



**WE
ARE NOT LOVERS
OF VIOLENCE
NOR VICTIMS
OF MENTAL
DISORDERS**

கற்றுப்பு ஜூலை நீளைவேந்தல்

வெலிக்கடைச் சிறைப் படுகொலைகள்

35 ஆம் ஆண்டு நீலைவஞ்சல்



1983 ஜூலை 25-27 வெலிக்கடைச் சிறையில் படுகொலை செய்யப்பட்ட தமிழ் ஈழ விடுதலை இயக்கத்தின் தேசபிதா தங்கத்துரை, தளபதி குட்டிமணி, முன்னணிப் போராளிகளான ஜெகன், தேவன், நடேசுதாசன், சிவபாதம், சிறீக்குமார், குமார், மரியாம்பிள்ளை, குமாரகுலசிங்கம் உட்பட 53 தமிழ் அரசியல் கைதிகளுக்கும் மற்றும் அனைத்துப் போராளிகளையும் பொதுமக்களையும் நினைவு கூரும் தமிழ்த் தேசிய வீரர்கள் தினத்தில் கலந்துகொள்ள அனைவரையும் அழைக்கின்றோம்.

காலம்: 28, ஜூலை 2018 சனிக்கிழமை, மாலை 6.00 மணி

இடம்: பீக்கொன் சென்டர், கரோ

Beacon Centre, 9 Scott Cres, Harrow, Middx HA2 0TY

ஈகைச் சுடரை தளபதி குட்டிமணி அவர்களின் பாரியார் ஏற்றவுள்ளார்.

Speakers from

TELO, ITAK, PLOTE, EPRLF, SDPT, EPDP, TIC, BTF, GTF, BTC, TGTE
TNPF, TCC, NRTSL and Many Others

கற்றுப்பு ஜூலை நீளைவேந்தலில் அனைவரும் ஒன்றிணைவோம்

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பிரித்தானியக்கிளை

தமிழ் ஈழ விடுதலை இயக்கம்



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**WE ARE NOT LOVERS
OF VIOLENCE NOR
VICTIMS OF
MENTAL DISORDERS**

- THANGADURAI

First Edition: 25th July 1983

Second Edition: 27th July 1983 (Editable Version)



Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization

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25TH JULY 1983
(39 Tamil Prisoners including leader
Thangathurai was killed)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Kuttimani Yogachandran | 2. N. Thangathurai |
| 3. Nadesathasan | 4. Jegan |
| 5. Alias Sivarasa | 6. Sivan Anpalagan |
| 7. A. Balasubramaniam | 8. Surash Kumar |
| 9. Arunthavarajah | 10. Thanapalasingham |
| 11. Arafat | 12. Anpalagan Sunduran |
| 13. P. Mahendran | 14. Ramalingam Balachandran |
| 15. K. Thillainathan | 16. K. Thavarajasingham |
| 17. S. Subramaniam | 18. Mylvaganam Sinnaiah |
| 19. G. Mylvaganam | 20. Ch. Sivanantharajah |
| 21. T. Kandiah | 22. S. Sathiyaseelan |
| 23. Kathiravelpillai | 24. Easvaranathan |
| 25. K. Nagarajah | 26. Gunapalan Ganeshalingam |
| 27. S. Kularajasekaram | 28. K. Krishnakumar |
| 29. K. Uthaya Kumar | 30. R. Yoganathan |
| 31. S. Sivakumar | 32. A. Uthayakumar |
| 33. A. Rajan | 34. G. Amirthalingam |
| 35. S. Balachandran | 36. V. Chandrakumar |
| 37. Yogachandran Killi | 38. Sittampalam Chandrakulam |
| 39. Navaratnam Sivapatham (Master) | |

27TH JULY 1983
(19 Tamil Prisoners were killed)

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Muthukumar Srikumar | 2. Gnanamuthu Naveratnasingham |
| 3. Philip Amirthanayagam | 4. Kandiah Rajendran (Robert) |
| 5. Kulasingam Kumar | 6. Dr. Somasunderam Rajasunderam |
| 7. Selachami Kumar | 8. Somasunderam Manoranjan |
| 9. Kandasamy Sarveswaran | 10. Arumugam Seyan (Appu) |
| 11. A. Marianpillai | 12. Thamothersampillai Jegemogendan |
| 13. Sivapathan Neethirajah | 14. Sinnathambi Sivasubramaniam |
| 15. Devanayagam Paskaran | 16. Sella Rajaratnam |
| 17. Ponnaiya Thurairajah | 18. Kumarasamy Ganeshalingam |
| 19. Ponnampalam Devakumar | |

David Beresford in The Guardian 5, 10 August 1983....

