

The Friendly Dinosaurs



W.A.D. Thiseni Hiyansa

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Author's other publications

- The Kind Fairy

Mahamaya Girls' College Kandy

6 – F

Date of Publication – 2026/05/10

ISBN

978-624-211-060-8

Foreword



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.

Chapter 1

One day there was a girl named Flora. She lived in the woods with her family. Her mother and father told Flora not to go far into the woods because it was dangerous, but they didn't tell her what the danger was. So she was not scared at all.

One evening, it was Flora's birthday, but there was no cake to celebrate. Flora said that she could stay with her younger sister while her parents went to get a cake. Her mom and dad agreed and told her not to go anywhere. Flora was very hungry, and she went into the woods to pick



some berries. But her sister was alone in their house. Quickly, Flora came home, but her sister was missing. Flora searched for her everywhere but didn't find her. Flora decided to go farther into the woods to look for her.

While Flora was walking and searching for her sister, she heard a merry sound. She walked toward where the sound was coming from. A few minutes later, Flora saw a beautiful garden full of wonderful flowers. She was excited, and then she walked straight ahead cheerfully. Suddenly, Flora saw some bushes moving. She was afraid, but it was a rabbit. Afterward, she saw a castle. Flora went inside the castle. Then she looked for some food and saw three bowls of yummy treats. First, she ate some treats from the biggest bowl, but they tasted sour. So she tried the medium bowl, it was not good either. She ate the food in the small bowl, and it was delicious. Then she fell asleep on the sofa.

When she woke up, Flora heard footsteps, and then she hid in the corner. A mother, a father, and a baby came in,

they were dinosaurs. They walked near their bowls to eat. The father dinosaur was furious because someone had eaten his food. The mother dinosaur was angry because her treats were eaten too. The baby dinosaur cried with sadness because his bowl was empty. The three of them walked to the sofa and noticed someone had slept on it. When they looked around, they saw Flora hiding in a small spot. They chased after her. Her sister walked towards Flora. They both ran out of the castle and went to their house. Their mom and dad were searching for them everywhere. Flora told them everything that had happened.

Then her parents scolded her for going into the woods. While they were going to cut the cake, someone knocked on the door. The dinosaurs were there, but Flora wasn't scared at all. She apologized for her mistake. Finally, the dinosaurs were happy and joined Flora's birthday party. Even the baby dinosaur gave her a small gift, and they became friends. They all lived happily in the woods.



Chapter 2

That day, Flora goes to a school near the woods. But the baby dinosaur was not happy about that because when Flora went to school, she was coming in the evening. Dinosaur mom and dad told their baby not to trouble her, so the baby was very angry.

Next day, while Flora was eating breakfast, the baby dinosaur jumped into the backpack to go to school. When she put the backpack on her back, it was very heavy, but Flora didn't care about that.

After she went to school, her teacher told everyone to keep their homework in the desk. Flora opened the bag to get the book. She was excited because the baby dinosaur was there. She carefully zipped up the bag.

Her friend Mona asked her why she didn't do the homework. Flora smiled at her and told her, "My sister was sick yesterday, so we went to the hospital." Then Mona was confused and tried to find her homework, but Flora quickly threw the bag to the corner.

Her friend said, "What are you hiding from me?"

Flora told, "I forgot to do dancing practice."

She went to the washroom and opened the bag, but the baby dinosaur was not there. Flora remembered where she had thrown her backpack. She ran to the place where she threw her backpack. Flora saw children were playing with him.



When she went near to hide him somewhere, the principal arrived and noticed a baby dinosaur was in the school. So,

the principal punished her for bringing a dinosaur to school.

Flora cried and went home with the baby dinosaur. He was sad because he did a wrong thing. But all of them came forward and told the baby dinosaur a good news. It was there is no school for a month during the bad weather. He was happy to hear that news. They both played with joy.

Chapter 3

Flora the baby dinosaur spent the holidays. The school would start tomorrow, but she didn't like it and was very bored going to school. Flora had a good idea. Quickly, she went near the refrigerator and ate a bucket full of ice cream.

In the night, when her mom told her to get a bath, Flora poured the huge tub with cold water and filled it with ice cubes. She got an extremely cold bath. The next morning, when her mom went to wake her up, she was very ill. Flora cried because she did it on her own.

Flora's father picked her up and took her to the hospital to get some medicine. The doctor said that she had to rest

for at least one week. When she got home, Mom told her to sleep for a while, but she refused to get nap.

When Flora was lying in bed, she saw her sister and baby dinosaur playing happily. She looked after Mom and went to play. Her sister said that she could not play because she was sick. Then their mom saw them shouting continuously. Mom scolded them and told Flora to rest. She was very angry and wanted to escape from the house.

A few hours later, Flora saw the baby dinosaur and her sister going to get a shower. Flora asked her mom, “Can I get a shower too?” But her mom ignored her and said no. Flora didn’t listen to her mom and got a wash.

A week passed and still Flora was sick. Mom told her to listen to them usually so she would be well again. Flora paid attention to her parents. Soon she became healthy and went to school again. She never tried not to go to school again.



Chapter 4

A few years later, Flora was in grade eight. Even the dinosaur had grown bigger and bigger. One night, while they were watching television, a strange noise came from outside. Flora peeped out of the window, but nobody was there.

A week passed, and already she began to hear strange sounds. Some of her things were missing. She did not

ignore it. One day, while Flora was doing laundry, she heard a cracking sound in the bedroom. She went there and saw that the window was cracked and the dinosaur was missing.



She decided to call the police, but first she called her mom and dad. Then she remembered that they were in Tokyo until her younger sister finished her tournament. So, Flora called Uncle Daran. When he answered, she told him that her dinosaur was missing. He asked how it happened. Flora said she didn't know, but the glass was broken. She thought the dinosaur had jumped away. "I'll find him," said Flora sadly.

She thought that if someone saw a dinosaur, they would call a zoo and keep it to get some money. The next day, she

went to a nearby zoo. It was full of dinosaurs, but she couldn't find her own. While she was searching, the zookeeper asked what she was looking for.

Flora said, "I'm looking for a huge dinosaur. It has dots and stripes on his back, and it is red."

The zookeeper said, "Oh, that's the dragon we got yesterday. I'll show him."

Flora went there and saw him. She said she needed to get him back. The zookeeper said, "If you want to free him, give us 5,000 dollars, because we got him for that price."

Flora didn't have much money, so she walked away crying and begging for money. One man gave her some coconuts, and a child gave her some electronic devices. Then she had a great idea.

She made small key chains, and everyone bought them because of their beauty. Still, the money was not enough.

So, she bought some ice cream and sold them. Flora earned all the money. She rescued the dinosaur.

Moral:

We shouldn't give up on everything. We should move forward with enthusiasm.

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)

ISBN
978-624-211-060-8