

“Money can be stolen but not memories.”

The above statement is the most valuable proverb I learned in my childhood. It is valid in the past as well as present and the future. I have had many memorable events and places throughout



my life. I have been at National Chung Hsing University for nearly three years as a master's student and then as a Ph.D. student. One of the most memorable places in my NCHU life is the grass playground behind the administration building. From now on I will explain the reason. I grew up in a culture full of traditional events.

So, I celebrated every traditional festival from my childhood and it became a part of my life. "Sinhala and Hindu New Year Festival" is one of the most famous and joyful traditional festivals in Sri Lanka. I came to Taiwan in 2019 and could not return



to visit Sri Lanka due to the Covid-19 pandemic. So I was not able to celebrate the aforementioned traditional festival for two years. I really missed that festival and all the things related to it. However, Sri Lankan students were able to organize a “Sinhala and Hindu New Year Festival” in 2019 with the support of various parties including OIA at the grass playground behind the administration building. One of the reasons why this is the most memorable place in my life. We initially tried to find any other place. Finally, we had to do it at the grass playground. It has a nice location with tank of the NCHU.



There are huge trees growing around this playground which was an added advantage to our event. We made a lot of traditional Sri Lankan food items like milk rice, kawum, kokis, cakes, honey rings, athirasa etc. The photos show some of our food at the



event. Various groups of people such as Taiwanese, Indians, and Sri Lankans participated in the event and taste our traditional food items. The festival was not only about food but also many fun sports events. “Placing the eye on the elephant” is the most famous and one of the funniest sports. Here the participants were blindfolded and asked to put an eye on the elephant. It was a really difficult task.



Another fun contest to watch and participate in was the bun-eating contest. The buns were hung from a string and participants must kneel with their hands tied behind their backs while trying to eat them as quickly as possible. “Spoon and Lime Race” was another sport. But we used a small tomato instead of lime. “feeding to the blind man”, “Music chair contest” were the more fun games in that event.



Finally, we held a music eve also. Everyone enjoyed the musical eve also. This is my unforgettable place in NCHU and the reason for it.

