

# HOT SPRING

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## A Tragedy !

"The Sri Lankan politician who is prepared to tackle and resolve the ethnic conflict is the politician who is prepared to lose the next election" stated one observer.

Extract from the Report of the Canadian Human Rights Mission to Sri Lanka - Jan. 1992.

## KALUWANCHIKUDY

# POLICE BATON CHARGE

## Students in Hospital

A number of students from the High Schools in Kaluwanchikudy and Paddiruppu are admitted to the Kaluwanchikudy Hospital with history of assault injuries sustained by them as a result of Sri Lankan policemen assaulting them while they were returning after handing over a protest memorandum to the Asst. Superintendent of Police at Kaluwanchikudi.

The news in this connection states that students of the Paddiruppu Maha Vidyalayam, Kaluwanchikudy Saraswathy Vidyalayam and Kaluwanchikudy Vinayagar Vidyalayam numbering over two thousand staged a protest demonstration against arrests of students by armed forces of the Sri Lankan Government on Tuesday, May 12.

It is learnt that the students numbering over two thousand walked out of their classrooms at about 10-00 a.m. and marched in procession carrying placards and banners and decrying arrests of students and air bombing of schools. The procession went through various streets and reached the office of the Asst. Government Agent, Kaluwanchikudy.

At the office of the Asst. Govt. Agent, the demonstrating students handed over a memorandum to the Asst. Government Agent protesting against arrests of students and other atrocities committed by the Sri Lankan Armed Forces against students and educational institutions.

The demonstrating students thereafter went in procession

to the Office of the Asst. Superintendent of Police at Kaluwanchikudy. The students handed over to the Asst. Superintendent of Police a protest memorandum in like terms as that of the memorandum to the Asst. Government Agent.

Sri Lankan Police personnel who were there set upon the

students and baton charged them as the students prepared to return after handing over the memorandum.

Many students suffered severe injuries and have been admitted to the Kaluwanchikudy hospital. Over a 100 protesting students were also arrested by the Sri Lankan Police. It is learnt that the arrested students were released the following day.

But on the following day Sri Lankan Army is reported to have arrested the Princi-

pal of the Paddiruppu Maha Vidyalayam, Mr. A. Arudpiragasam. There is no further news in regard to the arrested Principal, Mr. Arudpiragasam up to the time of writing this news.

The Batticaloa report also says that the student demonstration was triggered off by the arrest of four women on May 5, by Sri Lankan Police. They are Nallathamby Nagaledchumy (40), Kanapathipillai Desmathy (25) Puvanendrarasa Yasothini (19)

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## Tiger Assault at Elephant Pass 22 S. L. Army Sentry Points Destroyed

The LTTE carried out a daring attack on Sri Lankan army positions at Elephant Pass and destroyed 22 Sri Lankan Army Sentry Points and recovered a large haul of arms.

The report in this connection states that a group of the Charles Anthony Special Division of the LTTE and the Kilinochchi District Tiger Assault group jointly launched a daring attack on Sri Lankan army positions at Thattuvankoddy in Elephant Pass. The attack took place on Monday, May 11th in the early hours of the morning. The attack lasted for 30 minutes.

The LTTE captured and destroyed 22 sentry points of the Sri Lankan Army. Over 15 soldiers were estimated to have been killed in the attack. Many soldiers escaped to the camp with injuries.

### LATE NEWS

## PROTEST CONTINUE

At the time of going to the Press we have received reports of a further student demonstration at Batticaloa.

According to this report the students at Batticaloa staged a protest demonstration on Thursday, May 14 against the Government's armed forces activities directed against students.

The Tigers also recovered a large haul of arms and ammunition. The bodies of 3 Sri Lankan soldiers abandoned by the fleeing Sinhala army, were also recovered by the LTTE.

2 LTTE fighters died in this battle.

Following this LTTE attack, the S. L. army launched artillery shell attack from the camp directed towards residential areas of Iyakachchi, Ooriyan, Kovil Vayal-Chankathar Vayal and Thattuvan koddy. The artillery attack continued for hours. The villagers were reported to have taken to secure areas and thus avoided large scale civilian casualties.

## Aerial Bombardment at Maruthankerny

Two Sri Lankan Air Force planes dropped four bombs at Maruthankerny in Vadamardchy East on Wednesday May 13th.

According to the report, the bombs hit two houses which were damaged along with Maruthankerny Govern-

ment Dispensary and the Medical Officers' quarters.

Two persons who sustained serious injuries, Mrs. Thiraviam Rajeswary (45) and Anton (24), have both been admitted to the Teaching Hospital at Jaffna for emergency treatment.

## Not Surprising says LTTE

"By banning the LTTE which is a movement functioning in foreign soil the ruling class in New Delhi seems to think that it can contain the rising tide of nationalism in Tamil Nadu. India is not scared of the LTTE but is scared of Tamil nationalism and national resurgence" states a communique issued by the LTTE reacting to the

Indian Government's decision to ban the LTTE.

The communique also added that the Indian Government's decision was not surprising but pointed out that by this decision India has alienated the only force in South Asia which was friendly to her.

(The full text of the communique will appear next week)

## Cheddikulam

## S.L. Army under Tiger Fire Loses 6 Sentry Points

The LTTE destroyed 6 Sri Lankan army sentry points at Cheddikulam - Muthalakkuddy areas and recovered many arms and ammunition from the Sri Lankan Army.

News reaching Jaffna from Cheddikulam in the Vavuniya District state that the LTTE carried out a lightning attack on a chain of Sri Lankan army sentry points covering Cheddikulam Army Camp. Six sentry points were completely destroyed. Ten S. L. soldiers were killed and many others were injured. The injured S.L. soldiers escaped to the main army camp.

