

## Nawam Maha Perahera: Colombo Comes Alive



It is a festival that is held annually to commemorate Nawam Poya, which falls in the month of February. The Nawam Maha Perahera, organised by the Gangaramaya Temple is not merely a festival, it has also been the means through which culture, traditional dance forms and skills have been preserved.

It is not only the regally dressed majestic elephants that catch the eye, but also the cultural diversity as well as the procession of Buddhist monks, which set the Nawam Maha Perahera apart from the rest. Since its beginning in 1979, the Nawam Maha Perahera under the direction of Ven Galaboda Gnanissara Thero, the Chief Incumbent of the Gangaramaya

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Temple has been a defining feature of Colombo.

The festival will be held from February 24 - 25, 2013

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