

Sri Lanka - a centre for positive youth participation

World Youth Day Festival 2012



A dance item

Maharagama special correspondent

Here are the highlights of the World Youth Day festival 2012 which was held recently at the Independence Square and the adjoining hockey sports grounds, Colombo 7.

Nearly 2500 youth all around Sri Lanka assembled at the Cinnamon Garden Police Station premises under the patronage

of the Youth Affairs and Skills Development Minister Dallus Alahapperuma. Vast number of veteran artists, scholars, politicians and foreign representatives were also present. The youth peace march started from the police grounds towards the Independence Square.

Unlike other walks and in demonstrations they had no slogans at their march. They

sang songs on youth peace and harmony.

The foreign volunteers who are working in Sri Lanka in vivid projects for the betterment of the youth played a major role at the parade.

The message sent by the secretary of the United Nations (UN) Ban Ki Moon was read out by a youth at the special platform built in Independence Square. The marching

event of the youth wearing five coloured caps resembling five continents was a fine scenery.

The singing sound of the youth echoed in the city. The dancing and music tamasha of the festival performed in front of the historical Independence Square was a matchless extravaganza.

The most glorious event of the festival was the human mosaic

ic that designed in the shape of the world map. The lighting of the human mosaic signified the positive contribution that youth had pledged to make. This reflected the global theme of this year 'Light up the world.' Youth were holding colour coded lights that evening to light up the world and highlighted Sri Lanka as a centre for positive youth participation.



The Sri Lankan youth and the volunteers of UK leading the parade carrying the only placard



The massive crowd present at the ceremony including the Youth Affairs and Skills Development Minister, Dallus Alahapperuma



The UK volunteers in Sri Lanka



The youth who took part at the walk singing the international song of the youth



The human mosaic designed by the youth in the shape of the world map



A dance which resembling the unity, integrity, peace and harmony of the global youth



The Kandyan dancers Pix and Text Wehelle Piyathilaka



The Western band leading the parade