"Eyes 'gouged out' in Sri Lankan gaol" ..it is the massacres in the Welikade gaol which are attracting the most attention. There is a particular interest in circumstances in which two alleged guerilla leaders were killed. The two men, Sellarasa "Kuttimani" Yogachandiran, leader of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization and a political writer, and Ganeshanathan Jeganathan had been sentenced to death last year for the murder of a policeman.

In speeches from the dock, the two men announced that they would donate their eyes in the hope that they would be grafted on to Tamils who would see the birth of Eelam, the independent state they were fighting. Second hand reports from Batticaloa gaol, where the survivors of the Welikada massacre are now being kept, say that the two men were forced to kneel and their eyes gouged out with iron bars before they were killed. One version has it that Kutimani's tongue was cut out by an attacker who drank the blood and cried: "I have drunk the blood of a Tiger."

The two men were among the 35 killed in the Welikada gaol on July 25. Another 17 were killed in the gaol two days later and the Guardian has obtained a first hand account of part of the fighting in this incident, including the circumstances in which Sri Lanka's Gandhian leader, Dr. Rajasunderam, died. Dr. Rajasunderam was one of nine men, including two Catholic priests and a Methodist minister, who were moved out of their cells immediately after the July 25 killings -- to make way for survivors moved into their cells on security grounds -- into a padlocked hall, upstairs in the same block. The nine, convinced that further attacks

were coming, made repeated representations to the prison authorities on July 26 for better security measures. Assurances were given that they would be protected, but nothing was done.

At 2:30 pm in July 27, hearing screaming and whistling outside, one of the priests looked out of a high window and saw prisoners breaking in from a neighboring compound, wielding axes, iron bars, pieces of firewood, and sticks. There was no sign of the prison guards. The mob, which was later found to have killed 16 prisoners in the downstairs cells, ran up to the hall and began breaking the padlock. Dr. Rajasunderam then went to the door and cried out: "Why are you trying to kill us? What have we done to you?" At that moment, the door burst open and Dr. Rajasunderam was hit on the side of the neck by a length of iron. Blood was seen to spurt several feet. "At that juncture, we thought we should defend ourselves," one of the prisoners related. "We broke the two tables in the hall and took the legs to defend ourselves." "We kept them at bay. They threw bricks at us. We threw them back. Pieces of firewood and an iron bar were thrown at us. We used them to defend ourselves. It went on for about half an hour.

They shouted: 'You are the priests, we must kill you.'" The killing was eventually ended by the army, who moved in with tear gas. An inquest has been opened into the Welikada massacres, but the above details did not emerge. Prison warders claim that keys to the cells were stolen from them. Lawyers for the prisoners who have accused the warders of having participated, claim that they were not given the opportunity to bring evidence despite representation to the Government. "

"Selvarajah Yogachandran, popularly known as Kuttimuni, a nominated member of the Sri Lankan Parliament...,one of the 52 prisoners killed in the maximum security Welikade prison in Colombo two weeks

ago, (on July 25) was forced to kneel in his cell, where he was under solitary confinement, by his assailants and ordered to pray to them. When he refused, he was taunted by his tormentors about his last wish, when he was sentenced to death. He had willed that his eyes be donated to some one so that at least that person would see an independent Tamil Eelam. The assailants then gouged his eyes...He was then stabbed to death and his testicles were wrenched from his body. This was confirmed by one of the doctors who had conducted the postmortem of the first group of 35 prisoners." (Madras Hindu, 10 August 1983)



"The most brutal and obviously well organised massacres took place within the confines of a prison located in the capital city. A prison is by definition a high security establishment, this is particularly so of the Welikade Prison which even by official terminology of the Sri Lankan government, is a 'maximum security' establishment. Yet not one but two gruesome massacres occur within its walls in the space of a week!.." (R.K. Karanjia in The Blitz, 6 August 1983)

The trials of Tamil militants under the Prevention of Terrorism Act had become an embarrassment to the government. Allegations of torture had attracted observers from the International Commission of Jurists and from Amnesty International. The Court itself had become a forum for agitation in support of the claim of the Tamil people that they constituted a nation.

