Emergency Lifted

The state of emergency declared on 4-9-81 was lifted on 6-5-81. The curfew and press censorship also ceased to be operative.

Church Leaders visit Jaffna

It was significant that soon after the great massacre disaster that overtook Jaffna from the night of the 31st of May onwards, one of the Church leaders from Colombo to visit Jaffna to see the situation for themselves and how to establish fellowship understanding was the group of Church leaders from Colombo. His grace the Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Colombo, the Most Rev. Parkinson was accompanied by the Rt. Rev. Lakshman Wickrama-singha, the Bishop of Kurunegala, Rev. W. D. S. Ariyaratne, the Bishop of Kurunegala, Rev. S. P. Santha, the Chairman of the Methodist Church. These leaders who arrived in Jaffna on Wednesday the 3rd of June, looked around and saw the devastation for themselves. They also met leaders of the community, Church leaders in Jaffna and some of the leaders of the political parties. We trust this mission would have helped the people in the South to understand the events clearly. Another of the early visitors to Jaffna soon after the incidents was Mr. Priyantha, General Secretary of the Communist Party and former M. P. for Colombo Central.

The Jaffna incidents in a nutshell

On 31-5-81, there was a TULF election meeting near Nachamripa (near the suburb of Jaffna town). Two policemen on duty were shot at. Both succumbed to their injuries an utmost immediately and the other subsequently in hospital. This incident sparked off a flare in the Jaffna town area. Some 200 shops belonging to the Municipality were gutted. The house of the M. P. for Jaffna was also faced to the ground, the TULF main office destroyed and a wing of the Jaffna Public Library set ablaze. The Rall imread was also burnt down. The rioters were not contented to the Jaffna town area alone. The Chundanwadi Market five miles from Jaffna suffered extensive damage. The Chunnawadi branch of the Jaffna Cooperative and the Cool Cargo at the Jaffna and salt Tank junction were destroyed in fire. Shops in the Kinnalumaidi and Melilaya bazaar were also burnt.

Seven civilian lives are reported to have been lost during the week of terror.

TULF Parliamentary Group meets

A meeting of the TULF Parliamentary group met on 6-5-81. The group had formulated five demands which the local of the Opposition has submitted in Parliament:
1. Police personnel allegedly rape, possible for the incidents in the North should be transferred and 75 percent of the Police force in the Tamil speaking areas should be Tamil and Muslims.
2. All army personnel allegedly involved should be sent out and personnel necessary for security, confined to the barracks.
3. An impartial inquiry must be held by an international organization as Amnesty International or International Commission of Jurists.
4. A Home Guard should be set up under the aegis of the Development Councils to protect lives and property.
5. All mistreatments in the Jaffna incidents should be identified and punished and redress given to the victims.

Mr. Amerithambalam announced that the TULF would boycott Parliament until adequate steps were taken to meet its demands, participating only in debates of a Veem of Concern which the party hopes to move in collaboration with other Opposition Parties, to two Ministers of State for alleged interference in the Jaffna Development Council elections.

Evangelism at the K. K. S. Sanatorium

Mesrro, S. Padmanabha, Swamipriyanad, Wesley Gw. Satharasek, Rengan Arunaratne, and Prince Ratnaratn visited the wards, met the patients and members of the hospital staff and distributed tracts. This was followed by a Service in the Sanatorium conducted by Rev. Prince Ratnaratn, Worker K. K. S. Church, on Sunday the 1st of May at 10.30 a.m. In all, about 25 people attended the Service. Many present at the Service were non-Christians. We are made to understand that this will be one of the regular programmes of the K. K. S. Church and that Service in this Chapel will be held every Sunday at 10.30 a.m.

On the Second Sunday of each month, the Rev. D. J. I. Amin, Balaaswari, the Circuit Parson for Kattuhamanrath will conduct a Home Community Service at the Sanatorium Chapel at 6 p.m.

