Report on the Global Cultural Jamboree

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Preface

The Global Cultural Jamboree held from 16th of July 2021 to the 18th of July 2021 was a one in a lifetime experience for all scouts all over the world. For me it was a fantastic experience where I got to meet the scouts of many different countries with a total of 20,000 participants.

Introduction

To begin with our Scout Master Sir Elias encouraged us to register for the Jamboree after which we were divided into patrols of 8-9 members each. There were the following activities from A to F:

Cultural - A

A1 - Folk Dance (Video 5-7 Minutes)

A2 – Folk Song (Video 5 Minutes)

A3 - Poetry (Video 4 Minutes)

Food – B

B1 – Demonstration of Preparation of 1 Food item (20 Minutes video or live on Zoom) B2 – Display and explanation of Traditional Foods, seasonal foods (video)

B3 – Lecture on good eating habits (Zoom)

Costumes - C

C1 – Scouts dressed in different National costumes with movements (Video)

C2 – Different types of clothes and modern trends (Video)

C3 – Wearing (dressing) a national costume (Demonstration on Zoom)

Archaeology -D

D1- Historical Places (Video 5 Minutes)

D2 – Historical Artifacts (Video)

D3 – Ancient and present Coins & Stamps (Demonstration on Zoom)

Religious & National festivals - E

E1 – Traditional Festivals (Video or Demonstration)

E2 – Religious Festivals (Video)

History - F

F1 – History of Country (Video)

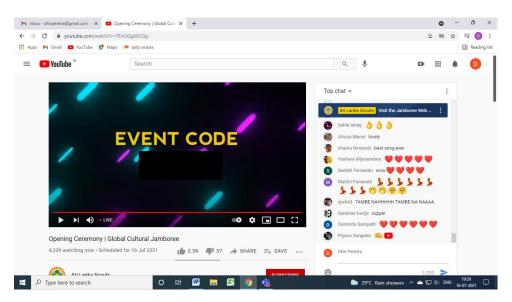
F2 – History and use of Mother Language (Video & Zoom)

I formed a patrol with my fellow scouts and we decided to do Activity A3 which is poetry. As you may know poetry is the best form to express yourself and this led me to choose a poem on my country India. I broke the poem into small parts for each of my patrol members and assigned them their part with me doing the introduction and my fellow member doing the ending. I put all our parts together and edited it into one video and sent it to all my patrol members for approval. After that I sent the video to the email id given by our Scout Master Sir Elias. This was our activity for the Jamboree. I had a lot of fun doing this activity. After sending the video my patrol and I were eagerly waiting for the Jamboree to start. At last the moment came for the opening ceremony to begin.

Day 1 - 16th July 2021

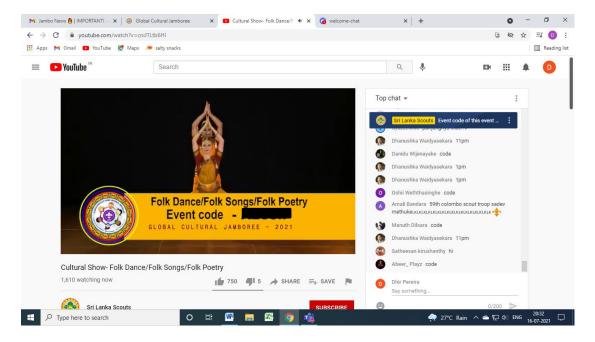
Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony began with a brief introduction and the traditional lighting of the oil lamp by Mr. Merrille Goonetilleke president of the Sri Lanka Scout Council, Mr. Kapila Kalyana Perera Chairman of the Committee of the Council, Major General Mirinda Peries Chief Commissioner of the Sri Lanka Scout Association and Jamboree Chief, Mr. Jana Britt Fernando Deputy Chief Commissioner of the Sri Lanka Scout Association, member of the World Scout Committee and Jamboree advisor, Dr. Rajeeva Peries Internation Commissioner of the Sri Lanka Scout Association and Asst. Jamboree Chief, Mr. Nanda Fernando National Training Commissioner of the Sri Lanka Scout Association, Mr. Sarath Matharaarachchi National Programme Commissioner of the Sri Lanka Scout Association, Mr. Prabath Kularathna Asst. Chief Commisioner of the Sri Lanka Scout Association and Chairman of the Jamboree Steering Committee, Dr. Asanka Eriyawa Head Quarters Commissioner and Jamboree Secretary. Then followed was the hoisting of the Sri Lankan flag, World Scout Flag and the Sri Lankan Scout Flag. Then the Sri Lankan national anthem was played followed by a traditional Sri Lankan welcome dance. Then many great personalities in the Scouting world came and spoke about the Jamboree. The Jamboree was then declared as open. Then we got to hear a performance from a famous Sri Lankan singing duo who were also scouts. And with this the opening ceremony came to an end. This below is a screen shot of the event.



