

Charity Dinner for SUNFO Children's Home

Introduction:

In observance of the World Interfaith Harmony Week, which is celebrated annually during the month of February, Mr. Eranda Peiris, National Coordinator of the Sustainable Development Goals Youth Network of Sri Lanka (SDGYNSL), conducted a Charity Dinner on 22nd February 2025 in Elpitiya, Sri Lanka. The event was conducted for the sake of 35 children of the SUNFO Children's Home, a residential facility for underprivileged and orphaned children. The event was a genuine display of interfaith solidarity, as individuals from various religious and cultural backgrounds united to work together towards a common goal—spreading love, joy, and hope to the less fortunate. The event was absolutely in accordance with the mission of Interfaith Harmony Week.

The interfaith charity dinner was a colorful and welcoming occasion aimed at giving the children of the SUNFO Children's Home a night to remember.

It reflected the strength of togetherness and kindness beyond religious and cultural differences.

The dinner was not just a festival of interfaith unity but also a tangible step towards realizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)





Key Activities and Highlights:

Charity Dinner:

A special dinner was prepared for the children, featuring a variety of dishes that catered to different cultural and dietary preferences. The meal was not only a treat for the children but also a symbol of unity and shared humanity. Volunteers from different faiths worked together to prepare and serve the food, embodying the spirit of interfaith cooperation.

Interfaith Art Talent Programme :

The Interfaith Art Talent Programme was one of the highlights of the charity dinner and provided the children with a chance to showcase their artistry and creativity. The programme was organized with the vision of promoting interfaith understanding and co-operation, where children learned to put their ideas of peace, love, and harmony on canvas. Volunteers from different religious backgrounds led the activity, teaching the children to create artwork symbolic of the principles of interfaith harmony.

Awareness Session on Interfaith Harmony:

It was a short session to enlighten the children and participants on the importance of interfaith harmony and respect, tolerance, and understanding values. The session underscored the role that young people can play in building a tolerant society. Quotations and teachings from all religions were used to demonstrate that there is a common ground that unites human beings.

The charity dinner was a resounding success, and its impact continued to be felt in the lives of the children and the participants. For the children, it was a day of love, joy, and belonging. For the participants, it was a reminder of what was possible through teamwork and the necessity of reaching beyond religious and cultural divides to serve humanity.

This event was also in conformity with the overall goals of Interfaith Harmony Week, as championed by the United Nations