

HOT SPRING

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Partition of Ceylon is already a fact of history

Compromise agreements will, as history has repeatedly shown, not be honoured on a permanent basis. The war will be resumed. The partition of Ceylon is already a fact of history.

A. J. Wilson in his book:
'The Break-up of Sri Lanka
The Sinhala-Tamil Conflict'

Muslims and Tamils Driven out of their lands Buddhist Priest 'alienates' these to Sinhalese! Minister and Secretary in bid to legalise land grabbing

Thirty three Muslim families and 14 Tamil families who were living at Love Lane on the outskirts of Trincomalee town were forced out of their lands in 1990. These were later 'alienated' to Sinhalese people by a Sinhala Buddhist priest. The Government has ordered that these lands be legally alienated at a land Kachcheri with the CONSENT OF THE PRIEST concerned.

News from Trincomalee state that 33 Muslim families and 14 Tamil families were occupying some lands at Love Lane in Trincomalee. They had been given these lands for occupation under the provisions of the Land Development Ordinance-Village Expansion Schemes.

In 1990 when war broke out and Sinhala Government's Armed services captured Trincomalee these Muslim and Tamil families were forced to run away from their homes. They are still languishing in refugee

camps but the Sinhalese people to whom the Buddhist priest 'alienated' these lands are living there right now.

In late December last year an array of officials came from Colombo to Trincomalee and at an official conference held at Trincomalee, chaired by the Secretary to the Land Ministry in Colombo, said that the 'alienations' made by the Buddhist priest should not be automatically regularised but a land Kachcheri should be held by the officers who should

select the allottees with the consent of the priest concerned. The rights of the Muslims and Tamils driven out of these lands were not considered at all.

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Government-Patronised Vandalism

A villager in Jaffna whose children are in Europe had received a week back a letter from their beloved children enclosing also therein a photograph of themselves for the parents to see and feel happy.

But the Sinhala Army which unlawfully opens closed letters have thought it fit to disfigure the images by drawing moustaches. So the parents who received the letter after a spell of six months found to their utter dismay that the Sinhala Army men have shown their vandalism by disfiguring the images in the photograph. This is done by the Army men in addition to their usual game of pilfering contents of letters. Of course the Army men are able to do this because the Government permits opening closed letters to Jaffna addressees by its armed forces in violation of its own Post Office Ordinance.

ARMY ATTEMPT TO MOVE FOILED

A group of Sri Lankan soldiers encamped at Mathagal tried to move towards Pandatarippu but their attempt was foiled by the Tigers who opened fire on the Sri Lankan Army men.

According to reports, at 8.30 p.m. on Saturday, March 13, a group of Sri

Lankan soldiers encamped at Mathagal tried to move towards the village of Pandatarippu along the sea coast. However the Tigers opened fire on them. According to the reports heavy fighting ensued, the Sri Lankan Army launching shell attacks which exploded in dwelling areas too. The battle lasted for 30 minutes at the end of which the Sri Lankan Army retreated to its camp. There are no reports of any death from this area though shells hit dwelling areas too.

Ramakrishna - Vivekananda Book Exhibition

Sri Ramakrishna Sarada Sevashrama organised a grand book exhibition in connection

with the Swami Vivekananda's Centenary Celebration (Chicago address) at Jaffna Hindu College on 5.3.1993.

Injured by Shell Attack

The Sri Lankan Army at Patalay launched shell attack directed towards Atchuvely, Pathameai and the Idalgadu. This happened on the morning of Sunday, March, 14.

According to reports some houses were damaged. A man named A. Kandiah. (53) was injured. He was admitted to Jaffna hospital for treatment.

Books to the value of Rs. 5,000/- or over were exhibited. Most of the books were in Tamil. The Exhibition was declared open by Mr. A. Paachalingam, Principal, Jaffna Hindu College. Nearly 2,000 students saw the exhibition and most of the books were sold at a reasonable price.

The Sevashrama along with this Exhibition had conducted 7 exhibitions in the Peninsula for the betterment of youths.

Farmer Shot Dead

A farmer named Mukilan was shot dead in the village of Miseppukudah, in the Batticaloa District.

The Batticaloa Report says that on the morning of Wednesday, March, 10, Mukilan was going along the road when Sri Lankan Army and a group of gangsters lying in hiding, opened fire. Mukilan received the fatal shot.

Why so Intransigent and Scare-mongering?