The Tigers recovered a large haul of arms and ammunition from the Army in the attack. One of the LTTE cadres died. The attack lasted only for five minutes. Following this attack, the S.L. army at Cheddikulam started firing artillery shells towards residential areas. Reports of damage and civilian casualties have not been received.

## Attack at Tantrimalai

### TWO S. L. SOLDIERS KILLED

Reports from Vavuniya state that LTTE attacked a group of Sri Lankan soldiers at Tantrimalai in the Mannar District on 13-5-92. Two Sri Lankan soldiers were killed and others escaped to their camps abandoning the dead bodies of their colleagues.

The LTTE recovered the dead bodies of the Sri Lankan soldiers and also some weapons.



## OUR READERS SAY

### Buddhist Clergymen's Visit

The Editor,  
Hot Spring.

The visit of the Buddhist clergymen from South to North led by Rev. Madam-pagama Assgiri Thero and their meeting and the exchange of views in a cordial atmosphere with the LTTE has allayed all fears and suspicion about the LTTE, the people in the South may have had hitherto entertained.

The cordial climate has given a moral boosting among the visiting clergymen to re-visit Jaffna and iron out the differences. The people in the North are eager that a concerted effort should be made by the Buddhist clergymen to convince the people in the South that the armed struggle of the LTTE was the outcome of State oppression and successive communal violence. It should be stressed in the minds of the Buddhist lay community that the LTTE are not terrorists as has been propagated by anti Tamil propagandists. The LTTE is like any political party espousing the cause of the oppressed Tamils by Sinhala chauvinists. The ethnic conflict having survived four decades has gained root firmly in the minds of the two major communities, and therefore considering the past events, the question of bringing the two communities together is like patching an old garment with a new piece of cloth.

In Marxism and the National Question, Stalin defines a nation as "a definite community of people with a common language, territory, economic life, economic cohesion and a common psychological make up which manifests itself in a common culture." In Sri Lanka too

linguistic, religious and cultural dissimilarities constitute two distinct nations.

When the Sinhalese rebelled against the Britishers a hundred & thirty years ago it has been defined as "struggling for freedom". At the present what the Tamils seek is national liberty from Sinhala.

The LTTE by its pursuit has made it clear that in its march towards liberation, it in no way attempts to deprive the Sinhalese of their sovereignty.

The venerable clergymen will lose no time in preaching to the Buddhist public in the South how they have grasped the correct view about LTTE and dismiss all misinformation about the situation in the North.

Their sacred duty is to remove the communal prejudice that has pervaded the minds of the people in the South and create a clear understanding that the role of the LTTE is not anti Sinhala, anti Buddhist, but a movement to restore the political and traditional status quo of the Tamils, parallel to the Sinhalese.

D. Jeevananthan  
Vathiry.

### Tamil Areas in Sri Lanka

The Editor,  
Hot Spring.

For the purposes of administration of Various Local Authorities in the Island, Sri Lanka was grouped into 3 areas. These areas were known as Area A, B & C. These have been defined under Section 22 of the Local Government Service Ordinance Chapter 264-schedule 2.

**Area A:** Comprising the following:

The Administrative District of Colombo, Kalutara, Galle,

Matara, Hambantota and Puttalam exclusive of Puttalam Pattu and Gravets, Kalpitiya Division and Demala Hatpattuwa.

**Area B:** Comprising the following:

North Central Province and the Province of Uva.

The Administrative Districts of Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya, Ratnapura, Kegalle and Kurunegala. Demala Hatpattuwa in the Administrative District of Puttalam, Vavuniya South (Sinhalese Division) in the Administrative District of Vavuniya. Bintenne Pattu and Wewagam Pattu in the Administrative District of Batticaloa,

**Area C:** Comprising the following:

The Administrative District of Mannar, Jaffna and Trincomalee. The Administrative District of Puttalam exclusive of Demala Hatpattuwa, Pitigal Korala South and Pitigal Korala North.

The Administrative District of Vavuniya exclusive of Vavuniya South (Sinhalese

Division) The Administrative District of Batticaloa exclusive of Bintenne Pattu and Wewagam Pattu.

It should be noted that the present Amparai District was within the Batticaloa District at the time of the enactment of the law under reference.

Nobody need break their heads if this division is accepted. In fact any changes subsequently effected by state aided colonisation etc. should have no effect and need no consideration.

M. Kanagalingam  
Meesalai.

### Currency Notes

This has reference to the thoughtful letter in your paper of 3-5-92 on Sri Lanka Currency notes. While fully agreeing with the facts and observations of the writer of this letter. I feel that Northern Branches, State and Commercial, with the concurrence of the Central Bank should take stock of the matter carefully in the public interest. There

is also a reference in your paper of 20-10-91 to the plight of customers at the National Savings Bank which is characterised by lethargy and red tape by failing to fall in line with other Banking and Commercial Institutions. An important aspect as appearing in the article of 3-5-92 is in regard to torn, damaged or mutilated currency notes which the N. S. B. refuses to accept for deposit or exchange. May be the officials at the Bank are as helpless. Surely, any Banking Institution could accept such notes at their discretion. They could, as a matter of fact, collect such notes and send them to the Central Bank and obtain new notes in exchange. The Central Bank is the model Institution for all to ease the situation. Another question the validity of cheques for pensions and credit facilities. The normal date of validity of 30 days should be extended to 180 days. Such extension of validity could ease problems to a very great extent.

S. Jayaratnam  
Chavakachcheri.

## A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

Rarely in the history of an Episcopate has there been triple Jewels embossed on a mitre. This singular conjunction of Silver, Golden and Diamond Jubilees we were privileged to celebrate on 11th May, 1992 at St. Mary's Cathedral, Jaffna in the person of His Lordship, Rt. Rev. Dr. Bastiampillai Deogupillai.

