

THE WARBLER

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Dear Student, Artist, Thinker, Friend,

Sri Lanka, an island located in the Indian Ocean, is rich in natural resources. In this issue of *The Warbler*, we will bring you information describing the islands history, the struggles they have had, and the victories. You will become more aware of how youth and music has played a part in the current revolution and the beauty of the island.

One interesting fact about Sri Lanka is that it has the highest percentage of protected land compared to other Asian countries and across the world. There are 92 Key Biodiversity designated areas, which are listed as irreplaceable. What a treasure this lush island is!! We hope this issue peaks your interest and you come away with the desire to learn more.

Tammy and the APAEP Team



“Sri Lanka is an island that everyone loves at some level inside themselves. A very special island that travelers, from Sinbad to Marco Polo, dreamed about. A place where the contours of the land itself forms a kind of sinewy poetry.” ROMESH GUNESKERA // British writer

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic in Kandy, which draws worshipers to its evening worship ceremony, or puja; passengers on the train from Kandy to Ella; Nine Arch Bridge

Photos by David Blacker for *The New York Times*

WORDS INSIDE

FOUND INSIDE “THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF SRI LANKA ...”

botanical | relating to plants

FOUND INSIDE “HOW MUSIC ROCKED SRI LANKA’S ...”

Sinhala | Indo-Aryan language native to Sri Lanka

FOUND INSIDE RANDOM NEST

equanimity | mental calmness, composure, especially in a difficult situation

...

HISTORY

Sri Lanka | An Introductory Essay

BY JOHN MAJOR | *Asia Society*

Sri Lanka is an island nation located in the Indian Ocean, just off the southeastern coast of India. Despite its modest size—slightly larger than the state of West Virginia—Sri Lanka has a population of about 20 million people, almost equal to the population of Texas. The island is rich in natural resources, and has a diverse economy based on agriculture, mining, fishing, manufacturing, and tourism. On becoming an independent nation in 1948 Sri Lanka (formerly called Ceylon) seemed to be headed for a future as a stable and prosperous democracy. Since the 1970s, however, the country has been torn by violent struggles between the two main ethnic groups, Sinhalese and Tamils, that make up its population. Sri Lanka suffered severe damage and loss of life from the tsunami of 2004.

Geography

Shaped like a teardrop, the island of Sri Lanka measures about 255 miles (415 km.) from north to south, and about 135 miles (220 km.) from east to west, with a total land area of about 25,300 square miles (65,600 square km.). It has more than 830 miles (1340 km.) of coastline. The island is ringed by a broad coastal plain, rising to an inland terrain of gently rolling hills. A range of mountains dominates the south-central interior, with the highest peak, Mt. Pidurutalagala, reaching more than 8200 feet (2524 meters) in height.

Located between 5 and 10 degrees latitude north of the equator, Sri Lanka has a tropical climate dominated by two monsoon seasons. Monsoon rains are constant and heavy, with up to 100 inches of rain per month falling during the summer monsoon in the southwest. The climate is hot and humid for much of the year, but is cooler in the highlands.

Trade and the Colonial Era

Long-distance ocean trade in the Indian Ocean region has existed since ancient times. The Roman Empire imported luxury goods from Sri Lanka, including gemstones and cinnamon. Sri Lankan ships sailed as far west as Arabia, and as far east as China. Arab and Persian merchants knew Sri Lanka as the island of Serendib (a word that gives us “serendipity,” meaning “something which comes as a pleasant surprise”). “Treasure ships” sent by the emperor of Ming Dynasty China visited Sri Lanka during the 15th century.

Sri Lanka began to feel the impact of Europe soon after Portuguese ships found their way to the Indian Ocean at the end of the 15th century. Because Sri Lanka was rich in goods that Europeans wanted, and

also because it is a convenient place to stop on the way from Europe to Indonesia and China, Europeans competed to control the island and its trade. The Portuguese conquered Sri Lanka’s coastal cities in the 16th century but faced fierce competition from the Dutch for control of the island. By 1707 the Dutch had captured the last of the Portuguese forts along the coast and became the main European power in Sri Lanka, but they in turn lost out to the British in 1795-96. By 1818 the British had also defeated the independent inland Kingdom of Kandy, and the whole island of Sri Lanka became part of the British Empire.