"After all, there was never a lack of consensus among all Sinhala parties regarding both merger and federalism i.e. they were all opposed to both! Every single act of discrimination against the Tamil people, (from 'Sinhala Only' onwards) had the support of both the UNP and the SLF. (not to mention the so called left)"

Anurudha Tilakasiri writing in the Sunday Observer of 20.12.1992.

Mr. Anurudha Tilakasiri has admitted that the so-called PSC consensus (Sinhala Only) divides the North-east and denies federalism.

Still Mr. Tilakasiri persists in frightening the so-called Tamil Democratic Parties of Colombo to accept the PSC consensus (Sinhala terminology for Sinhala decisions) as otherwise, according to him, nobody "will be able to save them from certain death at the hands of fascist LTTE's death squads"

He excels himself when he tries to scare the whole world when he says that "if the Tigers are a success story, if they are allowed to survive and prosper, they will become a model to be emulated by every group of malcontents in South Asia and the world over!"

Of course Mr. Tilakasiri does not offer an explanation why the Sinhalese should be so intransigent refusing to give up their pretended right to rule the Tamils.

Life of Tamils in Batticaloa-Amparai Districts

The life of the people of the districts of Batticaloa and Amparai is full of disaster because of the Sinhala army. Here, along with the Sinhala army, the anti-social and traitorous TELO, Muslim fanatics and Sinhala colonists are strangling the Tamils.

An atrocious military rule, that would shake even the hearts of those who listen, is being carried on there. Particularly, it is impossible for young men and girls to lead their normal lives there. Parents cannot keep their grown up children in their homes. Both men and women above the age of 13 or 14 are living in fear of death everyday. People of Batticaloa-Amparai districts are daily subjected to sexual outrages, torture murders, defamation and molestation.

There the Tamils cannot cultivate their own lands. They cannot safely send their children to school. They cannot keep in stock food for their family. For all these they must obtain permits from the armed forces.

In the nights, the army and traitorous TELO carry on an atrocious and inhumane rule. They suddenly enter the houses, capture people, murder them and put them on the road or in the lagoon. This is a daily occurrence. As far as women are concerned, they are treated inhumanly and without any pity. Young women are abducted, arrested on false charges and subjected to sexual assaults and later murdered. It is common sight to see the dead bodies of these victims publicly exhibited.

The people who go there from other districts on business and stay there for a few days are surprised and shocked to see these atrocious and disastrous happenings. They are surprised and wonder whether such outrageous and inhuman things are even possible. After the commencement of the war with the Sinhala army in June, 1990, in the Batticaloa-Amparai district alone up to about 8000 Tamils have been murdered by the Sinhala army, Muslim fanatics and the traitorous TELO. Thousands of people have disappeared. No one knows what has happened to them to date. Even humanitarian international organisations are unable to find an answer. Almost all the properties of all the Tamils living in this district have been destroyed. There would be at least one tragic story in the background of the lives of almost every

family living there. Almost all the families have lost at least one of the members of their family. Not only that, the life of that killed person, would have been taken away in the presence of the other members of the family.

ANTI-SOCIAL ELEMENTS

Along with the Sinhala armed forces, the TELO and the EPDP groups are engaged in this demonical and atrocious activity.

Giving information to the army, pointing out Tamil

return home. They would be killed and either burnt or their faces mutilated so that the body could not be identified. Thereafter the body would be thrown on the road or in the field or in the lagoon. In all possibilities the head would have been cut off from the body and only the trunk would be thrown out.

"V" CUT

Among the people of the districts of Batticaloa and Amparai, there is a term in use. They use this term as 'V Cut'. It means the neck is cut in the shape of a 'V'. The murderous gang interprets this to denote victory.

'green tigers'. They will penetrate a village and go riding in ten or fifteen motor cycles, two well-armed personnel on each cycle, through the streets simultaneously. This fearful visit of the armed forces causes much alarm among the people. These visits take place in the nights too.

They will enter the houses from the outer gate and flash the light of the motor cycle on to the door of the house and at the same time by accelerating the cycle cause much alarm to the people. This group does not arrest and take people away. If, to them some are suspect, they will kill them on the spot and go away leaving the bodies at the spot.

take away those who are above the age of 12 or 13 both males and females and those persons who are well-built, to the camp. They will torture them accusing them of being Tigers.

