

Hot Spring

TAMIL NATION

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BRITAIN'S OFFER OF MEDIATION

The visiting British parliamentarians, Deputy Speaker Michael Morris and James Hill, Chairman of the Sri Lankan Group had talks with President D.B.Wijetunga and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe.

At a news conference, the two MPs said the LTTE should be involved in peace moves, that their group would consider helping to get the talks started and that any possible settlement had to involve the LTTE.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT

The pledge of a speedy resolution to the Tamil national question by the new President of Sri Lanka warrants reflection. A "speedy" resolution is *exactly* what the Tamils have always desired. Therefore, we welcome this assurance, made to no less a body than

an assembly of the heads of all Foreign Missions to Sri Lanka, on the 31st May, 1993.

It was a Sinhalese who once said that Tamils are "pathological optimists". Be that as it may, we are willing to give this new head of the Sinhala nation a shot at what his predecessors also promised, but failed to deliver. What he has promised is not easy, and we acknowledge all of the difficulties he has to face in this venture.

But, we have this to say to him.

Continued on page 2

10th anniversary of July 83 massacre

In London

MAMMOTH PROCESSION & RALLY

Saturday 24th July 1993 - 1.00pm

Portland Place (W1) to Trafalgar Square

In remembrance of the state sponsored communal riots and the killing of 52 innocent Tamil civilians held in Sri-Lankan (Welikada) prison for trial

Lest we forget :-

- 1) The Sri-Lankan government sponsored terrorism which resulted in over 3000 killings.
- 2) The cold blooded massacre of 52 Tamil civilians who were in detention awaiting trial in the high security Colombo prison and failure of the Sri-Lankan government to bring to justice those responsible.
- 3) The destruction and burning of properties of Tamil people worth over a billion pounds.
- 4) Driving away of over 100,000 Tamils into India and many more worldwide as refugees.

We sincerely request the solidarity of all who sympathise with the Tamil people and to demonstrate to the world their sufferings by joining our mass rally in London.

For further information contact :- IFT - (0252) 876894

VIRTUAL HOSPITAL STILL IN CONTAINERS

More than Rs 150 million worth of medical equipment donated by the British government to the Jaffna Teaching Hospital has been awaiting Customs clearance at the Health Ministry warehouse for several months, officials said.

Britain's Deputy High Commissioner, Ronald Nash told The Sunday Times the equipment for operating theatres and X-ray machines had been brought to Sri Lanka at the beginning of this year in 25 containers. It was part of the 20 million grant pledged by Britain to reconstruct the North and East.

Health Ministry Secretary, Joe Fernando, said the 25 containers were at the Ministry's warehouse in Welisara and would be shipped to Jaffna after the equipment was checked and cleared by the Customs.

The British diplomat here said assistance

from London might be increased after peace was restored in the North East. He said at present the bulk of aid was going to the South but the North and East would get their share when things were normal.

He said at present two British NGO's Oxfam and Save the Children Fund were operating in the affected areas and Britain would like to play a more active part in rehabilitation.

Meanwhile, a Defence Ministry official said the 25 containers were far in excess to what was required in the Jaffna area but said the equipment would eventually be released.

He said the machinery which would make the Jaffna Teaching hospital the best in Sri Lanka might also be misused by terrorists. The official said these issues had led to differences between the British High Commission and the Defence Ministry.

Tamils: A Nation without a state

TAMIL NATION

"Truth and knowledge are an idle gleam if they do not bring power to change the world."

Sri Aurobindo

Recognising that to change anything, it is necessary to understand that which we seek to change, the TAMIL NATION is concerned not only with providing information, but also with furthering an understanding of the issues that confront the Tamil national movement. Recognising that, in the end, we truly understand anything only to the extent that we have not been able to change it, the TAMIL NATION is concerned with only changing those material conditions of existence which continue to oppress and discriminate against the people of Tamil Eelam. The TAMIL NATION is rooted in the growing togetherness of the Tamil people and it seeks to participate in the effort to strengthen that togetherness. The TAMIL NATION seeks to focus attention on the unjust relationship between nations without a state and nations that have achieved statehood. And, the TAMIL NATION exists to debate and campaign for the radical changes necessary, both amongst the Tamil people and outside, if the struggle of the Tamil people for national self determination is to be won.

The TAMIL NATION is published by Tamil Forum Limited, a company registered in the United Kingdom, the entirety of whose profits will go to a charitable trust, established to help Tamil refugees, to advance education amongst Tamil people and to alleviate poverty and hardship amongst them

The views expressed in this paper are not necessarily those of the publishers. TAMIL NATION welcomes reader responses in the form of letters or articles. Contributions should preferably be brief and typed on one side of the paper only.

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TAMIL NATION

Dear Mr President,

Your predecessors have set a number of precedences that are antithetical to peace. They have set the precedence of having to consult with the Buddhist clergy before they could say what they would do. They have set precedence on using "Tamil bashing" as a profitable, political device. They have set precedence on using pogroms to enervate Tamil aspirations and at the same time guilefully dissociating themselves from such barbarity. They have set precedence on how to breach solemn promises and pacts with the Tamils.

You have now been thrust into the role, of not only being their successor, but also to be the leader of a mass of people, who have not, in any meaningful way, denounced or condemned any of these capricious acts. You do indeed have, on your hands, a real mess, and we don't envy your position. But, our desire for peace in that island is so compelling and irresistible that, we wish you well.

We wish to also remind Your Excellency that, if you were to accomplish what your predecessors failed to, you have to make a deliberate, and conscious effort NOT to make the same mistakes. You have to study, reflect and even ruminate on their errors and blunders, and then take a firm vow not to repeat them. Here are some of the misdeeds of your progenitors.

Treat the Tamils as your enemy.

Whether as separate states, or as a fellow state in a federated union, your people will have to live with ours, as good neighbors. Your forebears, and you too to this day, have treated us as your enemy.

The most glaring of all acts of enmity shown by your predecessors is the random bombing and sightless shelling of Eelam, knowing fully well that ordinary civilians get hurt most by this blind mode of warfare. Your predecessors have been, and you too are, starving us of food, fuel, medical care, and our ability to be productive citizens in our own land. Your predecessors have in the past permitted, and have even instigated, mob violence on us. We can go on and on about this, but you know what we mean.

You have to stop regarding us as your enemy, and perhaps exhibit at least some repentance for the past. There is no shame in showing some public remorse for these derelict and morally repulsive acts.

Disregard the genuine fears and the legitimate desires of the Tamil people.

The Tamil anxieties and apprehensions are well-founded and justifiable, and you cannot deny this. Your predecessors robbed them of their citizenship, language rights, education, employment and their lands. This acrimonious and relentless thievery lasted so long and without regret. Can you now blame Tamils for not being able to trust you to govern them any more?

We cannot overemphasize the deeply felt Tamil ardor for "self rule". This longing is not based, we suspect you quite well know, on some demented desire to cut up the island. It is based on genuine and well-founded fears about physical safety, deprivation of life, and liberty to grow and advance.

Tamils have time and again declared that, if a total division of the island is such an anathema to the Sinhala people, they are willing to consider other choices. There are innumerable political structures already in existence, and those that are yet to be devised, that could satisfy both nations, except of course the Sinhala segment that wants to dominate and rule the Tamils!

Your Sinhala constituency may say that they too have

fears. But, you have to admit that they are not the same. The Tamil fear and mistrust are based on contemporary circumstances, unlike the Sinhala apprehension that dates back to medieval events. You and your constituency know quite well that the Tamils have, at least for the last several centuries, not sought dominance or aggression of the Sinhalese. Unless you can grasp this distinction and acknowledge the well-founded anxieties of the Tamil people, you too are doomed to fail.

Practice Deception.

Your predecessors, from the first Premier D.S. Senanayake down to the last President Premadasa, and everyone in between are guilty of this. D.S. went along with the British in granting universal suffrage to all, but couldn't wait even a year after they left to disenfranchise a segment of us. You are quite aware of the tale of two pacts Banda and Dudley made with Chelva. Sirimavo's deceptions of the Federal Party, J.R.'s election manifesto and the "All Party Conference," Premadasa's failed bids to dupe the LTTE and the charade of the "Parliamentary Select Committee," are all events that need no elaboration.

Tamils may have been naive and callow once, but not anymore. You have the burdensome task of having to regain the "trust" that your predecessors intentionally lost. Trust once lost, as you quite well know, is harder to regain. Another attempt at deception is that last thing you want to do!

Demand Tamils to disarm.

A classic catch-22 situation -- a predicament for which the seemingly alternative solutions are logically invalid. After what your predecessors have done to the Tamils (and continue to do so) they cannot disarm, and if they won't you refuse to talk! What a real *Hobson's choice* your predecessors have given us!

In case you didn't know, there is precedence for state governments in a federated union to keep their armed forces. The United States' National Guard, for example, is a militia authorized by the U.S. Constitution, and operates under state jurisdiction.

The Tamils just cannot lay down their arms. The sooner you acknowledge this, the closer you will get to peace.

Consult the Clergy.

Your predecessors, without a single exception, sought approval and permission of the Buddhist clergy in every aspect of the governance.

The Mahanayakes are not elected governors, and in a multi-national island these clergymen, enslaved by their biased religious allegiance, are a tangible obstacle to peace. History confirms that in Ceylon, their dominance in politics has led only to war and ruin. In fact throughout human history the involvement of clergy in government has always produced ill will, rancour, and war. The tenet of the "Separation of Church and State" is enshrined in the U.S. constitution, precisely for this reason. Modern nations without such constitutional mandate also practice such separation for the same reason. If what you envision is a multi-ethnic, multi-religious, plural society for Sri Lanka, the Mahanayakes shouldn't dictate state policy.

The tragedy in that island is no accident; it is the result of a series of hurtful, evil and deliberate acts, of a sectarian kind. To undo what has happened one has to learn from these blunders. Galen said, "Those who are enslaved to their sects are not merely devoid of all sound knowledge, but they will not even stop to learn." We hope you are not one of them!

"I'LL DO WHAT PEOPLE SAY"

Sri Lanka's Dingiri Banda Wijetunge is a president by accident. His predecessor Ranasinghe Premadasa was assassinated May 1. As prime minister, Wijetunge, 71, was seen as putty in the hands of the strong-willed Premadasa. The new president now has to deal with the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). There is the prospect of a challenge from Premadasa's widow, Hema, for leadership of the ruling United National Front, whose chief Lalith Athulathmudali was killed by a gunman on April 23. Athulathmudali's widow, Srimani, has emerged as a key DUNF leader. Correspondent Arjuna Ranawana spoke with Wijetunge in Colombo, Excerpts:

Your predecessor was seen as authoritarian. Is this the kind of leader Sri Lanka needs?

I don't understand why a man should hold such strong views. It's best to accommodate the people's wishes. You can be accommodating by being more flexible. You need not stick to

dogmas.

At the funeral, Hema Premadasa all but launched herself into politics

It was not the forum for a speech like that. Therefore we have not taken any notice.

Do you think the DUNF will rejoin the UNP now that Premadasa is gone?

I don't know. We have a majority in Parliament. If they want to come back, they have to come back on my terms, on our terms. One thing is that they have to stand in the queue (for membership).

The opposition wants a stronger Parliament

We have not begun discussions with them, but we're listening to their arguments. I think we may have to convene a (parliamentary) select committee. I'll do what the people say.

Have you invited LTTE chief Velupillai Prabhakaran for talks?

I have always said we will be glad to meet with the LTTE. There is no special invitation as such

to Prabhakaran, but our doors are open and we are prepared to talk. The problem with Prabhakaran is that we don't know how to contact him directly.

Will you pursue a political settlement?

Where we can agree we (will) agree. Where we can't we give up. We have agreed (with Tamils) on issues such as the language problem, land alienation, irrigation facilities, electricity from the centre.

State radio and television have said the LTTE was responsible for the killing of both the president and Athulathmudali.

It's too premature to say anything. These investigations take time. We must not release any information piecemeal as it would vitiate the investigation.

The assassinations are sure to affect investor confidence

The political and social situation in the country is very good for investment. We are giving incentives to investors. (The killings) are ad hoc incidents. This type of assassination takes place in other parts of the world also.

Courtesy Asia Week May, 26

Reverend Bishop Fernando's Meeting with Pirapakaran

I have gone through tens of letters to the Editor, including that of a lady of 83, and several articles on the above subject. It is a pity the Sinhalese people as a whole (Vasudeva Nanayakara - one swallow does not make a summer) fail to understand the aspirations of the Tamil People and the acute problems they are facing in this country - problems forced on them by successive Sinhalese leaders from the day this country gained Independence.

Several of these Sinhalese say that half the Tamils are living peacefully among the Sinhalese. Are they really living peacefully? Definitely No. Black July 1983 is always at the back of their minds. Can any one deny this? They are living among the Sinhalese as second class citizens, fear gripping them all the 24 hours of the day. According to these writers, they are among the Sinhalese because they are frightened of the Tigers, again a definite no. They are there as they are frightened of the Bombs and Artillery Shells and the fear of the Sinhalese Soldiers in case they succeed in capturing from the Tigers, the area in which their home is situated. They have not forgotten what happened at Vadamardachy. A fair percentage of them are in Colombo and its suburbs as Colombo is the commercial as well as the industrial capital of the country, besides the country being a unitary state ninety per cent of Government officers are in the capital, Colombo and its suburbs.

Some of the writers question the propriety of Pirapakaran bringing in a shipload of arms while speaking of peace. Is not President Premadasa purchasing Bukkara Bombers, Supersonic Bombers and what not, while always saying there will have to be a Political Solution and not a Military Solution to the Ethnic Problem. If Pirapakaran is

not armed and ready to repel the invading forces what right has he to talk of Peace?

