



**General Conference**  
eleventh session

Nominations Committee

**Conferencia general**  
undécima reunión

Comité de candidaturas

**Conférence générale**  
onzième session

Comité des candidatures

**Генеральная конференция**  
одиннадцатая сессия

Комитет по кандидатурам

U N E S C O

**NOM**

11 C/NOM/5

PARIS, 17 October 1960

Original: English

14 November - 13 December 1960

Item 8 of the Provisional Agenda

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

CURRICULUM VITAE

H.E. Dr. Gunapala Piyasena MALALASEKERA,  
O.B.E., D.Litt. (London), M.A., Ph.D., J.P.  
(Ceylon)

Membre d'Honneur of L'Ecole Française d'Extrême-Orient (French Research Institute of the Far East).

Commander of the Order of Mani-Saraphon (conferred by H.M. the King of Cambodia).

Buddha Sasana Vepulla Hitadhara (title conferred by the Supreme Council of Buddhist Monks in Burma).

Born 9 November 1899.

Education

St. John's College, Panadura and Nalanda Vidyalaya, Colombo. Graduated in 1918, B.A., and later obtained M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt. of the University of London.

Educational Experience

Vice-Principal, Ananda College, Colombo; 1924-1927.

Professor of Pali and Buddhist Civilization at the University of Ceylon from its inception up to the time of his appointment as Ambassador of Ceylon in Moscow in May 1957. He was appointed to the post of Professor at the University College, Colombo, in 1927.

He has been the Dean of the Faculty of Oriental Studies of the University of Ceylon on three occasions for nine years.

Experience in Diplomacy and Foreign Affairs

Appointed as the first Ambassador of Ceylon to Czechoslovakia in May 1959; first Ambassador of Ceylon to Poland in July 1959 and first Minister of Ceylon to Rumania in July 1959. Functioned as Deputy Chairman of the Ceylon delegation to the United Nations General Sessions 1959.

Other Activities

President, Ceylon Society of Arts  
President, All-Ceylon Buddhist Congress  
President, World Fellowship of Buddhists  
President, Indian Philosophical Congress  
Chairman, Central Advisory Board of Education, Ceylon  
Chairman, National Council for the Welfare of the Deaf and Blind  
Editor-in-Chief in the Encyclopaedia of Buddhism

Has lectured widely in Europe, Asia and the United States of America on cultural subjects and participated in many East-West Symposia of Unesco.

Major Publications

Pali Literature of Ceylon  
Dictionary of Pali Proper Names  
The Buddha and His Teachings  
Commentary on the Mahavamsa  
The Extended Mahavamsa

He is married and has three daughters and three sons.