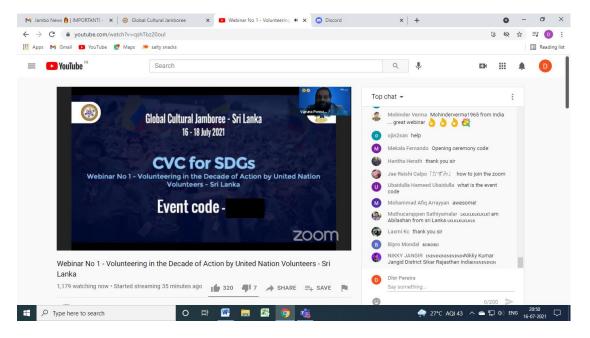
Cultural Show- Folk Dance/Folk Songs/Folk Poetry

This was a great presentation of folk songs, dances and poetry performed by scouts around the world. It was a very enjoyable experience listening to this as it taught us scouts about the cultures of our brother scouts. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



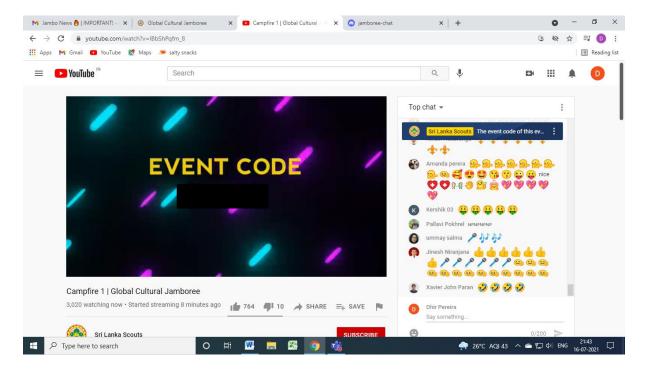
Webinar No 1 - Volunteering in the Decade of Action by United Nation Volunteers - Sri Lanka

This was a very informative webinar out of the seven webinars held during the Jamboree. It told us about volunteering to help others in need and also informed us about Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). It told us what we can do on our part to help in the betterment of the Society. The webinar was held live on Zoom as well as on Youtube. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



Campfire 1 | Global Cultural Jamboree

As you all may know campfires are a very important and essential part of scouting. Be it physical or virtual. Campfires are always very enjoyable. So was this. We got to listen to many skits, traditional songs like Campfire is burning, The Quarter Master's Store song etc. Given below is a screenshot of the event.

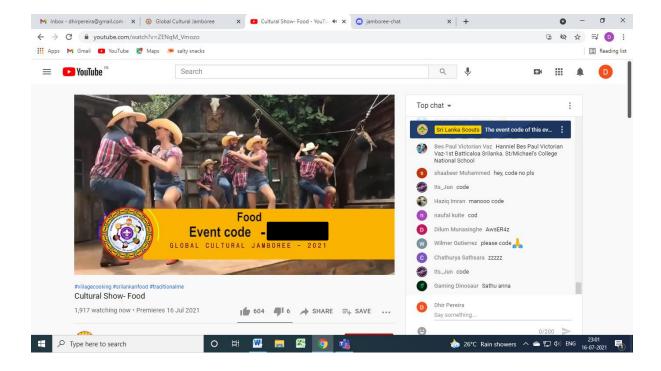


Welcome chat

Also another important part of the webinar was the discord server created for us scouts to share our thoughts about the jamboree with each other and chat about the jamboree topics. This was our first chat, the welcome chat where we got to know each other from different parts of the world. We had to create a discord account for this. Given below is a code which flashed on the screen for just a few seconds hence I couldn't get the screen shot.

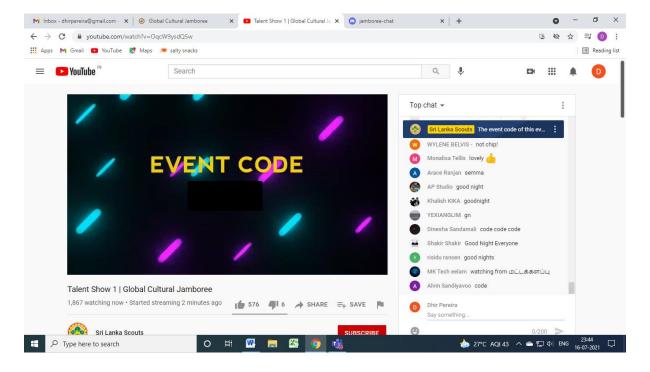
Cultural Show-Food

Food is an important thing for us. Without it we can't live. Each country has its own style of preparing food. They prepare it according to the customs and traditions done by their ancestors. This event told us about the different foods of the world with a cooking demonstration by scouts from each country. Looking at it we all felt hungry as each country had their own way to prepare delicious food. Given below is a screen shot of the event.



Talent Show 1 | Global Cultural Jamboree

Every person has a talent that is hidden within them which they can express through talent shows like this. Scouts all over the world did the best they could with their talents and these talents were put together in a video showing us the wonderful talents of many people. It was really heart touching to listen to these performances like singing songs, playing instruments and dances. Given below is a screen shot of the event.



