

JAPANESE TAIKO FESTIVAL AT UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA

Sri Lanka Japan Study Centre (SLJSC), University of Peradeniya organized a “Japanese Taiko Festival” on July 03, 2015 at 5.00 p.m. in the Appadurai Auditorium, Faculty of Agriculture Library Complex. The event was co-organized by **Embassy of Japan** in Sri Lanka and Japanese NPO “**Mango House**”. Prof. S. Samitha Director Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA) graced the occasion as the chief guest representing the Vice chancellor University of Peradeniya. Mr. Miyata Kenji, Head public affairs at Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka was the guest of honor of the event. Over 250 participants including academic, non-academic staff and students from university of Peradeniya, school children and parents from Peradeniya and Kandy area, and students from Sputnik Institute Kurunagala experienced the Japanese traditional music, drums and dances. Prof. Missaka Wijayagunawardena Director SLJSC welcomed the audience and Prof. Samitha and Mr. Miyata Kenji addressed the gathering. Mr. Hiroto Sagawa from the Sputnik Institute delivered the vote of thanks. A group of Japanese lead by Mr. Haruto Koji from Japan Taiko Association performed the traditional musical instruments such as Japanese drums, cello, conch shell, sho and bamboo and flute, as well as traditional dances of Japan. The event was concluded with a one-hour cultural exchange between Japanese performers and local audience. The participants enjoyed the playing of traditions Japanese drums and instruments and friendly discussion with performers. Mr. Takaoka from Japanese Embassy, Mr. Akito Koji and Mr. Kenath Kaunda Fernando from Mango House NPO coordinated the event.





Registration of the participants



Traditional lighting of the oil lamp



From the Left; Welcome speech by Director SLJSC Prof. Missaka Wijayagunawardane, Speech Mr. Miyata Kenji Head public affairs at Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka, and Speech by the chief guest Prof. S. Samitha Director Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA)



Part of the Invitees and Audience



Performances



Cultural exchange between Japanese performers and participates, and Vote of thanks by Mr. Hiroto Sagawa