Under British colonial rule, the economy of Sri Lanka was transformed to become a producer of agricultural products for foreign trade. Soon the economy was dominated by plantation crops such as coffee, tea, rubber, and coconuts. The British authorities also encouraged the migration of Tamil laborers from southern India to Sri Lanka to work on the plantations. Colonial rule created new elite groups, including plantation managers, intellectuals who took advantage of the opportunity to gain a western-style education, and bureaucrats who worked for the colonial government. But ethnic problems continued to complicate Sri Lankan national life.

Independence

All over South Asia (including today’s countries of India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Pakistan, and Bangladesh), resistance to British rule grew rapidly after the end of World War I in 1919. In Sri Lanka, which was comparatively small, stable, and well governed under British rule, the country’s first democratic election was held in 1931. A movement toward economic self-determination leading to full independence was spearheaded by Sri Lanka’s greatest modern leader, Don Stephen Senanayake (1884-1952). ●

“Sri Lanka is a beautiful little island nation perched perilously close to India; a little too hot, a little too humid, and perhaps too expensive, but to its credit are fantastic beaches, strangely melancholy hills, and the ruins of kingdoms past.”

YUDHANJAYA WIJERATNE //
Sri Lankan researcher and science fiction author

● Edited for space

SRI LANKA LOCATION MAP



TRAVEL

The Natural Beauty of Sri Lanka in a Nutshell

BY LAKSHI | *Medium* | July 19, 2020

Many of us love to feel natural beauty and to be with nature. So, we are always searching for cascading destinations to touch the allure of nature. Sri Lanka, a beautiful island located in the Indian ocean is one of the best destinations to embrace natural beauty with varieties of climatic surroundings, pleasing natural sceneries, and glorious nature locations. This island has plenty of natural destinations which can dazzle your eyes. In the year 2019, the tourism-based website “lonely planet” offered Sri Lanka among the best tourist destinations and attractions in the world. Considering the cultural and natural attractions of this island, it can be divided into several varieties like cultural heritage sites, religious sites, and nature sites. Normally, the arrival of tourists to this country from different countries is very high. They all prefer above mentioned three categories of attractions. Among them, natural beauty is in the first place.

This island consists of world-famous destinations with both historical value and natural beauty. The Sigiriya rock fortress, Galle old dutch fortress, Sri pada mountain, and Temple of the Tooth relic in Kandy are some of them. These places offer you blended experiences of nature as well as the historical beauty of Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka offers distinct climatic zones which include the feelings of hot, mild, and cold weather. This island is like a heaven on earth. The Southern and Eastern coastal belts are the main locations in Sri Lanka to experience the hot weather under the bright sun and with the warm salty sea breeze. Among them, the cities like Hikkaduwa, Mirrissa, Unawatuna, Nilaweli, Pasikuda, and Negombo in the western part of Sri Lanka are the most glamorous places to encounter sandy beaches and bright sunshine.

The other cascading nature locations are located in the misty highlands of Sri Lanka. The destinations like Horton plains, Ella, City of Kandy, City of Nuwara Eliya, and Knuckles mountain range are enchanting destinations in the hill-country. The foliage and the greenery in the hill country of Sri Lanka will bring you a heavenly feeling. The flowers, waterfalls, rivers, paddy fields, and the tea cultivated lands in the hill country are the charms of these locations.

The beauty of these marvelous locations is difficult to describe. This glamour should be experienced personally through your own eyes.

Moreover, Sri Lanka is one of the best destinations to observe wildlife. It offers safari rides and tours to the thorny, dry forest reserves with natural wild habitats. The wildlife parks situated in Yala, Wilpattu, and Wasgamuwa are popular around the world for wildlife safaris in Sri Lanka. If you want to watch the tamed elephants, Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage will offer you a great opportunity.

The vegetation of this island is native to its climate. So, there are charming botanical gardens and forest reservations where you can research and be with the natural vegetation of Sri Lanka. The Peradeniya, the Haggala, and the Victoria botanical gardens in Nuwara Eliya are some of the most famous and eye-catching on the island. The Sinharaja forest reservation is also a world-famous rain forest that is nominated by UNESCO as a world heritage site.