They will be hung head downwards, assaulted with clubs, make them inhale the smoke that emanate from dry chillies put in the fire, hurt them by molten substance melting polythene or rigifoam, burn the tender parts of the body with cigarette butts, wrap the fingers and toes with cloth immersed in kerosene oil and setting fire to same, smothering them in water tanks are some of the ways people are tortured.

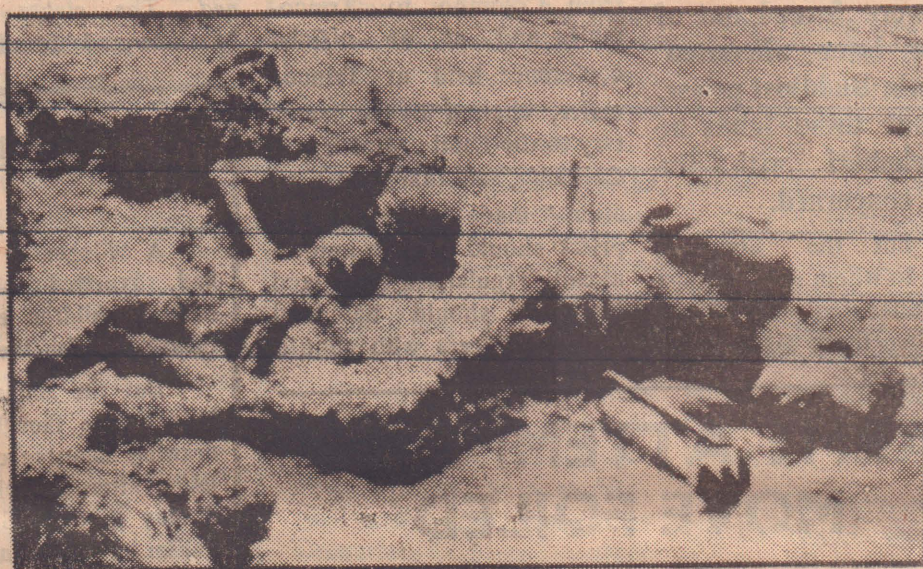
Some out of those who are taken to the camps are released. People of the area say with great pain that such persons are living like dead souls with some marks of torture on their bodies. Another lot would be accused of some offence and sent to Colombo to be kept in prisons. But more than half the captured do not come back home. They are killed.

Parents or wives of those who are captured go crying to the camps. They are told, 'he has been discharged' or 'we did not arrest him'. On some occasion big monies are demanded as bribes for the release of the captured persons. It is rare to have days when one does not see bodies floating in the Batticaloa lagoon, in the rivers and rivulets in Batticaloa and Amparai.

Bodies wrapped in gunny bags or fully nude bodies of males and females with torture marks are seen floating.

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BATTICALOA HORROR SCENE



youth and girls, showing the way for round-ups, helping to arrest Tamils, engaging in sexual assaults along with the Sinhala army, murdering Tamils are the jobs carried on by these traitorous groups.

Apart from these, the Sinhala government has stationed a murderous group called 'green tigers' in the Batticaloa-Amparai areas. It is this group which in the year 1988-89, under the guise of destroying and suppressing the JVP, killed with out any pity or sympathy several thousands of Sinhalese youths in many atrocious ways. Their causing death by putting burning tyres on victims, has become a world notorious affair.

It is not necessary to say in detail in what manner and in what ways, this murderous armed group which annihilated the youth of its own race, would torture and kill the Tamil youths and young girls. The object of this group is to kill Tamil youths and young girls. It finds only excuses now and then.

These persons who visit houses suddenly, douze lamps, gag youngsters and drag them away. Sometimes along with these youngsters older people too are taken away by these murderous gangs. It is rare that such persons

Apart from this, there is another group called the 'motor cycle group' which by creating fear psychosis, is also engaged in murder. They do their patrol on motor cycles.

These people too are acting in the same manner as the

ROUND-UP

In addition to these, round-ups of the village are a daily occurrence in the districts of Batticaloa-Amparai. The armed forces in hundreds along with the traitorous TELO and the Muslim home guards round up a village and

Re-Creation of the English Day in Oriental Setting by Chundikuli Girls' College

Chundikuli Girls' College has done it again by breaking with age-old big schools' traditions. It was only in 1991 for the first time, the Chief Guest at the Chundikuli Prize Day, Dr. A. Arumugam, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Jaffna Campus, delivered his Prize Day address in Tamil, the medium of instruction of the students, as was reported in the 'Hot Spring'. This was repeated by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine Dr. Sivagnanasundaram last year too in his Prize Day address.