One of the writers says the Rev. Bishop should have sent a bullet through Pirapakaran's brain. The most suitable person to receive this gift in his brain is President Premadasa for as Commander of the Forces ordering the firing of Artillery Shells from Army Camps and Navy Vessels all the 24 hours of the day. (This letter was received after President Premadasa was assassinated on May, 1 - ED) Does this not cowardly act kill the ordinary innocent Tamil, destroying his house, destroying his temple, school, market, shop and what not besides playing psychological havoc especially among women and children. This type of war was not carried out against the JVP because the victims will be Sinhalese, his kith and kin, and practically every day this President say aloud that the war is only against the Tigers and not against the Tamil people. Why do not these writers and the Sinhalese people as whole do not see this diabolic crime? One can understand the firing of these shells when the Army is on the move to capture a Tiger held area when the Tigers will be concentrated in the army advancing territory but to do this practically every day and at all hours even in the night is pure and simply GENOCIDE. Here I would like to remind your readers about the frantic efforts made by Chancellor Helmut Kohl to punish

Eric Honecker for ordering the killing of East Germans crossing into West Germany - luckily illness had saved the latter. Now who is going to punish President Premadasa for this heinous crime. Has it to be left to Karma only? Unfortunately even the donor countries, in their avariciousness to continue in a bigger way their trade are turning a blind eye to this. But one fine morning they may wake up to know that soft speaking Premadasa has all along been leading them up the garden path. The result will be they will drop Sri Lanka like a ton of bricks. The Tamil nation is anxiously awaiting this day.

One writer says that even during the Dutch period the Eastern Province was a Sinhalese majority area. His reason for this is that Robert Knox was captured by Sinhalese Soldiers in Trincomalee. It is ostrich like for him to refuse to know that the Dutch had given the Kandyan King a corridor to the Port of Trincomalee to carry on to export his produce in return for the King permitting the Dutch to trade with the Kandyan Kingdom.

All the Sinhalese leaders from D.S. Senanayake onwards and 99 per cent of the Sinhalese officers were hell bent on making the Eastern Province a Sinhalese majority province and President Premadasa is doing his very best to plant more Sinhalese in the East than all his predecessors. While his predecessors did this maybe without breaking the constitution,

President Premadasa is doing this unconstitutionally. The 13th amendment to the constitution says that when allotting land priority should be given to those displaced by the project and then landless of the District and thereafter to landless of the Province. The 13th amendment prohibits the bringing into one province people from the other provinces. The planting of people in the Eastern province is often done forcibly. Your readers will remember the case of the Ambalangoda lady hiding in jungles of Ambalangoda and filing a case in the courts through her lawyer requesting the court to order the Police not to force her to go and live in the Eastern province. What is going to happen to the Sinhalese people thus planted when the ethnic problem is finally solved, as solved it will be though it may take even another hundred years. The Eelam Tamils will not agree to grant them dual citizenship. They with the progeny will have to go back to their Sinhala Rata.

There was another writer listing several massacres of Sinhalese and Muslim civilians as carried out by Tigers, refusing to accept that all these had been carried out by hirelings of the Government and putting the blame on the Tigers in order to blacken the Tigers in the eyes of the Donor countries. Several are referring to the killing of Sinhalese police; if the Tigers are even now holding several police as prisoners what was the necessity to kill other policemen - is it not clear that these policemen refused to surrender and fought till the last. There are several referring to the request of the Tigers to the Muslims of the North to temporarily vacate the Province. This was done for the single reason to save them.

S. ALAGARATNAM
URUMPIRAI, EELAM
April 14

G O L I A R D

The Economist magazine of April 3rd carried a half-page feature with the caption, "Gone Away", with a photo of a presumably Tamil lady standing besides a car, in front of a house yard filled with snow. The figures presented in the feature said the plight of Eelam Tamil diaspora. ***Among the estimated 500,000 Tamil refugees fleeing from the civil war, "200,000 (who) have gone to the southern state of Tamil Nadu (are) awaiting happier times to allow them to be repatriated and then settled in their old villages". According to this commentary, "other 300,000 are less likely to return home. Many have settled in Britain, Germany, Switzerland, America and other rich countries. A smaller number has gone to poorer countries, among them Malaysia. Although they often take on menial jobs, they are living better than they did in Sri Lanka even when it was at peace. They aim (often in vain) to become citizens of their chosen country....". Even if the majority of these 500,000 Tamils wish to become "citizens of their chosen country", whether as refugees or as "wanted professionals with special qualifications", the point***

to ponder is, are they being treated as equal citizens to their fellow countrymen with "fairer skin"? More than seven years ago, Jan Marejko, a Swiss professor of philosophy wrote in the Wall

Last year, Barbara Harrel-Bond (the Director of the Refugee Studies Program at the University of Oxford) and her colleague Eftihia Voutira published an article in the journal Anthropology Today (Aug.1992). In it,

EELAM TAMIL REFUGEES IN THE DIASPORA

Street Journal (Nov.20, 1985), "When Richard Wagner sought political asylum in Switzerland a century ago, everything went smoothly. He was distinguished, polite and shared the European manners of his guests. But what to do with Tamils who go on hunger strike because they dislike Swiss fondue and want genuine Tamil cuisine? In a secret ballot Sept.9, 85% of voters in Soncebox in Bern canton decided against accommodating six Tamils from Sri Lanka in their little town.. "Even now, the situation is not any better either in Switzerland and Denmark (in the North) or Australia and New Zealand (in the South) for Eelam Tamils.

they had commented on the research conducted by anthropologist Ann Belinda Steen, on the impact of policy on Tamil refugees in the UK and Denmark. Whereas in Denmark, "unemployment among the Tamils remains high and Tamils are being socialised to behave like children", in Britain, many Tamils interviewed "were holding three jobs at the same time, and they are described as "Thatcher boys". Barbara Harrel-Bond and Eftihia Voutira further quoted another study on the Tamil refugees in London which found that, "Almost half of the (study) sample had levels of depression and anxiety...(needing)

specialist psychiatric treatment".

These reports bring to my memory, an MGR movie, named 'Nadodi' (Vagabond), which featured poet Kannadasan's poignant song, "Naadu - athai Naadu - athai Naadaaviddaal ethu veedu?". In a 'play' of the word 'naadu' which means homeland (as noun) and reach (as verb), Kannadasan superbly highlighted the folk wisdom that one's real heaven (home) is in his or her homeland. Isn't Kannadasan a visionary to foresee the plight of Eelam refugees more than a quarter century ago? He had written in that song,

"Paalaivanam enra pothum
nam naadu
Paaral malai kooda nam
ellai kodu
aaru nilam paainthu
vizhaiyaadum thottam
veera samuthayame engal
kooddam"

The poet had emphasised that even if our homeland is a desert, let's be proud about our

by C.P.Goliard

Historically, goliards were the mediaeval poets, who wandered from place to place, engaging in intellectual duels and bawdy bar room fights. The initials C.P. stand for the place from which this particular goliard comes from - Parithu Thurai / Cotton Port

heroic traditions. Kannadasan also greeted the Tamil Tigers in that song as follows:

"Pasi enru varuvooruk
virunthaha maarum
Pahaivar muham paarthu
puliyaaha cheerum
nilathil uyir vaithu urimai
kondaadum
ethirthu varuvorai uramaha
poddum".

In translation these lines state, "We will provide food for those who come with hunger. To our adversaries, we turn into tigers. We will cherish our dear land and will turn enemies into fertilisers to our land".

Goliard's Graffiti; Mossad's Signature?

Chinese scholar Lu Sin quipped a long time ago that, "One who knows too many subjects is liable to be shallow; one who knows only one subject is apt to be perverse". I wonder whether Mervyn de Silva, the editor of the *Lanka Guardian*, should be classified as shallow or perverse. He wrote in his May 15th Journal that, "While the Athulathmudali killing has prompted many theories, almost all 'politically' coloured, there is not much speculation about the Premadasa assassination. All the information in the press, particularly the 'deep penetration' of the Premadasa household, which took at least two years, and the final suicidal deed, showed the unmistakable signature of the LTTE, the world's most highly motivated separatist rebel organisation."

Goliard, like many common Sinhalese and Tamils, suspects that the assassinations of Premadasa and Athulathmudali are inter-linked. When Athulathmudali, a pro-Israeli power-broker, challenged Premadasa two years ago with an impeachment motion in the parliament, Premadasa openly accused Mossad, the intelligence agency of Israel, of trying to topple him. In his address to the Sri Lankan parliament, Premadasa said "....I had Israeli Interests Section removed. In such a context there is nothing to be surprised about the Mossad rising up against me. Please remember that there are among us traitors who have gone to Israeli universities and lectured there and earned dirty money...". When Athulathmudali was assassinated last April, the members of his party im-

mediately accused Premadasa for ordering the killing. The murder of Premadasa could have been a return hit planned and executed by the Mossad which had lost its major card in Sri Lankan politics.

That Mossad is capable of such "neutralising operations" had been highlighted in Victor Ostrovsky's 1990 best seller "By Way of Deception", in which its Sri Lankan connections were also brought to limelight. The penetration of Premadasa's private residence by the planted assassin had occurred after Athulathmudali's split from the UNP. The surfacing of embarrassing evidence that the assassin of the president "had worked as a deep undercover agent hosting parties and ensuring a free flow of liquor and sexual entertainment for Premadasa's valet-cum-masseur E.M.P. Mohideen" suggest the signature of Mossad's activity. That Mohideen is a Muslim is also not without some significance in this context. Victor Ostrovsky had described in his book how the Mossad recruits agents for its nefarious activities; "there are three major 'hooks' for recruiting people - money, emotion and sex". The roles money and sex had played in compromising Premadasa's valet Mohideen to gain access to the president clearly shows the timing of Premadasa's assassination. Why was he killed just after a week following Athulathmudali's assassination? The extent of Athulathmudali's links with Mossad, when they come out of the closet, will provide more clues to Premadasa's murder.

FROM THE WAR FRONT

FIFTH ATTACK WITHIN ARMY OCCUPIED TERRITORY

Two Sinhala Soldiers Killed - Two Injured.

LTTE fighters successfully attacked the Sri Lankan Army for the fifth time within this year inside territory occupied by the Sri Lankan Army in the Mannar District.

The news in this connection stated that on Thursday, April 22, at 7.05pm the Tigers attacked a group of Sri Lankan soldiers proceeding from Manthai S.L. Army Camp to the Thallady S.L. The Sri Lankan soldiers were proceeding in a tractor. The attack took place within S.L. Army occupied territory in Mannar. The Tiger attack was lightning and lasted only for two minutes. Two Sri Lankan soldiers were killed and two were wounded. L.T.T.E. suffered no casualty. Tigers also recovered some arms and ammunition.

April 19, Monday

Artillery shell attack from Palaly Army Camp towards Sillalai. Two injured - They are R. Swarnalatha (age 16) and Joseph Nalliah (age 46). Both were admitted to hospital.

Sri Lankan forces encamped at Poonakari-Kalmunai, fired towards Jaffna lagoon. Firing continued for one hour in the morning compelling fishermen to abandon their work and return home.

Sri Lankan Naval personnel who came in a small naval boat attacked Gurunagar fishermen who were fishing at 10.00pm. As the Navy personnel began to fire the fishermen jumped into the sea and escaped to the shore for safety. However, Sri Lankan Naval ratings damaged a fishing boat that belonged to M. Alexander of Gurunagar.

April 22, Thursday

Heavy Shell attack from Elephant Pass camp towards Kilali coast. At the same time Sri Lankan Navy fired guns from Kilali sea.

May 1, Saturday

Artillery shell attack towards Ponnalai at 6.30am from Karainagar Sri Lankan Army positions. No damages reported.

May 3, Monday

Shell and gunfire attack by Sri Lankan Army towards Araly. No damage reported.

May 4, Tuesday

Heavy cannon fire directed towards Kilali coast by Sri Lankan Navy. At the same time Sri Lankan Army encamped at Karukaitivu resorted to gun fire. No damages reported.

A father of five children named Gunasekaram (age 35) from Chenaiyoor in the Trincomalee District was arrested by the Sri Lankan Army. No report about his release yet.

Sri Lankan Army and a Tamil gangster group surrounded the villages of Thiyavattavan and Mylankarachobai in the Batticaloa District. Reports say that the people of the area irrespective of differences in age or sex were subjected to assault by the S.L. Army and the gangsters.

May 5, Wednesday

LTTE attack S.L. Army Sentry point at Nochchimoddai in Vavunia. One S.L. soldier reported seriously injured.

May 7, Friday

Cannon attack towards Kilali coast and Allippalai. No report of damages received.

May 8, Saturday

Over ten shells launched from S.L. Naval Boats directed towards Thattuvankotty. A well was severely damaged and many plantations felled. About 20 men who were working in the area escaped by lying low in a canal.

May 10, Monday

Sri Lankan Navy attacks fishermen in the sea off Point Pedro. Three fishermen, V. Arulthas., Mathews Simeonpillai and S. Kumar severely assaulted. Three boats fired at and engines thrown into the sea by Sri Lankan Navy. The Sri Lankan

Navy also fired shells at other fishermen in the sea.

May 11, Tuesday

Artillery shell attack from Elephant Pass and Kattaikadu Army Camps directed towards adjoining residential areas. Heavy firing at Karukaitivu.

S.L. Army at Manaitivu fires 50 calibre guns towards the Jaffna coast in the evening.

S.L. Army at Palaly fires artillery shells towards Valalai and Pathameni. An elderly woman, Poopathy Ammah, received serious injuries when a shell hit her house.

May 12, Wednesday

S.L. Army at Karainagar fires artillery shells. All exploded in paddy fields at Ponnalai and Moolai.

May 14, Friday

Heavy artillery shell attack from Elephant Pass and Kattaikadu from S.L. Army Camp directed towards adjoining villages. No damages reported.

May 15, Saturday

Heavy shell attack from Karainagar S.L. Army Camp towards Ponnalai. An old woman Nagammah (80) of Moolai sustained severe injuries and admitted to Jaffna Hospital. A fisherman named M. Ampikapathy (50) Sustained injuries when a 50 calibre bullet fired from Karainagar hit him in the Ponnalai sea, where he was fishing.

May 16, Sunday

Sri Lankan soldiers fired at fishermen fishing in Ponnalai sea. Fishermen abandoned work and returned home.