So, the pearl of the Indian Ocean; Sri Lanka, is a wonderful place to feel the divine aspects of natural and cultural beauty. ●



Top: Sigiriya Rock Fortress
Above: coconut tree hill, Mirissa Beach



Below: Nine Arch Bridge, Ella

MATHEMATICS

Sudoku

#271 PUZZLE NO. 3074853

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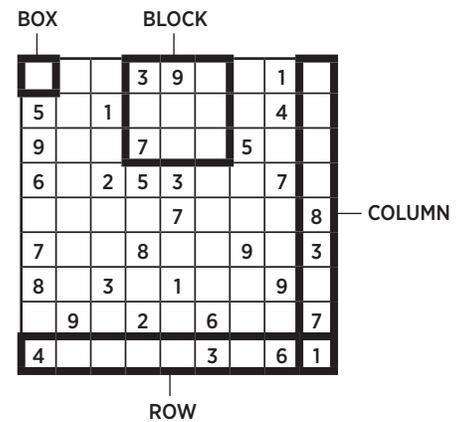
#272 PUZZLE NO. 4977598

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| 3 | | | 9 | | | | 2 | 7 |
| | | | | 5 | | | | 3 |
| | 1 | 4 | 2 | | | | | |

©Sudoku.cool

SUDOKU HOW-TO GUIDE

1. Each block, row, and column must contain the numbers 1-9.
2. Sudoku is a game of logic and reasoning, so you should not need to guess.
3. Don't repeat numbers within each block, row, or column.
4. Use the process of elimination to figure out the correct placement of numbers in each box.
5. The answers appear on the last page of this newsletter.



What the example will look like solved 📌

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| 2 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 6 |
| 5 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 9 |
| 9 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 2 |
| 6 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 4 |
| 3 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 7 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 3 |
| 8 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 5 |
| 1 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| 4 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 1 |



“In Sri Lanka curiosity was not a trait encouraged among children, particularly in girls, because those in power – often males, but anyone older, or of higher caste, education or influence – were always right and their reasons needn’t be explained or understood to the subordinate.”

NIROMI DE SOYZA // Sri Lankan author

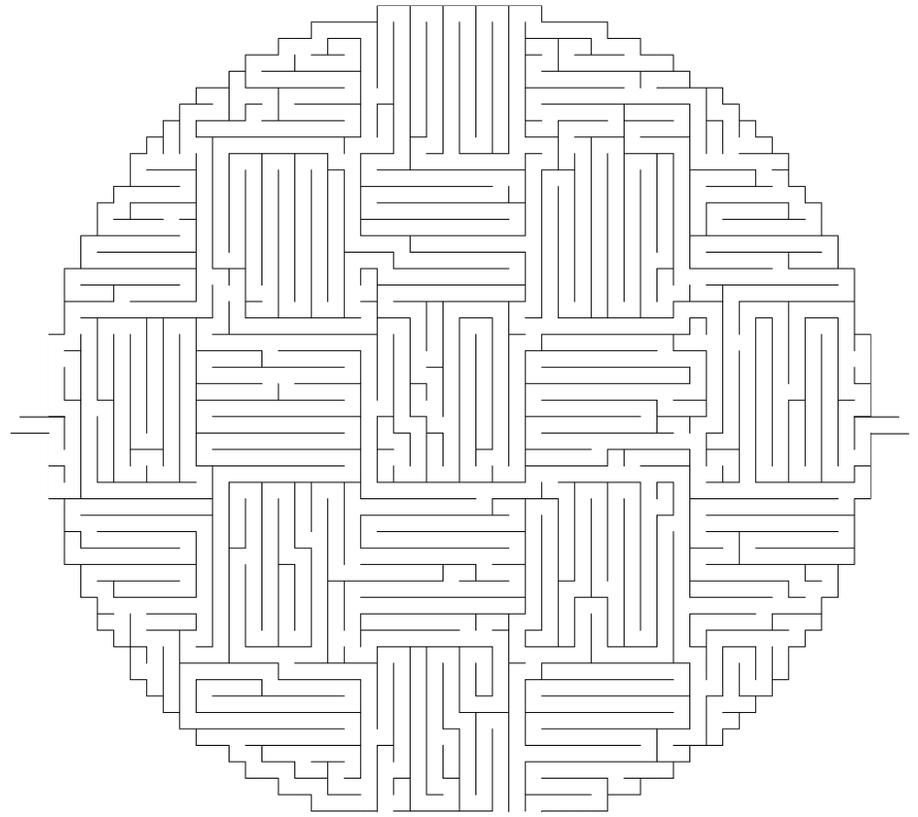
DID YOU KNOW?

