



SCIENCE SOCIETY OF NALANDA COLLEGE
SINCE 1956

LUMINO SPHERE

ARTICLE WRITING COMPETITION XXVI

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Agnito Zephyra '26

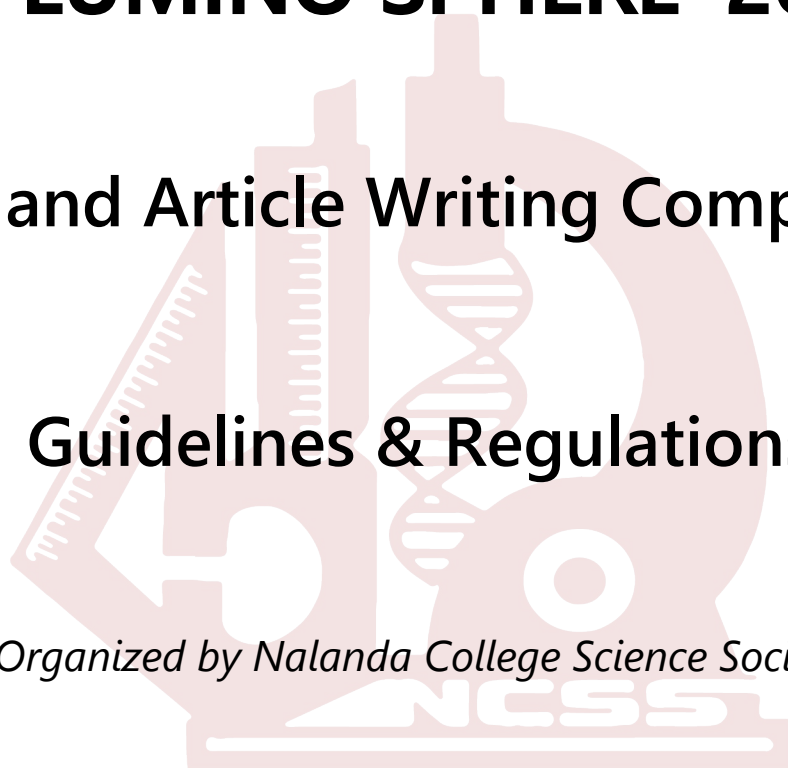
Annual Science Day of Nalanda College

LUMINO SPHERE '26

All-island Article Writing Competition

Guidelines & Regulations

Organized by Nalanda College Science Society



Overview & Eligibility

Category: Open exclusively to **Grade 12 & Grade 13 students**

All submissions must be individual work, group submissions are not permitted.

Each participant/team may submit only one (1) entry.

Any number of individuals from invited schools may participate.

Submission Specifications

Word limit: The article must be between **400 - 500 words**.

Article Language: Articles can **only be written in English**.

Submission Methods;

- **Digital Submission:** May be typed using any readable font and font size of the participant's choice. File format should be **PDF or Microsoft Word (.docx)**.
- **Handwritten Submission:** Participants who prefer handwriting their articles may submit a clear scanned document of the article written in clear handwriting. The pages must be clearly photographed or scanned and converted into a **single readable PDF file** before uploading.

Title Placement: The title of the chosen article topic must be placed at the top of the first page.

AI Policy

Permitted AI Tool: Only **Google Gemini** is permitted for digital assistance; the use of ChatGPT, Claude, or any other AI tools will lead to disadvantage in preliminary selections due to compatibility issues.

Participants using AI assistance **may only use the chosen AI tool to generate outline points, ideas, or structural guidance. Generating full paragraphs, entire sections, or a full draft using AI is strictly forbidden.** Submissions containing directly copied AI-generated paragraphs will be immediately disqualified.

Every participant submitting articles **must declare their AI usage status** in the submission form;

- **For entries where Gemini was used,** participants must upload **clear, full-page, uncropped screenshots of the digital chat thread** showing the exact prompts used and the full raw outputs received from Gemini.
- **For entries where Gemini was not used,** participants must explicitly confirm in the form that no digital AI tools were utilized during the creation process.

Failure to disclose digital AI usage, submitting prohibited AI outputs, generating full paragraphs, or failing to attach required verification screenshots for typed files will result in immediate disqualification.

Originality & Authenticity

Entries must be **original papers produced specifically for LUMINO SPHERE** and must not have been entered into any previous competition.

Plagiarism, direct copying, or fully AI-generated papers will result in immediate disqualification.

Every scientific claim, theory, or historical reference must be properly cited.