A young woman Miss Mary Jasinth Alphonsus (23) lost her left leg, when she trod on a booby trap laid by S.L. Army at Periyavilan to see her house, she abandoned the approach of the S.L. Army earlier.

Sri Lankan Naval boats fired 50 calibre guns, shell attack from Poonakari camp and cannon fire gun boats. No damage reported.

A LETTER TO A SINHALA SOLDIER

Dear Brother

A Government soldier is not supposed to ask questions. His task is to do and die. This truism is remarkably apt as far as you are concerned. But should you not know why you are fighting this war? Should you reflect the feelings of your people? Do you think that the people like this oppressive war-unleashed on the Tamil people? Shouldn't you ponder over these questions? Please pose to think who is getting killed in this war? Is it the politicians who prosecute the oppressive war? Or those soldiers like you? People want to live in peace and in freedom. Look around carefully to see who crave for higher status and who have chauvinist mentality. This war is carried on by chauvinist and power hungry politicians for their own selfish interests. They are prepared to sell anything and everything for such purposes. They are even prepared to offer you as the sacrificial lamb. Just look at your former President Mr J.R.Jayawardene. In order to save his authority he sold this island to a foreign power. He is the one who invited the foreign army. You know who fought the war against this foreign army. **It is the Liberation Tigers who single handedly fought for the welfare of the whole island. They shed their blood for your nation too. It is the sacrifice they made that saved this island from foreign domination.** I wish to ask whether you have forgotten this part of the history so soon. Have

you not understood the love that your brother has on this island?

What are the politicians in power and your President doing right now? They are using you as the cannon fodder to safeguard their power base. While they are indulging in tamashas, you are fighting the war in the jungles and barren lands under terrible conditions. While you are losing limbs and ultimately succumbing to death without name or fame, the politicians spend their time and money in building tourist hotels and beach resorts. Who cares for your life? The top men in power don't even pronounce the exact number of soldiers who have died in battles. They are just simply mentioned as missing in action. This is intentionally done in order to boast the deeds of the top men for promotion and to keep the Government in power without being toppled by the people.

To whom and for whose interests are you fighting this war? If you wish to fight, whom should you honestly fight? Should you fight those who live in luxury life at your expense or your brothers who are fighting for the emancipation of their people? You should point your gun not against your brother who fought the foreign army for your sake too but those despicable and discredited politicians who want to feather their own nests. Nature had decreed that all of us should live in freedom. Why then should you defy the dictum of the dialectics. You will never defeat a defensive resistance of a people who fight for

freedom and justice and who fight on their own soil. Those who lord over you are continuing this unjust war on our people. This war will bring nothing but misery to you. It will not only end up in defeat but also in disaster. If you desist from fighting and turn your gun against your real enemy you will escape being accused as a wanton killer not only of our people but of your people also. You know very well that every oppression unleashed on our people has been practised on your people too. For the commitment of brutal killings of thousands of people, torture and disappearances, you are being used by the politicians in power. Then they themselves accuse you using as a scape goat and prosecute you to escape from criticism. You will be accused by your own people as an undisciplined, ruthless, mindless killer. If you realise all of this you will not look at us as your enemy. We will shake hands with you. Then we will stand united in our objectives. You will discover that we can strive for mutual interests. You will realise that we are equal and our common goal is to work for the emancipation of the downtrodden broad masses. Once you realise this there will be no war or hatred between us and also you will know who is our common enemy for the war to be waged on.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely, Your brother,

Tharman

NALGO Branch Supports Tamil Struggle

The Bolton Metropolitan branch of the National And Local Government Officers Association at its last regional meeting on Saturday the 5th June decided to support the struggle of the Tamils in Sri Lanka and approved the following motion:

"This District Council notes with concern serious human rights violations against the Sri Lankans, the colonisation of the traditional Tamil areas and other repressive measures with genocidal intent.

It deplores that the fighting has caused enormous suffering to the civilian population and that nearly 1.5 million people have been displaced.

It observes that the relief and humanitarian operations by the International Committee of the Red Cross and U.N. High Commission for Refugees have been hampered by extensive military operations. It views with alarm that arrested civilians have been killed and refugees have disappeared following abductions by security forces from refugee camps.

It condemns all killings and human rights

violations against civilians in the length and breadth of Sri Lanka by whomsoever committed.

It regrets that, despite the grim situation, there was a concerted campaign by the West to return asylum seekers to Sri Lanka. It welcomes U.N.H.C.R's concern about the attempts of western nations and India to return Tamil refugees against their will and when conditions are still unsafe for their return.

It requests the National Executive Council to take up the situation in Sri Lanka with the British Government, calling for it to refrain from forcibly returning asylum seekers to Sri Lanka, for the ending of aid to the Sri Lankan Government, and for pressure to be put upon that Government to enter into unconditional negotiations with Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (L.T.T.E) who represent the Tamil speaking people".

The regional officers will now campaign to get this adopted as policy in the new union UNISON when it is established on July 1st 1993.

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RED CROSS OFFICIAL KILLED

Voluntary Social Service Organisations and Non-Governmental Organisations functioning in Jaffna joined in full strength to demonstrate against the wanton killing of the Vice-President of the Jaffna Branch of the Red Cross Society, Mr. Kandiah Puvanendran, by firing from a 'Puccara' bomber plane belonging to the Sri Lankan Air force in Valikamam East on Saturday, April 10.

BULLET RIDDLED SKULLS RECOVERED

Six skulls were recovered from a shallow grave opposite the modern market at Chavakacheri in the Jaffna peninsula. Three of the skulls were identified as being that of young women, one as that of a girl of school going age and other two of boys of a similar age. Local residents were of the view that the young Tamils were the victims of the Indian Army which was responsible for several such massacres during its 32 month occupation of the Tamil Homeland.

SACHI - EPISTOPHILIC EELAM ACADEMIC - 40TH BIRTHDAY



Sachi Sri Kantha

Epistophilic (literally, one who loves to write) Eelam scholar, Sachi Sri Kantha, turned 40 on May 8. He has authored more than 300 published commentaries, essays, letters and book reviews on topics related to Eelam Tamils, during the past 20 years. His letters on Eelam had appeared regularly in the newspapers and news magazines published in the USA, Britain, Japan, Hong Kong, India and Sri Lanka.

Apart from these popular contributions, Sri Kantha had also published over 60 research papers, reviews and letters in scientific journals on diverse research areas such as food biochemistry, medical anthropology and history of medicine. Among these 60 technical publications, 12 letters have appeared in the prestigious British science journal Nature, on varied topics like Nobel prizes, whaling, Einstein, linguistics, AIDS, insectivory among Japanese, food preference of Eskimos, and

prolific productivity of noted scientists. In 1988, the Nature published two of his letters in one particular issue, something which does not occur frequently.

Again, last year, the Nature published a letter of Sri Kantha, which was technically an abstract of his complete research paper, scheduled for publication in the journal *Medical Hypotheses*.

Sri Kantha considers this as one of the high points of his career since only on rare occasions, Nature publishes an abstract of a research paper which has been scheduled for publication in another journal. His other thought-provoking letters had appeared in highly ranked scientific journals like *Lancet*, *Immunology Today*, *Gut* and *Bio Essays*.

Sri Kantha attributes his skills of prolific productivity to believing in the adage, "Failures are the pillars of success". In 1967, when the results of the GCE Ordinary Level examination were released, he was shocked to learn that he had failed in the English Language. His then English teacher at the Colombo Hindu College, Ratmalana, (one Miss Rani Saverimuthu) also couldn't believe that Sri Kantha failed in his English. He says, still he can hear the astonished remarks of his English teacher, "Sri Kantha, what happened to your English?" reverberating in his ears. That traumatic event made him to pledge and prove that the examiner who had given the failing grade for him had erred. Sri Kantha also feels a deep gratitude to Mrs Lalitha Arnold, another of his English teachers at the Colombo Hindu College, for encouraging his budding talent.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Sivapragasam. Sachithanatham, this academic cum activist hails from the soil of Point Pedro in Eelam, which is known to have a reputation for producing leaders among Tamils. Apart from V. Prabhakaran, who is currently leading the Eelam Tamils, the past products of Point Pedro who blazed the trail in their chosen disciplines include, Sathavathani N. Kathiravepillai, G.G.Ponnam-balam, Prof.K.Kanapathipillai, K.Alvapillai, Prof.C.J.Elizer, Thenpuloliyur M.Kanapathipillai and P.Kandiah.

Tamil Nation wishes Sachi many more years of well researched, thought provoking and fearless writing.

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Is EPDP the culprit?

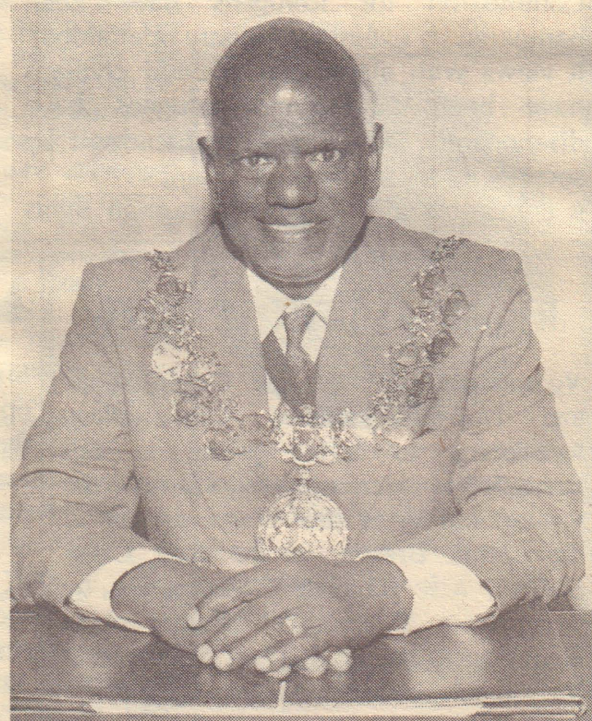
Seven opposition parties led by the leader of the opposition Mrs.Srimavo Bandaranaike met Sri Lankan Defence Secretary General Cyril Ranatunge on 26th April and demanded to disarm the members of EPDP (Eelam Peoples Democratic Party), a quisling Tamil group which is openly displaying arms in Colombo. The Opposition parties accused that the armed to the teeth EPDP members are also part of President Premadasa's personal body guards and are used for violence against the opponents. They demanded that they should be removed from the Park Road house in the residential area in Colombo or to be confined in an army cantonment if they are needed. UNP, ruling party General Secretary Srisena Coorey has told the press that the EPDP members are assisting the police in identifying the persons who enter into Colombo. Later this was denied by the Police Chief Earnest Perera. The Colombo "The Island" newspaper in an article said, "Everyone was amused but few were pleased by the EPDP's dangerous antics in a volatile situation attacking the LTTE from the safety of Park Road was one thing. Mercilessly blasting the Sinhala opposition on behalf of the UNP was another." The article further said that the group has ample reasons to rest assured that no Tamil in Colombo could be critical of them. As far as the writer was aware only one Tamil was bold enough recently to file a case, that he had been abducted, detained and tortured by the EPDP. The article concluded with the words, "He of course might never learn that it is better to die a respected enemy than to live in perpetual unease as a precarious hanger on." The threat by the opposition parties that the EPDP members will be forcibly disarmed by them resulted in sending them by their protectors to Trincomalee at the service of the military.

FIRST EELAM TAMIL MAYOR IN UK

Ceylon Workers' Congress.

Finally elected to the council in 1986, Cllr Mani, after serving as Deputy Mayor for a year, was installed as Mayor on 12th May. His wife Mayoress Bernadette Rose Supiramaniam is a secondary school teacher. They have 2 children.

Mr Sinna Mani



The first Eelam Tamil to hold the prestigious post of Mayor in the UK, Mr Sinna Mani, was born in Tellipallai in northern Sri Lanka.

He spent most of his teenage years in India where he was associated with the Socialist Party. Since 1960 he has been settled in the UK where he had his formal education.

In addition to his functions as Mayor of London Borough of Lewisham, Mr Mani finds time to write for leading newspapers, specialising in Eastern Europe and Russian affairs. He is the founder Chairman of the British Organisation of People of Indian Origin, an umbrella organisation representing people of the Indian Sub-Continent settled in this country.

A committed Social Democrat, with very close connections with the leadership of the Labour Party, both at rank and file and leadership levels, he has edited several socialist newspapers in the past.

Very keen on environmental issues, currently editor of the Wild-life Guardian, as well as Director of the League Against Cruel Sports, a major pressure group concerned with animal welfare.

He has campaigned very vigorously on behalf of the dispossessed Tamils in Sri Lanka. He continues to take a keen interest in the welfare of Tamils in Sri Lanka, maintaining very close connections with the

THE INDIAN SUB CONTINENT

JAYALALITHA'S DILEMMA

The lady has few friends left. The report card of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalitha Jayaram after two years in office looks grim. The AIADMK Government's record is blotted with corruption charges and non-performance at virtually all levels.

Her worst setback has been the failure to exploit her party's divorce from the Congress (I). V.N.Gadgil, the Congress (I) spokesman, finally closed the chapter on the alliance recently by saying there was no possibility of his party and the AIADMK getting together again. On this issue her own colleagues feel she has not learnt her lesson. "The Karunanidhi and MGR governments were dismissed when they opposed the Centre...Rao dismissed BJP governments in four states," said an AIADMK MP.

Though Jayalalitha has been

behaving rashly, her rejection of the BJP's overtures for an alliance, given the 25,000-strong Muslim voters of Ranipet, was a politically smart move. After calling the BJP a "communally slanted outfit working against the interests of the minorities", she distributed handbills with her photograph showing her performing namaz in a Madras mosque during Ramzan. To give her new found love for the minorities publicity, she revived the defunct waqf board and appointed former Muslim minister, whom she had sacked last year, as chairman. But one person at least wasn't taken in: "The Muslims have seen her real image during her rule and will never be taken for a ride," says the state Muslim League President A K A Abdus Samad. What has been worrying Jayalalitha is the possible coming together of the

Congress (I) and the DMK. The two parties had excellent floor co-ordination in the Assembly during the current session. Furthermore, DMK chief M Karunanidhi asked Vazhapadi Ramamurthy, Congress (I) leader, to make use of the DMK's memorandum to the governor listing the corruption charges against Jayalalitha and her Government.

