

Listening to parents



Evinya Alweera

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A.M. Evinya Alweera

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Tom and the Naughty Bear 2026

K/ Mahamaya girls' College

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Dedication

I dedicate this book
to my parents,
my siblings
and my school,
in gratitude for their constant love and
support.

Preface



In an increasingly complex global future, the "Hemamala Upahara" book project, led by Mahamaya Girls' College, stands as a turning point in girls' education. Over a decade, it has successfully nurtured thousands of children to become young authors.

This year, by collaborating with other schools, we aimed to provide students with a wealth of new experiences. The goal was to develop multi-faceted skills, including communication, values, and creative growth. As a result, children have written books that pay tribute to Princess Hemamala, who brought the Sacred Tooth Relic—the supreme symbol of the Buddhist world—to the Hill Country (Kandy).

I extend my gratitude to everyone involved, including the students who contributed their creativity and the teachers who guided them.

Shashikala Senadhira

Principal

Mahamaya Girls' College

Congratulatory Message

It is a great honor for me, as the Governor of the Central Province, to send a congratulatory message for the launch of the books created through the Hemamala Tribute Book Creation Project initiated by Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy.

Education is the fundamental foundation for the progress of society, and it is further strengthened through books and literary creations. It is clearly commendable that students' talents, creativity, and intellectual abilities are emerging through projects such as this.

I believe that this book creation project will provide valuable knowledge and a precious literary contribution not only to the students but to the entire society. Furthermore, I hope that through such efforts, future writers who will bring pride to Sri Lanka will emerge.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation and blessings to the Principal, the academic staff, the students, and everyone involved who dedicated themselves to this successful endeavor. I wish this project and the book launch ceremony great success.

Sarath B.S. Abeykoon

Governor, Central Province

Emeritus Professor, University of Peradeniya

2026-05-10

Congratulatory Message

I highly appreciate the noble and outstanding effort of the Principal and the academic staff of Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy, the student daughters, the students of other participating schools, and everyone who dedicated themselves to plan and implement this book publication project. The project was organized under the leadership of Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy, with the participation of other schools in the Kandy Zone, with the aim of encouraging children toward book creation within the current school system, as a tribute to Hemamala Kumariya who brought the Sacred Tooth Relic to Sri Lanka.

For several decades, Sri Lanka has been committed to providing free, compulsory, quality, and equitable education to all children, thereby producing a future generation of intelligent and skilled citizens. In such a context, this book creation program for school children helps develop creative ability, critical thinking, and other positive qualities for a balanced and well-rounded personality, and contributes to building a future knowledge-based society.

May all activities of the Hemamala Tribute Book Creation Project be successful through the blessings of the Sacred Tooth Relic.

Pradeep Nilanga Dela

Diyawadana Nilame,

Sri Dalada Maligawa.

2026.05.10.

Once upon a time, there was a little boy named Tim who didn't always listen to his parents. One sunny day, Tim asked, "Can I go to the forest by myself?" His parents looked at each other and said, "No, Tim. It's not safe for you to go to the forest alone."



Tim felt very angry. He wanted to go so badly! But his parents said no, and that made him upset. Even though his parents said no, Tim didn't listen. Instead, he packed his small bag and walked away toward the forest.

Tim walked and walked into the big, green forest. The trees were tall and the leaves made funny sounds in the wind. Tim liked walking, but after a while, he heard a big

noise. He stopped and looked around carefully. Suddenly, Tim saw a huge lion! The lion was very big, with a shiny mane and sharp teeth!

Tim was scared. He started to run as fast as he could. His heart was beating fast, and his legs felt like they were moving too slow. Tim ran all the way back home without stopping. When Tim reached his house, he was very tired and out of breath.

His parents were waiting at the door. They hugged him tightly and said, "We were so worried! You must always listen to us because we want to keep you safe." Tim nodded and said, "I'm sorry. I won't go anywhere without asking you again."

From that day, Tim learned that listening to his parents was very important. One day, Tim saw the swimming pool outside and asked, "Can I go to the pool now?" His

parents said, "No, Tim. Not today." This time, Tim listened right away and did not go.

Tim felt proud because he understood that his parents said no to keep him safe. He knew it was important to listen, even if he didn't always want to at first.

So, Tim grew up happily and safely, always listening to his parents.



Afterword

With the approval of the Ministry of Education, this research-based project has empowered thousands of student authors for over ten years. Educationists recognize it as a program that significantly enhances the quality of school education.

In alignment with modern educational reforms, encouraging students to author a research work is a milestone in this journey. In this digital age of "Smart" technology, the modern school must demonstrate through research that books and technology should be used together. This is because the unique joy a child receives from a book cannot be replaced by anything else.

To prevent children from drifting away from books—which remain our primary educational tool and storehouse of human knowledge—Mahamaya Girls' College has spearheaded the "Hemamala Upahara" project for many years. Its primary objectives are to foster academic discipline, promote values, and pay tribute to Princess Hemamala, who fulfilled a historic mission to empower women.

We express our gratitude to the Principal, teachers, parents, alumni of Mahamaya Girls' College, representatives of other schools, the Diyawadana Nilame, and the staff of the Sri Dalada Maligawa (Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic) for their support.

Seneviratne Mahalekam

(Project Creator)