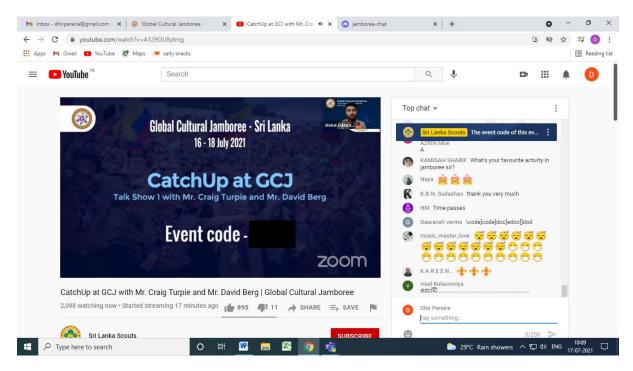
Tide Turners Pledge

The Tide Turners Pledge is a pledge taken to ensure that we do not pollute the environment with plastic. We had to fill out a google form in which we were shown four videos about plastic and its impact on the environment. I was very shocked to know what plastic can do to the environment. Each year tens of hundreds of aquatic animals and birds die due to plastic pollution and we can do our part to save these lives by minimizing the use of plastic and even if we use a bit of plastic we should just not throw it away in a single use but we should reuse, reduce and recycle. I took this pledge and I will never pollute the environment with plastic. Given below is the code for successfully completing the Plastic Tide Turners Challenge- Reduce Plastic Pledge.

Day 2 - 17th July 2021

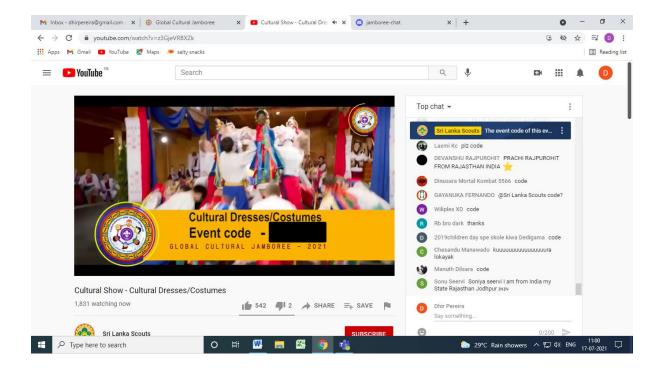
CatchUp at GCJ with Mr. Craig Turpie and Mr. David Berg | Global Cultural Jamboree

In this talk we were given brief information about the Jamboree and also information about Mr. Craig Turpie and Mr. David Berg and their experience in scouting. At the end of their talk we were allowed to put our questions in the chat which would be answered by them. It was great hearing their experience of Mr. Craig Turpie and Mr. David Berg. Given below is a screen shot of the event.



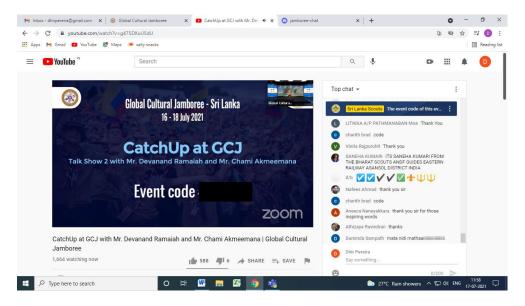
Cultural Show - Cultural Dresses/Costumes

Each country in the world has their own way of dressing up. The climate of each country has a great impact on the dressing style of that country. For example countries with cold climate will always dress up with thick clothes and hence we got to see the traditional wear and clothes of many different countries. It taught us that each countries culture is different. Given below is a screen shot of the event.



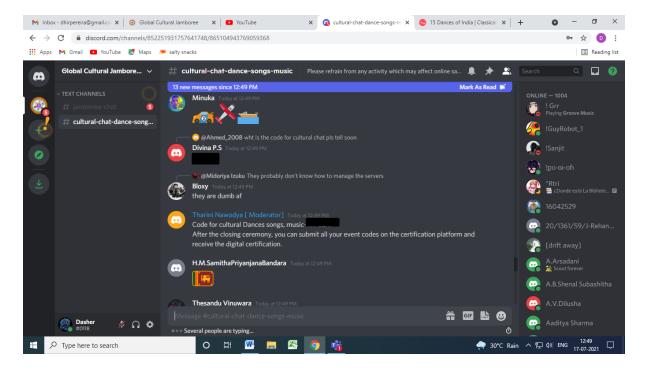
CatchUp at GCJ with Mr. Devanand Ramaiah and Mr. Chami Akmeemana | Global Cultural Jamboree

Mr. Devanand Ramaiah and Mr. Chami Akmeemana talked to us about going ahead in scouting and how they had their experience in what they do and in scouting. They welcomed any questions from us scouts which they answered in a very informative manner. The webinar was held live on Zoom as well as on Youtube. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



