Pathum Egodawatta

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Pathum Egodawatta is a Sri Lankan typographer and typeface designer, font engineer and a researcher of typography. He specializes in type and typography of South Asian scripts with a focus on Sinhala and Tamil scripts and multilingual communications. He received his MA in Typeface Design from the University of Reading with a distinction in 2016 and a BA in Graphic Design from the Academy of Design (AOD), Colombo with a distinction in 2013.

His BA project at AOD, Amma- a hybrid of Sinhala and Tamil scripts, gained international attention from the design community and since then he has worked as a consultant, designer, educator and a project manager in international projects in the areas of typography and type design. He was a consultant to Google Fonts on Indian language font projects in 2014–2015. His adeptness was observed by the Google fonts team and he was then commissioned for the design and development of type families supporting Sinhala, Tamil and Latin scripts.

Pathum is currently based in Colombo, Sri Lanka leading Mooniak – a multidisciplinary design, art direction and technology practice, and its sister company Textual–an international type foundry and font design studio. Through Textual, Pathum and the team provides consulting on South Indian script related localisation, type design, typography and multilingual text communication.

Pathum teaches typography and type design at AOD Colombo, University of Moratuwa and University of Fine Arts, in the capacity of a visiting lecturer. He regularly speaks at typography, type design and free and open source software conferences and writes about the subjects. He is a contributor and a community manager of leading open source font development software.

Research and articles
- Sinhala digital typography (Ongoing)
- Multilingual typography of Sinhala and Tamil (Ongoing)
- Kundaliya - The disappearance of Kundaliya, the Sinhala punctuation. (2017)
- Milestones of Sinhala typography in the 19th century Ceylon (2016)
- A typographic history of the Sri Lankan political conflict (2014)
- Overview of development of Sinhala typography (2013)

Awards, recognitions and exhibitions

- Amma Project
  Prototypo : Juror's Choice http://prototype.typegallery.com/prototype-results/
- Spikes Asia Creative Academy selection 2011

Presentations and workshops

- Indic text capabilities in Libre Graphics software
  Libre Graphics Meeting 2016 - London
- Jumping into Libre Graphics
  Libre Graphics Meeting 2015, Toronto, Canada. (Remote presentation)
- Which Sinhala fonts do users prefer? -
  Typoday 2015 Mumbai 2017
- Why Libre Fonts?
  TAB TTF, Thailand 2015
- Enabling Sinhala web
  Google I/O Extended Colombo 2015
- Other-Letter, A hybrid SInhala Tamil typeface.
  Typoday 2014, Pune, India

In Press

- Communication Arts - Finding a Common Language Reconciliation and revival through
  letterforms http://www.commarts.com/column/finding-common-language