

**The Paul H. Nitze School
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South Asia Studies

November 14, 2005

Mr. Pradeep Ratnayake
C/O Ambassador Ravinatha Aryasinha
Embassy of Sri Lanka
2148 Wyoming Avenue, NW
Washington D.C. 20008

Dear Mr. Ratnayake,

On behalf of the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) of Johns Hopkins University, I want to express our appreciation for your performance at the November 10 fundraiser at the World Bank for the victims of the October 8 earthquake in South Asia. Your performance was exquisite and suited to the event. The some three hundred people attending the event, drawn from the multiple worlds of government, academia, elected congressmen, embassies and the press, were impressed and, as you know, stayed to listen to you. The office of Paul Wolfowitz, president of the World Bank, wanted me to pass along their thanks to you as well. You were a splendid representative of the best of Sri Lanka in several ways, artistic and humanitarian. As Ambassador Aryasinha noted in his introduction for you, your performance was an act of solidarity for the victims on behalf of the people of Sri Lanka. This worthy message was picked up by the international press.

With best wishes,



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