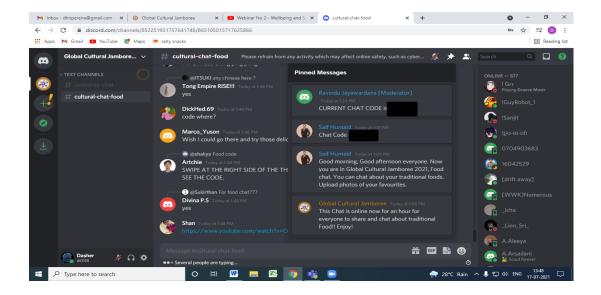
Cultural chat 1 dance song music

This was our second chat on the discord server of the jamboree. In this chat we discussed about various cultural dance, songs and music. We all shared our opinions and thoughts about the topics given and had a great time learning and discussing about each other's dance, song and music. Towards the end of the chat the event code was given to us by the moderator. Given below is a screen shot of the discord chat.



Cultural 2 CHAT CODE food chat

Food is a essential part of our life. After the food show viewed by us earlier there was a food chat on discord where we could share the information of various foods from around the world. This helped us in knowing unique foods found only in a certain place or country. I had a great time chatting with other scouts from around the world about food and different ways to prepare it. Towards the end of the chat the event code was given to us by the moderator. Given below is a screen shot of the discord chat.



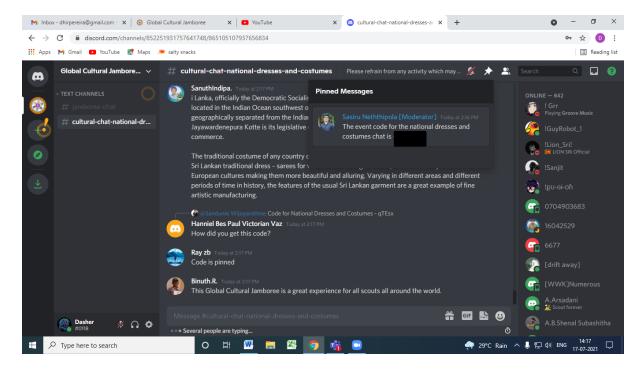
Webinar No 2 - Wellbeing and Sustainable Consumption (WHO Sri Lanka & UNV Sri Lanka)

Food is sometimes tasty but not always good for your health and hence we got to hear this webinar which told us about eating healthy things to maintain our health and be fit. It informed us about the contents of food that are harmful for our health and hence we should avoid these foods and they have many unhealthy things such as chemicals, preservatives etc. It also told us to eat healthy food such as fruits and vegetables and avoid eating packaged foods such as potato chips, fried things etc. At the end of the webinar we were free to ask any questions or any doubts that we had. The webinar was held live on Zoom as well as on Youtube. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



Cultural chat 3 national dresses and costumes

Each country has its own national costume and dresses. We had already seen a youtube link about this and we chatted on this topic. The chatting was a very fun experience. Different scouts had many different views on their traditional costumes and dresses. It was a great pleasure to see such a great diversity in scouting. Towards the end of the chat the event code was given to us by the moderator. Given below is a screen shot of the discord chat.



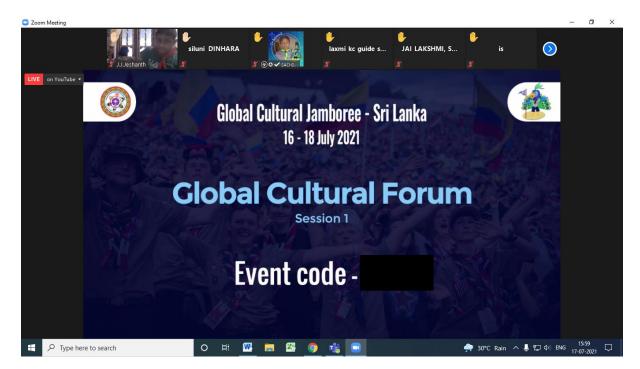
Webinar No 3 - Climate Change (UNDP Sri Lanka & UNV Sri Lanka)

Climate change is affecting hundreds and thousands of people. It is due to the fault of us humans. Without realisation we humans attack nature by cutting trees, pollute nature by excessively using our vehicles and polluting the rivers and oceans with our waste. We also build many factories which emit lots of gases and pollutants into the air. This results in global warming causing climate change. To stop this we must stop all our ways in which we pollute the environment and this was told to us in the webinar along with some tips with which we can reduce the effect of global warming on the climate. The webinar was held live on Zoom as well as on Youtube. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



Global Cultural Forum - Session 1

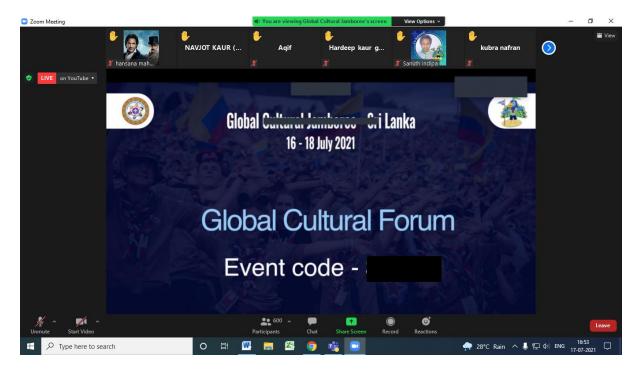
In this session we learnt about the Scout Organisations of different countries. Each countries Scout Leader spoke about their country and scouting in their country. It was a great opportunity to see the diversity of scouting in each country Then there was a dance and a scout drew a picture of our Scout Founder Lord Baden Powell. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



