

10th August 2006

The historic city of Galle hosts Sri Lanka's first literary festival

From the 11th to 14th January 2007, the southern seaside town of Galle will host Sri Lanka's premier literary festival. The "Galle Literary Festival" promises to be a world class event providing locals and international visitors with a chance to come and enjoy their favourite Sri Lankan & International authors and engage in conversations about a wide selection of books & topics.

The premier festival will focus on celebrating Sri Lankan literature and raise awareness of the great depth and diversity of Sri Lankan authors & their contribution to the English language.

The four day programme will be filled with writing workshops, panel discussions, topical debates, literary lunches & dinners, poetry readings, cooking classes, theatre workshops, a children's program and much more.

Since Robert Knox's book first appeared in 1681, the English speaking world has been captivated by this resplendent island in the Indian Ocean. In recent decades Sri Lankan Writers have further contributed to the development of English literature, and are now regularly nominated for leading literary awards. In addition there have been many art & lifestyle books produced on Sri Lankan culture and way of life. As a result people have been eager to visit the island and see for themselves why it attracted authors like Mark Twain, Pablo Neruda and Anton Chekhov and why Sir Arthur C Clarke has made it is home for the last 50 years.

The 2007 festival will honour one of Sri Lanka's renowned and international authors, the late Nihal De Silva whose work has assisted raising the awareness of writing in English by Sri Lankan authors around the world.

The organizers of the festival plan for The Galle Literary Festival to become one of the latest & most successful festivals to join a family of well established literary festivals around the world. Not only will the event attract guests from around the world but a key focus will be on gaining the support of the local community & businesses.

The Galle Literary Festival will be held in & around the historic city of Galle and its magnificent UN World Heritage Fort. Galle offers the perfect location for the literary festival providing a range of unique & memorable venues for individual events as well as providing the perfect springboard for which visitors can explore the rich culture & history of the coastline & villages of the Southern Province.

The Galle Literary Festival promises to be one of Sri Lanka's annual highlights.

For more information on how you can participate & support The Galle Literary Festival contact:

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