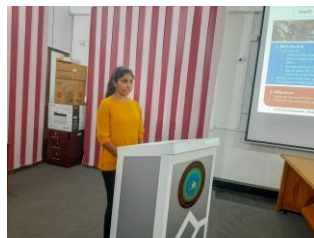
Generating Transgenic Insects: Workflow, Challenges and Solutions

A guest lecture on "Generating Transgenic Insects: Workflow, Challenges and Solutions" was organized by Zoological Students' Association (ZSA) in collaboration with Centre for Research in Entomology (CRE) on 22nd of November 2022 at Z1 lecture hall. The resource person for this guest lecture was Channa Aluvihare, Staff technical officer IBBR, University of Maryland-College Park, USA.



Three Minute Research challenge competition – 2023

A Three Minute research challenge competition was conducted by the Zoological Students' Association on 24th of May 2023. The event was organized as a part of an effort to develop presentation skills among zoology undergraduates. 12 students took part in the challenge. Miss N.N. Dhilani won the first prize and Miss M.N.F.Fahira won the second prize. Mr. S. Arthiyian and Mrs. S. Kokila helped the event as judges. All other participants received a certificate for the participation.



Third Research Symposium for Biological Science Students – 2023

The ZSA organized a research symposium taking the initiative to build up a platform for the Biological Science students to publish and present their undergraduate researches for the third time. It was held on 20th of May 2023 at B1 lecture hall (NSBI) of University of Jaffna from 08.00 am to 03.00 pm. Financial support was given by AHEAD ELTA ELSE Faculty Development grant of the Faculty of Science, University of Jaffna under the activity- 4.

Prof. S. Srisathkunarajah (Vice Chancellor, University of Jaffna) and Prof. P. Ravirajan (Dean, Faculty of Science) graced the event as Chief guest and Special guest respectively. Dr. S. Wijeyamohan was the keynote speaker for this event. Also, Dr (Mrs). A. Sivaruban (Patron - ZSA and Head, Dept. of Zoology), Ms. R. Nithyagowry (Senior treasurer - ZSA), Prof. R. Ganeswaran, Prof. K. Gajapathy, Prof.T. Eswaramohan, Prof. M.Senthilnathan, Prof.R.Srikanan, Dr.(Mrs.)T.W.Shanthakumar, Dr.(Ms).N.Krishnapillai, Dr.(Mrs.)G.Parthuran, Mrs.S.Piratheepa, Mrs.S.Kokila, Mr.S.Arthiyan, demonstrators and students graced the occasion as dignitaries.

Dr.S.Wijeyamohan (Department of Bio-Science, University of Vavuniya, Sri Lanka, Adjunct Faculty at The William H. Darr School of Agriculture, Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri, USA.) delivered the keynote speech on **“Future of biodiversity conservation in the Northern Province”**. There were 10 abstracts presented by undergraduates of the Departments of Zoology and Chemistry at this symposium. Dr. (Mrs.) G. Parthuran, Mrs.S.Kokila and Mr.S.Arthiyan acted as evaluators for the presented abstracts.

Awards were given for best abstract (Miss. S. Kokularathai) and best presentation (Miss. Y. Abiraami).





Entomology Day – 2023

Zoological Students' Association (ZSA) in collaboration with Centre for Research in Entomology (CRE) organized an Entomology day in remembrance of Emeritus Professor V. K. Ganesalingam on 26th of May 2023 at Library auditorium. Two competitions were held for the undergraduates of University of Jaffna for the entomology day.

Photographic competition

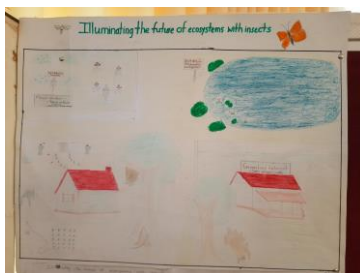
Photographic competition was conducted under the title "Insects with Nature". This competition was open for all undergraduates of University of Jaffna. A total of 27 participants submitted 80 photographs in total. Out of these, 40 photographs were finalized for evaluation. The evaluation was carried out by a panel of judges consisting of Dr. (Mrs.) T. W. Shanthakumar, Ms. P. Srisangeerthanam and Mr. S. Thivas. The first three photos were given a prize (1st place – M. L. M. Arus, 2nd place – R. Jasotharan, 3rd place – Y. Saranniya). All participants whose photos were finalized for evaluation were awarded participation certificates.