Around May 1983, the government moved many political prisoners held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, including Nadarajah Thangathurai and Selvarajah Yogachandran, from the army camp at Panagoda to the jail at Welikade. Panagoda was a special prison, in an army camp in an outlying suburb of Colombo and conveniently situated for torture and 'investigative interrogation'.

But if the prisoners were killed whilst at Panagoda, the government of Sri Lanka may have been directly implicated for the act of the army. Sections of the maximum security Welikade jail, however, housed a large number of Sinhala prisoners as well. The move from Panagoda to Welikade assisted the plan to murder the Tamil militants in custody, at an appropriate time and explain away the murder as a "prison riot".

"Very few believed the story that these killings were the result of a prison riot. How did the other prisoners get out of their cells? Where did they get their weapons? And, most important who put these Island Reconvicted Criminals next to the detenues and in the same building? And when? And even if one overlooked the first killings, how to explain the killing of a further seventeen Tamil detenues the following day? What were the prison authorities doing....? Why did'nt they send the Tamil detenues to a safer place?... **This coldly calculated murder of Tamil**

prisoners will be an eternal blot on the Sri Lankan government that nothing can wipe out. An army officer who had visited the prison morgue told me that the detainees must have been attacked with clubs and knives. Kuttimuni had been badly slashed..." (*Eye witness account, Sri Lanka: Racism and the Authoritarian State - Race and Class, Volume XXVI, A.Sivanandan and Hazel Waters, Institute of Race Relations*)

The post mortem inquiry into the death of the Tamil prisoners at Welikade, returned a verdict of homicide. Amnesty International reported in June 1984:

"Amnesty International has itself interviewed one Tamil detainee who survived the killing and has received a sworn statement from another survivor, both of whom state that some prisoners who had come to attack them later told the surviving detainees that they had been asked to kill Tamil prisoners. According to the sworn statement: ***'We asked these people as to why they came to kill us. To this they replied that they were given arrack by the prison authorities and they were asked to kill all those at the youth offenders ward (where the Tamil prisoners were kept)'. "***

The International Commission of Jurists commented:

"It is not clear how it was possible for the killings to take place without the connivance of prison officials, and how the assassinations could have been repeated after an interval of two days, since Welikade prison is a high security prison and the Tamil prisoners were kept in separate cells..."

(Ethnic Violence in Sri Lanka, 1981-83: Staff Report of the International Commission of Jurists, ICJ Review)

"... it is relevant to mention the gruesome massacre of 53 Tamil prisoners in the Welikade jail in Colombo on July 25 and 27 last year. Many of them were only detainees on suspicion and not convicted prisoners. After they were brutally murdered, their wives, sisters, children and parents came to know about their death only through the radio. Much more terrible was the fact that the bodies of these detainees were buried or cremated without any member of the families knowing or being present. They were not even given the chance of having a last look at the body.

No amount of sanctimonious expressions of sorrow or statements made before the Commission that the Sri Lankan Government was not proud of what happened at the Colombo jail would be acceptable to the civilised world, when up to date, the government has failed or neglected or refused to order an independent judicial inquiry into this unprecedented slaughter of those who were in the custody of the Government. (Statement by All India Womens Conference at UN Sub Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, 24 August 1984)

**THE MARTYRDOM OF
OF THANGATHURAI & KUTTIMUNI**
Nadarajah Thangathurai's Statement from the Dock
1 March 1983

- Preliminaries
- Sinhala thuggery in 1956
- Is it not ridiculous for a Government that promotes race hatred and race killings to look at us and call us 'terrorists'?
- Allegations are made that we are asking for separation, that we are trying to divide the country. When were we undivided after all?
- Had you endorsed our basic human rights at the very beginning this situation would not have arisen
- While holding out the bogus promise of solving the problems of the Tamil people, you have spent all the time in trying to blunt Tamil resistance
- We are not lovers of violence nor victims of mental disorders
- There is nothing that prevents two neighbouring nations living in co-operation
- Do you accept as correct and justified the various acts of oppression that the Tamil people have suffered?
- We will not flinch from embracing death or spending the rest of our lives in jail, content as we are that we have done our duty



