



Message from the Conference Chair

I am truly delighted to share my thoughts as the Conference Chair of the second Annual Symposium convened by the National Centre for Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences (NCAS).

It is very encouraging to observe that the authors, who are NCAS grantees, both past and present, are actively engaged in diverse research endeavours. For this year's conference we received more than 100 abstracts and out of these, only 40 were selected for presentations because of the time constraints. Almost all the other abstracts were published after careful revisions upon the reviewer's comments.

This year's conference theme is 'Engineering Social Transformation through Research and Development'. Abstracts were invited under 8 different sub-themes. Research from diverse backgrounds from scholars around the nation constitute this year's Symposium. It is inspiring to see that scholars are enthusiastic and passionate about the quality of their research work and that their work contribute towards the enhancement of knowledge in their respective fields of study and at a larger scale, towards the development of our country.

I am thankful to the Director of the NCAS Dr. R. M. K. Ratnayake, for the guidance and independence given to me in organizing the symposium. My sincere thanks also go out to the symposium committee, consisted of NCAS grantees and to all the members of staff of NCAS. I am also grateful to all the reviewers of the abstracts, chairpersons of the proceedings and to many others who have supported me in many ways in organizing the symposium and making it a great success.

I wish you all a very interesting and a fruitful academic session.

Prof. Indralal De Silva
Senior Research Fellow
National Centre for Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences (NCAS).
Colombo 07
Sri Lanka