

## CURRICULUM VITAE (EXTRACT)

### ARJUNA PARAKRAMA

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**Date of Birth:** September 15, 1957

**Nationality:** Sri Lankan

**Sex:** Male

#### **Present Employment:**

Professor of English, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka  
Director, Centre for the Study of Human Rights, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

Apr 2014 onwards

March 2017 to date

#### **Sri Lankan University Employment:**

*University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka*

Professor (Departmental Cadre Chair), Department of English,

Head, Department of English

(on sabbatical leave from Sep 2007 – July 2008)

*University of Colombo, Sri Lanka*

Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

Head, English Department, University of Colombo

Senior Lecturer, Department of English, University of Colombo

(on study leave from Sep 1984 – Dec 1990 & sabbatical leave from

Mar 2004 to Oct 2009

March 2004 to Oct 2009

July 2014 to June 2017

Aug 2006 – Sep 2007

1984 - 2001

Sep 1996 – Aug 1999

1994 – 1996

1990 – 1994

Sep 1999 to May 2001)

#### **Other Academic and Research Positions:**

Visiting Professor & Senior Fellow, Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, USA

Sep 2012 to Sep 2013

Visiting Professor, National University of Malaysia, School of Language & Linguistics

Dec 2009 to Mar 2010

Senior Consultant, **Vibhasha** Translation Project, Centre for Policy Alternatives, Sri Lanka (funded by Ford & Asia Foundations)

2001 – 3, 2004 – 6

Sri Lanka Country Representative, Oxfam Community Aid Abroad (Australia)

Sep 2001 to Jan 2003

Fellow, Carnegie Council for Ethics & International Affairs, New York [Non-Resident Fellowship]

2000 – 2001

Senior Fellow, Jennings Randolph Program for International Peace, United States Institute of Peace, Washington DC

1999 - 2000

#### **Major Evaluations & Consultancies Undertaken**

Chief Consultant & Course Designer, CORE VALUES training

Programme for second-tier Sri Lankan community activists (two

One-year programmes of six-sessions each) implemented by USAID-Sponsored SPICE initiative

2015 - 2016

Consultant, Strategic Plan 2013 -2015, Transparency Maldives

Dec 2012 – Jun 2013

Chief Editor and Contributor, <i>National Integrity Study Report on Sri Lanka 2010</i> , Transparency International	2011
Assessment of Conflict-Sensitive Initiatives in Asian Region for UNDP Regional Office, Bangkok	2010
Co-Editor & Contributor, <i>Sri Lanka Governance Reports 2009, 2010</i>	2011/10
Head, Office of Civil Affairs, United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), Kathmandu, Nepal	Sep 2007 – July 2008
Team Leader, Local & National Capacities Evaluation, Tsunami Evaluation Coalition (TEC) four country study	Sep 2005 – Apr 2006
Team Leader, HURIST Review of UNDP programmes in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Macedonia, Philippines (member)	During 2004/5
Trainer in Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) to UNDP in Kyrgyzstan, India, Nepal and HURIST Review countries	During 2003/8
Policy Adviser, Peace & Development, UNDP/Nepal (International Appointment made by BCPR/New York)	Feb 2003 – Mar 2004

### **Education**

B.A. (Hons), English, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka	1981
M. A. English, University of Georgia, USA	1985
Ph. D. [Culture Studies Programme], University of Pittsburgh, USA	1990
Attorney-at-Law (Sri Lanka): First & Second Years completed	2005

### **Selected Awards & Honours Received**

Fulbright New Century Scholar	2007/8
Member, Raymond Williams' <b>Keywords</b> revision panel convened at Jesus College, Cambridge University	July 2007 onwards
Member, Editorial Board, PALA [Anthology of American Literature for Asian Students], chaired by Professor Paul Lauter (Trinity College)	1999 to date
Building Communities of Peace: Working Towards the Subaltern Resolution of Sri Lanka's Civil War" US Institute of Peace	2001/2002
Guggenheim Research Grant, "Saturated with Loss: The Bereaved Sexualities of Sri Lanka's Prolonged War"	2001/2002
Fellow, Carnegie Council for Ethics & International Affairs	2000/2001
Senior Fellowship, United States Institute of Peace, Jennings Randolph Program for International Peace	1999/2000
NARESA, Sri Lanka (Now National Science Foundation) Sri Lanka, Research Grant RG/98/SS/01: "Approaches to text and context in English	

language learning & teaching in Sri Lanka as a means of re-orienting English towards new social goals and realities”	1998 - 2000
Culture Studies Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, USA	1987/88
America Academy of Poets, Award for Poetry, University of Georgia	1985

### **Selected Publications**

#### **Books & Monographs**

Member Editorial Team, *Keywords for Today*, Oxford University Press, [to be published in 2018]

**Men Who Matter and Other Matters: The Collected Essays of D B I P Siriwardhana** [edited with a critical introduction] {in Sinhala and English} in press.