Leader Thangathurai quotes that will live forever

1. We are not lovers of violence nor victims of mental disorders. We are honest fighters belonging to an organization that is struggling to liberate a people.
2. What we ask for is not division but freedom. Why we ask this is not because of narrow thinking. What we hope to achieve is not only the emancipation of the Tamil people but the greater good of the Sinhalese people themselves.
3. You must not run away with the thought that our sole objective is to establish Tamil Eelam. Tamil Eelam certainly remains an objective because we have learnt through bitter experience over the past several years that it is only by establishing a State of Tamil Eelam can Tamils live with self respect.
4. Our vision is broader than that. Our vision is global. Wherever there is oppression, wherever there is violation of human dignity, whether in Africa or in Latin America, we are prepared to link hands with the oppressed and the under dog. When our vision is so global how can it fail to take into account the future good of the Sinhala people?
5. We are firm believers in the saying that what one sows one reaps. That is why our minds are calm. The seeds we sowed were not seeds of poison, our arrow heads were not dipped in venom.
6. Truth does not require platforms. It has its own glory. No power on earth can suppress it forever.
7. There is nothing preveence two neighbouring nations living in co-opertion



தமிழ் தேசிய வீரர்கள் தினம்

கறுப்பு ஜூலை 1983 BLACK JULY

35th Anniversary of Black July 83, TELO Leaders and Fifty three Tamil Political Prisoners Were Murdered in the maximum Security Welikade prison.

1983 ஜூலை 25-27விடுதலை போரின் வித்துக்கள் வீழ்த்தப்பட்ட நாள்! ஸ்ரீலங்கா பேரினவாத அரசின் கட்டவிழ்த்து விடப்பட்ட 1983 ஜூலை வெலிக்கடை சிறை படுகொலையில் தமிழ் விடுதலை இயக்க தேசபிதா தங்கதுரை, தளபதி குட்டிமணி, ஜேகன், நடேசுதாயன், தேவன், சிவாபதம் உட்பட, 57 பத்திஜிவிக்களையும் படுகொலை செய்யப்பட்ட மொதிராக்களையும் நினைவுகூர்ந்து வந்து வீர அஞ்சலியை செலுத்திச் சோன்கிள்போம்.



நேசுதாயன்



தளபதி குட்டிமணி



ஜேகன்



தேவன்



நடேசுதாயன்



தேவன்



சிவாபதம்

தமிழ் அழகு விடுதலை இயக்கம்
பெரலோ அர்வதேசம்





தலைவர் - தங்கத்துறை



காலம் - குட்டியாணி



நேரம் - காலை 9.00 மணி

1983ம் ஆண்டு வெலிக்கடையில் படுகொலை செய்யப்பட்ட தமிழ் ஈழ விடுதலை இயக்கத்தின் தலைவர் தங்கத்துறை, தளபதி குட்டியாணி போராளிகள் மற்றும் வலதுயக்களின் 35ம் ஆண்டு நினைவலைகள்

தமிழ் தேசிய வீரர்கள் தின ஞாபகார்த்த இரத்ததான நிகழ்வு

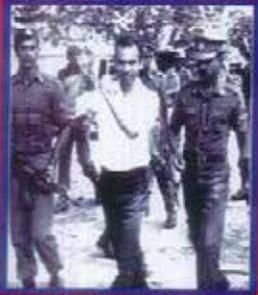
இடம் : இரத்த வங்கி - வவுனியா.
காலம் : 27.07.2018 (வெள்ளிக்கிழமை)
நேரம் : காலை 9.00 மணி



தமிழ் ஈழ விடுதலை இயக்கம் (TELO) - ஞாலோ இளைஞர் அணி - தமிழ் ஈழ விடுதலை இயக்கம் வவுனியா மாவட்டம்

வெலிக்கடைச் சிறைய் படுகொலைகள் 35ம் ஆண்டு நினைவஞ்சலி

* 1983 ஆடி 25, 27 *



தலைவர் தங்கத்துறை தளபதி குட்டியாணி, போராளிகளான ஜெகன், தேவன், நிபு கதவன், சீவாநம், சீர்த்தாடி, குயர், ஸ்ரீயாப்பிள்ளை, குயாருசர்ங்கம் உட்பட 53 தமிழ் அரசியல் கைதிகளுக்குக் கண்வீர் அஞ்சலி



தமிழ் ஈழ விடுதலை இயக்கம் (ஞாலோ) TELO

PRELIMINARIES

"We have already objected to a Court in Sri Lanka subjecting us to an inquiry. Despite that objection a case has been fabricated against us, and the trial has gone on for nearly four months.