Global Cultural Forum - Session 2

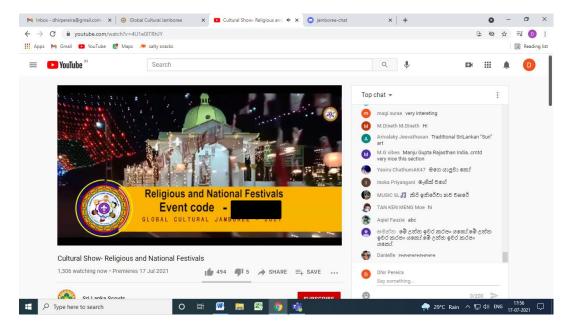
In the second session of the Global Cultural Forum we were told in detail about the history of many countries and their historical artefacts such as coins, stamps, tribal masks, their landscape and how

different scouts lived there and about the activities they did. This was very informative for me and I understood how different scouts lived all over the world. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



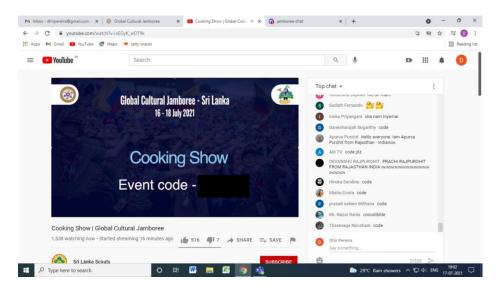
Cultural Show- Religious and National Festivals

In this video we learnt about the different festivals in different countries all around the world. There is a great diversity in all the festivals of all the religions of the world and we also learnt that even people from other religions celebrate festivals of other religions. This shows unity in diversity. This is what I learnt. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



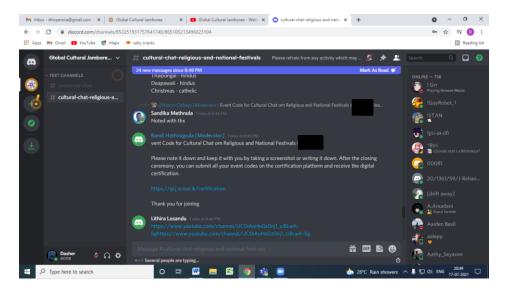
Cooking Show | Global Cultural Jamboree

This event taught us about different styles of cooking. Some scouts prepared various dishes and some chefs from a hotel also showed how to prepare typical Sri Lankan dishes which was crab, and one of fish in a steamed roll and a dish of shrimp. A man also prepared a mocktail with Sri Lankan tea, mint, lemon, ice cubes etc. After cooking all the dishes the dignitaries present tasted them. It was really a nice experience to see Sri Lankan cooking methods. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



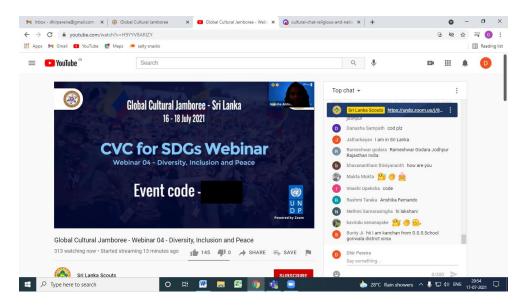
Cultural chat 4 religions and national festivals

As you may know religious and national festivals are a very important part of tradition and culture. They show us the essence of a particular thing be it a religion or a country. This was our fourth cultural chat. We chatted about each other's religious festivals and even our country's festivals. It was fun chatting with my scout friends and learning more about each other's festivals. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



Global Cultural Jamboree - Webinar 04 - Diversity, Inclusion and Peace

This webinar taught us about each other's diversity and that we should maintain peace and inclusion. This means we should not discriminate between caste and religion and should include everyone in everything. We should not exclude people from something just because of their caste or religion. I enjoyed this webinar as it taught us not to discriminate between people. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



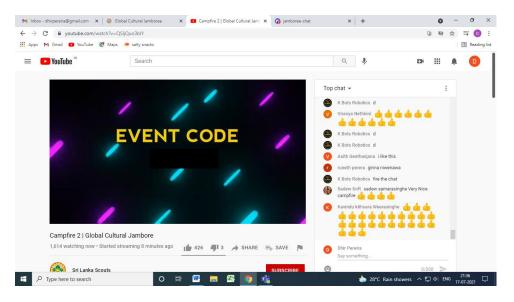
Webinar on "Cultural Poetry"