It was the 25th Anniversary of his Episcopate, 50th Anniversary of his Priestly Ordination and his 75th Birthday.

The vast and varied assembly present to felicitate him on this occasion was ample testimony to his Spirituality, Humanism and Intrepidity, the hall-marks which characterised his stewardship.

The eulogies showered on him by the Catholic Prelates, Religious Dignitaries of other Denominations, Educationists and Administrators alike may be epitomised in one phrase that this was a "Man for all Seasons".

The Concelebrated Mass of 6 Bishops and nearly 150 Priests from all over the Island, the Spiritual Highlight of the Ceremony, will remain in the memories of those present for a long time to come.

The Pandal outside the Cathedral, the 'Red Carpet' at the entrance to the Church were reminiscent of oriental splendour. The Nathaswaram Music and the Choral music during the ceremonies appeared in unison with the mood of the occasion.

Those accommodated on the dais among others were His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo, Bishops of Kurunegala, Galle, Batticaloa-Trincomalee and Mannar, Bishop of South India in Jaffna. Chief Priest of Nallai Atheenam, Vice Chancellor University of Jaffna, Government Agent, Jaffna and the Secretary General of the People's Front of Liberation Tigers.

The very Rev. Father Michael Samy, Vicar General was 'Master of Ceremonies.'

The climax of the public reception to His Lordship was a play entitled "Tiruchelvar Kaviyam" from a 17th century Tamil poem by a Tamil poet from Tellipalai about 7 kilometres from Jaffna. This play which was very much to the heart of His Lordship won the plaudits of all present. Full

### Tamil Music Festival

A Tamil Music Festival was held from 2-5-92 to 6-5-92 at Nallur under the auspices of Arts and Cultural Division of the Liberation Tigers.

Leading musicians - both vocal and instrumental carried out splendid performances everyday. The programmes started daily at 5.00 p.m. and continued till 10.30 p.m. all the five days. Large crowds of music lovers were present at the festival premises to listen to the music programmes.

marks for this performance must indeed go to the unostentatious yet ubiquitous Director of the Kala Manram, Dr. Maria Saveri. It also goes to prove that amidst the death and destruction, Jaffna can still boast and be proud of a rich cultural heritage which cannot be obliterated. The Patron for this preservation of this rich cultural heritage is none other than His Lordship, Rt. Rev. Dr. Bastiampillai Deogupillai, for never in the Church history of Jaffna has so much been owed by so many to one man!

## SPORTS

### Cricket

Johnians S. C. beat Stanley S. C. by 91 runs.

Scores:- Johnians - 193 all out in 47 overs Stanley S.C. 102 all out in 40 overs.

Grasshoppers beat Jaffna University by 63 runs.

Scores:- Grasshoppers 230 for nine in 47 Overs Jaffna University: 167 all out in 41 overs.

This was the Donald Ganeshakumar Cricket Tournney played at Central College grounds over the week end.

### Soccer

St. Antony's beat Skanda S. C. by 4-2. This match was played at St. Patrick's College grounds on 12.5.92.

### Democracy Died 2 Decades Ago!

On 20th April 1974 the Government of Sri Lanka banned all Opposition meetings and demonstrations which had been scheduled for the next day (21-4-74) in protest against the soaring cost of living. It also shut down the only Independent Newspaper group which voiced such opposition, and clamped a 24 hour "Stay indoors curfew" on the people. Two days later, to the consternation of the government, the state controlled Ceylon Daily News carried the following obituary notice

"O' CRACY - The death occurred under tragic circumstances of D. E. M. O. CRACY, beloved husband of T. Ruth, loving father of L. I. Bertie, brother of Faith, Hope and Justitia. Interred on Saturday, 20th inst."

D. A. M. Gunasingham



# Leave us Alone

The following is a letter sent by Mr. S. Vanniasingham to the Editor of the London Economist.

The letter was sent by Mr. Vanniasingham on 8th October, 1987 when the Indian Army was in Tamil Eelam but had not yet started battling with the LTTE. In fact Mr. Vanniasingham himself was in India at that time and wrote his letter to the Editor of the London Economist from Madurai in Tamil Nadu.

Mr. Vanniasingham has sent a copy of his letter to the London Economist with a Postscript now added to "Hot Spring" for publication.

Both the letter and the Postscript are very relevant even today.

Sir,

The following extract of a comment in your journal (date not known) is reproduced in India Today of 15th Nov. 1987.

"The Indian soldiers in Sri Lanka are not there simply on a mercy mission (if that is the right phrase). The regional super-power will not allow persistent instability in its small southern neighbour if that threatens to spread over the water into Tamil Nadu.... This is India's backyard."

A responsible Weekly, as the Economist ought not to make comments in a casual manner without an in-depth study of the problem. The militant Tamil youths, numbering several thousands carry with them cyanide capsules to end their lives when they are overpowered. There are substantial number of females too in the movement. The outsider, before proceeding to pronounce opinions, must think that there is a serious matter which requires examination. The youths face the problems of the world - not the old men in seats of power.

According to Cleghorn Minute of June, 1799 (Cleghorn was the first British Colonial Secretary) the possession of the Island was divided between two nations, the Sinhalese and Tamils from a very ancient period. A map was also prepared.

In 1833, the British imperial masters merged the Sinhala and Tamil districts into one administrative unit. Earlier, the Portuguese, the Dutch and even the Britisher maintained separate administrations for the Sinhala and Tamil Districts.