Our Senior Counsel, Nadesan Satyendra, has exposed the somersaults of the Sri Lanka police witnesses both by his cross examination and by his concluding submissions. He has also exposed the various acts of torture to which we were subjected at the hands of the Sri Lanka authorities.

Our respected Senior Counsel has said that he bows his head in humility in front of us who have been willing to give our lives for the liberation of our people.

May I only say that his dedication and sustained effort and the many faceted legal skills that he has employed from the day that he took on the responsibility for this case to this very day is a duty that he has nobly discharged for the Tamil people and is in no way less than what we have done.

His skill can be seen in every aspect of this case. His two-day address on the question of the admissibility of the statements made in custody served to further the cause of truth and will find a place of honour in the history of our struggle.

It is my deepest wish that such legal expertise and noble dedication will not be confined simply to a court of law, or to the cause of a particular people but will shine on behalf all oppressed peoples in the world in the years to come...

SINHALA THUGGERY IN 1956

When the British government entrusted the fate of the Tamils to a group of Sinhala politicians, the Tamil people did not clamour for freedom for themselves. They did not suspect that they would in course of time be made second class citizens of this country. But some Tamil leaders did perceptively ask for bigger representation for the Tamils in the legislature. This was justified by later events when the plantation Tamils were deprived of their franchise. What the next 25 years saw was not only the erosion of Tamil rights but also the erosion of the Tamil homeland. For 25 years, the Tamil leaders expressed their protest in Parliament and outside, adopting the principles of ahimsa and satyagraha. But what happened?

In 1956 the Tamil leaders sat down to a peaceful protest on Galle Face Green. Sinhala thugs were unleashed on them. Later, in 1961, when the Tamil leaders and the Tamil people sat in peaceful satyagraha in front of the Jaffna Kacheri, the Sri Lanka army did not fail to react with inhumane violence.

In which chapter of your long history of democracy are you going to incorporate these events? Not one, not two, but there have been a continuing series of thuggery and violence inflicted on the Tamil people over a period of 25 years. How many chapters will you need to record this 25 year villainy? How many Tamils have been robbed of both their lives and their material wealth? There have been Tamil women whose chastity has been offended in the very presence of their family members.

Tamil cultural wealth preserved for generations has been put to flames. What a mockery to think that these could be compensated by a

few lakhs of rupees! Have all these acts of hurt and humiliation made the Tamil people lose their determination? Have they gone back on their ideals? These acts of hurt and humiliation have only strengthened their resolve. We have never missed an opportunity to make the Sri Lanka government conscious of our mind. Twice in two elections the Tamil people have recently re stated their aspirations.

IS IT NOT RIDICULOUS FOR A GOVERNMENT THAT PROMOTES RACE HATRED AND RACE KILLINGS TO LOOK AT US AND CALL US 'TERRORISTS'?

Is it not ridiculous for a Government that promotes race hatred and race killings to look at us and call us 'terrorists'? While on the one hand celebrations were going on to mark '50 years of Parliamentary democracy', (in 1981) Tamil members of the same Parliament were subject to mid night arrest and the house of one Member of Parliament was set on fire. These are not acts that you can do in a civilised world and then hold your head high. You talk of terrorism and robbery. Has this country seen anything to compare with the state terrorism and the race hate carried out with state weaponry? We have even heard of influential Sri Lanka government politicians terrorising people with revolvers!

ALLEGATIONS ARE MADE THAT WE ARE ASKING FOR SEPARATION, THAT WE ARE TRYING TO DIVIDE THE COUNTRY. WHEN WERE WE UNDIVIDED AFTER ALL?

Allegations are made that we are asking for separation, that we are trying to divide the country. When were we undivided after all? Our traditional land captured by the European invaders has never been restored to us. We have not even mortgaged our land at any time to anyone

in the name of one country. Our land has changed hands off and on under various regimes, and that is what has happened. We have yet to reach a stage when we can have our land for ourselves.

