

# INFORMATION

Colombo Theological Seminary

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## MAKING BIBLICAL SENSE OF BEING HUMAN



**WHAT DOES IT MEAN  
TO BE HUMAN?**

**THIS IS BY FAR  
THE MOST PRESSING  
QUESTION OF OUR TIME.**

The world is being radically reshaped by the idea that 'psychological categories and an inward focus are the hallmarks of being a modern person'. It has brought about the novel phenomenon of 'expressive individualism' that claims, for example, that 'institutions such as schools and churches are places where one goes to perform, not to be formed'. Culture – previously understood as the shared community in which individuals participated – has been turned inside out. In our modern way of being human, individual beliefs and preferences are taking centre stage, and traditions and institutions are expected to merely affirm the individual's beliefs and to conform (Carl Trueman, *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*).



From the Principal's Desk

**Ivor Poobalan, PhD**  
PRINCIPAL

It is this shift that is at the root of our anxiety about identity, which has naturally led to huge upheavals in our thinking about gender and sexuality. In the case of the former, we have moved from talking about gender as male and female, to the possibility of innumerable genders. In the case of the latter, it is being left to the individual to determine what makes a sexual behaviour good and right for him or her.

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## CTS CELEBRATES 30 YEARS OF FORMING CHRIST-LIKE LEADERS

31st May 2024 marks 30 years since CTS began operations as an interdenominational, trilingual seminary in the heart of Colombo, committed to resourcing the Church of Sri Lanka with Christ-like leaders, equipped to effectively minister in the Church, marketplace, and society.



# NOURISHING A LEARNING COMMUNITY

## TRANSFORMING THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION



### 2-DAY FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR WITH DR PERRY SHAW

The faculty of CTS was richly blessed by Dr Perry Shaw's seminar on 'Transforming Theological Education'. The seminar, held on 3rd and 4th April, explored diverse aspects of adult learning.

## EXPLORING A NEW E-BOOK PLATFORM DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS



### CTS FACULTY TRAINING ON E-TBN LIBRARY FACILITY

Through the generous gift of a friend-of-CTS, the library now has access to the eTBN collection. Seen here is Dr Vinodh Gunasekera (former Deputy Principal) conducting an orientation for CTS faculty and MA students. eTBN provides faculty and students of CTS access to critical theological books and resources from wherever they are.

## VISITING THEOLOGY SCHOLARS AT CTS CAPITAL

### 'EXPLORING PROVERBS: WISDOM LITERATURE'

*A Seminar with Old  
Testament scholar  
Dr Prince Kumar  
Tamilarasan*



An illuminating exploration of the books of wisdom, enriching Tamil medium students with a deeper appreciation for wisdom literature.

### 'TRANSFORMATIVE ADULT EDUCATION IN INTERCULTURAL CONTEXTS'

*MA Course with  
Theologian and  
Educator,  
Dr Debbie Kramlich*



Teaching MA students how to create transformative, and inclusive learning experiences for adult learners, in a multicultural classroom setting.

### 'PRIMEVAL HISTORY: GENESIS 1-11'

*The narrative study of  
'Pre-history', with Old  
Testament scholar,  
Dr Havilah Dharamraj*



MA students had the opportunity to explore 'the beginning of everything', with a line-by-line study of creation and humans, sin and its effects, salvation history, language and the nations.

### 'HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND COUNSELLING'

*A multidisciplinary  
study of human and  
faith development  
with pastor,  
counsellor and  
trainer,  
Dr David C Goodwin*



MA (Counselling) students engaged in learning about the development needs and issues in transitions between the stages of life, to understand how to aid people towards wholeness.



# CTS COMMUNITY



## CELEBRATING LONG YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

As 2023 came to a close, CTS celebrated the faithful stewardship and committed service of three of its longest serving team members. Dr Ivor Poobalan, completed 25 years as Principal of CTS; Rev Ravin Caldera, Academic Dean (at L) and Roger Slemmermann, Administrative Officer (at R), each marked 20 years of service.

## BIDDING FAREWELL



### BERNARD COSTA

Bernard Costa served as MA Programme Coordinator since 2021. During his tenure he left an indelible mark on faculty, staff and students alike with his quiet wisdom and gentle strength. His students speak highly of the influence he has had on their lives and ministry. Inculcating a strong sense of worship into his classrooms seems to have been one of Bernard's most enduring legacies. We wish Bernard and his family God's blessings as they serve and study in the Philippines at the International Graduate School of Leadership (IGSL).

### JASON SELVARAJA

Jason has been involved with CTS for over 20 years. In addition to being a faculty member, he helped pioneer the first provincial study programme, serving as the first Coordinator of CTS' study centre in Jaffna. As Jason continues to serve the Church in a different ways in the days ahead, we uphold him and his family in prayer.



## CTSCAPITAL

### MARKING THE MILESTONES OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

On 31st May this year, CTS completed 30 years of service. Having commenced operations in 1994 as the only division of Ceylon Bible College, CTS moved into its own premises in Kohuwela in 1997 - a year that also marked its first Graduation. Over the last 30 years, CTS Capital has celebrated many important milestones. We invite you to walk with us along memory lane, as we mark the milestones that celebrate God's favour and blessing on CTS.

### MILESTONES OF A 30-YEAR JOURNEY



Capital Campus 1997



First Graduation 1997

## ASIA THEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION RENEWS ACCREDITATION



The Asia Theological Association (ATA) recently awarded reaccreditation for the academic programmes of CTS for the next 5-year period. The ATA Visiting Accreditation Team (seen at Right) comprised Dr Bennet Lawrence (Regional Secretary, ATA), Rev Pravinkumar Israel (President, Centre for Global Leadership Development Management, India), and Dr Herman Andriezen (Deputy Principal, Lanka Bible College and Seminary, Sri Lanka).



## DR MANO EMMANUEL AT ASIA PEACE CONFERENCE 2024

Dr Mano Emmanuel, Head of Academic Advancement, led a session at the Asia Peace Conference 2024 held on 23rd and 24th January 2024, in Manila, Philippines.

## CTS NORTH COLOMBO IN A NEW LOCATION

On 14th May, the new North Colombo study centre was launched with a time of thanksgiving and dedication. Housed on the top floor of the Methodist City Mission building on Dam Street, Pettah, the well appointed facility, which accommodates a spacious classroom and library, is strategically located to continue its ministry of twelve years to the believers of North Colombo and Hendala-Wattala.



## HOW TO GIVE TO CTS

### 1 BANK TRANSFER AND FOREIGN REMITTANCE (USD AND CAD)

Talk to us for more details

### 2 CREDIT CARD



Pay through the  
payment portal on  
the CTS Website.

Go to [www.cts.lk](http://www.cts.lk)  
|  
'Give to CTS' button  
on the top right of  
the home page  
|  
Make Donation

### 3 CHEQUES

Address to Colombo Theological Seminary (Account Payee)  
Forward to The Principal | Colombo Theological Seminary  
189 Dutugemunu Street, Kohuwela, Sri Lanka

### 4 CASH PAYMENT

Visit CTS Capital,  
Kohuwela

FOR MORE DETAILS, CONTACT THE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, ROCHELLE HAKEL-RANASINGHE  
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