But this year, the Chundikuli Girls' College has taken a big stride and celebrated its annual 'English Day' with a prominent difference. The normal practice followed by

all big schools is to stage a play or an Act selected from the vast store of English Drama, especially a play from Shakespeare or at the very minimum a scene or two from its original.

On this occasion the English students took the very bold and courageous

VEENAM

step to perform an English version of a Tamil play. All the performing actors came in full Eastern attire which included the cast of the bare-footed footman. The title of the play was 'Sacrifice' - (Thiyagam).

The opening programme, the welcome dance itself, which immediately after the lighting of the traditional oil

lamp by the Chief Guest, the very Rev. Fr. Bernard, the Rector of St. Patrick's College and College Principal, Mrs. L.P. Jayaweeraasingham, was the 'Chiddy Dance' with the performers in complete oriental attire, wearing anklets instead of the participants carrying lighted candles, as is the custom in the West.

To Mrs. A. Navaratnam belongs the honour of having performed a pioneering experiment to re-create English Day in oriental fashion. Prizes were distributed by the Chief Guest himself, making the occasion a grand success.

The Secretary of the English Union, Miss Thevika Vijayarathna proposed the Vote of Thanks.

Horror Scenes from Sri Lanka - Man's Inhumanity to Man

One fine morning I sat like Humpty Dumpty on a (half) wall by the road side. I was looking for a bicycle lift by some good samaritan for no buses ply now in Jaffna - reason no fuel.

It was a Saturday noted for a cool (oil massage) bath, sumptuous lunch and siesta to make amends for shortfalls in diet and rest during the working week.

The temple bells pealed. Calm - Calm - they seemed to say.

The sky was clear - deep blue tint with patches of dense white clouds resembling flakes of snow with smoky borders. The gentle breeze after a drizzle was refreshing.

Birds sang. Some twittered or chirped. The lake (pond) waters glittered. Indian herons and Siberian ducks hovered above.

On either side of the road, clusters of thatched huts lay stretched over the vast expanse. Homes of refugees amidst clearings from thicket and brushwood with snake-infested mole hills.

Some huts accommodated families who were once well-off, owned houses, cars, TV's and Refrigerators. Army action had rendered them destitute. Now their only possessions on earth were a few mats, pillows, aluminium pots, pans, plates and glasses.

Preparations seemed to be underway for Saturday's special lunch. So the smells and fires indicated. Mutton, fowl, mashed potato steak (pirattal) or palmyrah flour porridge (Odiyal kool) replete with manioc, beans, crabs, prawns and fish, I imagined. Mouth watered.

Some women and children bathed with glee at a huge well from which water was drawn by a chain of several buckets fitted to a wheel and powered by a team of oxen. Some lads chased rabbits with hunting dogs and sticks. Vendors had a brisk sale of manioc and tank fish (no rice nor sea food).

Thanks to army and navy action.

Peals of merry laughter emerged from an open space. The kiddies were having a field day. No school for them. Innocent little faces peeping at all and sundry with luminous and wondrous eyes at this beautiful world of many colours and sounds into which they had recently arrived. They seemed to expect security, and happiness in this world of their elders as their birthright. Further away,

tiny tots, a boy and a girl hold hands and discuss something. Not about love elopement or sex. The girl does not seem to approve. Her wry looks indicate. The boy scratches his bottom in disappointment. One girl stood on all fours, eagerly scanning wide-eyed, a coloured picture book on the ground. Another on her knees steals a glance.

In another corner, children sit on branches of a fallen tree. Some cling and swing by their tiny arms. Some jog like horsemen. Some shout meaningless slogans for

the fun of it. Some prattle and lip nursery rhymes. All burst into laughter suddenly for nothing. But Atlas, Dear God - a deafening blast like a cannon fire cum crash of a thousand plates, a thunder-bolt from the blues shook the ground. Was it an artillery shell or a missile (grenade) from aircraft? No one knows.

Three children rolled up dead like red rags curled up, bathed in blood. Several people fluttered like fowls after the neck is cut. Shriek, groans and wails rent the air. Crows flew in large numbers.

Dogs raced hither and thither. Pandemonium was let loose. The sight was sickening. The result of modern science and man's march towards progress! Man's

K P. S. LINGAM

inhumanity to man. His lust for power, possessions, pride and arrogance. All pitted against helpless beings.