What we ask for is not division but freedom. Why we ask this is not because of narrow thinking. What we hope to achieve is not only the emancipation of the Tamil people but the greater good of the Sinhalese people themselves.

What we ask for is not division but freedom. Why we ask

this is not because of narrow thinking. What we hope to achieve is not only the emancipation of the Tamil people but the greater good of the Sinhalese people themselves. Why? Because, thereafter, the so-called Tamil problem will cease to be a livelihood for opportunist Sinhalese politicians. That will provide a chance for the Sinhalese people to free themselves from the political, social and economic shackles that bind them today and realize ***where their true slavery lies.***

Had you endorsed our basic human rights at the very beginning this situation would not have arisen

There is no testament in the world that declares that a people who fight to recover their own rights or work for their self-determination are guilty of sedition or terrorism. Had you endorsed our basic human rights at the very beginning this situation would not have arisen. You had not only not recognised our rights but for the purpose of clinging on to political seats of power you had been injecting into the poor innocent Sinhalese people hate and venom over the past 35 years. That not all the Sinhala people have fallen victims to your racist poison has been proved by the fact that many of them during the time of race riots, have time and

again rescued Tamils from armed thugs and complete extermination. It has been customary for every opposition party in Sri Lanka that wants to come to power to obstruct any settlement of the Tamil question and rouse the Sinhala people for that purpose.

As against that, for a ruling party to permit racist violence as it has done during the past six years is more reprehensible. If the relationship between the Tamil people and the Sri Lanka government has reached the present deplorable state, that responsibility lies squarely with the present dispensation.

While holding out the bogus promise of solving the problems of the Tamil people, you have spent all the time in trying to blunt Tamil resistance

For the past quarter century, the ruling governments have like parrots kept on repeating the same threadbare statements 'we will solve the Tamil question'. Whether we accept your solutions or not, what honest attempts have been made to solve the problems of the Tamils? While holding out the bogus promise of solving the problems of the Tamil people, you have spent all your time in trying to blunt Tamil resistance. What have the Tamil people asked you? Not economic benefits, not employment opportunities. That no such benefits could come from you is a fact well known to them.

Even if you do come forward to grant these benefits, what guarantee can you give the Tamils that they could live with self respect in this island in the future? What ever you give them without securing that self respect will be alien to them.

In this island there are sanctuaries for even wild animals but upto now there is no sanctuary in any part of this island where Tamils can live without fear. This is not something we can expect from you in the future either.

The Deputy Solicitor General in the course of his cross examination turned to Mr.Yogachandran and asked him: 'Do you intend to use this court of law as a platform?'. Of what use are platforms to us? We did not ask anybody to provide us platforms. It was you who brought us to this Court and heaped accusations on us. When you not only throw lies at us but also try to make out that we are liars, we simply came out with the truth.

Truth does not require platforms. It has its own glory. No power on earth can suppress it forever.

We are not lovers of violence nor victims of mental disorders...

We are not lovers of violence nor victims of mental disorders. We are honest fighters belonging to an organization that is struggling to liberate a people.

To those noble souls who keep on prating "terrorism, terrorism" we have something to say. Did you not get frightened of terrorism when hundreds of Tamils were massacred in cold blood, when racist hate spread like fire in this country of yours?

We are not lovers of violence nor victims of mental disorders. We are honest fighters belonging to an organization that is struggling to liberate a people.

Did terrorism mean nothing to you when Tamil women were raped? When cultural treasures were set on fire? When hundreds

and hundreds of Tamil homes were looted? Why in 1977 alone 400 Tamils lost their lives reddening the sky above with their splattered blood - did you not see any terrorism then? Did your thoughts and feelings become deadened when it concerned Tamil lives and Tamil property or are your minds unable to conceive the very idea of Tamil suffering?

There is nothing that prevents two neighbouring nations living in co-operation

You must not run away with the thought that our sole objective is to establish Tamil Eelam. Tamil Eelam certainly remains an objective because we have learnt through bitter experience over the past several years that it is only by establishing a State of Tamil Eelam can Tamils live with self respect.

But our vision is broader than that. Our vision is global. Wherever there is oppression, wherever there is violation of human dignity, whether in Africa or in Latin America, we are prepared to link hands with the oppressed and the under dog. When our vision is so global how can it fail to take into account the future good of the Sinhala people?

