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## PRESS RELEASE

### Goundar launches 'In Simple Words'

**Suva, Fiji Islands.** Fiji National University (FNU) academic Mr Prashneel Goundar has successfully launched his new book '*In Simple Words*' at the University's Lautoka campus in Natabua last week.

'*In Simple Words*' consists of selected prose addressing various pressing issues and range of topics including Defining Life, Materialism, Fiji's Intellectual Debate, Karma, Significance of Diwali, Language issues, South Indian Culture, Moral Values Education, Teaching Strategies, Patriotism in Fiji, Organising and Managing research, it also highlights the significant events around the globe that took place in 2016, Unconditional Love and elderly care.

The anthology was launched by acclaimed and award winning Pacific writer, Professor Subramani.

Professor Subramani while congratulating Mr Goundar said the book was a significant achievement that he should be proud of.

"The successful publication of Mr Goundar's book *In Simple Words* is, for me, a landmark event. It is a strong response to the question we have been posing: where are the new voices that would continue the debates in Joni Madraiwiwi's public utterances so elegantly recorded in *A Personal Perspective*? *In Simple Words* also represents faith in the written word. It covers a range of subjects that young people in particular should regard as their sphere of concern," he said.

Head of Department for Language & Literature, Ms Regina Naidu said the event marks another milestone chapter for the department which earlier this year launched the book written by the Head of School of Communications, Language & Literature (SCLL), Dr Zakia Ali-Chand.

"It is indeed a proud moment for the Department and School. When we have intellectuals like Mr Goundar who is pursuing his dreams by publishing '*In Simple Words*'. He now joined the creative group of writers in the Department and School of Literature /Language and many more will be inspired by this publication and will follow the trail set by Mr Goundar," said Ms Naidu.

Mr Goundar who is a Lecturer II with SCLL at the College of Humanities & Education (CHE) is a graduate of the University of Fiji and holds a Master of Arts degree in Teaching in English as a Second Language (MATESL). He has published six peer reviewed research papers in *International Journal of Humanities and Cultural Studies (Tunisia)* including his MA thesis. He has a total of 30 scholarly and creative articles published to date in Australia and Fiji.

Reflecting on his journey in the compilation of the book, Mr Goundar shared it was determination, hardwork and patience that led him to this moment.

"The book was completed in November 2016 but the editing, proofreading and necessary amendments took a few months before it was finalised for publication in April this year," said Mr Goundar.

"The whole idea of my writings is to reach out to a wider audience not just an elite variety, which had been the goal from the very beginning. *In Simple Words* goes beyond words in conveying various concepts in our daily lives with ease and simplicity."

The editor of the book was his colleague Miss Lia Bogitini, a Lecturer at FNU, ensured that the quality of the work was worthy of easily being comprehended by the general public.

“Miss Bokini goes through all my manuscripts before I send it out for publication and she understands what is best for the readers especially keeping in mind the quality the quality,” he added.

Mr Goundar dedicated the book to his parents to mark their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**For further information, please contact the Communications Office on 3394 000 ext 2890.**

**About the Fiji National University:** The Fiji National University (FNU) was established through the merger of 7 government-owned tertiary institutions in Fiji, and commenced operations from 1 January 2010. The constituent institutions are found at over 40 different locations across Fiji, and collectively offer Certificates, Diplomas, Advanced Diplomas, Degrees, Postgraduate qualifications and Skills Upgrading for those who are already in employment. Approximately 30,000 students pass through the University each year. Over the last six years of its operations, the University has registered major achievements with regard to new programme delivery, quality improvements and contribution to research and publications via its 5 Colleges: The College of Humanities & Education (CHE), the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences (CMNHS), the College of Engineering, Science & Technology (CEST), the College of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry (CAFF), the College of Business, Hospitality & Tourism Studies (CBHTS) and the National Training & Productivity Centre (NTPC).