



## **Demise of Prof. Jayadeva Thilakasiri** Emeritus Professor of Sanskrit

It is with great sorrow that I announce the demise of Jayadeva Thilakasiri (b. 1921), Emeritus Professor of Sanskrit, University of Peradeniya.

As the successor of Prof. O. H. De. A. Wijesekera, Prof. Thilakasiri served in the capacity of the Chair Professor of Sanskrit at the Department of Classical Languages, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya from 1968 to 1982. He rendered a significant service to enhance Sanskrit scholarship in Sri Lanka and to deepen our understanding of traditional arts and crafts including puppetry and handicraft. The scope of his works on Sanskrit ranges from Sanskrit grammar to poetical and scientific literature, while many of his works are included in the prescribed readings for university students on Sanskrit, Indian History, Indian Philosophy, Fine Arts, and Sinhala literature. Further, he represented Sri Lanka for long at the Union Internationale de la Marionnette (International Puppetry Association) and commendably put the puppetry in Sri Lanka in the limelight by writing extensively on it and promoting puppetry performances in many countries.

The funeral arrangements will be notified later.

Dean - Faculty of Arts  
29.11.2018