Sri Lanka is a proud home to around **91 mammal species** distributed throughout the country. Out of this, 16 are rarely found in other countries, while 14 of them are categorized as endangered species.

Sri Lanka made history in the world by electing the **first female prime minister** in 1960. And no, she wasn't elected once, but three times!

Cinnamon is believed to have originated from Sri Lanka. It's still grown in the country and is ranked as the healthiest you can find in the world.

Source: thefactfile.org



▲ Maze ▲

This maze is a collection of paths, where there is both a start and ending point. The player starts from the start point and follows a path of their choice, which leads to the end point.

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| ka | kha | ga | gha | ña | |
| ච | ඡ | ජ | ඣ | ඤ | |
| ca | cha | ja | jha | ña | |
| ට | ඨ | ඳ | ඳ් | ණ | |
| ṭa | ṭha | ḍa | ḍha | ṇa | |
| ත | ඵ | ද | ධ | න | |
| ta | tha | da | dha | na | |
| ප | ඵ | බ | භ | ම | |
| pa | pha | ba | bha | ma | |
| ය | ර | ල | ව | | |
| ya | ra | la | va | | |
| ශ | ෂ | ස | හ | ආ | ආ |
| śa | ṣa | sa | ha | fa | ḷa |

The Sinhala alphabet is very important because it's structure is used in every day conversation in Sri Lanka. The Sinhalese script can trace its ancestry back more than 2,500 years and is often considered two alphabets. There is an alphabet within alphabet, due to the presences of two sets of letters.

SRI LANKANS LOVE THEIR **TEA**. IN FACT, TEA IS THEIR PRIMARY EXPORT CROP.



WHENEVER VISITING A SRI LANKAN HOME, ENSURE TO CARRY A **SMALL REMEMBRANCE GIFT** WITH YOU. THIS IS A COMMON PRACTICE OVER THERE, AND YOUR HOSTS WILL APPRECIATE IT.



ART + CULTURE

Your Plan — My Travel

BY RANJITH WIJEKOON

I am a traveler
 traveling alone
 itinerary is not mine
 planning is not mine
 you supply momentum,
 you give the route.
 Despite my fatigue
 despite the boredom
 I can't stop because
 I am not the traveler
 Yet, I am the traveler.
 Give me a respite
 provide a breather
 time to time you do
 but I need to rest
 I need the rest.

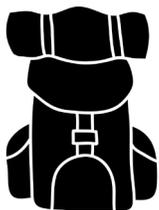
"I was born in the North central part of Sri Lanka. Spent my childhood in a real rural setting in the dry zone of my country. Schooled in the village school till grade 9 and entered a better college on a scholarship. The freedom I enjoyed after school running around with peers in the bush, paddy fields and rural roads is still fresh in my mind. This will continue ..."

WRITING PROMPT

The poet seems to be traveling according to someone else's timeline. This could be a spiritual guide, a relationship, or just an abstract description of feeling loss of control. Using this as a prompt, write or illustrate a short essay, blog, poem, or illustration that describe how you would navigate following a plan that wasn't your own.

Word Search

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| R | I | N | A | T | E | T | N | R | R | R | T | N | E |
| A | D | E | M | A | I | M | T | A | O | A | F | H | A |
| A | F | N | D | I | I | R | P | U | T | A | R | R | R |
| G | L | P | O | G | O | V | I | I | E | R | D | I | G |
| U | P | R | T | O | N | T | H | C | V | G | N | T | N |
| G | L | V | R | I | I | R | S | O | I | U | G | M | T |
| N | A | L | M | T | N | A | N | N | N | I | E | O | F |
| I | N | B | E | I | T | V | O | T | O | D | I | M | A |
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| S | M | R | I | E | I | L | T | O | N | R | R | N | I |
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| D | R | O | T | R | E | G | E | U | N | E | I | M | E |
| D | F | M | L | Y | D | A | R | P | E | U | T | T | N |



"I am passionate about spreading awareness about Sri Lankan food."