This webinar told us about the different types of poetry around the world. Many people from different nations were invited in this webinar to express themselves through poetry. This webinar was for 2 hours. The different poets who were invited to this webinar recited different poems to us in different languages. At the end of the webinar we were welcome to ask all our questions to the different poets which they answered to perfection. The webinar was held live on Zoom as well as on Youtube. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



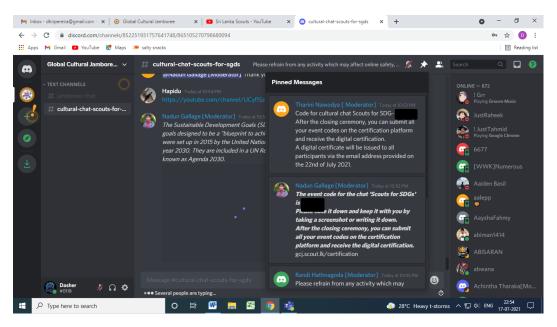
Campfire 2 | Global Cultural Jambore

This was the second campfire of the Global Cultural Jamboree. Even in this campfire like the first one we had many different skits, songs and different phrases in many languages recited around the campfire. It was truly a memorable campfire. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



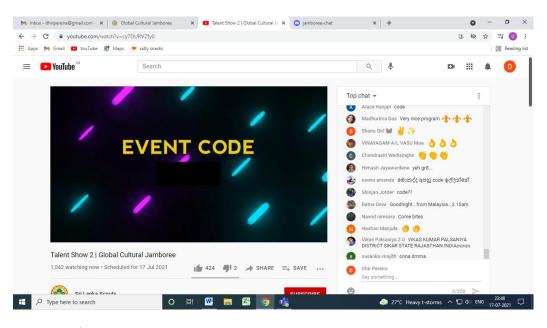
Cultural chat 5 SDGs

This was the fifth cultural chat in which we discussed the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). There are 17 of these goals which were created for the betterment of the Society. We shared our information of all the different goals and discussed what we could do on our part to maintain these goals and to make them successful. Given below is a screenshot of the discord event.



Talent Show 2 | Global Cultural Jamboree

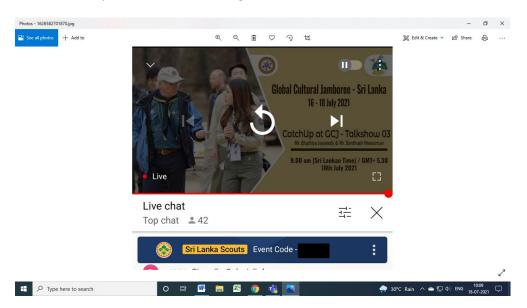
This was yet another event for scouts all around the world to show their hidden talents. There were many young scouts just like me who showed their talents in an artistic way. Some sang songs, some played an instrument and some even conducted a magic show. It was amazing to see each scout's talent. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



Day 3 - 18th July 2021

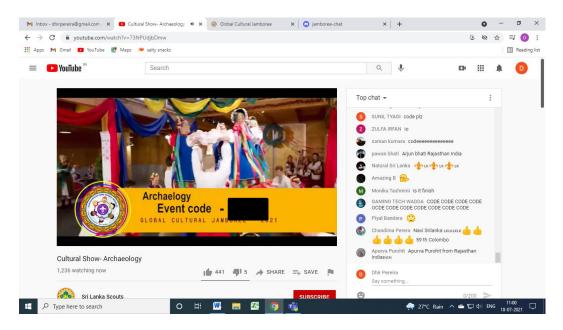
CatchUp at GCJ with Bathiya n Santhush | Global Cultural Jamboree

Today was the last day. We started it with a talk show with Bathiya and Santhush who were the singing duo who sang the songs in the opening ceremony. They talked about how they met and how they formed their band which is one of the most successful bands in Sri Lanka and in the world. They also talked about who their mentors were and who were their inspirations. At the end they welcomed all questions from us with great answers. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



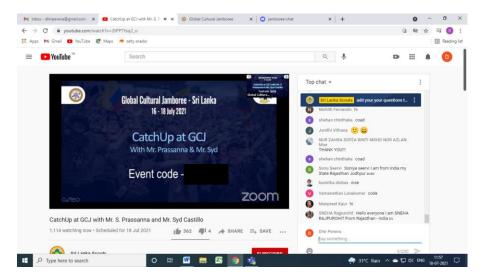
Cultural Show- Archaeology

This was a very informative show of the different histories around the world, their traditions, cultures and archaeology through coins, stamps and different artefacts. It taught us about the different customs and ways of living of many countries around the world. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



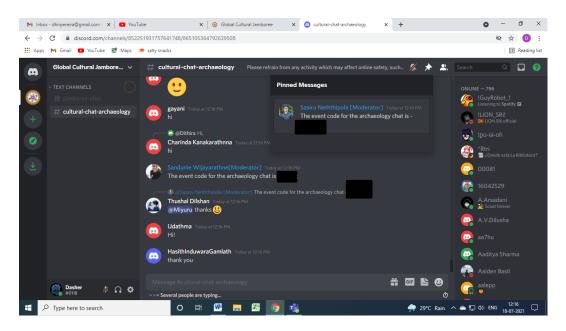
CatchUp at GCJ with Mr. S. Prassanna and Mr. Syd Castillo

