

Prof. Ajantha S. Dharmasiri

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Prof. Ajantha Dharmasiri is a conference speaker, corporate trainer, strategy consultant, author and an academic. He has a rare combination of being a Chartered HR professional, Chartered Electrical Engineer, and a Chartered fellow member of the Management Institute (CMI), UK. He is the Director and the Chairman of the Board of Management of the Postgraduate Institute of Management (PIM), University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka. He also serves as an adjunct professor in International Human Resource Management at the Price College of Business, University of Oklahoma, USA. He is the Immediate Past President of the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management (CIPM), the largest HR professional body in Sri Lanka. He also served as a Vice President of the Asia Pacific Federation of Human Resource Management (APFHRM).



He has over three decades of both private and public sector working experience in diverse environments including Unilever and Nestle. He has engaged in consulting, lecturing, training and conference speaking in over twenty countries around the globe. He serves in the Boards of National Institute of Business Management (NIBM), Softlogic PLC, Citizens Development Business Finance PLC (CDB), DSI Samsons Group, Northshore Campus, Benedict XVI Catholic Institute (BCI), and the Association of Management Development Institutions of South Asia (AMDISA). He is an independent member of the ethics committee of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

He is a Commonwealth AMDISA Doctoral Fellow, Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellow and a Commonwealth Postdoctoral Fellow. He holds a Ph.D. and an MBA from the Postgraduate Institute of Management, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and a B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Moratuwa.

As an academic scholar, he has presented research papers at key international conferences and is the editor of Sri Lankan Journal of Management (SLJM), the pioneer local publication that became the first to be hosted by EBSCO global research database. He has published articles in local and foreign journals, and is also an author of eight books. He has won many accolades including gold medals for best papers in two international management conferences, Emerald best paper award in 2014. In 2010, he won the Platinum Award by the Alumni of the Postgraduate Institute of Management (PIMA) for outstanding academic contribution. He also was bestowed with the prestigious IPM Lifetime Gold Award 2014, the highest honour for an HR professional in Sri Lanka.

He is a fellow member of the Sri Lanka Institute of Training and Development (SLITAD). He also functions as a certified Peer Reviewer of the South Asian Quality System (SAQS) and an advisor to the Old Royalists' HR Professional Association (ORHRPRA).

Prof. Dharmasiri likes to identify himself as one who transitioned from being an “Engineer of Electrical” to an “Engineer of Hearts and Minds.”