When I visited the place sometime later, I saw the girl who brooded over the book on that fateful day minus her right leg. She sobbed and listened to her father in dire agony. "Aopa, where is my leg?" Tears rolled down the father's eyes in profusion. His nostrils dilated. Lips quivered. Bosom

heaved. His arms raised slowly towards heaven. A stanza from an ancient book, 'Veril verdakai' by Veera Pandya came to my mind:

"Manu neri murai il valak
ilanthavar tharm

Mana mura maruhi ninru
alutha kanneer

Murai urath thevar
moovar karkinum

Varli Varli eer vathor
Vahrl-kummay'

Translated it reads:

The hot tears that roll down in anguish and despair from the ruddy eyes of the weak and oppressed to whom justice is denied, combined with their subdued cry in silence directed towards the Omnipotent, Omniscient and

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LIFE OF TAMILS...

(Continuation from Page 2)

If there is news that a body is found unclaimed or floating, it is a painful sight to see the relatives of those young males and females who had been captured by the Sinhala army and who had not returned running to identify such body.

KILLING FIELD

Major portion of Batticaloa-Amparai districts are like the prison or torture chamber or killing field of the Sinhala army. Anything can take place at any time. It is in this set up that the people living in these areas are carrying on their daily life.

People have been prevented from making use of their paddy fields to obtain their supplies of food.

Permit is necessary from the army, to sow paddy, to reap and to take it home. One should beg for a permit from the Sinhala army.

When the paddy is harvested and stacked, the army will set fire to it and burn and destroy same in one night.

In the midst of great difficulties, using labour power and whatever remaining money, if one cultivates and when about to reap its harvest, it is destroyed and the people are left on the road. This is a very well-planned act of sabotage. The intention of the Sinhala forces is to destroy the economy of the people of that area.

In the areas of Kudummalai, Periyavedduvan and Theeliveddai, paddy cultivation is very high. Every year the army which enters this area during harvest time, destroys the paddy crops.

PADDY DESTROYED.

During 1991 harvest time in January, the armed forces carried out a big military operation and destroyed the paddy crop.

In the same manner in 1992, when the people were getting ready for harvest, an army camp was established in the area and the stacked paddy and the paddy crops in the fields were destroyed.

This time when the people were suffering from want of money for paddy cultivation, CARE organisation gave some small help and enabled the people to sow paddy.

Even this year too (1993) army entered the paddy fields of Theeliveddai, Navindiamadu, Magilavedduwan and Kokadicholai and destroyed the stacked paddy and paddy crops by running tractors across paddy fields. They also had taken away bags of paddy from the fields where harvesting was over.

PERMIT FOR FOOD

In some places like Vantharumoolai and Kaluvankerny, if people want to buy food items from shops or market and take them home, the Sinhala army will give permit to buy rice etc. enough for a day per individual only. If there are five persons in a family, one cannot buy provisions for the entire five persons. Even children and invalids are not exempted. Everyone should go and buy his or her portion individually. If anyone contravenes this rule, whether male or female, they should undergo terrible torture. Sinhala army is behaving in this atrocious and brutish manner.

As far as Amparai district is concerned, the administration is in the hands of the STF - a striking force. All Tamil families living there should register themselves family-wise in the army camp and have an identity card to that effect. School children too have a different

registration. If one wants to go outstation, he should obtain permission from the army. If a student does not go to school, he should go to the army camp and give an explanation for same.

If the army does not want to believe that explanation, there will be torture. Torture is based on the accusation that there is relationship with the Tigers. Several students in order to escape immediate torture, would reply 'yes' and then they will be sent to prison.

If respect of areas lying close to Batticaloa town, Sinhala army checking points are at a rate of one per half mile. Whether one wants to go to school, hospital, shop or market, one has to undergo both physical and property checks at every check point. At these check points traitorous TELO and EPDP groups too harass people.

Under the guise of road checks, they indulge in demanding money from the people.

SECRET BURIAL

The Tamil people are surrounded by the Sinhala army, traitorous anti-social elements, fanatical Muslims and Sinhala colonists on all four sides and are subjected to genocide. One of the international human rights organisations has now opened an office in Batticaloa town. But it is unable to prevent people from being captured by the army or being made to disappear.

Earlier bodies were thrown about in public places or buried on tyres or bonafides. Now they do not do these publicly but do them secretly without leaving room for traces.