At various stages when constitutional advances were considered, the Tamils demanded safeguards against domination by the Sinhala ethnic majority. At no stage of constitutional changes was an agreed formula or scheme between the Sinhalese and the Tamils, evolved. It was always an imposition by the

Britisher of a scheme acceptable to the Sinhalese.

Britain was guided by the feeling that the Sinhalese were Empire loyalists and that the Tamils might align themselves with the Nationalist struggle in India. The British policy of transferring power exclusively to the Sinhalese was guided by this faith in the Empire-loyalism of the Sinhalese.

Thus wrote Prof. Pakeman who was in the Ceylon University College in Ceylon

## S. Vanniasingham

and who was also a Nominated member in the Legislature.

"The Indian leaders' non-co-operation, civil disobedience and even collaboration of the Indian troops captured by the Japanese, with the enemy during World War II, were in contrast to Ceylon's loyalty towards the allies"

In spite of extreme partiality towards the Sinhalese, the Britisher and the Sinhalese jointly evolved in the 1946 Constitution for full responsible government in internal affairs, a non-discrimination Clause to say that the Parliament had no capacity to make laws discriminatory in favour of or adverse to any one community. Later, the Privy Council held in Ranasinghe vs Bribery Commissioner (NLR 73 page 78) that it was an entrenched Clause. It followed from this that the Parliament was not a sovereign Parliament and that the polity was only a conditional polity - the Sinhalese and Tamils remaining together in the polity was on the condition that the Sinhala ethnic majority did not discriminate against the Tamils.

In 1956, the Sinhala ethnic majority enacted the Sinhala Only Act. This Act was challenged in Courts by one Kodeeswaran whose earned increments were denied to him by the operation of the Sinhala Only Act. The

Sinhala Government raised an in limine objection that an employee under the Crown could not sue the Crown. The Sinhala Supreme Court upheld the in limine objection but the Privy Council set aside the Order of the Supreme Court and directed it to hear and determine the main issue - whether the Sinhala Only Act was ultra vires of the Constitution. It was in this context that the Sinhala politicians thought of making it a Republic.

The period 1965 to 1970 was a period in which Dudley Senanayake carried on the Government with the support of the Tamils. Without the support of the Tamils he had no working majority. This fact was exploited by the Bandaranaike group as a case of Dudley selling the country to the Tamils. Thus although the period 1965 to 70 was period of stability, progress and free from any major problems,

Dudley Senanayake was defeated at the polls solely on the plank that the country was sold to the Tamils. The group under Mrs. Bandaranaike got 117 out of 155-seats; Dudley went into political wilderness for his crime in running a Government with the support of the Tamils.

In keeping with the chauvinistic propaganada

carried on during the five years 1956 to 1970, Mrs. Bandarnaik and her allies called for a Mandate to create a Republic of Sri Lanka and got the Mandate at the 1970 elections but only from the seven Sinhalese Provinces; the two Tamil Provinces refused to grant the Mandate sought for creating a Republic. The voting figures are given below.

	Total votes Polled	Votes for the Mandate
Northern Province 13 electorates	334,360	16,179
Eastern Province 9 electorates - 11 seats.	342,518	79,323
<b>Total</b>	<b>676,878</b>	<b>95,502</b>

Percentage secured for the Mandate in the N & E Provinces was only 14%

The militant Tamils have not taken up arms against a duly constituted Republic with a lawful existence. It will be appreciated from the above that the Republic of Sri Lanka is erected on a false bottom in so far as the Northern and Eastern Provinces are concerned. The constitution of the Republic of Sri Lanka is devoid of the authority of the people of these two Provinces.

Further a fraudulent intent underlies the creation of the Republic of Sri Lanka; to deprive the Tamils of the safeguard of the non-discrimination Clause as well as to frustrate the Kodeeswaran litigation. If there was an international, judicial Forum, the Tamils could get an independent sovereign State by way of an award from such a judicial forum. The two Provinces are contiguous and lie, on the periphery of the Island

and their being constituted a separate sovereign Tamil State does not in any way adversely affect the interests the Sinhalese. Our demand is just this: Leave us alone.

It is not necessary to dwell on discrimination; we have passed that stage of pleading for non-discrimination. We just want to be left alone. Let the Sinhalese have all

the vacancies and the seats in the Universities and Professional Institutions for themselves.

You are having some illusions about India's super-power status. If India were to make the mistake of entering into a War with Pakistan, the result will not be as in the past. In the past India was able to score a quick victory. That will not be the case in the future.

When the semi-final cricket match between England and India took place at Bombay, a substantial number was firing crackers as each Indian wicket fell. After India was defeated, there arose a real clash between those who wanted India to win and the group of Indians who wanted India to get defeated. If that is the wish in the field of

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## Tigers Destroyed Six Sentry Points Lightening Attack in Vavuniya

The LTTE carried out a lightening attack on six Sri Lankan army sentry points at Nochimotai - Mamadu areas in Vavuniya, in the early hours on morning of Tuesday, 5th April.

The report in this connection states that the Tigers made lightening swoop on a chain of six Sri Lankan Army sentry points along Nochimoddai - Mamadu in Vavuniya and completely destroyed them. The attack lasted just five minutes.

Nine Sri Lankan Soldiers died on the spot. Later reports said that three wounded Sri Lankan soldiers died after admission to hospital. Thus the total number of S.L. Soldiers killed in this incident increased to twelve apart from a number of others injured. Many S. L. Soldiers escaped to the camp.

The Tigers recovered a large haul of arms and ammunitions including a Light Machine gun.

The Tigers also recovered the dead body of a Sri Lankan Soldier left abandoned in one of the Sentry Points.

The LTTE said that one of its own cadres Lieut.

T. Jegatheeswaran died in this battle.

It is further learnt that the Tigers handed over the dead body of Sinhala Soldier recovered by them to the Army at Vavuniya through officials of the Red Cross Society.

