

# ART AND TRADITION OF SRI LANKA

Volume 02

Dance of Sri Lanka

Dr. Priyanka Virajini  
Medagedara Karunaratne



Dr. Priyanka Virajini Medagedara Karunaratne, the author of this book is one who can speak with authority on such subjects as Historical dress and textiles, Fashion Design, Fine Arts and cultural studies of the people of Sri Lanka.

She has had a remarkably diversified academic career and the distinction of being educated at the foremost Universities of Sri Lanka and the United Kingdom. Having graduated with a first class Honours Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from the University of Peradeniya, she was awarded the first Mr & Mrs Ukkubandara Ranathunga Gold Medal for the most outstanding graduand for best performances and obtaining the highest average marks in Fine Arts at the University of Peradeniya at the general convocation held in 2000. She was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy in Integrated Design from the University of Moratuwa in 2012 and the University Newsletter stated that she was one of the first PhD in the field of Fashion Design in Sri Lanka. Prior to obtaining the PhD she completed a Post Graduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching in Arts, Design and Communication from the Centre for Learning and Teaching in Arts and Design of the University of the Arts London, London, UK in 2006.

She was a past pupil of Maliyadeva Girl's college, Kurunegala for a very short period of time and completed her primary and secondary education at St/Joseph's Convent Kegalle. She was also awarded two silver medals the prestigious Shankar's International Arts competition, India and a Gold medal from Kanagawa Children's Art competition, Japan. In the period of 1988-1992 she won 21 arts competitions.

Her professional career has started as a commercial artist at the Audio Visual Centre, Department of Agriculture, Gannoruwa and advertising artist at the art Department of Tropical Seed Company PVT ,Ltd Colombo 02, prior to entering to the University of Peradeniya. At present she serves as Senior Lecturer in Fashion Design & Product Development at the Department of Textile & Clothing Technology, Faculty of Engineering, and University of Moratuwa. This is the first publication of the author based on her Doctoral research.

Rs. 950/= US\$ 15

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No. 661, 665, 675, P. de S. Kularatne Mawatha,  
Colombo 10, Sri Lanka.  
Tel.: (011) 2685369, 2686925, Fax: 2674187  
www.godage.com godageem@slt.lk

ISBN 978-955-30-9369-1



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