There is a torture chamber under the guise of an Inquiry Section in a place called the Forest Department in Batticaloa town. Tamil people who are killed there, are wrapped in gunny bags and taken to Vavunathheevu army

camp which is situated on the other side of the Batticaloa lagoon. There they are burnt without any trace.

ECONOMIC STRANGULATION

Seventy per cent of the Tamils living in the districts of Batticaloa - Amparai are cultivators. Twenty per cent are fishermen. But cultivators are allowed to cultivate and later it is destroyed. Fishing in the lagoon is prohibited. Because of this 90% of the people are placed in a position of expecting relief.

Sinhalese government is preventing Tamil people to stand on their own feet with self-respect. This is one way the Sinhala government is adopting to destroy Tamil nationalism and suppress liberation struggle.

Today about eighty per cent of the Tamil people in the districts of Batticaloa and Amparai are living in refugee camps and in jungles. This fact was revealed in Parliament by a Member of a Tamil group which is in cahoots with the Sinhala armed forces.

Tamil people through fear do not live in border villages which are in proximity to Sinhalese, Muslim villages and villages where army camps have been established.

Even though the Batticaloa-Amparai people are undergoing such hardships, they are prepared to face such difficulties in order to live independently and to drive away the army of aggression. Killings have not suppressed their sentiments for liberation. Instead it is moulding their will to struggle. The youth and women are joining the liberation struggle in big numbers. The people there like their children to participate in the liberation struggle as liberation fighters instead of being unjustly and barbarously killed.

Courtesy:-

Viduthalai Puligal

HOT SPRING

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Violators of Own Constitution & Law

It is presumed that Baudha Sinhala genius will not deny that the 13th Amendment to their constitution is not part of their fundamental law. Nor will they be able to say that consequential legislation such as the Provincial Councils Act or the Provincial Councils (Consequential Provisions) Act of 1989 are part of their law.

Briefly the 13th Amendment provided for some subjects and functions of Government to be devolved on Provincial Councils set-up under constitutional amendment and one of the subjects so devolved on Provincial Councils and relevant for purpose of the scope of this editorial is:

LAND, which will include land development, alienation, colonisation etc. with the limitation that where colonisation programmes are set-up on major irrigation schemes emanating from rivers flowing through more than one Province the subject was assigned to the Colombo government which was obliged to settle colonists on a ratio basis in relation to the population.

We carry in our lead this week the news of the Secretary to the Ministry of Lands of the Colombo Government pompously and arrogantly making orders at Trincomalee in regard to subjects devolved on the Provinces. And why should he not when his Minister running into Trincomalee, approves his illegal orders?

Some lands held by Muslims and Tamils at Love Lane, Trincomalee were alienated to them sometime back under the provisions of the Land Development Ordinance as part of village expansion schemes envisaged under that Ordinance. Now the Muslims and Tamils having been driven to the refugee camp by the Sinhala armed forces, the Sinhala Buddhist priest assumes to himself the role of a lawful official of Government and alienates those lands to Sinhalese. He and his Sinhala trespassers should have been charged in a court of law, if the Government of Sri Lanka has an iota of respect for law - leave alone the rule of law. Instead, the Land Ministry Secretary has ordered that a Land Kachcheri be and held persons selected with the consent of the land-grabber in the garb of a Sinhala Buddhist priest. This order is confirmed by the Lands Minister. What right has this official and his Minister from Colombo to usurp the powers and functions already devolved on the Provinces?

Nor is the excuse that the Northeast Provincial council had been dissolved, gives power to the official and his Minister to usurp the powers of the Provinces even under Baudha Sinhala Constitution and law. In terms of the Provincial Councils (Consequential Provisions) Act No. 12 of 1989 where laws passed before the 13th amendment to the constitution refer to powers and functions exercisable by a Minister or public officer such powers and functions have to be exercised by the Governor or a Minister of the Board of Ministers of the Province or by a public officer of the provincial public service holding an office corresponding to the office of such public officer respectively. As far as the Northeast Province is concerned, though there are no Ministers, there is a Governor and host of public officers holding posts of Secretaries to Provincial Ministries and other Heads of Departments. It is they who should act in the matter referred and not the Land Ministry Secretary or his Minister.

When their own law is clear and explicit, why are the Baudha - Sinhala chauvinists violating their own law?