The only allies Jayalalitha can bank upon now for electoral alliances are minor parties, which do not have any significant base. The Congress (I), too, finds itself without any allies at the moment. With the Congress(I) and the AIADMK both friendless, the Centre's recent chivalrous answer to Jaya's request for aerial cover at her Poes Garden residence to protect her against any possible LTTE attack, holds out interesting possibilities.

Courtesy India Today

SCUTTLING RAJIV MURDER PROBE

The Law Ministry has shot down suggestions from senior bureaucrats of the Home Ministry and the Prime Minister's Office, that the M C Jain Commission, constituted to discover the conspiracy behind Rajiv's assassination, should be wound up. The Commission which has failed to take off due

to the refusal of agencies like CBI to provide original intelligence reports regarding Rajiv's assassination, has not begun its hearing even after a year and a half of its commissioning. Intriguingly, the government took almost a year to decide on a counsel to represent the government.

BANNED:

by the Government the flying of radio-controlled planes in all the metropolitan cities, following the sighting of one such microlight aircraft above the residence of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J.Jayalalitha.

THONDAMAN WELCOMES NEW MOVES ON MERGER

C.W.C. leader and Minister S. Thondaman who had pulled out of the Parliamentary Select Committee has welcomed the committee's decision for a referendum on the merger in the Eastern Province, if it is a fair one. "I am not against the merger

referendum. But it must be a fair referendum," he said.

Mr Thondaman called on the government to give voting rights at this referendum even to Tamils who had fled from the North and East and were living elsewhere for security reasons.

INDIA RESENTS U.S. REFERENCE NEW DELHI MAY 20

India today expressed its strong resentment to the references to human rights made by the US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in the State Departments South Asian Bureau. Mr John Malott. Mr Malott during his stay, prodded New Delhi to improve its human rights record.

Suggesting that the security forces should be held accountable for human rights abuse. Mr Malott said that continued infringement of human rights could be an impediment in

bilateral relations.

However, in an attempt to straighten the record, the External Affairs Ministry spokesman, made the following observations: "While we do not mind discussing human rights with friendly countries, we do not want to be in a position of receiving advice or exhortations by any country." When shorn of its diplomatic niceties, in a blunt message asking the Americans to stop patronising India on human rights.

WITNESS IN RAJIV CASE ESCAPES

Madras -

A Sri Lankan Tamil, Charles alias Nawaz (27), a witness in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, escaped from the Saidapet special camp on Tuesday night. A state-wide alert has been sounded.

Charles climbed the 15-foot wall with the help of a rope and came out of the camp through a chimney. Using the same rope he lowered himself on the outer side of the wall and escaped in the dark despite tight security.

Two TSP constables have been suspended in connection with the escape.

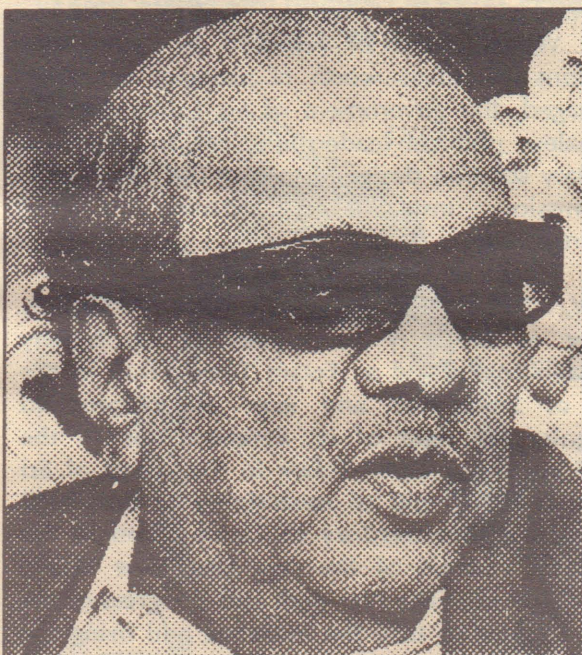
Fourteen persons including two women and a child were lodged in the special camp which was previously a sub-jail attached to Saidapet court. The Tamil Nadu Special police were providing security.

Several senior police officers visited the spot and conducted an inquiry.

According to police, Charles hailed from Velvettithurai in northern Sri Lanka. He was arrested at Vedaranyam with 12 others two years ago and had been confined in the camp.

Police are investigating if any militants were involved. On April 29, an armed gang shot a constable and 'rescued' three TADA detenus at Mamandur being taken from Madras to Pattukottai. They were involved in the Setubava Chathiram arms cache case and were being taken for formal extension of their remand. On May 8 five inmates of the Sri Lankan Tamil refugee camp at Kancheepuram escaped. However, two surrendered to the police within two days and the third surrendered on Wednesday.

A group of 19 Sri Lankan detenus escaped from Vellore sub-jail in November last year.



Mr Karunanidhi



Mrs Jayalalitha

"Conducting a survey in Tamil Nadu and asking the people whether they prefer AIADMK or DMK is like asking a person whether he would like to die by poisoning or by drowning."

A Madras Reader - India Today

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS:

The Tamils of Eelam, speaking the Tamil language and professing the Hindu, Christian and Islamic faiths are a separate people different and distinct from the Sinhalese people in the Island of Sri Lanka; and

WHEREAS:

These two people of the Island constitute two different and separate Nations differing from each other by Language, Religion, Culture, Tradition, History and Territory they occupy from ancient times; and

WHEREAS:

The Tamils of Eelam lost its independence and freedom, territory and sovereignty to the Portuguese when conquered at war in 1619; and

WHEREAS:

This territory and sovereignty of the Tamils of Eelam passed from the Portuguese to the Dutch and thereafter from the Dutch to the British in 1796; and

WHEREAS:

The British already masters of the Sinhala kingdom

Government colonised lands in Tamil Eelam particularly in the Trincomalee District and the Eastern Province changing the ethnic character of the Tamil speaking population of Eelam and also creating two Sinhala Constituencies in Tamil Eelam and continue to do so to date, colonising the Tamil Country with Sinhalese and even encouraging and regularising illegal squatting and encroachments by Sinhalese into the territory of Tamil Eelam; and

WHEREAS:

Successive Sinhala Governments have been guilty of ethnic cleansing and acts of racial discrimination against the Tamils in the fields of education, employment, religion, politics, economic development and trade; and

WHEREAS:

The Sinhala Language alone was made the official language in 1956 placing the Tamil speaking people at a great disadvantage whereby they were shut out from the public service and even lost the jobs they already held in the public service and whereas Tamil was made an official language as a

agitations; and

WHEREAS:

The Sinhala Government of Sri Lanka has occupied the territory of Tamil Eelam with its armed forces and security service and are denying the right of self-determination and sovereignty of the Tamil Nation by the use of force on the Tamil people; and

WHEREAS:

The security forces of the Government and other Sinhala elements in order to suppress the Tamil demand for freedom planned and implemented a program of genocide against the Tamil people from 1956 by which many Tamils were killed, tortured, raped and even burnt alive and robbed of their property, and caused the Tamil people to become refugees in their own homeland, and flee to Europe, and countries such as the United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS:

The Sinhala Government in the further exercise of violence on the Tamil Nation has proclaimed a state of emergency since July 1979 in Tamil Eelam

MAYOR MICHAEL E. CAPUANO OFFICE OF THE MAYOR CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS, USA

of Kotte and the Tamil Kingdom of Jaffna, took over the remaining Sinhala Kingdom of Kandy in 1815 and thus became masters of all the countries comprised in the Island of Ceylon and instituted administrative reforms to facilitate their Colonial administration; and

WHEREAS:

In 1833 the British in pursuance of such administrative reforms erased the boundaries between the Tamil and Sinhala Kingdoms and territories and imposed on the entire Island one single administration making it one Crown Colony ignoring the separate identity, existence and territory of the Sinhala and Tamil Nations; and

WHEREAS:

Even after 150 years of British Colonial rule the two nations have maintained their separate identities; and

WHEREAS:

Under a unitary constitution for the whole Island, particularly since 1931, the Sinhala Nation became an irremovable and permanent racial majority in the successive legislatures imposed by the British, culminating in the near independence of 1948, while nevertheless retaining British sovereignty, and increasingly imposed Sinhala Rule over the Tamils of Eelam; and

WHEREAS:

By the exercise of this legislative and executive power soon after independence, one million Tamils of Indian Origin who had settled in Central Sri Lanka on the Tea and Rubber plantations during the early British period as workers, were deprived of Sri Lankan citizenship and of the franchise which latter they enjoyed and exercised before 1948 and were rendered stateless so that they lost also their representation in the legislature in the democratic elections of 1952 and while their right to Sri Lankan citizenship was recognised as a consequence of the Indo-Sri Lankan accord of July 1987 it has never been implemented to the satisfaction of those concerned; and

WHEREAS:

By state aided colonisation the successive Sinhala

result of the Indo-Sri Lankan accord of July 1987, this has only been a symbolic recognition as of this day; and

WHEREAS:

The Sinhala Nation without legal continuity or legal transfer of power to themselves over the territory of Tamil Eelam unilaterally adopted and imposed a Republican Constitution in 1972 for the whole Island including and annexing the territory of Tamil Eelam into the Republic of Sri Lanka; and

WHEREAS:

The constitution in addition to the continuation of the earlier discrimination constitutionalised (1) the Buddhist Religion of the Sinhala Nation to a superior position over the Hindu, Christian and Islamic religions followed by the Tamil Nation, and (2) the official status and operation of the Sinhala language while merely recognising the Tamil Language for limited purpose; and

WHEREAS:

The Tamil Nation of Eelam at the last democratic election of May 1977 gave a clear mandate for the restoration and reconstitution of the separate sovereign state of Tamil Eelam; and

WHEREAS:

The present Sinhala Government enacted a new Constitution in 1978 for the whole Island again including and annexing the territory of Tamil Eelam without the consent, participation or acquiescence of the Tamil Nation and in the face of the mandate counter given by the Tamil Nation for a separate Tamil State; and

WHEREAS:

This new constitution reaffirmed the superiority of the Sinhala Language and the Buddhist religion and continued to give more weight to the Sinhala people by giving their provinces an extra 28 seats against 8 seats for the Tamil provinces; and

WHEREAS:

The Tamil Nation of Eelam opposed the two constitutions as illegal impositions on them and their territory and asserted their right of self-determination and sovereignty by non-violent

and conducted indiscriminate aerial bombing in areas of high civilian concentration and killed, tortured and detained without cause Tamil youths in gross violation of human rights and scant disregard for human life; and

WHEREAS:

Various international human rights organisations have documented the extent and barbarity of human rights abuses against the Tamils of Eelam by the Government of Sri Lanka, and the Tamil civilians killed by the Government actions is estimated at 67,000 since 1956; and

WHEREAS:

Even after a decade long brutal war was waged on the Tamil people, in which more than 100,000 people have been killed on both sides including the 40,000 disappeared since 1983 after being arrested by the security forces or abduction by Government vigilante groups (according to the Asia Watch report of February 3, 1992), and millions of dollars worth of property has been damaged, the government of Sri Lanka and the Sinhalese political leadership, seek to impose a military solution designed to beat the Tamils into submission instead of pursuing a self determination.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL E. CAPUANO, Mayor of the City of Somerville, do hereby proclaim May 22nd as Eelam Tamils Day in the City of Somerville and urge all citizens to recognise the right of self-determination of the Tamil people of Tamil Eelam in the Island of Sri Lanka and the right of sovereignty of the Tamil Nation over the territory of Tamil Eelam in the light and context of the emerging New World Order, and urge the President and Congress of the United States to take the initiative and bring the conflict in Sri Lanka before the United Nations, and to support the struggle for freedom by the Tamil Nation for the restoration and reconstitution of the separate sovereign state of Tamil Eelam.

MICHAEL E. CAPUANO, Mayor

THE RED COUNTRY

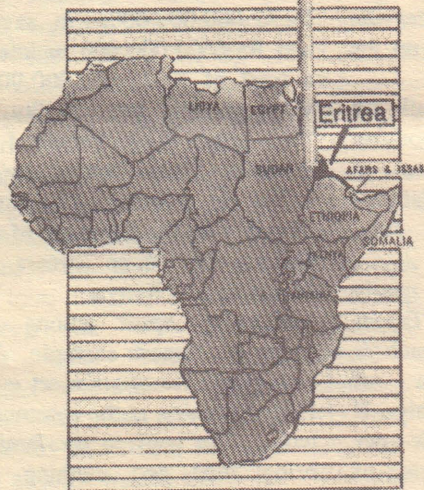
Eritrea on the north-east coast of Africa is all set to take its place among the independent countries of the world.

Eritrea means red and owes its name to the adjoining Red Sea. The land has had a chequered history. Italy took it away from Ethiopia in the late 1800's and then Britain wrested it away from Italy during the Second World War. In 1952 Eritrea again became part of Ethiopia.

Eritreans however, have long yearned for independence and Eritrea has been functioning as a semi-independent country with its own flag and government for the last two years. Last month the two and a half million people of Eritrea voted for complete independence.

Eritrea's coastal plain is one of the hottest spots on Earth. The rest of the country is mountainous. Most of the people, perhaps about 80 per cent of the population, are engaged in agriculture but only about 5 per cent of the land is under cultivation.

Asmara is the chief industrial centre and also the capital of the country.



REFERENDUM IN EASTERN PROVINCE

The Parliamentary Select Committee unanimously decided to call for a Referendum in the Eastern Province in four months time to allow the people of the region to determine through the ballot whether they preferred to remain merged to the north as a Province or opted to de-merge from the North and function as a separate and independent province, political sources revealed.

The Select Committee, chaired by MP Mangala Moonesinghe, was appointed in August, 1991 to find

ways and means of resolving the North-East conflict. Early this year Tamil parties (TULF, EPRLF and EROS) and the CWC pulled out of the Committee in protest against what they called the stand taken by the majority parties of the question of the merger of the North-East. They charged that the Sinhala parties were totally against the permanent amalgamation of the two provinces and there was no purpose served in them continuing to participate in the deliberations of the Select Committee.

