



Veteran lyricist Sunil Ariyaratne being conferred a felicitation award by Principal Sandamali Aviruppola



CELEBRATING DISSENTING VOICES

Visakha Media Day: *Sankhaudha 2013*



Visharada Nanda Malini performing at the Visakha Media Day



Visharada Nanda Malini's granddaughter Randi Gamage performing

KATHYA DE SILVA

Visakha Vidyalaya Media Day, Sankhaudha 2013, was held recently at the school premises on a grand scale with veteran lyricist Sunil Ariyaratne and veteran singer Visharadha Nanda Malini gracing the occasion as Chief Guests. Well-known lyricist Nilar N Cassim who was a special guest gave the introductory speech.

Teacher-in-charge Isindra Jayaweera and the students of the Media Circle of the school chose a unique theme to celebrate Media Day. The theme was 'Protest alternative media. Deviating from traditional themes, Sankhaudha 2013 celebrated dissenting voices to promote social harmony and bring positive changes in society.

Sunil Ariyaratne and Nanda Malini were felicitated with honour awards from Principal Sandamali Aviruppola for their contribution to 'Protest Media.' Their efforts in bringing about social awareness to pertinent social issues were thus recognised.

Song as a medium to protest injustice was highlighted throughout the Media Day. Songs of Nanda Malini that urges social consciousness were sung by the students of Visakha Vidyalaya. 'Mongoliyanuwane, Denodahak Dena, Dasamasak, Panampattuwe Dingiri Amma, Elaila Elado' were some of the songs that were given pride of place. Nanda

Malini's granddaughter, Randi Gamage who is also a Visakhi-an sang one of her grandmother's songs, 'Vilak Unath,' which was among the many highlights of the event.

Nanda Malini too took to the stage with the songs Mage Deshaya and Sarungale mesmerizing the audience with her unmatched voice. The second edition of Deepayamana, the school newspaper published by the Media Circle was also presented to the invitees.



Performances by students. Pictures by Saliya Rupasinghe



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