Whom was the land Ministry Secretary trying to fool, when like a sanctimonious cat he 'ordered' the Provincial officers not to 'regularise' the alienations done by the Buddhist priest but to hold a Land Kachcheri and select persons WITH THE CONSENT OF THAT PRIEST? Why did those Muslims and Tamils who were in the same land before 1990 and who are now languishing in the refugee camps not come into the head of this official or his Minister? Baudha - Sinhala only in Tamil Eelam too?

Batticaloa Garment Factory Propaganda - A fraud says Eastern Tamils' Association

The Eastern Tamils' Association in a note released to the press has said that the Govt. propaganda of opening a Garment Factory at Batticaloa town and the employment opportunities to Tamils the Factory would provide are mere propaganda for the outside world which stand exposed in the light of ruination the government has caused to the people by disallowing them to follow their normal pursuits of agriculture and fishing. Here is the full text of the Association's statement:

The Sri Lankan Government says that a garment factory is being established in Batticaloa for the benefit of the Tamils and that Tamil young men and women are getting employment opportunities by its establishment.

But the principal occupation of the people of Batticaloa,

namely cultivation, is being disrupted. Poor agricultural labourers engaged in paddy cultivation have been adversely affected. Paddy workers who go to fields for harvesting are being assaulted. Paddy stacks are being burnt down by the Sinhala Army. Harvested paddy is being looted by the Sinhala Army when being transported in vehicles by the farmers. More than half the paddy fields in the District are abandoned as no cultivation could be undertaken because of lack of security against army atrocities.

The fishing area has been limited by the army. The arrest of fishermen engaged in fishing, their 'disappearing' and their being killed in a crude manner have become a daily occurrence.

It is most ridiculous for the government to say that it is providing employment opportunities for the Tamils by opening garment factories, when the government in fact has set up an insecure state of affairs for the people of the district to follow their normal pursuits. The Sinhala Government is doing this only for propaganda to the outside world to make it believe that it has brought about normalcy by opening a garment factory.

When Tamil workers in the various villages of the district are being attacked or killed daily and are living under gravely insecure conditions, the Sinhala Government's propaganda that by opening a garment factory in the Batticaloa town it would provide employment opportunities to all Tamils in the East really exposes the Government's fraud.

WHY A SUDDEN VOLTE - FACE?

Closed letters which were addressed to residents in Jaffna from abroad by relatives, friends etc. were detained and opened at the Joint Operations Command contrary to the provisions of the Post Office Ordinance, International Covenants and Conventions of the Postal Union and against the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights provisions. From at least October last year this was done and no foreign

letters were received between October 92 to February 93 in Jaffna.

According to a local Tamil Daily's report the Deputy Post Master General in Jaffna has said that the Defence Secretary, Gen. Cyril Ranatunge, has assured him that closed letters from abroad sent to addressees in Jaffna would not be opened and would be despatched to destination without delay.

What was this Secretary doing for the last six months? Why did he ignore the protests and wake - up only after six months?

Has his sudden consciousness to duty anything to do with his impending appointment (as Colombo papers in-

dicade) as High Commissioner in Australia - a country which had made known its concern over the happenings in this island?

Heavy shell attack in Valikamam West

Sri Lankan Armed forces stationed in Valikamam West launched heavy artillery shell attack and opened gun fire from their positions directed towards adjoining populated areas. This happened about 9.00 p.m. on Monday, March 15. The attack continued for about an hour. Fortunately most shells exploded in open lands and no one was hurt.

Horror Scenes...

(Continuation from Page 3)

Omnipresent Father above, solidifies and gets transformed into a huge sword with sharpened edges. This weapon cleaves through all defences, barriers and obstacles of whatever strength and pursues its Victim (the Perpetrator) with unfailing certainty. Even if all the three deities who preside over creation, preservation and destruction jointly and or severally guarantee and afford maximum protection, that sword will reach its target (the wrong-doer, whoever he may be) and mow him down.

Events in Sri Lanka, India and Pakistan over the last few years have amply demon-

strated the validity of this ancient edict - dictum. Yet those who wield power have not learnt the lesson they ought to have learnt by the turn of events. Lust for power or possession always blinds the vision.

In the above instance who is answerable for these crimes? The perpetrator (the militia men), the officer above him or the General or the President? Valluvar says 'all equally'. Those who do what is prohibited, are guilty. Equally guilty are those who fail to do what they should do.

'Sei thakka alla setya
kerdum
Sela thakka sei ahmal alom
kerdum'

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Trincomalee Tamils are perturbed over the order because it is a pointer to what is in store for them in the future.