But our vision is broader than that. Our vision is global. Wherever there is oppression, wherever there is violation of human dignity, whether in Africa or in Latin America, we are prepared to link hands with the oppressed and the under dog. When our vision is so global how can it fail to take into account the future good of the Sinhala people?

May I mention this. We will not stop at raising our voices on behalf of those people. There is nothing that prevents two neighbouring nations

living in co-operation. Even nations with differing policies get together for common economic good and for the purpose of common security. Does that mean that those nations give up their distinctive characteristics or sovereignty?

We have to safeguard the collective good of this island. If at any time in the future a common organisation has to emerge which could withstand the political and economic onslaught made against third world countries particularly in the areas surrounding the Indian sub continent, you can be sure that Tamil Eelam will rise to lend its might in all co-operative endeavours that will raise the quality of life of the people of this part of the world.

Do you accept as correct and justified the various acts of oppression that the Tamil people have suffered?

I want to ask this question from my Sinhala friends. Do you accept as correct and justified the various acts of oppression that the Tamil people have suffered until now not only in our land but in various parts of your land as a result of various acts of thuggery and terrorism? Do you also consider wrong our attempt to free ourselves from the inhumane oppression of your government?

Or do you consider that this present eyewash in the form of a trial conducted under special laws an act of fairness to a people like us who are fighting for a noble ideal, the ideal of human freedom? Or does it mean that you do not care what happens because the victims are Tamils? If that is so, our sympathies are with you.

Believe me our freedom is an assured fact and will come. Once that

happens your law books and terrorist laws cannot touch us. Thereafter you will be the sole 'beneficiaries' of the very laws that oppress us now.

Will you urge your government to stop the injustice against us and acknowledge our sovereignty?

Will you as a first step towards this and towards the eradication of terrorism, urge your government to recall the Sri Lanka Police Force and the Armed Forces - wholesale merchants of terrorism -from our soil?

I leave it to you to decide whether you will show the world how committed you are to justice. Though belonging to a different nation, as fellow humans living in the same island we have participated in the inquiry hoping for your understanding. Today we have made our position quite clear. If the understanding that flows from this prompts you in the future to raise your voice on our behalf, our hearts will be filled with satisfaction.

I wish to tell you sincerely here and now that even if this understanding does not become a reality, we will throw the full weight of our support behind you when rise up in the future to free yourselves and shatter the social and economic fetters that shackle you now.

We will not flinch from embracing death or spending the rest of our lives in jail, content as we are that we have done our duty

Through this case we have made our real position known to the world and in particular to the

We are firm believers in the saying that what one sows one reaps. That is why our minds are calm. The seeds we sowed were not seeds of poison, our arrow heads were not dipped in venom.

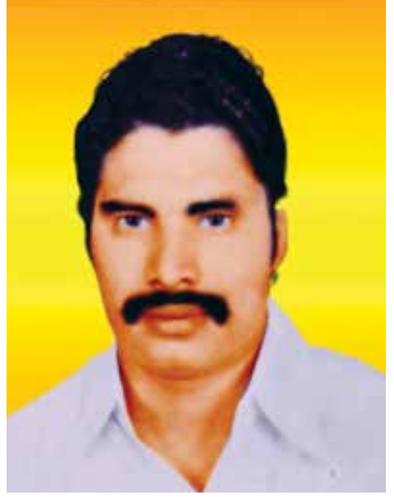
peoples of this island. This is the joyous feeling that is uppermost in our minds... Even a hundred fabricated cases against us and all the slanders heaped on us will not bother us. It is we who will win through this kind action of yours. The consequences of the verdict of this Court will not touch us, content as we are that we have done our duty.

We will not flinch from embracing death or spending the rest of our lives in jail, content as we are that we have done our duty. All these are merely commonplace incidents in the history of a nation's struggle for freedom. We were fully conscious of what we were doing. Hence there is no question of disappointment.

We are firm believers in the saying that what one sows one reaps. That is why our minds are calm. The seeds we sowed were not seeds of poison, our arrow heads were not dipped in venom. But my fervent prayer is that innocent Sinhala people should not have to reap what power hungry Sinhala politicians have sown. These tribulations are a boon bestowed by God to purify us. The final victory is ours. Long Live Tamil Eelam!"



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