

GUIDE4U-MOBILE NAVIGATION APP FOR GUIDE A PERSON INSIDE GARDEN

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“Guid4U” is a research project that tried to assist the local and foreign community through a newly introduced android smart mobile application. In the contemporary world technology is the key for everything. Everything is at your fingertips. Mobile devices were used merely for communication. The evolution of mobile phones and its features has transformed the way we live our lives. Android technology combined with mobile devices has changed the mobile features way beyond imagination. Such technology is navigation, using hand-held devices, people are now able to get Google Maps [8], GPS signals from satellites [20] to the mobile device. In Sri Lanka mobile phone users grew 20.9% in 2010 to 17.2 million [21], in 2012 it has reached to equal with country population.

This is the fact that this project is mainly focused on. Giving a navigation assistant through an android mobile application where this navigation concept lies in a whole different way. The research project is about to put one step ahead of regular street level navigation. Complex outdoor environments like Gardens, Zoo, and university premises where many people visit without any idea about the premises and its paths, spend most of their time to find a place inside that outdoor environment. To address this problem I have decided to select a specific location. Peradeniya Botanical Garden [14] is the specific location chosen to put this research concept into reality. Many tourists and local visitors are exploring in numbers to this place.

This Guide4U mobile application will provide comprehensive guidance and informative features for many people through mobile. This research used many existing technologies like Android platform, Google Maps and GPS. The research has explored how to integrate these technologies to build one application as a whole. Overall this report presents methodology, results and discussions and the outcomes. Report has provided evidence of the application functions and has drawn a clear conclusion. This will open the eyes of many researchers and give them an opportunity to bring their concepts based on this research.