Tulip Parliamentary Group meets

Mr. S. Johanan, the Member of the staff of Jaffna College, Valvettithurai has secured the Master of Art Degree from Peradeniya University for his thesis on the participation made by the American Missionaries who served in Ceylon.

New Missionary at Jaffna College

Dr. Robert Porter has joined the tutorial staff of Jaffna College. His specialty is in English Literature. He also teaches German and French. A person of wide interests, he has already plunged himself into the life of the school which has been enriched by the long service of dedicated teachers from America more than a century.

Personal

Cyprus Schools Awards (Bk) has been successful in the final F. B. E. Examination of the Vellore Medical College.

He is the son of the late Mr. C. T. Ecbanayagam Mills and of Mrs. Hansamaha of Green Villa, Manipur.

Selejana won the Gold Medal for the best sportsman of the Year (1979) at the Medical College.

He is an Old Boy of St. John’s College, Jaffna.

In Brief

The Union Bank of Middle East—Bahrain branch with an unrecorded capital of 37 million US dollars opened for business in Colombo on 6-5-81. It hopes to specialise in the promotion of the imports and export trade between Sri Lanka and the Arab World. The General Manager of the Bank is Mr. H. C. Hing.

The Department of Mass Communication of the NCC will inaugurate the Kotte Radio (Air Council) on 17-6-81 in Colombo. The purpose of the Council is to encourage and propagate indigenous forms of art like dance, drama, music, poetry, puppetry etc. Mr. F. R. Prematungbam is Director/ Secretary of the Department.

Batticaloa University College, according to an order made under the Universities Act by the President, Mr. J. R. Jayewardene will be established on August first this year. This College, affiliated to the University of Peradeniya and Colombo will have a Faculty of Science, a Faculty of Agriculture, and a Department of Animal Sciences under the Faculty of Agriculture, Economics, Mathematics and Management will constitute part of the Faculty of Science.

In Memoriam

Cyprus T. Ethirajagam Mills

Called Home : 26-6-1978

In God’s own time your eyes shall see the fate we loved so well. Fidelity Remembered and sadly missed by all his loved ones.

“Green Villa” Manipur.

The following allowances have been recommended for Development Councils—Chairman Rs. 1500 per month, Rs. 750 per annum. Assistant Secretary allowances, an official vehicle and driver. Executive Committee Members—Rs. 520 per annum. Elected Councillors—Rs. 1000 per annum.
உதயாதரகை

UTTHAYATHARAKAI

Est. 1941.

12 - 6 - 1981

வாழ்வாள் கோட்டை என்பது?

"வாழ்வாள் கோட்டை என்பது?" என்ற கோட்டையின் முதல் புக்குற்று கீழ் படிகியை இந்தியாவின் தொல்போரிகளின் கோட்டையைப் பற்றிய செய்திகளை மீள்படுத்தும் பொருள் தோன்றும். கொட்டையின் மூலையில் இருந்து சுமார் 15 கிலோமீட்டர் தொலைவில் உள்ள வாழ்வாள் கோட்டையின் மேல் பகுதியில் உள்ள பல கோட்டைகளுடன் இணைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. இக்கோட்டையின் மூலையில் இருந்து பல்வேறு பகுதியில் சுமார் 15 கிலோமீட்டர் தொலைவில் உள்ள வாழ்வாள் கோட்டையின் மேல் பகுதியில் உள்ள பல கோட்டைகளுடன் இணைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன.

நோய் கோட்டைகள் என்பது?

"நோய் கோட்டை" என்ற கோட்டை என்பது? என்றுடன் பெரும் பொருள் தோன்றும். கொட்டையின் மூலையில் இருந்து சுமார் 15 கிலோமீட்டர் தொலைவில் உள்ள வாழ்வாள் கோட்டையின் மேல் பகுதியில் உள்ள பல கோட்டைகளுடன் இணைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. இக்கோட்டையின் மூலையில் இருந்து பல்வேறு பகுதியில் சுமார் 15 கிலோமீட்டர் தொலைவில் உள்ள வாழ்வாள் கோட்டையின் மேல் பகுதியில் உள்ள பல கோட்டைகளுடன் இணைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன.