**Social Cleaving: Resistance and Loss within a Bereaved Culture** Colombo: Katha Publishers, 2004. [monograph on conflict-related collective psychosocial trauma]

**Collected Poems**, Colombo: Gunaratne, 2002

**Identity in Crisis or Crisis as Identity: Notes to the Margins of this War**, Newton Gunasinghe Memorial Lecture 1998: December 1998 [Monograph].

**De-Hegemonizing Language Standards: Learning from (Post) Colonial Englishes about “English”**, London: Macmillan, 1995

**Language & Rebellion: Discursive Unities and the Possibility of Protest**, London: Katha, 1990.

#### **Editorial and Collaborative Work**

*Strategic Plan: Transparency Maldives*, March 2013, prepared on the basis of stakeholder consultations, literature review and staff feedback.

*Report on AusAID’s Projects in Sri Lanka’s Conflict Areas, 2013*. Co-authored with Donna Holden and Ian Kidd.

*English in Sri Lanka: Ceylon English, Lankan English, Sri Lankan English* [coedited with Siromi Fernando and Manique Gunasekera] Colombo, 2012.

Chief Editor and Contributor, *National Integrity Study Report on Sri Lanka 2010* Transparency International Sri Lanka, Colombo, 2011

*Sri Lanka Governance Report 2009*, Transparency International Sri Lanka. Co-Editor and Contributor of article on post-conflict scenario in the north and east regions of Sri Lanka.

**TEC Local and National Capacities Evaluation, Regional Report covering Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Thailand**, May 2006 [co-author with Betty Scheper and Smruti Patel].

Includes four separate country studies and detailed claimholder survey reports (involving over 1000 respondents) for Sri Lanka and Indonesia.

**Evaluation Report on Oxfam Australia's Tsunami Response in India and Sri Lanka during the First Six Months, July 2005**

HURIST Reports on Macedonia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Indonesia (2004/05) co-authored.

**Report on Current Efforts to Facilitate Democratic and Pluralist Values Through Primary & Secondary Education in Sri Lanka** SIDA Consultancy (with 3 others), April 2001

**A Study of Institutional Development Promoted by Norwegian Non-Governmental Organisations** [Country Study of Sri Lanka] Dec.1997

Editor, **University of Colombo Review, Vol 11 (1998)**, with Introduction.

**Final Report of Election-Related Violence during Local Government Election Campaign (Feb 5<sup>th</sup> – March 21<sup>st</sup> 1997) and Presidential Election 1999**, for Centre for Monitoring Election Violence (CMEV) Colombo: 1997.

“The Rise of Ethnic Literatures in the US and the development of a Multicultural Society” joint paper with Dr. Lilamani de Silva, **Proceedings of American Studies Seminar** [Colombo: 1998]

**Articles & Chapters in Books**

Keywords Seminar, Jesus College, Cambridge, 2016 & 2017: Presentation of core concepts and keywords, “Black”, “Sustainability”, “Native”, “Muslim”, “Karma” and “Indigenous” which will be published in the Keywords Volume in 2018.

“Borrowed Lives Diverge Again: the Personas of *Pundit*, *Guru* and *Swami* in Different Englishes Today” Presentation at Keywords Conference, University of Pittsburgh, Jan 26, 2013 [to be published on Keywords website].

“The Malchemy of English in Sri Lanka: Reinforcing Extra-Linguistic Value and Inequality” in *The English Language as Hydra*, 2012 eds. Vaughan Rapatahana & Pauline Bunce

“Perennial Empire: Its Imagined Ends Now Ground the Rhetorical Means of Exclusion in Sri Lanka” in *Film and the End of Empire* eds. Grieveson and MacCabe, London: Macmillan 2012

“Assuring Inequality of Opportunity and Performance: Inappropriate Northern Norms Mask Southern Inadequacies” Chapter in Eds. Koo Yew Lie, Sarjit Kaur and Morshidi Sirat *Quality Assurance and University Rankings in the Asia Pacific: Country and Institutional Contexts*, Universiti Sains Malaysia Press 2011.

“English and Equity in Sri Lanka: Achievements, Setbacks, Challenges” Plenary Paper at Sri Lanka English Language Teachers' Association Biennial International Conference 2010, October 17, 2010 [to be published in Proceedings]

“Teaching me *your* language again: the cultural politics of English in Sri Lanka” Paper presented at

“Broadening Standards and Benefiting from Bilingualism in English Language Education” Plenary Paper presented at 2009 Malaysian English Language Teachers’ Association (MELTA) Conference in Johor Bahru on 11 June 2009 [Abstract published].

“The real power behind the throne: a discourse study of the role of student unions in university life” Paper presented at Peradeniya University Research Sessions (PURSE) on 18 Dec 2008 [Abstract published in Proceedings, Vol 13, Part 1, p. 61-2].