## Four Tamils Shot Dead at Periya Pullumalai

News reaching Jaffna from Batticaloa state that the Sri Lankan soldiers shot and killed four Tamil civilians at Periyapullumalai in the Batticaloa District.

According to the news these men had gone to purchase provisions from a Co-operative Stores about 20 Miles away from Periyapullumalai.

It is learnt that the Sri Lankan soldiers after shooting to death the four Tamil civilians, had carried away the provisions bought by them.

The bodies of the four dead men were later recovered among the bushes in a shrub jungle.



# FUTURE OF MUSLIMS UNCERTAIN

'Oh my people! Like bad omen days of other clans that perished I definitely fear you too will suffer'

Holy Koran 40 : 30

On the 19th of April two Tamil youths were done to death at Meera Odai in Valaichenai. Post Mortem report revealed that one of them was buried alive. After this, a muslim village near Welikanda in Polonnaruwa District was attacked by an armed gang. In this too muslims were killed and

## NILLANTHAN

more than 38 were wounded. Following this incident, Tamil villages near Welikanda were attacked by armed mobs. More than 70 Tamils were killed and many wounded,

Today the East has become an area where communities take revenge on one another. If questioned, any Tamil coming from there becomes emotional. He tries to prove that in the East armed Muslims are deadlier than the Sri Lankan army. There, the Tamils have to escape from the Sri Lankan army and armed Muslims. He states that in the nights women are abducted. Tamils are forced either temporarily or permanently, to hide in the jungles.

Muslims too say that they have no security there. They have to seek army protection always. They cannot go out of towns to their fields nor to sea. Even inside towns fortified by the army, vehicular bombs do blast. They are not able to imagine secure nights without the guns.

Several attribute the present state of affairs in the East to the Second Eelam War. But the fact is that the relationship between the Tamils and Muslims has been strained and a loss of confidence was there for a long time before the Second Eelam War and even before the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord.

## JIHAD

When the liberation struggle of the Tamils intensified in the East, several Muslim youths joined it. Some became martyrs. But when it comes to a question of reprisals, the Muslims because of their identity, enjoyed a kind of security. Muslims who did not like to lose this privilege mostly desired to maintain

a non-partisan attitude towards Tamil militant groups. In the mid 80's till the emergence of the Jihad movement created by the Sri Lankan Government, the relationship between the Muslims and the Tamil militant groups was mostly not hostile.

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## THE FIRST EARTH SUMMIT

Twenty years after the first World Conference on the Environment, held in Stockholm in 1972, the international community is faced with a serious dilemma. On the one hand it is more necessary than ever to increase economic activity in order to meet basic needs and ensure the well-being of a rapidly growing human family. On the other, human activities are making an unprecedented impact on the natural environment and on the global systems which sustain life on Earth, as is demonstrated by air and water pollution, the massive degradation of land resources, the destruction of landscapes, climate changes induced by the wasteful use of energy, the rapid disappearance of animal and plant species, and the depletion of the ozone layer.

In face of problems of such magnitude, inaction is out

of the question. The General Assembly of the United Nations has thus decided to convene a new United Nations Conference, this time on Environment and Development (UNCED), which will be held in Riode Janeiro (Brazil) from 1 to 12 June 1992. Many Heads of State and Government are expected to attend this first "Earth Summit".

### WHAT IS AT STAKE

The problem facing the Rio Conference is how to maintain the quality of the environment and to achieve environmentally sound sustainable development in all countries. The following questions will be among those addressed:

- protection of the atmosphere (climate change, depletion of the Ozone layer, transboundary air pollution);

- protection of land resources (combating deforestation, soil loss, desertification and drought);

- conservation of biological diversity;

- protection of freshwater resources;

- protection of oceans, seas and coastal areas, and the rational use and development of their living resources;

- environmentally sound management of biotechnology and hazardous wastes (including toxic chemicals);

- prevention of illegal traffic in toxic products and wastes;

- improvement in the quality of life and human health;

- improvement in living and working conditions of the poor by eradicating poverty and stopping environmental degradation.

### POSSIBLE RESULTS

The results of the Conference may include:

- The adoption of an "Earth Charter" or declaration of basic principles for the conduct of nations and peoples in relation to the environment and development, to ensure that the Earth is a hospitable home for human and other forms of life.

- Agreements on specific legal measures notably conventions for the protection of the atmosphere and biological diversity, both currently being negotiated.

- An agenda for action "Agenda 21" establishing an agreed work programme of the international community for the period from 1992 into the 21st century, setting priorities, targets, cost estimates and modalities, and assisting responsibilities.

- UNAJU / SEACED -

## Leave us...

(Continuation from page 3)

sports, what would be wish in a military encounter with Pakistan. Let us not speculate but hope the Indianness of Indians will prevail.

The other possible threat to India is from China. But China is a communist State. But communist strategy is first to undermine the victim in view. Today China has just a few skirmishes on the border to be in command of advantageous terrain to push forward at a later date.

Already three States are under Communist control: West Bengal, Tripura and Kerala. When a sufficient number of States are under communist control and those communist are not looking towards Moscow, China will give the signals and a situation will ensue when the Chinese armed might will be needed by these States. The threat to India is balkanization of India into several communist States owing allegiance to Beijing.

This threat is not met by armed might alone. The quality of the government is the best defence and safeguard. With bribery and corruption being India's special characteristic (the Prime Minister himself had to protest that he and his family members had not received any such monies) and judiciary grinding to a halt, Marxists have most fertile soil in India. This is what the Chief of the Madras High Court said:

"For his continuance in office, a chief justice of a high court is forced to develop a political outlook which becomes detrimental to the administration of justice". - N. Chandurkar on 14th August, 1987 at Bombay.