MALARIA SPREADS

Malarial fever was reported spreading in Jaffna and Kilinochchi districts. 1140 persons sought treatment for Malaria in the Jaffna district during February. The figure for Kilinochchi district stood at 168.

Abandoning of the malathion spraying programme since the commencement of hostilities in 1990 has been attributed as the prime cause for the spread of the disease.

PUCCARO PLANES BOMB VAVUNIA

Two Sri Lankan Air Force Puccaro Planes dropped three bombs at Maruthodai in Vavunia, damaging more than 15 buildings.

The news in this connection states that on Friday, May 7, about 7.40am two Sri Lankan Puccaro bombers bombed the village of Muruthodai in Vavunia.

Four houses were completely damaged. Also the Government Tamil Mixed school was damaged.

The Puccaro planes also resorted to rocket attack and over 13 rockets are reported to have hit the village. Over 14 houses are reported to have been damaged.

SUPERSONICS BOMB MANNAR -

Over 15 houses damaged

Supersonic Jet Bombers belonging to the Sri Lankan Air Force bombed villages in Mannar in two spells which damaged over 15 houses.

The news in this connection states that on Wednesday, May 5, about 8.00am Supersonic jet bombers belonging to S.L. Air Force dropped four bombs in the village of Mullikulam. Details of damages are not known.

On the same day about 10.30am the village of Periyakunchukulam also in the Mannar District was bombed by the Sri Lankan Air Force. According to the reports four houses in the area were completely destroyed and over 12 other houses were partly damaged.

A JVP LEADER PLEDGES COME-BACK

A Reuter report detelined Colombo June 9 states: The leader of a Sri Lankan left-wing rebel group, mercilessly crushed after it failed to overthrow the government in 1989, has vowed to reorganise for a new campaign.

"... My message to the public is that the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP or People's Liberation Front) is alive and active. We are in the process of reorganising," said Somawansa Amarasinghe in a taped message to followers.

Amarasinghe, who fled to London during the military

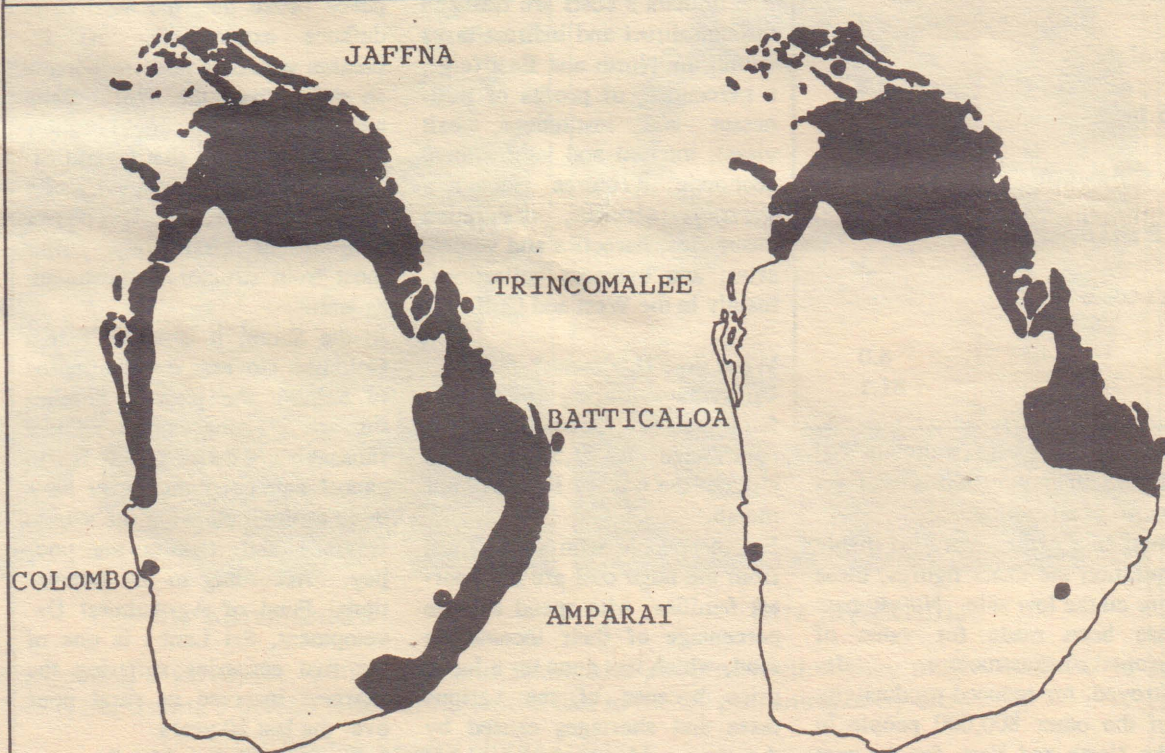
counter-offensive that killed the front's leaders, sent an audio-cassette to Colombo that was circulated among his followers last month. A copy of the tape was obtained by Reuters. Amarasinghe, a member of the group's politburo, said that after thousands of the groups followers had been killed in rebellions in 1971 and 1989, he was compelled to reorganise the party.

"We won't join any party. We are committed to face the public soon," he said without giving details.

In some copies of last month's issue, the front page feature on Sinhala Colonisation was not very clear. Tamil Nation apologises to any readers who experienced this problem. The two maps are reprinted below.

TAMIL HOMELAND DURING COLONIAL PERIOD
PERON 1789 MAP

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Postcode _____ Phone _____

Please send an introductory copy to _____

WELIKADE JAIL MASSACRE - Appeal by an Eye Witness

On 25th and 27th July, 1983, fifty three Eelam Tamils were done to death in Welikade Jail. Their bodies were heaped in front of the statue of Buddha. On the next day Mr. Athulathmudali said "Now the Sinhala spirit is appeased."

It is clear that the Welikade Massacre is not just a passing event but a deeply symbolic act meant to be burnt into the hearts and minds of the Eelam Tamils. On 25th and 27th July, 1993, it will be the tenth anniversary of the gruesome murders. As one who was an eye witness to this tragic event I wish to call upon each and every Eelam Tamil to:-

- 1) Observe 25th July, 1993 and every 25th July, thereafter as a day of mourning by every Eelam Tamil.
- 2) Hold a memorial meeting in every place where Eelam Tamils live in some numbers.
- 3) Remember and recollect the sad events of Welikade Massacre.
- 4) As a sign of resolve that we will not permit repetition of similar events set-up a National Savings Fund to protect and promote the interests of Eelam Tamils.
- 5) Every earning member of the

Eelam Tamil community to deposit in a National Savings Fund 10% of his monthly earning.

Who are the Eelam Tamils who can contribute to this fund? Their very physical existence is at stake. Heavy artillery from air, land and sea are taking a

S. A. David



Founder President
Gandhyam Sri Lanka

heavy toll of life. Hundreds are dying of starvation. Rations have been halved in camps and goods are not being sent for months to Tamil areas. The conditions of Eelam Tamils in India is in a sense more pathetic. 80,000 Eelam Tamil

Refugees in camps just manage to keep their body and soul together. 20,000 of Eelam Tamils outside the camps live on assistance from kith and kin from the west. The police, immigration officers, landlords, shopkeeper, auto drivers and postal peons fleece them left and right. Above all the mental torture from Brahmin press is unbearable.

Clearly then the Expatriate Eelam Tamils outside Sri Lanka and India have to shoulder the responsibility of building up the National Savings Fund. The Expatriate Eelam Tamils are also placed in a special position economically and can set an example and start the National Savings Fund on 25th July, 1993.

It is estimated there are nearly one lakh working Eelam Tamils around the world, and each is receiving a minimum of Rs.10,000/- (Indian) monthly. If one Lakh save Rs. 1,000/- per month there will be a saving of Rs.1,00,000,000/- monthly.

It is to be clearly understood that this is not a charitable donation to any cause. Every rupee is a saving and interest at current bank rates will accrue to each

rupee deposited.

Arrangements are in hand to appoint a Board of Trustees and Executive Board to safeguard and account for every rupee deposited. A full report on the project will be sent to every Expatriate Eelam Tamil.

We have lost ten precious years since the Welikade Massacre. Let us not delay any further. If the scheme had been in operation for the past ten years, the Eelam Tamil Community will have Rs.12,000,000,000/- in savings and Rs.6600,000,000 in interest a total of Rs.18,600,000,000/-. What security and stability this fund would have provided for the Eelam Tamil Community?

I had the privilege of moving closely with the followers of Aga Khan for three years in Mombasa, Kenya. The community spirit among this group is a superb example. The community members meet every Friday evening at the community hall. The well to do families bring food and clothing and distribute to members who are in need. Every member is helped to find a job and a decent living. The Aga Khan was weighed in Silver, Gold and Diamond on his silver, gold and diamond jubilees

respectively and all proceeds used to start a Development Fund for Aga Khan followers, Aga Khan Followers around the globe are reaping the benefit of this far sighted project.

Let the Welikade Massacre instil a measure of Community spirit into Eelam Tamils and help us to assist one and all towards the secure and safe future for ourselves and our children.

I wish to call upon Expatriate Tamils around the world to organise Memorial Meetings on 25th July, 1993, and start the National Savings Fund on this date.

For the project to be a success hundreds of Eelam Tamils will have to volunteer to work in their areas for canvassing support, collection of funds and distribution of literature on the National Savings Fund.

I will be very grateful if those interested in the project will send their suggestions to me so that a more perfected project can be put into operation from 25.07.1993.

S.A.David
Contact Address:-
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MADRAS - 600 040

Every Lankan Spends RS.1,877 a Month on the War. By Karuna Nikahetiya

How long can we afford to let the North-East war continue? The cost, in people and money terms goes up every year - and there's still no sign of lasting peace.

Most people want the war to stop, but cannot see that they as individuals can do anything about it. Many question whether the politicians are really trying to end the war. People feel that leaders of all sides use the war to divert attention from other problems. Some influential people are making money out of the war. There is a lot of talk of seeking political solutions now -

The war is being paid for in human and money terms by every citizen of this country - the recent for writing yet more about the war is that if we realise what the war actually costs us, we might expedite finding a workable solution.

The Human Cost

Last year more than 6,000 people lost their lives in the war - civilians and members of the armed forces. Each of these individuals was someone's son or daughter, husband or wife, father or mother.

At least another 6,000 people were injured - many of these are now having to learn to cope with permanent disability.

Tens of thousands of people were displaced - adding to more than 500,000 people who are already displaced within Sri Lanka. Most of these have lost some family members, property, and any means of making a living. Most of the human cost is borne by people whose homes are in the

North and East particularly those who are still living there. They will be the civilian casualties; and they are most accessible for

ple. People have almost become immune to news about violence, unless they are directly involved. Maybe looking at how much the

of NGO relief and reconstruction work, peace discussion, increased diplomatic costs overseas, or for the loss of some of the best brains and skilled manpower. To balance this, some would point out that there are also benefits from having a percentage of the population living outside the country - the foreign remittances received from the Gulf and the 'West' contribute to our foreign reserves.

Everybody pays towards the cost of the war. The Sri Lankan Government's costs are largely financed through direct and indirect taxes - the surcharge on income tax, BTT, import tariffs, export levy, levy on loans, etc. The militant's costs are financed through direct and indirect taxes within the North and East (e.g., a percentage of profits of businesses and institutions, exit visas); internal and international economic ventures including transport services, emigration businesses, narcotics and vehicle sales; and overseas collections, mainly in the West and Gulf.

What does this mean?

On average, during 1992 every family in Sri Lanka effectively contributed Rs.22,528 to the costs of the war, or Rs.1,877 per month.

But the people who suffer most from the huge cost are the poorest families, who spend a large percentage of their income on food, which has gone up a lot in price because of the various taxes and shortages caused by the war. Many of those still

living in the North and East have to sell or pledge any assets they have to get cash to buy essential items to survive. The lack of assets will make it even more difficult to start any kind of normal life should the war end.

For Sri Lanka as a country, to put Rs.81 billion into context it is about 19% of GNP. Projected Government expenditure during 1993 is Rs.127 billion. During the first 9 months of 1992, total Government debt increased by Rs.32 billion.

Inflation in the South for 1992 is now estimated at 14.20% - people blame this on the war and World Bank structural adjustment measure. But the main contributor must be the cost of war - if peace broke out, the savings in defence expenditure, and increases wouldn't need to borrow so much from the World Bank and IMF. We could follow economic policies that benefit Sri Lanka, rather than the World Bank, and the West. The poorer sections of community suffer most from structural adjustment, as well.

In the South, it is ironic that a Colombo Government committed to helping the poorest families through programmes like Janasaviya, then proceeds to cancel any good they may have done through allowing the war to continue and making the poor pay. According to the International Fund of Agricultural Development, Sri Lanka is one of the five countries suffering the sharpest increase in rural poor over the last 20 years.

Courtesy Times, May 24

The Economic Cost

Using some rough estimates, in 1992 the direct and indirect costs of the war added up to Rs. 81 billion (Rs.81,000,000,000).

Direct Costs	SLRs Billion
SL Government defence expenditure (less peace-time defence costs)	23.0
Tamil and Muslim groups' defence expenditure (estimated 30% of above)	6.9
Compensation to those killed or injured	0.4
Cost of feeding the displaced	2.4
Future resettlement of 50,000 newly displaced	1.0
Indirect cost (using GDP per capita of Rs.24,166 as estimated productive capacity of each individual)	
Reduced/lost productive capacity of displaced within island (60,000 half as productive as in peacetime)	7.2
population in N & E who lost means of livelihood (est.700,000)	16.9
refugees outside island (200,000 in S.India 200,000 in 'West')	9.7
other Sri Lankans living abroad who will return (est.220,000)	5.3
SL Army (increase of 65,000), LTTE and other militant groups (30,000)	2.3
'Missed' tourism - tourists who didn't come because of the war;	
estimated 293,867 at Rs.20,320	6.0
Total	81.1

recruitment by militant groups. People from the South who only really get affected by the human cost are those in the security forces and their families and friends.