JACQUELINE FERNANDEZ // Bahraini-Sri Lankan actress

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| GUIDE | CONTROL | MOMENTUM | RESTING |
| BOREDOM | ITINERARY | INTRIGUED | RELATIONSHIP |
| ROAD | PLANS | TRAVELING | FATIGUE |

ECONOMICS

Sri Lanka PM Stresses Urgency for Economic Reform Plan

BY KRISHAN FRANCIS | AP News | May 26, 2022

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Sri Lanka’s prime minister said Thursday that he will quickly prepare an economic reform program and seek approval from the International Monetary Fund — because global inflation and the financial impact of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine on other countries could limit their ability to help the island nation.

Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe said that officials have reached agreement on basic reforms concepts with the IMF and that he plans to have the economic reform program ready within two weeks. After it is finalized, an IMF delegation will visit Sri Lanka to evaluate the program.

“I have placed my special attention on this because of the present global situation, the war in Ukraine and global inflation. From what we can see a number of countries may have to face economic problems like ours,” Wickremesinghe said.

He added: “At the moment the United States and the Europe are spending a lot on the war and there is a possibility of the aid given to us being reduced.”

Sri Lanka is nearly bankrupt with an acute foreign currency crisis that resulted in a foreign debt default. The country announced last month that it is suspending nearly \$ 7 billion foreign debt repayment due for this year out of about \$25 billion due through 2026. Sri Lanka’s total foreign debt stands at \$51 billion.

The IMF said in a statement Thursday said that a team remotely concluded initial discussions about Sri Lanka’s reform plan on Tuesday.

“The team made good progress in assessing the economic situation and in identifying policy priorities to be taken going forward,” the statement said.

The statement added that discussions focused on restoring fiscal sustainability while protecting the vulnerable and poor; ensuring monetary policy credibility and exchange rate regimes; preserving financial sector stability; and structural reforms to enhance economic growth and strengthen governance.

“We expect that these discussions will help the authorities formulate their reform program,” the IMF said.

Sri Lanka’s former finance minister Ali Sabry has said that badly timed tax cuts led to a reduction in government revenue, reducing the country’s ability to borrow and releasing existing reserves to maintain the US dollar at a fixed rate against the local currency — and that those factors triggered the foreign currency crisis. Also the COVID-19 pandemic nearly severely reduced tourism revenue, one of the country’s economic lifelines.



The economic crisis has caused a reduction of imports of goods and industrial raw material, prompting an acute shortage of essential items like food, medicine, cooking gas and other fuel, toilet paper and even matches.

Sri Lankans for months have been forced to wait in lines lasting hours outside stores to buy fuel and cooking gas.

Protesters have occupied the entrance to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa’s office for nearly 50 days, demanding his resignation because they blame him and his powerful, and politically connected family for the economic crises.

The protests have nearly dismantled the powerful Rajapaksa political dynasty after the president’s brother resigned as prime minister amid countrywide violence earlier this month, when his supporters attacked peaceful protesters. Two of the president’s other siblings and nephew resigned from their Cabinet posts.

Wickremesinghe has promised to propose constitutional changes to curtail presidential powers, strengthen Parliament and resolve Sri Lanka’s economic difficulties. ●

Sri Lankans stand in queues to buy fuel in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Thursday, May 26, 2022. Sri Lankans for months have been forced to stand in long lines to buy scarce essentials, with many returning home empty-handed. There is a severe shortage of many goods, from food, cooking gas, medicine and fuel to toilet paper and matchsticks.

Photo by AP Photo/Eranga Jayawardena

WORD PLAY A Rebus puzzle is a picture representation of a common word or phrase. How the letters/images appear within each box will give you clues to the answer! For example, if you saw the letters “LOOK ULEAP,” you could guess that the phrase is “Look before you leap.” *Answers are on the last page!*

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| LEG4ION | CICTED | MArrownN |
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FEATURE

How Music Rocked Sri Lanka's Ruling Class

BY MARCO FERRARESE | *NikkeiAsia* | November 2, 2022

COLOMBO — Standing on makeshift stages in a city park, groups of musicians banging electric guitars drove adoring crowds into a limb-shaking frenzy. They were also helping to make a revolution.