Destabilization threats or instability does not emanate from a people seeking Swaraj. It is not the demand for Swaraj from the Tamils in Ceylon that poses any threat to India's stability; it is the corrupt Government that is destabilizing India.

One stumbles on a beggar every few yards in the streets

of Indian cities; if there are big temples in the neighbourhood, the density of beggar population is stunning. The pavements of streets constitute the lavatories as well as bedrooms of tens of thousands; there are in every city of India a sizeable number of mansions manned by security guards all round the twenty four hours; there are at the same time tens of thousands of slum dwellings throughout the country's cities.

The population is largely rural; they are completely governed by superstitions and blind faith. The only instrument of rural uplift is the co-operative movement but co-operative societies are the prized targets of rival political parties and then co-operation ceases.

But Indian Government is spending Rs. 30 million per day to subjugate and liquidate the Tamils and restore Sinhala imperialism over the North and the East of the Island of Ceylon.

Hope you will get some of your staff to make an

in-depth study of problems before making comments.

### Postscript

An Englishman named, W M A Troupe was Principal at Jaffna Hindu College in the late twenties, i. e., about sixty years ago. He introduced a system known as 'Detention and Imposition'.

Students who failed to grasp essentials and definitions were required to stay behind when College closes and write a hundred or even three hundred times the essentials or definitions they have failed to grasp.

The Editor of the London Economist, the Cabinet Ministers of India and indeed the Cabinet Ministers of U. K. should be given an imposition to write the following basic Principles of political science for their prejudices in favour of the *back-yard theory of politics*.

### Imposition set

1. Human will carries within itself its own guiding principles. In other words, man does not relish others

managing his affairs; he wants to manage his own affairs.

2. Man is a community-building animal; he wants to choose his own collective identity. He does not relish being subjected to an enforced collective identity.

3. General Aung San's definition of a nation:

"A nation is a collective term applied to a people irrespective of their ethnic origin, living in close contact, having common interests, joys and sorrows together, for a historical period, as have acquired a sense of oneness and the will to live in unity. Though race, and religion are important factors it is only the traditional desire and the will to live in unity through weal and woe that binds a people together, that makes them a nation and brings forth the spirit of patriotism."

There is no Falkland theory of sovereignty nor a back-yard theory. Where is Moscow's backyard now?



# Sunday Observer's Concern for Muslims

The Sunday Observer of 10-5-92 in its lead news states that Yogaratnam Yogi has branded the Muslims as traitors and opportunists. This is a colossal untruth and distortion of what he spoke at the Nallur Music Festival. Tracing the history of religions and how they influenced Tamils, he said that at different stages the Tamils embraced Buddhism, Jainism etc. He said that the Muslims are also Tamils. All that Yogi said about the Muslims was this: "What is happening today is that the Muslims even though they are Tamils identify themselves with the Arabs. They have even forgotten their past traditions. They, joining forces with the enemy, are indulging in sexual

violence against Tamil women. They abduct Tamils, kill them and bury them alive. This is a regular feature in South Tamil Eelam. Knowing very well that the Sinhalese are gabbing Amparai where the Muslims are in a majority, they are co-operating with

## S. Thiagarajah

those who are bent on destroying them. The tragedy is that by attempting to destroy those who can safeguard their rights (rights of the Muslims), the Muslims are destroying themselves."

This is what Yogi said about Muslims at this Music Festival. I was present on this occasion and heard all

he said. What Yogi said is correct in the present context. Then why this distortion by the Sunday Observer? We all know that the Sunday Observer is owned by the government. We also know that it voices the views of the government. That does not permit it to say an untruth and distort facts. Views of the government can be given by way of comments etc. That is journalism. But one cannot expect this from from the Sunday Observer whose standards of journalism have become just dirt.

In spite of its low standard of journalism, there should be a purpose, a reason behind this false propaganda to say

something which Yogi had not said about the Muslims.

Does the government and chauvinistic Sunday Observer want to drive a wedge between the Muslims and the Tamils and as usual, want to foist the blame on the Tigers for killings? Earlier, on several occasions the same sources put the blame on the Tigers for many killings. But ultimately time proved that it was the other way round.

Or is it that the Sunday Observer wants to canvass sympathy for the government among the international community, more particularly

from the Arab world? It also means much wanted money.

Recently, there is an awakening among the Muslims that they are being taken for a ride by the government. The leader of the Muslim Congress seems to be in a mood to talk to the Tigers. This relaxation of tension between the two communities also would have prompted the Sunday Observer and the government to mount a propaganda against such a rapprochement. Hence the attack on Yogi.

The foreign policy alignment is towards Pakistan, Bangladesh etc - Muslim fundamentalist nations. This was reflected sharply during the last SAARC Conference. The presence of a Pakistan warship in Colombo harbour is also another indicator.

The government and the Sunday Observer probably want to show these developing fundamentalists that they are much concerned about the Muslims in Sri Lanka.

## Future of Muslims...

(Continuation from Page 4)

The Government created the Jihad movement mainly to prevent the Tamils and Muslims from joining forces and thereby through this strategy they thought they could destroy Tamil militancy in the East. With the emergence of Jihad, the relationship between the two communities deteriorated. Jihad and its sympathisers opposed the infiltration of the Tamil militants into the Muslim community. There were stray incidents of revenge. The suspicions between the two communities became sharper. At one stage there were clashes between the two communities. As the Sri Lankan army was in the background, the Tamils claimed that they were the mostly affected lot - in these clashes. But the situation was not fierce, as it is now. There were disturbances in '85, '86 and '87. These clashes coincided with the induction of the Indian Army. When the Indian army entered Tamil homeland, it manifested itself as a force bent on the liberation of the Tamils. In the North, it appeared as a force which freed the Tamils from the 'Operation Liberation' and in the East, as a force against those Sinhalese colonists who threatened the Tamils and at the same time as a force which strengthened the Tamils who had earlier been attacked by the Muslims. The Tamil groups who came along with the Indian Army took revenge on the

Sinhalese colonists and the Muslims who had earlier harassed the Tamils. As a result many Muslim villages were badly affected. Muslims who were already prejudiced against India because of their affinity towards Pakistan, hated the Indian army as well as the Tamil groups. This hatred made them turn towards the Tigers and support them in larger numbers. It was at this stage the Muslim Congress entered the political scene.