This talk show tells us about how we can play our part as a citizen in making the society a better one where there is peace, happiness and prosperity. In this talk show Mr. S. Prassanna and Mr. Syd Castillo told us about the basic framework of the UN and welcomed all our questions and doubts which we put in the chat of the live stream. Their answers gave us a clear picture and the knowledge through which we could create a better society. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



Cultural chat 6 Archaeology

This was the sixth cultural chat in which we shared our thoughts and spoke about archaeology. We informed each other of the artefacts, coins and stamps and many different things found in our country. We also enlightened each other with a great knowledge of these things. We had fun learning about many different countries. This was a discord chat. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



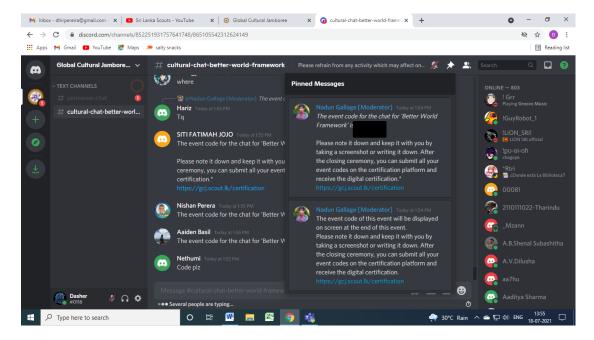
Webinar No 5 - Understanding Gender Equality (UN Women Sri Lanka & UNV Sri Lanka)

In today's world we face a great challenge of gender inequality. We have to work very hard to stop this. This was told to us through this webinar. We learn that gender inequality is a great problem in today's world. People discriminate through gender for example women are paid less than men for the same job post. Women are considered weak by many people. They don't get proper education. This all must be stopped and through this webinar we learnt that it can be stopped from the roots if everyone has a proper education and if this topic is taught at a very young age. We all agreed to do our part in it. The webinar was held live on Zoom as well as on Youtube. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



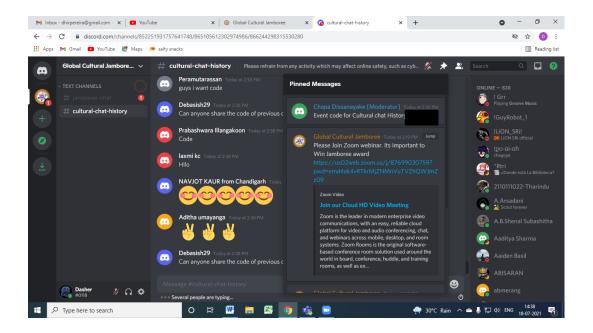
Cultural chat 7 better world framework

This is the seventh cultural chat. In this chat we talked about the basic framework of the SDG and what we could do. We also discussed all our ideas to help complete the SDGs. We shared our thoughts and combined them into simple solutions. I had a great time interacting with my scout friends from around the world. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



Cultural chat 8 history

This was the eighth cultural chat based on history. We told each other about the historical background of our countries. We also talked about the seven wonders of the world and shared information about it. It was nice learning about my friend fellow scout's countries and their history. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



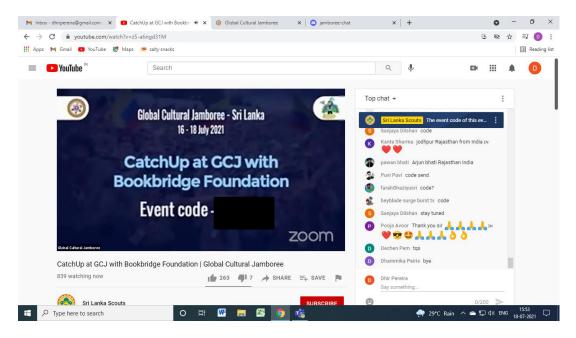
Webinar No 6 - Bridging the Digital Divide in Education (UNICEF Sri Lanka & UNV Sri Lanka)

In this webinar we learnt about serving our community. We should always give back to our community as by doing this we will get great joy and peace. We were informed about the various community volunteer centres and how we could volunteer to help as even as a scout we always have to go by our words of giving back and being a honest person. The webinar was held live on Zoom as well as on Youtube. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



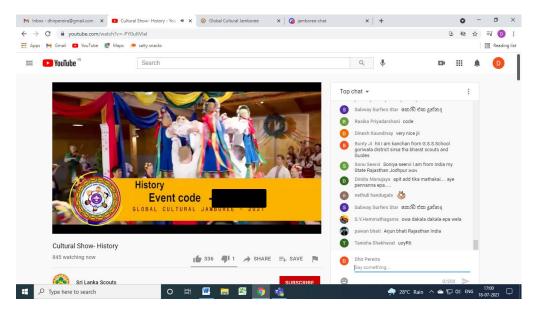
CatchUp at GCJ with Bookbridge Foundation | Global Cultural Jamboree