The huge number of deaths over the past 10 years from JVP and ethnic violence means that figures on people being killed or wounded no longer shock peo-

war costs each family in Sri Lanka in money terms will get more of a reaction.

While anyone can justifiably question the exact figures, these are on the low side. No estimate has been made for value of property/infrastructure destroyed, for reduced productivity of the other 800,000 people in the North and East, for the cost

S. Thiagarajah writes :-

A LETTER FROM COLOMBO

TWO ASSASSINATIONS WITHIN NINE DAYS

It is a human tragedy that the infantile wisdom of the Sinhalese intelligentsia following a chauvinistic, shallow, unrelenting, politics based on a demonical Mahavamsa majority concept in their dealing both among themselves and with the other communities - had taken toll of several leading politicians from SWRD Badaranayake to President Ranasinghe Premadasa. In this list, persons like Sarath Muttetuwegama, Vijaya Kumaranatunge and Lalith Athulathmudali are included. The Sinhala press should also take a fair amount of responsibility for having brought about such a state of affairs. They were dogmatic and did not appreciate the other man's rights or views. This resulted in the Sinhala parties vying against one another in the contest as to who is more competent and capable to do the worst than doing the right and the correct thing.

MURDER BACKGROUND

The killing of Ranasinghe Premadasa had followed the assassination of Lalith Athulathmudali, a few days earlier. The DUNF straight away accused Premadasa of having engineered Lalith's death. The UNP in turn accused Gamini Dissanayake and his clique for the said crime. It is in this context and background that the assassination of Mr Premadasa should be viewed.

Premadasa had many enemies. Even the International media had spotlighted this phenomenon. He was opposed by the elites in his own party. Both the academics and big business magnates of the Sinhala elites were not willing to work under him. This was observed by their stand off attitude in everything Premadasa promoted or attempted to achieve, e.g. Janasiviya Scheme.

REJOICE

Because he had interfered with the aspirations of the top security personnel, there was a section in that field too, who hated Mr Premadasa. Another aspect that should be noted here is that rightly or wrongly, there is a general consensus of opinion that

he was responsible for the missing from the scene of several top people who were his superiors or equals and who could have posed a challenge to his leadership. There is another element also. People who are connected to the more than sixty thousand Sinhala youths who were done away with on suspicion that they were JVP ers, too hate the mere mention of the word Premadasa. This was reflected in the manner people in the South were reported to have rejoiced on hearing the news of Premadasa's murder by lighting crackers, etc.

TAMIL ASPIRATIONS

On the other hand, opposition against his rise to the position he was in, was shown by the upper strata of the Sinhala society too. The fact that he, an ordinary citizen of Sri Lanka had achieved the highest position kindled the resentment and jealousy of these people. Premadasa's rise to power is, no doubt, a great and real achievement. Premadasa having come from the grass roots level, knew the hardships and sufferings of the ordinary people and he genuinely took steps and measures to alleviate them.

There is also a feeling among some Tamils that he was basically a man who was more inclined to show sympathy towards the Tamils. But, of course in this respect it must be borne in mind that after having been in real power for more than four years, he did not have the heart to settle the ethnic problem. On the contrary, he was strangling the genuine and rightful aspirations of the Tamils by following a policy of genocide. This he did directly by using the armed forces and indirectly by the economic blockades perpetrated against the Tamils.

ROHANA WIJEWEERA

Both Mr Premadasa and Lalith Athulathmudali must share responsibility as cabinet ministers of J R Jayewardene for the inhuman collective atrocities committed during that regime on both the Sinhalese

and Tamils. These two should also bear the responsibility for the cowardly killing of Rohana Wijeweera, the leader of the JVP, against all rules of law, after he was arrested.

OPERATION GOLDEN TEMPLE

In this connection, we must remember the horrible methods Mr Athulathmudali adopted in his war against the Tamils. He was the inventor of the barrel bombs thrown all over Jaffna Peninsula indiscriminately. A view of Jaffna Town will show anyone the effects of these bombs. He was also sadistic enough to oversee the barrel bombs being thrown on all known targets at his personal directions by flying in an Avro plane. He directed on such bomb on the famous Jaffna Town Vaideeshwara Sivan Temple, when evening poojas were being held. More than ten people including one of former trustees of the temple, were blown to pieces. This operation was described by Mr Gamini Navaratne, a Sinhalese journalist, as 'Operation Golden Temple'.

After visiting the General Hospital, Mr Gamini Dissanayake is said to have sobbed and lamented 'he had so much to offer this country'. No doubt, Mr Athulathmudali was an educated person who could have had his innovations like the barrel bombs to offer to the Sinhalese to kill the Tamils.

BAD IMPRESSIONS

Just a few days before his assassination, Mr Athulathmudali had said at a meeting that there were two bad impressions formed against him. These two bad impressions were (1) him directing barrel bombs being dropped from an Avro plane and (2) inviting Israeli Interests into Sri Lanka against the wishes of Muslims. Was his conscience pricking him? No. He did what he did, knowing what he was doing.

As for the first of these acts, frequency modulated metres of radios do not tell lies like human beings. The second was a reality. No one will deny that an Israeli Interest Section existed at the United

States Embassy at that time. Now that he was facing the hustings, the votes of both the Tamils and the Muslims were very essential to him.

*On the fateful day
Lalith,
Athulathmudali
rose very early to
attend a two-hour
pooja at the
Muneeswaram
Sivan Temple at
5.30am*

That is why he was using his oratory, for the development of which the Israeli University too had contributed to erase these two bad impressions from the mind of the Tamils and Muslims. Probably, he being an intellectual must have thought that the Tamils and Muslims are imbeciles to believe him.

Can any Tamil forget the vehemence with which the Sri Lanka government, during the period Athulathmudali was National Security Minister, insisted in taking the seventeen Tamil Liberation leaders including Kumarappa and Pulendran to Colombo when they were illegally arrested, after a general amnesty had been bestowed on them as a result of the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord?

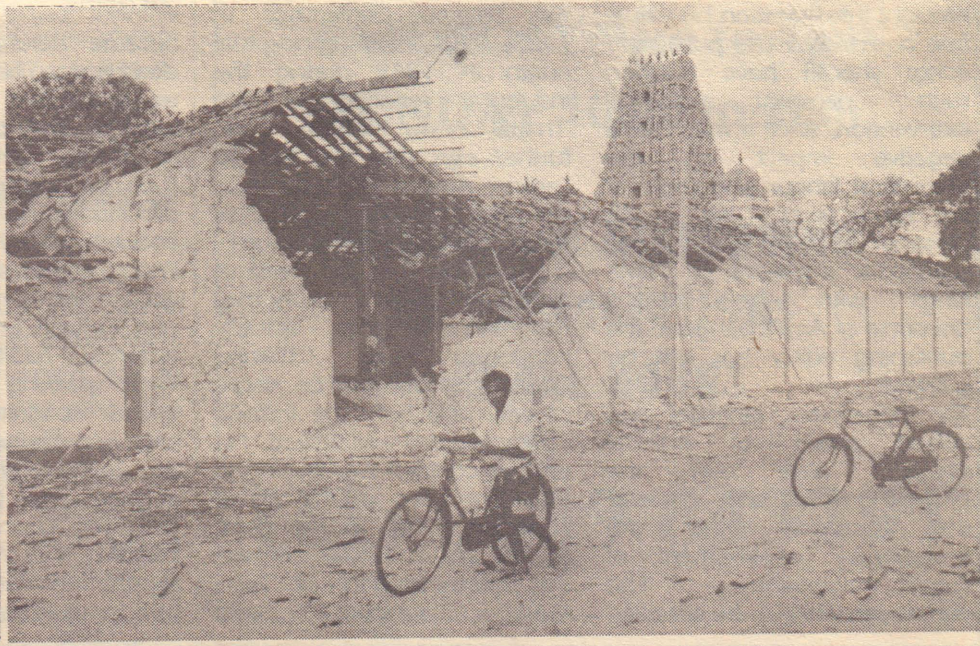
According to J R Jayewardene he insisted on these commanders being taken to Colombo because Athulathmudali was threatening to resign, if that was not done. If what J R Jayewardene says is correct, we can imagine with what arrogance Athulathmudali was trying to take vengeance on the LTTE even after the Rajiv Gandhi-Jayewardene Accord had been signed under which an amnesty was granted to them by J R Jayewardene. It also showed vindictiveness and to what extent he would go to attain his goal, even if that goal were something bad and sinister.

OPERATION GOLDEN TEMPLE

Jaffna Market Buildings



Sivan Temple, Jaffna Town



PAST TRADITIONS AND PRESENT STRUGGLES

by Bramagnani

A historical documentation entitled 'Jaffna Kingdom' has been released by the Jaffna University as a collective work of various research scholars portraying the social and cultural life of Jaffna man during the period of Ariya Chakaravatees.

New research endeavours that shed light on the darkness of our historical past should be encouraged and welcomed.

A clear vision of what constitutes history, a concrete grasp of historical methodology, a value-free objectivity and a deeper understanding of sociology are the intellectual qualities required for a historian. Such scholarly qualifications are necessary to embark on a journey in time to unravel historical realities. Otherwise it would be difficult to perceive an historical period in its depth and width and in its existential actuality. History is not a task of unearthing rotten skeletons from the graveyard of demised time. Nor is it confined to the attempt of constructing by gone events in chronological sequence. History is concerned with human social life, its dynamics and its evolutionary motion. It is concerned with the forces, trends and laws that underlie the change and development of the social world.

The objective of this article is not to enquire as to how far, in what depth and in what perspective this work, 'Jaffna Kingdom', has succeeded in documenting history. I do not wish to examine the work in its totality, with its multi-dimensional aspects. My critique is confined to certain comments made by the publishing editor in his introduction to the book.

When writing an introduction to a collective work composed of different research contributions certain intellectual norms and standards have to be observed. Such norms and standards are clearly violated by the author of the introduction, when he deviates from the theme and content of the work and the specificity of the historical period and plunges into a personal interpretation of contemporary politics. This has brought into question his value-free objectivity. The publishing editor should have avoided such personal political intervention, since it may cast a negative impact on the theoretical labour and merit of the entire work. Yet, in his personal desire to link monarchic traditions of Jaffna Kings with the political discourse of Amirthalingam, the publishing editor has lost his balance.

The non-violent (ahimsa) and armed mode of political struggles have been the propelling force that underlie the formation and the evolutionary development of Tamil nationalism. This contribution has to be assessed

within the context of the historical conditions, compulsions, and external situations of that given period. But it is wrong to create an impression that Amirthalingam projected and advocated the political traditions of the Jaffna Kingdom and that of Mr Chelvanayakam. In order to sustain his argument of this traditional continuity. Dr Sittampalam quotes at length from a speech made by Amirthalingam in Parliament, exalting the glory of the Jaffna Kingdom. But he has failed to observe that though Amirthalingam glorified the greatness of the ancient State of Jaffna, he was pleading from Jayewardene to provide for the District Council some meagre powers to re-construct Nallur. To quote his parliamentary speech in this context, "Your Excellency, the President, Your Government has established District Development Councils in all districts to de-centralise power to the people through these councils. Therefore, in order to protect and reconstruct the ancient capital of Nallur, power and facilities should be given to the Jaffna District Council."

Having abandoned the demand for a separate Tamil State and having accepted the District Development Councils, Amirthalingam was lamenting that powers within that structure were inadequate. To project such a pathetic lamentation as a continuous phenomenon of the traditions of the ancient Tamil rule is ridiculous and absurd. Dr Sittampalam who argues that the Government had closed the doors of Parliament for the Tamil United Liberation Front by enacting the sixth amendment to the constitution in 1983, has conveniently omitted the bizarre story of how Amirthalingam accepting the provisions of the same amendment, entered Parliament through the back door in 1989.

Dr Sittampalam makes a fantastic archaeological excavation that the concepts of Tamil homeland, Tamil nation and the Tamil right to self-determination - submitted at the Thimpu Conference in 1985, had their conceptual origin in 1949 during the inaugural meeting of the 'Thamil Arasu Kadchi'. He further says that the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord of 1987 was the final theoretical product of these concepts. This is absurd. It is possible that the Head of the Department of History may not know what actually happened at Thimpu Conference nor may be aware of why and how the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord was signed. His primary concern was to link the royal traditions of the Nallur State with the 'Thamil Arasu Kadchi' and to further connect the political tradition of "Tamil Arasu Kadchi" with

Amirthalingam and thereby attempt to create an historically contiguous political tradition for 'Thamil Arasu Kadchi' which extends to a period of four decades. In this ingenious attempt of historical distortion, the politico-military struggle of the LTTE is suppressed.

I wish to point out one crucial matter with regard to the Thimpu Conference. Before the commencement of the Thimpu deliberations, the LTTE prepared a document entitled 'TAMIL EELAM FREEDOM CHARTER' to be submitted at the conference as the collective demand of the Tamil people. In this Freedom Charter the concepts of homeland, nationality and self-determination were given clear definition with an exposition of the crucial role these concepts play in the Tamil national question. This document was circulated to all the Tamil political groups including the TULF for their study and approval. A few Tamil groups endorsed the Charter whereas the TULF leaders vehemently opposed it. Because of this opposition and the Indian pressure generated from the background, the Freedom Charter of the LTTE was abandoned. However, on the insistence of the Tigers, All the Tamil organisations decided to accept the basic concepts of the Charter. This is how the concepts achieved historical significance and not the way Dr. Sittampalam fantasises that they were conceived in 1949 and gave birth in 1985.

Dr. Sittampalam does not view the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord in its depth as the manifestation of the hegemonistic power projection of India towards the Southern flank but rather considers it simplistically as a gift of goodwill by both Rajiv and J.R. to promote the interest and welfare of the Tamil people. He praises the Accord as an impregnable, stable, contract between two States and that which cannot be abrogated without the consent of the other and has the power of enforcement.