### Muslim Congress

Muslim Congress is a party based on religion. It had mosques as its base. They participated for the first time in the Provincial Council elections. Muslim Congress which was 100% biased against India emotionally highlighted in its election campaign the atrocities perpetrated by the Indian forces on their women and the desecration of their places of worship. This emotional climate they created in the elections succeeded tremendously and it emerged as a powerful party in the East based, on religion. Muslim Congress was not in agreement with Tamil groups in toto. It feared that the Muslims would get immersed in Tamil nationalism. It accused the Tamil militants of killing some of their members. It lacked a sense of political maturity its leadership should possess in the context that they

were a minority within a minority.

Time factor did not permit them to get acquainted with the finer points of politics. Within a short span of their political existence, it had to face and take decisions in complicated emotional issues. Such decisions which were taken in haste, showed a sense of political immaturity. There was then a sudden transformation and the Muslim Congress spoke in support of the presence of the Indian Army's presence in Sri Lanka. This turn about by the Muslim Congress, according to informed sources, was due to the fact that the leader of the group had been indirectly intimidated by an armed group, supposedly pro-Indian. Thereafter, it was alleged that he had received financial assistance from the Indian Government. Later two hundred Muslim youths were reported to have received training at the hands of the Indians at Uppukarachi in the Akkarai-pattu area. Thus when the Second Eelam war started, the Muslim Congress supported the Sri Lanka Government. It lacked the foresight to ponder on the after-effects of such an attitude on the Muslims-

### Indo-Sri Lanka Accord

Propaganda against the Tigers commenced in mosques in the East. Tigers did not lay restrictions on their Muslims cadres regarding their religious observances. At the mosques these cadres listened to the propaganda aired

against the Tigers. They were also treated as outcasts and exhorted to defect with their arms- After such exhortation twenty Muslim youths deserted with arms and joined their fold. Many other Muslims who were in rival set-ups against the Tigers joined their ranks and supported the Army. The Tamils least expected such desertion from their ranks and they still hold the view that they were deceived by the Muslims. It was hatred towards the Indian army which drove them into the Tiger-fold. This support was withdrawn as suddenly as it came. This sudden turn could be attributed to the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord. Regardless of these facts, the spark that set off the Second Eelam War was ironically concerned with an incident in which a Muslim tailor figured.

### Bargaining Power

Now the Muslims have been displaced in the North. They have no protection in the East where they have to be under the full protective power of the Army. In such a predicament where they have to be at the mercy of the Army, the Muslims have mostly lost their bargaining power with the Sri Lankan Government. This plight has to be interpreted as a humiliating political defeat for the Muslim Congress,

The Sri Lankan Government has three main strategies to disintegrate the concept of Tamil homeland. Firstly, planned colonizations. Secondly, the establishment of a permanent military divide at Manal Aru to drive a wedge between

the North and East. Thirdly, ensuring a permanent rift between Tamils and Muslims in the East by making Land as the bone of contention. Security forces have not succeeded in de-linking the supply lines to the East at Manal Aru. But the Sri Lankan government has considerably succeeded in creating a permanent rift between the Muslims and Tamils in the East. Sri Lankan government is now satisfied, with happenings in the East. But there is no guarantee that the Sri Lankan government will not let down the Muslims in the long term perspective. In the event the Tamils are defeated in the East, Sri Lankan government could well let down the Muslims. Muslims could again be let down, if the Tamils progress towards their goal of separation. In the alternative, if the Tamils decide to consider any makeshift solutions, what then could be the solution for the Muslims? Finding a solution for the Muslims will be the main factor that will be going against a peaceful settlement.

## Arrest in Trinco

'Sri Lankan Army rounded up four villages in the Trincomalee District on Thursday April 30.

It is learnt that army arrested two civilian Tamils on the occasion.

The villages rounded up are Mallikai Thevu, Paddithidal, Manal Chenai and Peruvell, in the Trincomalee District.

The two persons arrested are both from the village of Mallikai thevu They are Ponniah, Thurainayagam (40) and V-Arulampalam (40).



# HOT SPRING

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## Right Sentiment but wrong place

President Premadasa is reported to have told a public meeting at Addalaichenai that unless the aspirations of the minorities are satisfied there was a danger of the country being divided.

We agree with what President Premadasa has stated - though very belatedly. As a matter of fact the Tamil demand for the restoration and reconstitution of independent and sovereign Tamil Eelam became the demand of the entirety of the Tamil people after all their attempts to find some accommodation in the affairs of the state were frustrated by the onslaught of a very aggressive Baudha - Sinhala chauvinism, which has persistently followed a policy of oppression of the Tamils. The policy followed by Mr. Premadasa's government has so far shown no tendency to reverse the policies of the Sinhala State. On the contrary the same old policy of oppression and suppression of the Tamils is being continued - we may say with a vengeance judging from the destructive war and Sinhala colonisation still being carried out.

Mr. Premadasa is in a unique position. He is the most powerful person in the island. The system of Government introduced by Mr. J. R. Jayawardhene has made the office of President the most powerful office anywhere in the world.