Entomology Day - 2023....

Poster competition

A poster competition was held for the entomology day under the title “Illuminating the future of ecosystems with insects”. This competition was open for all undergraduates of University of Jaffna. The posters were judged by a panel of judges consisting of Prof. (Mrs.) R. Ganeswaran, Mrs. S. Kokila and Mr. S. Arthiyan. The first three posters were awarded prizes (1st place – H. M. Punsara Jayamangalani, 2nd place – M. Pirunthini, 3rd place – V. Thilakshika) and all participants of the competition received participation certificates.



Entomology Day - 2023....

Zoological Students' Association (ZSA) in collaboration with Centre for Research in Entomology (CRE) organized an Entomology day in remembrance of Emeritus Professor V. K. Ganesalingam on 26th of May 2023 at Library auditorium from 09.00 am to 12.00 pm. The theme for the entomology day was "Illuminating the ecosystems with insects."

Prof. S. Srisathkunarajah (Vice Chancellor, University of Jaffna) and Prof. P. Ravirajan (Dean, Faculty of Science) graced the event as Chief guest and Special guest respectively. Emeritus Professor Kazuo Ogata of Kyushu University of Japan was the guest lecturer for this event. He is the Chief advisor of JICA project for the research and education capacity improvement in dry zone agriculture at university of Jaffna. This event was graced with Ms. Misako Takayama, coordinator of the JICA project, Professor Mikunthan – Senior Professor in Department of Agricultural biology, Mrs. S. Anchandevi – Deputy Provincial Director of agriculture, Mr.S.Rajeshkanna – Entomologist- Research station, Department of Agriculture, Thirunelveli, representatives of J/St. John's College, J/Hindu Ladies College and J/Kokuvil Hindu College.

Also, Dr (Mrs).A.Sivaruban (Patron - ZSA and Head, Dept. of Zoology), Ms.R.Nithyagowry (Senior treasurer - ZSA), Prof.S.N.Surendran, Prof.R.Gnaneswaran, Prof.K.Gajapathy, Prof.T.Eswaramohan, Prof.R.Srikaran, Dr.(Mrs.)T.W.Shanthakumar, Dr.(Mrs.)G.Parthuran, Dr.E.C.Jeyaseelan, Mrs.S.Piratheepa, Mrs.S.Kokila, Mr.S.Arthiyan, Demonstrators , non-academic staff and students graced the occasion.

Emeritus Professor Kazuo Ogata gave his guest lecture on the topic "Myrmecology: A study of Ants". Professor S.N.Surendran recalled the memories of Emeritus Professor V.K. Ganesalingam.

On this event, inauguration of Jaffna Entomological Society (JES) was done and the office bearers of JES were elected. Students of Department of Zoology had a debate on "Ecosystem can be illuminated by Insects or not". Professor K. Gajapathy acted as moderator for the debate. Prizes and certificates were awarded to the winners of photographic and poster competition and participation certificates were awarded to all participants.









Environmental Day – Solution for Plastic Pollution

On 02nd June 2023, on behalf of the environmental day, ZSA committee has done a seminar on Solution for Plastic Pollution on two different places in Jaffna (J/61-J/68 GN Divisions and J/84-J/88 GN Divisions). This activity was arranged by the DS office of Jaffna.



Meeting with Representative of UNDP Ms. Azusa Kubota

The resident representative of UNDP Ms. Azusa Kubota made an official visit to North on 14th July 2023 at Kowtharimunai, Pooneryn from 08.00 am to 09.00 am to assess a UNDP project ZSA has collaborated with previously. ZSA representatives met Ms. Azusa Kubato and UNDP representatives and the SGP women grantees engaged in making palmyrah based products as livelihood.