Since March, Sri Lanka was rocked by largely peaceful protests against what people saw as the increasingly corrupt and authoritarian regime of former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, his brother, former Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, and key officials linked to the Rajapaksa family and its successors.

Young people have played a major part in the protests, especially with the occupation of Galle Face Green, a 5-hectare oceanside urban park in the center of the capital, Colombo, where temporary shelters and stages created Gota-Go-Gama Village, a mix of Sinhala and English meaning Gotabaya Go Village.

Gota-Go-Gama fast became the main gathering site for a nationwide *aragalaya* (struggle) against the Rajapaksas, and a showcase for independent artists, whose work adorns the village's makeshift tents and stages. Some artworks reflect the protesters' anger and dissent, while others, such as those by the feminist public art project Fearless Collective, imagine Sri Lanka's possible future after the struggle.

After weeks of protests Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned on May 9, and Gotabaya Rajapaksa was forced to flee to the Maldives in July after protesters stormed the presidential palace and other state buildings. Social media hashtags such as #GoHomeGota2022 (which surpassed 3 million posts in April), the widespread support of youthful protesters and the contribution of visual artists have all been highlighted as important forces behind the family's fall.

The tightknit local music scene of globalized underground and alternative rock bands also played — literally — a pivotal role.

"If we look at the rock and metal music scene in Sri Lanka, many of the bands have their songs' themes shaped around the civil unrest and the continued oppression that civilians had to face throughout the years," says Sarah Hannan, a Colombo-based reporter for *The Sunday Morning* newspaper.

According to Hannan, the uncompromising lyrics of Sri Lankan underground music became a perfect tool to articulate the message of the protests, as well as lightening the mood of the demonstrators, some of whom desperately needed to let their hair down after holding lengthy vigils.

Madawa, a member of the Colombo-based Sinhalese hard rock group Skitzo SL, which often performed at Gota-Go-Gama, says that alternative music played a significant role in the uprising "because of the firm purpose, with a plan to accomplish it, tireless practicing and strong will [that] we had." He adds: "That kind of self-discipline is not challenging for activists who dream of cultural transformation in a crisis-ridden country like ours."

Shortly after the ousting of Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Colombo's long-established heavy rock band Paranoid Earthling released its new single, "Reign," ahead of a seven-track album expected toward the end of the year. Mastered in the U.K. by renowned engineer Pete



Maheer, "Reign" appeared on most streaming platforms on Aug. 8, and directly addresses Sri Lanka's recent political downfall by singing of the egocentricity of a ruler. The lyrics form a monologue against rebellious citizens whom he seeks to "ostracize" and whose rights he wants to "circumcise."

The single's artwork depicts a silhouette of a robot-like dictator looking down from a podium. "It's [a song] about power and the greed to hold on to it," says Paranoid Earthling's frontman Mirshad Buckman. "I wrote it back in 2009 ... when Mahinda Rajapaksa was reelected by the people after ending the Sri Lankan Civil War" — a 1983-2009 conflict between the Sri Lankan government and the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

"There was a media blackout for a couple of hours before the election commissioner was forced to read the results," says Buckman. "In the song, it's the line 'Now

Colombo-based Sinhalese hard rock group Skitzo SL often performed at protest gatherings in the lead-up to the Rajapaksa clan's ouster.

Photo courtesy of Skitzo SL.

the final hour has come / Shut the network system down.' All the lyrics were written during those few hours."

"The start of 'Reign' puts you in the ego of a ruling dictator and the thoughts that must have gone through his/her head. The slow part is about the people waiting and waiting for some calamity to spark a revolution to overthrow the dictator," says Buckman.

Founded in 2001, Paranoid Earthling is a pioneer in the country's small but tightknit underground and metal music scene and part of a youth movement that emerged during the civil war. Feeding on disillusion and discontent, this community has grown exponentially over the past 20 years, giving musicians an outlet to vent their dissent.