In this talk show we learnt how Mr. Rasheed founded the Bookbridge Foundation to help children in rural areas all over the world get books to read. He told us his life story of how he founded the foundation and grew it. We were welcome to ask any questions and got our answers that satisfied our questions. It was great learning that what we scouts can do for our community through the story behind the Bookbridge Foundation. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



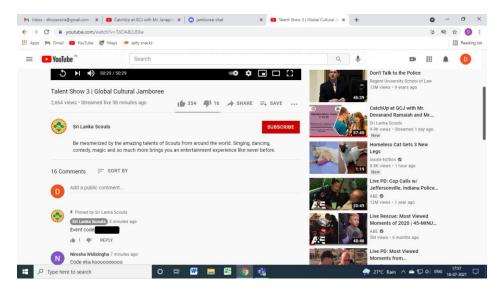
Cultural Show- History

This show told us about the history of the country in more depth and detail. Many scouts also prepared videos of the history of their country. I was impressed to know the rich history and culture of the different countries in these videos. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



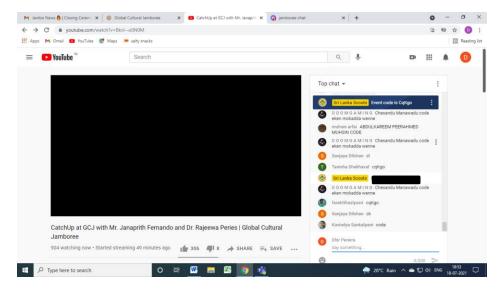
Talent Show 3 | Global Cultural Jamboree

In this talent show we got to see even more talents from around the world. Just like the other two talent shows even this talent show showcased the talents of scouts around the world and we were totally awestruck by seeing their unique talents. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



CatchUp at GCJ with Mr. Janaprith Fernando and Dr. Rajeewa Peries | Global Cultural Jamboree

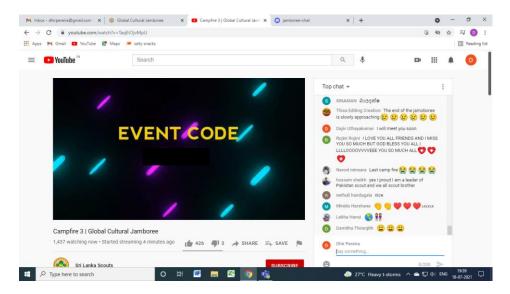
This talk show was one in which we could ask any questions related to the Jamboree and get answers. We were given information on how the Jamboree was planned, how it came to be a virtual jamboree and how many restrictions were there on it. We also came to know about the different things we could do to take scouting further on in our career. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



Campfire 3 | Global Cultural Jamboree

In this campfire we were very sad as it was our last campfire in the Jamboree. It was a really memorable event with many skits in different languages and also small songs in many languages. It

was really a heart touching moment and we would have many memories of it. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



Webinar No 7 - Introducing Service Learning Scholar and Community Volunteer Centers (UNV & CurveUP)

This webinar was the last webinar in the scout jamboree. In this webinar we reflected and revised all that we had learnt in the previous webinars. We had a very nice interaction on all we were taught. We also filled a google form on how our experience was throughout these webinars and we thanked the authorities for giving us the opportunity to participate in these webinars. The webinar was held live on Zoom as well as on Youtube. Given below is a screenshot of the event

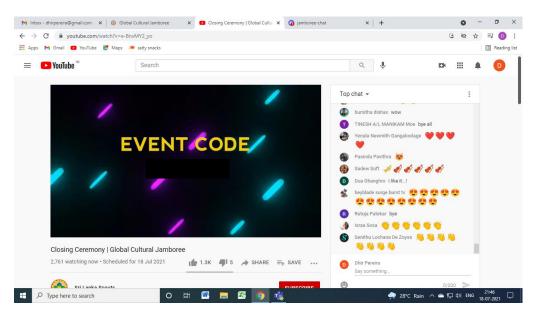


Farewell chat

In this chat we all met one last time to say our goodbyes and to chat on any topic we wanted. I had really made many friends and was sad that this jamboree had come to an end. This chat did not have any code and we could enjoy it.

Closing Ceremony | Global Cultural Jamboree

The closing ceremony was a memorable one in which we were briefed about how to get our certificates. We were told about the jamboree mascot Peaky and also got a brief farewell from all the authorities conducting the jamboree. Then we were taken through a video with all the highlights of all the programs conducted and we had many memories about it. And last before the end of the Jamboree we got to hear some songs sung by the singing duo Bathiya n Santhush and then the Jamboree was officially declared closed. Given below is a screenshot of the event.



Conclusion

I would like to thank our Scout Master Sir Elias Corriea, the Sri Lankan Scout Association and the Bharat Scouts and Guides for giving me the opportunity to participate in this Jamboree. It was really a very memorable event which I will remember for life. Thank you.