The Indo-Sri Lankan Accord had died long ago. It was the cause of its own death. Without being torn apart, it became defunctional and a dead letter. The editor may not be aware that Mr. Premadasa went to Delhi to participate in its last rites. When the reality is such, it is absurd on the part of the publishing editor to talk about its validity and virility.

Though the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord mentions the Northern and Eastern provinces as the historical habitation of the Tamil-speaking people, it gives implicit recognition to the unity and geographical oneness of the Island. Furthermore, it acknowledges the multi-ethnic pluralistic concept of the Sri Lankan society and thereby rejects the national cohesion and uniqueness of the Tamil

social formation. Though the Accord provides for a temporary merger of the North and East, it contains the provision allowing for a referendum in the East thereby facilitating a permanent bifurcation of the Tamil homeland.

Without recognising this serious defect Dr. Sittampalam acclaims the temporary merger as a form of recognition granted, to the Tamil homeland.

The LTTE has rejected the Provincial Council framework, since it failed to deal with basic issues of the Tamil national question. The devolvement of powers envisaged in the proposals were extremely limited and failed to satisfy the political aspirations of the Tamil people. The LTTE has published several statements pointing out the poverty of a political authority in the Provincial Council Scheme, as enunciated in the 13th Amendment to the Constitution. It has also pointed out the limitations of the legislative and executive powers of the Provincial Councils. The LTTE has also criticised the consolidation of absolute powers in the Centre, particularly in the office of the President and argued that this would not lead to genuine provincial autonomy. The LTTE was of opinion that it would be meaningless to accept a scheme without blood and flesh, after having struggled for decades and made tremendous sacrifices. The LTTE was not prepared to betray the national interests of the Tamils because of the Indian pressure. Furthermore, the Tigers were not convinced that Sinhala chauvinism would be fair and reasonable to the Tamils by granting them self-rule to their homeland.

Dr. Sittampalam argues that if the Accord had been implemented with the co-operation of the LTTE, at least experimentally for a short period, it might have been possible to establish that it failed to meet the legitimate aspirations of the Tamil people. But, he laments that it had lost that chance. If the Tigers had done that, as fantasied by Dr. Sittampalam, it would have ended like the tragic story of a proverbial man who attempted to cross a river on a clay horse. The Accord was put to a functional test for more than a year with the authority of a bilateral agreement, with the collusion of the Tamil groups and with the massive military backing of one hundred thousand Indian troops. Yet, it had failed to fulfil the aspirations of the Tamil people. This fact had been endorsed not only by Varatharaja Perumal but also by Rajiv Gandhi, the architect of the Agreement.

Dr. Sittampalam, while arguing that the Indian Government showed reluctance to exert

pressure on Sri Lanka to implement the Accord, states that 'contradictions it had with the Tigers and the continued military operations might have been the reasons for this approach of the Indian Government'. With cleverly chiselled out words, he is blaming the Tigers for India's indifference and for the failure of the Accord.

One can see the anguish of an Indian devotee, who still finds the Gandhian soul in the heart of India.

Conservative historians who are still buried in the sands of by-gone past will neither understand the diabolical nature of the power projections of modern India nor will they be able to grasp the intricacies of contemporary politics.

Disillusioned in his convictions that India would assist the national emancipation of the Eelam Tamils, Dr. Sittampalam blames the LTTE. But the Tigers were not responsible for the death of the Accord. It died from its own disease. The architects of the Accord became its undertakers.

The Indian critics have blamed the Government of India for the failure of the Indian intervention in Sri Lanka. They blamed India for her failure to grasp the national patriotism of the Liberation Tigers. They criticised the loopholes in the Accord, the imprudent approach of India and the treachery of Sinhala chauvinism as the causal factors for the collapse of the Accord. Dr. Sittampalam has not taken into consideration the critiques of the Indian intellectuals.

He is elated that the Accord provided a golden opportunity for a Tamil to become the Chief Minister.

Of course, a Tamil became the Chief Minister. Even though Perumal was starving for political authority to perpetuate his position, the poverty of power that prevailed in the Provincial Council, deprived him of his ambition. It is meaningless to blame the Tigers for such a situation.

Courtesy: Eelanatham

Uncle
Nadodi's
Column

Due to circumstances beyond his control, Uncle Nadodi regrets that he is unable to bring you his regular column.

Watch this space for his speedy return.

Post Bag

FOOLISH ANTI-EELAM VIEWS OF VISITING BRITISH MPs.

1. The two visiting British MPs to Sri Lanka recently stated that they were against Eelam and that Sri Lanka is too small to be partitioned. They were speaking just like Sinhala politicians.
2. They are so ignorant to realise that there are dozens of nations in the world today, that are smaller than Tamil Eelam. Even that British Protectorate of Belize is smaller and so is Monaco where they go for the "Grand Prix" motor racing.
3. The British Government has sent troops to Bosnia for "humanitarian reasons". But they turn a blind eye to a similar situation in Sri Lanka where minority Tamils are fighting desperately for freedom from the genocidal Sinhala

Racist Government, who have also been accused of Human Rights violations by the entire International Community. The British and the Sinhalese certainly make such strange bed fellows.

4. The Sri Lankan Government used the word "terrorism" to get what they want from the British. When I raised the question of British aid to Sri Lanka, the standard reply they give is that they cannot condone Tamil Tiger "terrorism". I did even send them a copy of the late President Premadasa's speech where he openly admits that it was the aggressive action of the previous Governments that forced the Tamils to take up arms and create the Liberation Tigers. All to no avail. Why? Just because they want to continue trading with Sri Lanka. The British are not concerned about the

Tamils that are being systematically killed off, because they are of no commercial use to them. They have even forgotten that their Ambassador was kicked out of Sri Lanka only about a year ago.

After all, they did sell arms to Iraq despite the embargo didn't they?

5. Had they not expelled Tamil freedom fighter Major "Kittu", he may not have met his cruel death in the Indian Ocean at the hands of the Indian Navy.

6. It would be proper and statesman-like for the sake of justice, if the British Government were to persuade the Sri Lankan Government to change their constitution which was originally drafted by Lord Soulbury when we received our independence. The constitution now has removed the Soulbury safeguards for the minorities and a "Sinhala Only" policy was forced upon the minorities in contravention of the Soulbury Constitution. Now it strictly allows only a Unitary form of Government making claims for

separation a criminal offence, which is a restriction on the freedom of speech and free expression. The Sinhalese have foolishly tied themselves up in a "Gordian knot" as they find it almost impossible to find a two-third majority to change the racist Jayewardene Constitution.

7. The Jaffna Peninsula has been blockaded by the Government Forces for over a year now, and there has been an embargo on food, fuel and medicines and other essentials. Even electricity and water supply had been cut off for a long time. Babies were dying by the hundreds due to malnutrition, and lack of medicines, despite the valiant efforts of the Red Cross and NGO's. If the British do not want to render meaningful help to the freedom fighters, the least they could do is to stop interfering with the Tamils in their struggle for the liberation of their homeland. They would not let the Sinhalese "blackmail" them!!

8. One wonders about the ulterior motives in sending British Troops to Bosnia.

Steven Ramalingam

SRI LANKAN ASYLUM SEEKERS IN BRITAIN

	1982	1982	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	TOTAL
APP	46	380	548	2306	1332	744	469	2005	3620	3750	2085	17315
CS	2	-	-	19	4	10	9	5	23	10	40	124
ELR	3	13	31	967	1913	963	304	975	562	705	4265	10701
REJ	43	31	100	19	6	62	50	35	8	20	435	809
PEN	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1411	NA	NA	4460	4460

APP-Application;
REJ-Rejection

CS-Convention Status;
PEN-Pending Cases

ELR-Exceptional Leave to Remain;
Courtesy Tamil Information

BOOK REVIEW - by Sachi Sri Kantha

A Dictionary of Twentieth Century History 1914-1990,
by Peter Teed, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1992, 520pp, 6.99(paperback).

How can one define 'Tamils'?

The book in review (with the prestigious label "Oxford Reference" tacked to it) gives the following not so adorable definition for Tamils; "a Hindu people originating in southern India who speak a Dravidian language. They are concentrated in the state of Tamil Nadu (Madras), but Tamil culture is found in other Indian states and in Sri Lanka, where the so-called Sri Lankan Tamils descended from labourers imported in the 19th century to work British tea plantations, as low caste foreigners; but with the development of tension and civil disorder the two Tamil groups have co-operated against the Sinhalese, demanding autonomy for the Tamil northern and eastern provinces of the island. The presence of Indian peace-keeping forces 1987-9 did not prevent continued acts of terrorism." Phew! I wonder who mixed up the facts confusing the 'Indian Tamils' and Sri Lankan Tamils'. If there are twisted errors and tacky opinionated statements ("The presence of Indian peace-keeping forces 1987-9 did not prevent continued acts of terrorism") in the entry with which we all are familiar, how can one vouch for the factual accuracy of entries which are not our speciality? That's the dilemma for me in reviewing this book, touted in the back cover as "an indispensable reference book for the student of history, politics, international relation, literature and sociology". The back cover blurb

further boasts that, "Spanning the years between the outbreak of the First World War and the Crisis in the Gulf, precipitated by the invasion of Kuwait, Peter Teed and his team of expert advisers have provided nearly two thousand alphabetically arranged entries covering the international figures, movements, and incidents which have influenced the course of history this century...."

Among the Tamils, only one name (that of Chakravarti Rajagopalachariar) has rated an entry in the book. Apart from the entry on Tamils, four other entries relating to Sri Lanka are present. These are, S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike, Sivimavo Bandaranaike, D.S.Senayake and JVP (Jatika Vimukti Peramuna). Though the author states in his preface that, "the inclusion of entries has been decided by judging the subjects to be significant within the framework of their particular nation, world region, or occasionally in the global context", I found the selections and omissions without much rationale.

While Molotov, Kosygin and Podgorny have been included, Andropov, Gromyko and Yeltsin did not merit inclusion. The Beatles had been placed but Chaplin had been omitted. Nobel peace laureates Desmond Tutu and Andrey Sakharov have been entered, but not Nobel peace laureates Mother Teresa and Linus Pauling. Nobel literature laureate Wole Soyinka had deserved an

entry, but not literature Nobelist Naguib Mahfouz. While Margaret Mead has been excluded, Eleanor Roosevelt had merited a listing. The book is also sprinkled with entries on second string British politicians (Charles Crosland, Richard Crossman, John Burns, Aneurin Bevan, Ernest Bevin, James Maxton etc.) who do not merit a foot-note in the history of the twentieth century. I could locate only the names of Albert Einstein and Bertrand Russell among the scientists, though the latter is a polymath in addition to being a mathematician of repute. Wright Brothers, Thomas Edison, Curies (Pierre, Marie, Irene and Joliot) and Alexander Fleming who had influenced tremendously the life style of the twentieth century have been excluded in the entries. Influential thinkers such as Joseph Needham and Jean Paul Sartre have not merited inclusion, but notorious personalities like Al Capone, Vidkun Quisling and Rasputin have been cited.

In conclusion, I should note that the book title would have been more accurate to the contents, if it had been changed to the "Dictionary of Twentieth Century Political History". There was a time when the word 'Oxford' was associated with 'class' (referring to acknowledged excellence). But the quality of this book makes one wonder whether that the word 'Oxford' needs to be synonymous with 'cheap' (referring to inferior and shoddy).

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இயல் இசை நாடாடம்

உங்களுடன்.....

தாயகத்தில் தாங்கொணாத் துயரங்களுக்கு மத்தியில் காடுகளின் உள்ளும், மரங்களின் கீழும், அகதி முகாம்களிலும், தெருவோரங்களிலும், உண்ண உணவின்றி, வைத்திய வசதியின்றி, போசாக்கின்றி அல்லற்பட்டு ஆற்றொணாத் துயரங்களுக்கு மத்தியில் அகதிகளாக அவதியுற்றுக் கொண்டிருக்கும் எமது உடன் பிறப்புக்கள் பிஞ்சுக்குழந்தைகள் தினம் தினம் மடியும் நிலை கண்டு, எம்மால் இயன்றவரை அவர் துயர் துடைக்க உதவிக் கரம் கொடுக்கும் உன்னத நோக்குடன் 'புனர்வாழ்வு வழங்கக் கரம் தரும் மாணவர்'(SSHR) ஆகிய நாம் இப்பணியினூடாக எமது பங்களிப்பைத் தொடர்கிறோம்.

உண்ண உணவின்றி, உடுக்க உடையின்றி, உறைய இடமின்றி, புண்பட்ட உடலைக் காக்க மருந்தின்றி, நோய் தீர்க்க வைத்திய வசதியின்றி வெந்து வதங்கி உயிர் காக்க வழியின்றி வாடும் எம்மவர்க்கு, நம் உயிரில் ஒரு துளிதந்து, அவர் உயிர்க்கொரு துளியெனத்தந்து உதவிடுவீர் என்ற உணர்வுடன் 'உயிர்த்துளி' என்ற இம் மலரினூடாக உங்கள் உளத்தினுள்ளே நுழைகின்றோம்.

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JAFFNA CENTRAL MAKES IT FOUR IN A ROW

Report by Dr K C Rajasingham

On a cool but dry bank holiday Monday May 31st Jaffna Central College made it four in a row when they beat Nalanda College Colombo in a nail-biting finish of the 51st annual Sri Lankan Cricket festival held at the Maori Club grounds, Worcester Park, Surrey to clinch an OBA festival challenge trophy for the fourth year in succession.

A record number of fourteen schools, comprised of St Anthons, Colombo Hindu, Trinity, Jaffna Hindu, St Thomas, Ananda, Zahira, Nalanda, St Johns Jaffna, Mahinda, St Peters, St Josephs and Royal, participated this year.

Former England Test star Denis Amiss who is presently an England Test selector was one of the

distinguished guests to attend the festival.

In this seven a side, six overs knock-out tournament, Jaffna Central beat St Anthons and took on Jaffna Hindu College in one of the semi finals. In the other semi final Royal College conceded defeat to Nalanda and the final encounter was Jaffna central College versus Nalanda College. Nalanda won the toss and put Central to bat who scored 76 runs for the loss of 4 wickets. Nalanda lost all their wickets for 66 runs and Jaffna Central emerged champions for the fourth year in a row.

