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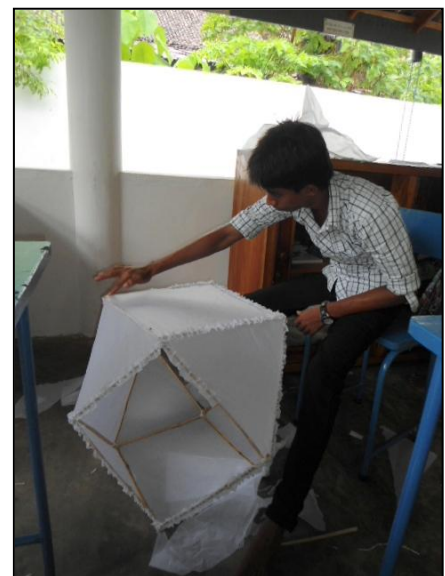
SMILE VOCATIONAL & EDUCATIONAL CENTRE FOR DISABLED



Report of the Wesak Festival Celebration from 20th - 23rd May 2013

Wesak is the main religious festival of Buddhists and this year Wesak festival fell on 24th and 25th of May. We celebrate Wesak to commemorate the birth, enlightenment and passing away of Lord Buddha. For this reason Smile Vocational & Educational Centre for Disabled organized a Wesak week.

During the wesak week on 20th, 21st & 22nd we made beautiful Wesak lanterns and decorated our centre. All the students, parents and staff joined with this and the photos below show that how we did it.





On Thursday 23rd we observed sil and it started at about 7.30 in the morning. When we observe sil we read out eight precepts in the morning and we should not break them during the day.

A Buddhist monk came to our centre at 8.00 am to give sil. After giving the sil, the same monk did a cermon and a meditation.



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After having breakfast, we got the chance to listen to a sermon again.



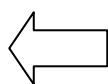
When we observe sil, we must have the lunch before 12, so that was the next step. Before we have lunch we should separate the first portion of it for Lord Buddha and the following photos show how we did it.



A special lunch was prepared at the centre for parents, friends and students to share.



The next session was to listen to a Buddhist story and an old person, we call "Opasaka Mahathmaya" was invited to come for this. He taught a very valuable buddhist story for us.



Then, it was time to finish the sil celebration in the garden.



During this Wesak week we suspended our normal routine at the centre and were able to share many religious activities. We can all develop spiritual values in life through participating together activities.