If Mr. Premadasa really feels that the Tamils are entitled to certain rights he is the only person who has the power to give those rights to the Tamils. But unfortunately we find that Mr. Premadasa does not take any meaningful step to solve the problems facing the Tamils.

Mr. Premadasa has been sufficiently long in politics to understand Tamil aspirations. He should also know the dedication of the Tamils to their own cause. But what does he do to help the Tamils realize their aspirations? Sadly the answer to this question will be most disappointing.

After the talks between his government and LTTE collapsed in June 1990, the Premadasa government apart from carrying on a war of death and destruction has not taken one step seriously meant to restore the confidence of the Tamil people.

Mr. Premadasa first appointed an All Party Conference - a device which his predecessor took to put off any settlement by negotiation. Mr. Premadasa's All Party Conference like that of his predecessor's is now dead and has been replaced by another body called the Parliamentary Select Committee. This Committee too will die a natural death unused and uncared for. In the meantime Sinhala colonisation of Tamil Eelam territory is proceeding with the military providing support for Sinhala land grabbing. If Mr. Premadasa seriously means what he said he would have at least held back the land grabbers.

Another thing that creates a doubt in our minds in regard to the President's statement is the place he has chosen to tell it. The President has made the statement attributed to him at Addalaichenai in Tamil Eelam territory. The people there are all too keen that the aspirations of the 'minorities' must be satisfied. So why tell them that the country would be divided if 'minority' aspirations are not satisfied?

The proper place for the sentiment to be expressed is not Tamil Eelam but Sinhala Rata. And the audience Mr. Premadasa should convince are the Baudha Sinhala chauvinists - both clergymen and politicians.

# TIGERS FOIL ATTEMPT TO TAKE CAMP

News from Batticaloa state that the LTTE foiled a determined attack by the Sri Lankan Armed Forces to capture an LTTE camp at Ingiriyamadu Veddai in the Batticaloa District and the Sri Lankan Forces retreated with heavy loss.

The news in this connection state that the Sri Lankan Army backed by bombers and helicopters tried to round up and capture an LTTE camp at Ingiriyamadu Veddai in the Batticaloa District on Thursday, May 7.

It is learnt that the Sri Lankan Army moved out from their camps at Kudumbimalai and Kallichchai and tried to round up the LTTE camp at Ingiriyamadu Veddai.

Four Sri Lankan Air Force bombers and two helicopters provided support strike for the Army from the air. The bombers dropped 26 bombs and the helicopters kept on firing all the time but the Tigers gave battle to the Sri Lankan Army which attempted to capture the Tiger Camp.

The Tigers also carried out a two-pronged attack. A Tiger contingent from outside the Ingiriyamadu Veddai attacked the Sri Lankan

soldiers trying to capture the camp. At the same time the Tigers in their camp also attacked the Sri Lankan soldiers. The battle raged between the Tigers and the Sri Lankan forces for one and a half - hours from 6-25 a. m. to 8-00 a. m. The Sri Lankan

Air Force bombers and helicopters provided supportive strike for the Sri Lankan Army while the ground battle was on.

At the end of 1½ hours of battling the Sri Lankan Army retreated to its camps unable to capture the Tiger camp.

Four Sri Lankan soldiers were believed killed apart from a number of others wounded. The Tigers also recovered arms and ammunitions from the retreating Sri Lankan soldiers.

The LTTE said that eight of their fighters died in the battle at Ingiriyamadu Veddai.

## Daring attack at Kithiraveli 10 Sri Lanka Soldiers Killed

Batticaloa - In a daring attack carried out by the Tigers on a Sri Lankan Army group at Kathiraveli in Batticaloa District, the Tigers killed ten Sri Lankan soldiers and also recovered arms and ammunitions.

The news in this connection state that a contingent of Sri Lankan soldiers were returning to their camp after a round up operation at Kathiraveli on Thursday, May 7.

The Tigers cadres intercepted the army at Kathiraveli and a battle began at 4.00 p. m. which went on till 5.30 p. m.

It is believed that ten soldiers of the Sri Lankan Army including an officer were killed in the battle. The Tigers recovered a large haul of arms and ammunitions from the Sri Lankan Army. There was no casualty on the side of the Tigers.

## AERIAL BOMBING AT VAVUNIA

Two Sri Lankan Air Force bombers and an Avro plane bombed Thavasikulam in the Vavunia District. Thavasikulam is a residential village.

This happened at 7.25 a. m. on Saturday, May 9. Two houses were reported damaged as a result of the bombing.

The bombers and plane were followed by a helicopter which strafed the same area with 50 calibre guns.

## Land Mine Explosion in Trinco Three Sinhala Soldiers Dead

An LTTE land mine exploded at a place between Mallikaitivu Junction and Pattitidal in the Trincomalee District when a Sri Lankan Army Jeep passed the place on Saturday, May 9.

The explosion caused the death of three Sinhala

soldiers and the jeep was badly damaged.

It is understood that the soldiers were proceeding from the Pachchanool Army Camp to the Palatopur Army Camp in the Trincomalee District.

## Police...

(Continuation from page 1)

and Puvanendrarasa Thevithiri (17) - the last two being students. The arrested females including the students were taken to the Police but not released and this caused the student demonstration.

## Land Mine Explodes at Akkraipattu

Two commandos of the elite Special Task Force of the Sri Lankan Police have been reported killed at Akkraipattu when an LTTE land - mine exploded.

According to reports the incident occurred on Saturday, May 9, when STF personnel were travelling in a Jeep and armoured vehicle. The LTTE land mine exploded damaging the vehicle completely and leaving two STF commandos including an Inspector dead and seven injured.

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