Jaffna Central College team comprised of A Maheethan (captain), V P Prahalathan, B Muraleetharan, T G Singham, M Dharmaraj, K Kalavannan, S Wijeyanathan, T Raviraj and S Sivathas.

TAMIL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION UK

Tamil Lawyers practising in the United Kingdom have formed themselves into an Association at a meeting held recently at The Little Hall, Wimbledon. Tamil Lawyers from various parts of the UK attended this meeting at which the following were elected Office-Bearers for the current year 1993/94: PRESIDENT: C.Sithamparapillai, - VICE PRESIDENTS: Wimal Sockanathan,

A.Sriharan, SECRETARY: M.Neminathan, ASSISTANT SECRETARY: K.Mahesen, TREASURER: P.Rasanayagam, ASSISTANT TREASURER: K.Mahesen, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: R.D.Ratnasingham, K.P.S.Chetty, N.Siva Ganeshan, S.Paramalingam, T.Yogananthar, COMMITTEE OF APPEAL: S.Yogarajah, K.Markandoo, P.Arulampalam.

BOOK REVIEW by S.Arumugam

Title: AT THE CROSSROADS - A critique on the Hindu way of life.
 Author: K.Rajasingham, Colombo 1993, (Published for Private Circulation Only)

In ten chapters covering over 160 pages, the author, who retired as Deputy Commissioner after 25 years in the Inland Revenue Dept, makes a critical probe into the traditional beliefs and practices of the modern Hindu and his way of life.

The ethnic holocaust of July 1983 drove the Tamil youth to militarism and some of the elderly to rethinking of their long cherished Hindu beliefs and traditional practices. Human knowledge is constantly

undergoing change and so should accepted beliefs and practices. Detailed examinations are well described in excellent language and well chosen words which make pleasant reading. Driven to the crossroads by such mental turmoil, a rational conclusion is essentially the re-assessment of the traditional beliefs of Hindu philosophy, rites and rituals. The rational and thought-provoking critical approach is of exceeding interest and refreshing to read.

BHARATHA NATYA ARANGETRAM DOWNUNDER

Shangitha, seventeen year old daughter of Dr Raj and Shanthi Rajendran, presented on the 24th of April, one of the most spectacular arangetrams, Melbourne has seen.

In the tastefully decorated Nunawading Arts Centre, the audience was captivated with the performance for the full two and a half hours. Shangitha showed great skill and mastery of the ancient intricate dance form Bharatha Natyam.

Shangitha began her dance training from the tender age of

her mother nattuvangam.

The introductory piece was an invocation to Lord Ganesh. This was followed by a section from Sivapuranam and Pushpanjali. This was the foretaste to the nine other items which followed in quick succession. The Alaripu in ganda chappu was executed with meticulous precision. Almost instantly she got into the spirit of her Rangapravesam and gave a performance remarkable for its guts and confidence. Shangitha demonstrated her ability to take on the challenge of



Shanmuga Kavutham combination of Jathi and Shanmuga and also in the Swarajatti, in which to the repetitive notes in a given Thala, she wove a variety of dance patterns. The Varnam the most complex and demanding item, revealed her flawless footwork and her mastery of exquisite expressions. In the first Padam, Sri Chakra Raja, Shangitha skilfully depicted the goddess Devi as represented in many temples. In the second, she portrayed with finesse and feeling, the aspirations, frustration and excited anticipation of the

six, under the expert eye of her mother and guru Shanthi Rajendran, (who is the founder of the Nrithakeshetra School of Classic Dance in Colombo in 1974 and now in Melbourne since 1980) an internationally acclaimed teacher of Bharatha Natyam. The musicians accompanying her were; Dr Rama Rao and Sri Shanmugaragharan on vocals, Sri Ramanathaiyer veena, her uncle Mr R Suthanthiraraj flute, M Ravichandra mridangam and

adoring devotee. The Keerthanam and Ashtapadi came next and was followed by the final Brindavani Thillana in which Shangitha demonstrated a variety of cross rhythmic patterns. These and the Mangalam completed the scintillating evening of entertainment which showed the dedication of this young dancer.

Narmatu Ravichandra -
 Melbourne

"I do not want my house to be walled in on all sides and my windows to be stuffed. I want the cultures of all the lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible. But I refuse to be blown off my feet by any. I refuse to live in other people's houses as an interloper, a beggar or a slave. I refuse to put the necessary strain of learning English upon my sisters for the sake of false pride or questionable social vantage. I would have our young men and young women with literary tastes to learn as much of English and other world-language as they like and then expect them to give the benefits of their learning to India and to the world, like a Bose, a Ray or the Poet himself. But I would not have a single Indian to forget, neglect or be ashamed of his mother tongue, or to feel that he or she cannot think or express the best thoughts in his or her own vernacular. Mine is not a religion of the prison-house".

Mahatma Gandhi

PEOPLE and EVENTS

DEATHS

Mrs Bagavathy BALASINGHAM, beloved wife of late Thambimuthu Balasingham (Attorney-at-Law, Badulla, Sri Lanka), mother of B. Balaraman (Solicitor, United Kingdom), B. Aurobindo (Okalahoma, USA), mother-in-law of Mallika Devi, Myriam and Grandmother of Priyadharshini, Natasha expired under tragic circumstances on the 13th June 1993 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. 62 Eversleigh Road, East Ham, London E6 1HQ Tel: 081 470 2371

Daniel VELAUTHAPILLAI RAJASELVAKUMARAN



died of a heart attack on June 13 and was buried in the Warlingham Cemetery. He was the son of Mr & Mrs Daniel Velauthampillai, he was educated at the Methodist Tamil School and later at St Joseph's College, Trinco. He joined the Ceylon Govt Clerical Service in 1953 and 18 years later he was recruited to the Sri Lanka Foreign Service. From 1973 - 1977 he was posted to Brussels and taking early retirement, came over to London where he was with the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation until December 1992. He married Yoganayagi. They had two children, Hariharan, Executive Officer in the Lord Chancellor's Office and Sumathy. 14 Kendall Avenue South, Sanderstead, Croydon.

Chandra Yoganathan DURASINGHAM died in Colombo and was cremated at Kanatte on 6th May. The funeral service was conducted

by Rev Dr Kingsley T Muthiah. Chandra was a son of the late Vetharaniam Sangarapillai Duraisingham nee Chittambalam, and a brother of Mrs Padma Thiruchelvam and Dr J C Duraisingham, GP Middlesex. At the time of his death he was Director of American LLOYD, Colombo. A memorial service was held at the Kollupitiya Methodist Church on May 15.

Mrs Kanagambikai RAGUNATHAN, beloved wife of Mr P Ragunathan (Badulla, Sri Lanka), mother of Sri Ragunathan, mother-in-law of Sakunthala, grandmother of Visvakanthan, expired on 10th June 1993 in Toronto, Canada. 173 Mammoth Hall Trail, Scarborough, Ontario N1B 1P8, Canada

P. AMBIHAIPAKAN (Rtd C.C.Pwd)

Husband of late Tharvamani Ambihaipakan, Father of Ilankesan (UK), Yasotha (UK) Vasuki (Sri Lanka), Grand Father of Gowthami and Amalan. Cremated May 10th, Kodikamam, Sri Lanka. Ilankesan, 9 Carris Brook Court, Brounker Road, Acton W3 8AJ

Arunasalam THAMPAIAH, son of the late Mr & Mrs Sanmugam Arunasalam of Valantalai, Karainagar, father

of Maheswaran, Dr Vamadevan (UK), Panumathy Tharmalingam, Karunanithy (UK) and Sivathanan (UK). Cremation 14th May at Kanderodai, Chunnakam, Sri Lanka.

Father Singarayay dead

Catholic priest
Father A. Singarayay
has died in Jaffna after
a heart attack.

Fr Singarayay was arrested in 1982 for alleged retention of stolen money from the Neerveli bank robbery.

He was charged under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. In 1987 the Government decided not to proceed with the case after the signing of Indo-Lanka peace accord and Fr Singarayay was released.

Albert Gnaniah HOOLE (formerly of Govt Stores), husband of Raji nee Muttucumaru, brother of Dr Thevi Sittambalam of Wembley died May 25th in Maryland USA. 18007 Wagonwheel Court, Olney, Maryland 20832

William Thomas Canaga Retna, 21.12.22 - 21.05.93
Eldest Son of the late Mr & Mrs A D Cannaga Retna,

Husband of Yvonne nee Jayasundera, father of Tilak, Rajit, Sivanthini, Priyanthi, Amirthi. Former teacher Wesley Colley, St John's College, Nugegoda (Principal); Prince of Wales, Panadura, Royal College and Icknield Secondary School, Luton.

Burial 3rd June in the Ascension Parish Cemetery, All Souls Lane, Cambridge. 30 Broughton Avenue, Luton, Beds.

S K Pillai, husband of Thillagam nee Nallathamby (Alvay North) and father of Dori Balakrishnan (NZ) Malini (Bhavani) Vigneswaran & Dr Devanath died of a heart attack at his home in Taman Kanagapuram, Petaling Jaya, Selangor. Pillai's parents hailed from Karaveddi (Vadamaradchi), Sri Lanka

D C W DANIEL (former Water Works Engineer, Colombo Municipality), husband of Hannah, nee Ramalingam, father of Sounthari, Chandra (UK), Shanthi (Australia), brother-in-law of late Jacob Ramalingam (Chief Pastor, Ceylon Pentecostal Mission) and of Edwin Ramalingam. 21 Pathiba Road, Colombo 5.

Dr T Thiruchelvam (54) Came to the UK in 1977 and worked in the Ipswich Hospital. Later he practised there as a GP. He died of a heart attack on May 13 and was cremated on May 18. He leaves behind his wife Yoga and three children -

Kumi, Nikki and Suji.
90 Cliff Lane, Ipswich.
IN MEMORIAM



First year anniversary **N. Ambalavanar**. We cannot forget the happy days we spent in Fairline Road, Dehiwela and the tender care and love you showered on us. You have left us but you live in our hearts forever. The Thithi Rites were performed on 9th June at 103 Whitechurch Lane, Edgeware, HA8 6NZ Fondly remembered by Puvaneswari, his widow and his ten children.

MAHESWARY SABAPATHIPILLAI nee Mylvaganam relict of S. Sabapathipillai, President of the Britannia Hindu Temple Trust and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Archway Murugam Temple, died on Wednesday 19 May. She was the mother of Mr Sri Kantha (UK), Mr Sathananthan (Sri Lanka/India) Mrs Sarojini Ramanathan (USA) and grandmother of Janahan, Mohan, Chenthamarai and Sivasanker. Cremation took place on 27 May 1993.

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MANY HAPPY RETURNS

We offer our best wishes and sincere felicitations to **Professor Jeyaratnam Eliezer** on passing yet another milestone in his distinguished and exemplary life. He celebrated his 75th birthday with family and friends on Saturday 12th June at his residence in Melbourne. He was born in Navathuli, Jaffna where his father J R Eliezer was Apothecary, and educated at Puloly Wesleyan Mission School, Hartley College and Ceylon University College from where he won the Government Scholarship to Cambridge in 1938.

In his four years at Cambridge he was a Wrangler, Scholar of Christ's College, Isaac Newton Student and Smith Prizeman. He was appointed Lecturer in Mathematics at the University of Ceylon in 1943 and the following year he married Raneer Handy, eldest daughter of Rev & Mrs John Handy. The same year he won the US National Academy of Science Award in a competition on

"Nature of Light" and in 1945 he obtained his Ph D from Cambridge for a thesis on "Radiating Electrons" and his D Sc London in 1949. He has been Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, Professor of Mathematics and Dean of Science of three Universities - Ceylon, Malaya and La Trobe in Australia. For the past 10 years he has been President of the Australian Federation of Tamils spearheading the fight for justice and basic human rights for his fellow Tamils in Ceylon. In this work he has been ably assisted by his wife and his late-lamented son-in-law, Dr Bala Karalapillai. Readers of Tamil Nation wish Professor Eliezer many, many more years of health and strength to continue his noble and self-sacrificial endeavours to redress the wrongs heaped on the Ceylon Tamil people and to guide and support the thousands of Tamil immigrants to Australia since 1983 to lead meaningful and productive lives.

MARRIAGES

KARUNAKARAN - SHANTHINI

On Thursday June 10th **KARUNAKARAN**, son of Mr & Mrs Amirthalingam and **SHANTHINI**, daughter of Mr & Mrs Manickam at Sri Pararajasingam Pillayar Temple, Inuvil. "Priyam", Kandiah Upathiyayar Road, Kanderodai, Chunnakam, Sri Lanka.

KUPPUSAMY - RAJASOTHI

On Sunday 6 June, **KUPPUSAMY**, son of Mr & Mrs Singaravelloo and

RAJASOTHI, daughter of Mr & Mrs Raja Sapai at the Sri Mangalanayaki Amman Temple, Jalan Kulim Mertajam, Malaysia. V. Balakrishnan, 131 Finnis Street, London.

KARALASINGAM - SIVAGURUNATHAN

On Saturday 3 July Rupasenani, son of Mr & Mrs P Karalasingam and **LALITHANGI**, daughter of the late Dr Rasiah Sivagurunathan and Mrs I Sivagurunathan, at Cherry Brook Community Centre, "Green Park", Cherry Brook, Australia

KANESHAH-PERAMPALAM

On 5th June 1993, **NANTHEESAN**, son of Dr & Mrs Kanesiah and **CHANDRIKA**, daughter of Mr & Mrs Perampalam at Ealing Town Hall, Ealing Broadway, London W5.

HARAN - SIVAJINI

On 1st July, **HARAN**, son of Dr & Mrs Poopalarajah and **SIVAGINI**, daughter of Mr & Mrs Sivagnanasunderam at Hotel Picnic Plaza, 2 Ramakrishne Mutt Road, Mylapore, Madras - 4. 24 Orchard Way, Shirley, Croydon CR0 7NG, London, UK

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