Do not include your name, grade, school name, or personal contact details inside the submitted article document to ensure completely unbiased judging.

Competition Themes

Participants must select **one** (1) of the following three themes for their article submission. Each theme requires writers to critically analyze contemporary global issues through the conceptual frameworks and mythologies of ancient civilizations.

See next page

Theme 1: The Modern Prometheus and the Karma of Innovation

Official Writing Prompt;

"Look at our world today (AI, genetic editing, space exploration). How are modern scientists and innovators playing the role of 'Modern Prometheuses'? Using the concepts of Promethean hubris (overconfidence) and Karma, evaluate whether humanity is creating tools that will ultimately bring our own ancient retribution."

Main Idea;

In Greek myth, Prometheus stole fire from the gods to give humanity power, facing eternal punishment for crossing mortal boundaries. In Hindu philosophy, Karma teaches that every action creates an inescapable cycle of consequence.

Focus Points:

- Greek Mythology: Prometheus, Divine Fire, and Hubris
- Buddhist / Hindu Philosophy: Karma (Cause/Effect) and Dharma (Ethical Duty)
- AI ethics, bio-engineering, and the long-term cost of human ambition

Theme 2: The Cosmic Balance: Ma'at vs. Isfet in the Present Age

Official Writing Prompt;

"The ancient Egyptians believed that human greed directly unleashed Isfet (chaos) into the physical world. How can we use the Egyptian framework of Ma'at and ancient ecological myths to understand our modern environmental crisis? How do ancient mythologies teach us to adapt and restore balance to our planet today?"

Main Idea;

Ancient Egyptian religion was built on Ma'at—the cosmic law of balance, truth, and harmony that kept the universe alive—while Isfet represented chaos and greed. Similarly, Greek myths like Gaia show what happens when nature's boundaries are broken.

Focus Points:

- Egyptian Mythology: Ma'at (Cosmic Order) vs. Isfet (Chaos)
- Greek Mythology: Personification of Earth (Gaia)
- Climate crisis, pollution, and adapting to restore planetary balance

Theme 3: Modern Labyrinths and the Veil of Maya

Official Writing Prompt;

"We live in an age of social media, virtual reality, and digital illusions. How have we built a modern 'Labyrinth' that traps our minds? Using the Hindu concept of Maya and the Greek legend of the Labyrinth, examine how ancient mythologies predicted our struggle to separate reality from illusion in the digital world, and how we can escape it."

Main Idea;

In Greek mythology, Daedalus constructed the inescapable Labyrinth to trap a monster, but humans ended up trapped inside. In Hindu mythology, Maya is the grand cosmic illusion that tricks human senses into believing the material world is the only reality.

Focus Points:

- Greek Mythology: Daedalus's Labyrinth and Spatial Captivity
- Hindu Philosophy: Maya (The Cosmic Illusion)
- Digital isolation, social media algorithms, and finding authentic reality

Submission Guidelines

Final Submission Format: The following **two documents** must be included in the entry.

- **Final Article File:** Must be exported as a **.docx or .pdf file only**.
- **AI Chat Thread Screenshots (if any):** Must be compressed in to a **.zip or .rar directory**.

Naming Format: All submitted files must follow this exact naming structure:

LuminoSphere_[Participant Name]_[Grade]_[School Name].pdf

Example: LuminoSphere_PasinduPerera_Grade12_NalandaCollege.pdf

Submissions must be uploaded via the official form provided by the organizing committee.

Deadline: 25th of October (Late entries will be automatically rejected)

Judging Criteria

Evaluations will be conducted based on the following key areas:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| • Content & Knowledge | 25% |
| • Relevance to Topic | 20% |
| • Creativity & Originality | 20% |
| • Structure & Coherence | 15% |
| • Critical Thinking & Analysis | 10% |
| • Language & Presentation | 10% |

Terms & Final Authority

By entering LUMINO SPHERE, participants grant Nalanda College Science Society the right to display, publish, and showcase their submissions for promotional, exhibition, and event related purposes.

The decisions made by the Panel of Judges and the Executive Committee of the Nalanda College Science Society shall be final, absolute, and binding.

For more information, contact us via;

Email: ncsciencesociety.1956@gmail.com

Tel / WhatsApp: +94 71 476 8069 – Sadew Sewmina (Magazine Director)

+94 76 453 0327 – Mrs. Thilini Thilakarathne
(Teacher-in-charge)

+94 77 590 3489 – Senuda Hansira (President)