“Notes on Sentinel Arrengas and Self-Righteous Activists” in *The Nature of Sri Lanka* Colombo: Wildlight, 2008.

***The Relationship between Poverty, Conflict and Human Rights: A three-country study of Guatemala, Liberia and Nepal***, co-authored with Sakiko Fukuda-Parr and Juan Alberto Fuentes-Knight, 2007

“~~Bridging~~ Minding the Gaps: Translation & the Oppression of Pedagogy” Keynote Lecture, International Translation Conference, Peradeniya, August 13, 2006 [to be published]

“Applied Linguistics: Footnotes on an *Impoverished* Discourse” Main Plenary Lecture, SLELTA International Conference, Colombo, August 2, 2006 [to be published]

“The Enabling Double Miss: (Mis)Translation as The Norm of Postcolonial (Mis)Communication” Keynote Lecture, International Translation Conference, Colombo: 2004 [in press]

“*Baduth Unge, Naduth Unge*: The Tools and Rules are Theirs – Some Thoughts on the Language of Privilege and the Privilege of Language” Focus Paper, Fourth International Conference on World Englishes, Singapore, December 1997. [published as monograph in 2002]

Two Poems in **Poetry International 7/8 [2003-4], Special Double Issue Featuring English Language Poetry from Around the World**

“Means Without End: Emergency Humanitarian Assistance in Sri Lanka” Chapter in **Dying Like Flies: Local Organizations in Humanitarian Emergencies**, ed. Ian Smillie, Humanitarianism and War Project, Thomas J. Watson Jr. Institute for International Studies, Brown University, Kumarian Press: 2001.

“Adding Injury to Insult: Blasphemous Claims for the Belaboured Nativity of these Other Englishes” Review Essay, of **The Native Speaker: Multilingual Perspectives, Yearbook of South Asian Languages and Linguistics** 1999, Sage (New Delhi, California & London).

“Indexing Multiple Marginality for Poorest-Specific Programming” **AWARE Position Paper 9AP/1999**, December 1999.

“Talking, my dear chap, or the culture generally: The devastated words of Lakdasa Wikramasingha” in **Essays on Sri Lankan Poetry in English**, Colombo 1995.

“The Art of (w)riting oneself out of danger”, a review of James Fenton’s poetry, in **Critical Quarterly**, Vol 36 No: 2, Summer 1994.

**Media Monitor 1** “Monitoring of Newspapers Published in Sri Lanka”. Colombo: June 1997.

**Media Monitor 2** “Hegemony at Home: Racism, Sexism and the Media in Sri Lanka”, Dec.1997.

Freedom of Expression component in the **Human Rights Report on Sri Lanka** for 1994

Regular Arts/Culture column and Special Reports (on Human Rights issues, education, corruption, the economy etc.) for **Counterpoint** monthly magazine (1993 – 1996)

### **Textbooks**

Co-Author, GCE Advanced Level General English, Vol I & II [for use in *all* schools in Sri Lanka at the university entrance level], Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka, 2000. Revised in 2001.

### **Brief Summary of Papers Presented at Conferences/Workshops**

“Repairing a Spider’s Web by Hand: Thirteen Propositions on Subalternity and Language”  
University of Pittsburgh Humanities Center colloquium, Feb 21, 2013 [introduction to book]

“(Mi)Staking Subaltern Everyday Practice in Crisis: Mapping Borderline Mobility, Identity, Agency” Anthropology Colloquium Lecture, University of Pittsburgh, 25 January 2013

“Post-Identity in Post-Conflict: Post-Its on the Margins of Sri Lanka’s War and Peace” Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, USA, 12 September 2012

Plenary Speaker, National University of Malaysia SoLLS International Conference, May 2011

“Is English still an instrument of linguistic imperialism?” keynote speech at Symposium “Speak English Our Way”, Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies, Colombo, Jan 16, 2010.

Keynote Speaker, SLELTA Conference on Standards & Varieties of English, October 20, 2009

Conducted workshops on “Theoretical and Methodological Issues” in relation to designing new curricula at Rajarata University on August 24, 2009

Organised and led SLELTA Conference on Non-Institutional English Language Teaching and Learning at the University of Peradeniya on February 09, 2009. Prepared Concept Paper, provided introductory overview and final summary of conference.