"We as metal bands have always been voicing our opinions on the corruption, injustices and the scum that run not only this country, but the world at large," says Tony, the guitarist and composer of Colombo-based metal band Mass Damnation. "The people that thrive at the expense of the less fortunate. The metal community always saw through the bullshit that was being fed."

Tony recalls how the COVID-19 pandemic gridlocked the Sri Lankan music scene until the beginning of this year, when live performances seemed to be starting to pick up again until the economic crisis kicked in, taking Mass Damnation and many other bands off local stages once again.

The people's uprising and the construction of the Gota-Go-Gama Village helped to provide Sri Lankan musicians with a platform that could "amplify our messaging, which was otherwise only accessible to those that attended our underground shows and followed our music scene," says Buckman.

But the aftermath of the pandemic on tourism-reliant Sri Lanka, paired with a continuous and unprecedented economic crisis and amplified by fuel and electricity shortages, have made it more difficult for musicians to be heard.

"The current situation has made it harder for individuals to maintain their own lives, and in order to do what we do, you have to be really passionate about the music and the message it carries on a personal and communal level as well," says Tony. "We try to focus on that as much as possible, regardless of the financial implications."

"Music doesn't earn much, and we never get any money to play any of the gigs, not even to cover our transportation costs," says Charith Lorensuhewa, bassist of the Colombo-based Sinhala-speaking grunge rock band Wakhan Thanka. Since April, Lorensuhewa has played most of the nameless gigs organized in support of the uprising in Galle Face Green and the towns of Kandy, Kottawa and Homagama.

Despite their leading role in the uprising the future looks bleak for Sri Lanka's rebel musicians and artists, President Ranil Wickremasinghe,



Long-established heavy rock band Paranoid Earthling's new single, "Reign," directly addresses Sri Lanka's recent political downfall by singing about the egocentricity of a ruler.

Photo courtesy of Paranoid Earthling

who was sworn in on July 20, ordered a crackdown on the Gota Go Gama Village less than 24 hours later. Wickremasinghe's administration has failed to resolve the country's economic crisis, and remains reliant on parliamentary support from the Rajapaksas' Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna party.

In one way or another, however, Sri Lanka's riffs and wails will prevail. "We continue because of passion, as I'd be a very empty person without music. I am doing whatever job I can on the side to keep going," says Lorensuhewa. "Sometimes I feel like a fool, but in this political climate, that's the only option we have." ●

✎ Edited for space

RANDOM-NEST

Flag of Sri Lanka | Lion Flag

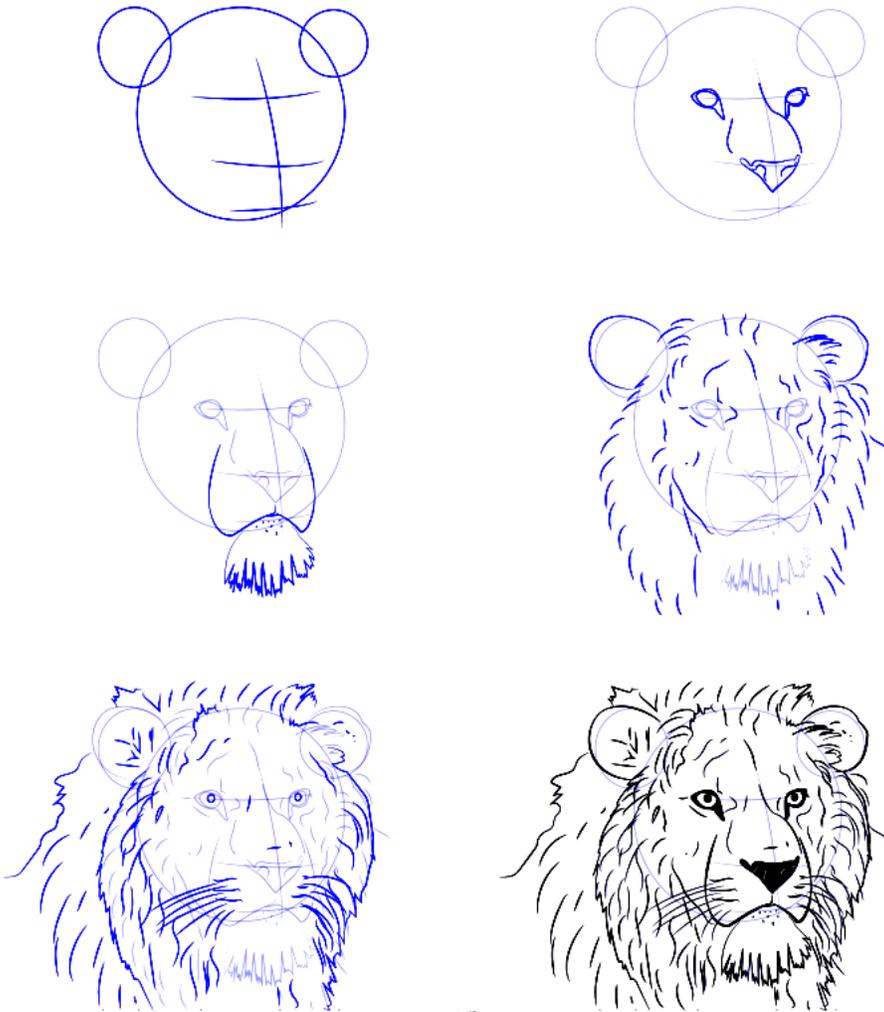
BY WHITNEY SMITH | BRITANNICA

According to legend, Prince Vijaya, founder of Sri Lanka, arrived in the 5th century BC from Sinhapura ("Lion City") in India. Since that time the Lion Flag has been the chief flag of the island's Sinhalese majority, except in those years when Sri Lanka was conquered by foreign invaders. Britain established its control over the island in 1815 when it overcame the king of Kandy, forcing him to lower the Lion Flag on March 2, 1815. Independence was restored on February 4, 1948, and the same Lion Flag, based on a painting of the original, was hoisted in celebration. The Union Jack nevertheless also continued to fly until October 29, 1953.

The underrepresented on Sri Lanka felt that this flag represented only the majority Sinhalese. A parliamentary commission charged with examining the question finally proposed a new flag, which became official on March 2, 1951. The yellow border of the Lion Flag was extended around two vertical stripes placed near the hoist, green for the Muslims and orange for the Tamils (Hindus). A further change was made in the flag on May 22, 1972. In the corners of the crimson area behind the lion there had been yellow spires similar to those on the tops of temples. They were replaced by leaves from the bo tree to indicate the influence Buddhism has in Sri Lanka and to represent Buddhism's four virtues (Brahmavihara or apramana) of kindness, compassion, joy, and equanimity. The flag of Sri Lanka incorporated further artistic modification of those leaves on September 7, 1978.



HOW TO DRAW A LION HEAD



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WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

This issue of *The Warbler* brought you tales from history and of an island unwilling to give in to what others demanded from them. The story about the musicians fighting for revolution really encouraged me this week. I am a music lover anyway and it was easy for me to imagine the sounds I would have heard in Sri Lanka as thousands of people found a unique way to share their voices and frustrations. Maybe there are ways that you have found to share your voice that seem untraditional by some, and we would love to hear these stories. Please feel free to always share your voice with us, we are always listening. We hope you feel empowered this week friends, we are always here to support you.

Tammy and the APAEP Team

Answers

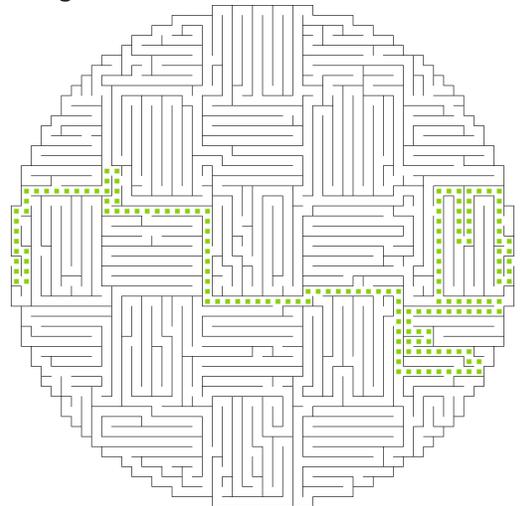
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| 6 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 5 |

Page 5 MAZE



Page 7 REBUS PUZZLE

1. Foreign legion
2. Half sister
3. Man about town

UNTIL NEXT TIME !