“Development and the MDGs in the Context of Conflict: Things Bad Begun or Earnest of Success?”  
Main Plenary Lecture, in UNDP/IA/SNV international conference Towards the MDGs in Violent Conflict: A Call to Action for South Asia, Kathmandu June 22, 2005

“Going Beyond Affirmative Action: Strategies for the Inclusion of Multiply Marginalised Groups through a Conflict Transformation Process” Keynote Speech at National Dialogue/Workshop on Affirmative Action and Electoral System Reform in Nepal, Kathmandu, September 26, 2004

“Conflict-Sensitive Action Research Program Findings: The Impact of Conflict on Development/Poverty, and the Impact of Poverty/Development on Conflict in Nepal” (Kathmandu, Feb 2004)

“Accounting for Peace and Violence by Another Name: Heretical Thoughts from the Margins of the Sri Lankan Conflict” Cornell University, USA, February 7, 2003

“Development in Conflict or Conflict in Development: Security and Stability for Whom?”  
**Structural Threat to Social Integration: Social Roots of Violent Conflict & Indicators for Prevention**, UN Dept of Economic and Social Affairs, Expert Group Meeting, Dec 18 – 20, 2001

“Conflict and Development” Keynote Address (with Jose Ramos Horta),  
Oxfam Community Aid Abroad (Australia) Annual Conference, Brisbane, September 27, 2001

“Making It Up: Bringing (US) Literature to Crisis, American Literary  
Studies in Asia: An Asian Forum, April 19, 2002, Taipei, RoC 2002

“Affinities In Conflict: Strategies For Teaching Literature In Sri Lanka”  
Hong Kong Conference 2001

UNICEF South Asia Regional Planning Meeting, Katmandu, Nepal 1999

Workshop on Establishment of Voluntary Media Councils, South Africa 1998  
(Paper Presented on Sri Lankan Media Context and History)

FUTA Workshop on “Current Problems in the Universities” (Convenor) Jan 1997

Workshop on “Literature of Ethnicity” at American Studies Center,  
Salzburg, Austria. Sept. 1995

Subaltern Studies Conference, Colombo, Sri Lanka: Paper presented on  
Catherine Silva’s book of proto-feminist poetry (written in 1894) June 1995

Triennial ACLALS Conference, Colombo, Sri Lanka Aug 1995

Workshop on “Literary Translation” conducted by the University  
Of Warwick for the British Council Dec 1994

Detailed Report on Training Sector in NGOs of Sri Lanka Sept 1993

“Some Comments on Identity as a Function of Politics and Politics  
as a Function of Identity: at the Fourth Sri Lanka Studies Conference Aug 1993

Subaltern Studies Conference, Hyderabad, India: Paper presented on  
Discourse of/on commercial sex workers in urban Sri Lanka Jan 1993

### **Selected Lectures / Assignments**

Keynote Lecture, Cornell University, USA: “Sri Lanka: Dynamics of  
Violence, Challenges of Peace” February 7, 2003

“Policing the Disciplines: Representing Conflict and Generating  
Fictions” Department of English, University of Pittsburgh April 10, 2000

“Inter-Cultural and Inter-Ethnic Conflict Resolution: Some Heretical Thoughts” **University of Baltimore, Center for Negotiations & Conflict Management** March 11, 2000

“Voting for Peace? Violence at the Sri Lankan Presidential Election 1999” **Harvard University Center for Population and Development** February 10, 2000

“Thoughts on the Language of Value & the Value of Language”, **Keynote Address, Rotary Club of Colombo** November 1996

Lectures on “Sri Lankan Ethnic Crisis: Its Causes & Consequences” at [a] **Latrobe University, Melbourne**, [b] **Australian National University, Canberra**, [c] **Australian NGO Coalition, Melbourne** in March/April 1996.

#### **Other Affiliations, Posts Held**

Secretary, Federation of University Teachers’ Associations (FUTA) 2016 Nov to date  
President, Peradeniya Arts Faculty Teachers’ Association (PAFTA) 2016 to date

Member, Advisory Committee on the Presidential Initiative to steer Sri Lanka towards a Trilingual Society (to prepare 10-year Master Plan) 2010 - 2011

President, Sri Lanka English Language Teachers’ Association (SLELTA) 2008 - 2010

Member, English Advisory Committee, Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka 2000 – 2001, 2005

Member, Curriculum Development Panel, Advanced Level English, Presidential Task Force on Education 1999

Member, Border Village Citizens Commission, Sri Lanka 1999

Director, Centre for Policy Alternatives, Sri Lanka 1999 to 2003

Member, Advisory Committee, Centre for the Study of Human Rights 1993/96

Member, Standing Committee for the Humanities and Social Sciences, University Grants Commission, Sri Lanka 1996/97

Chair, Committee of Heads, English Language Teaching Units, Sri Lanka 1996

Acting President, Sri Lanka Association for Commonwealth Language & Literary Studies 1995/96

Editor in Chief, **University of Colombo Review** 1997 to 1999

Editor, **Phoenix**, Journal of the Sri Lanka Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language 1997/98

Vice President, Federation of University Teachers’ Associations, Sri Lanka 1995/96

Director, Environmental Foundation Limited 1992/95

Committee Member, March for Conservation, Sri Lanka 1994 to 1997