வாழ்வாள் கோட்டை என்பது?

"வாழ்வாள் கோட்டை" என்ற கோட்டை என்பது? என்றுடன் பெரும் பொருள் தோன்றும். கொட்டையின் மூலையில் இருந்து சுமார் 15 கிலோமீட்டர் தொலைவில் உள்ள வாழ்வாள் கோட்டையின் மேல் பகுதியில் உள்ள பல கோட்டைகளுடன் இணைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. இக்கோட்டையின் மூலையில் இருந்து பல்வேறு பகுதியில் சுமார் 15 கிலோமீட்டர் தொலைவில் உள்ள வாழ்வாள் கோட்டையின் மேல் பகுதியில் உள்ள பல கோட்டைகளுடன் இணைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன.
EDITORIAL COMMENTS

On Cataclysmic Events in Jaffna

(May 31 — June 5)

"Dastardly acts"

The island-wide report is expected to have a mammoth audience in Colombo on 1-6-81 that the people who were responsible for the "dastardly acts" in the North have gone out of their senses. It is now a matter of common knowledge that the members of the TULF should dissociate themselves from these acts.

Since making this speech, the President sent his own team to Jaffna comprising the Secretary and Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Defence and the head of the Cabinet, to report to him about the actual situation in the North.

We also know that among the first to arrive after the cataclysms in Jaffna was President Jayewardene himself. He went from there to Colombo followed by the leader of the Communist Party.

Reports from these sources, far removed from sab other in their ideological affiliations would have, we are sure, given the President a clearer and nearer picture than the one he was left with when he made the speech on 1-6-81.

Now it is no secret who the alleged "perpetrators" were, and who should dissociate themselves from these "dastardly acts". An Ominous Momentum

The skyful of planes and helicopters which touched down at Palai, all of the day's day before yesterday, after the bucking of the election and the aerial bombardment of motor vehicles that was found in and around Old Park were, to the average citizen in Jaffna, a disturbing spectacle which amounts to a foreboding of tribal happenings, before the actual eruption on 31-5-81.

It is a sombre reflection that the DC polls in Jaffna intended to inaugurate participatory democracy is this country, should be adjourned to the end of the Tamil speaking minorities should have been underway in the North to the point of a hostile confrontation between the UNP and the TULF - the former using its political might to challenge the latter in its own turf.

The Polling Day

Even as the people in Jaffna queued from early morning in front of their booths waiting long hours for ballot boxes which had not arrived, there was a tension never witnessed in the history of the North.

All shops were closed because of the looting and destruction on the previous night. News had already gone round that the leader of the opposition and a few TULF MPs have been arrested in the early hours of the morning on election day (1-5-81). The news was at first thought to be work of rumour mongers. But it was found later to be painfully and surprisingly correct.

In the meanwhile, helpless traders, their faces etched in pain, were scurrying to ferrets and tractor-trailer, perched precariously atop their piles of goods and movables for safer havens from marauders who identify even then was not a blank.

On the day that the Development Council Election in North (a festive day event in our political amino) had been held under happier auspices. At any rate there need be no regrets. "An easy conquest" it is said, "is no victory."

New Depths of Despair

The burning of a wing of the Public Library (the Reference Section) and the ignominy inflicted on a Member of Parliament and his wife are paragones of savagery almost without parallel in any civilized country.

"A good book", we have studied in our school days, "is the precious food of master spirits ennobled and treasured up to a life beyond life."

The burning of books is an act which cries to the conscience of the world. No one can now pass by, the Jaffna Public Library without a loot in his stomach.

It is also irrational that while the government has of late appointed a Select Committee to protect Members of Parliament against malicious reporting in the Press, with a view to giving recognition to their stature in national life, a Member of Parliament in the North has been treated to the utmost ignominy that could be imagined to a man in his position.

In every area of human existence the wheels turn and what today is a fact of a Northern M.P. may well be the fate of an M.P. of any other part of the country. Every effort is taken to flush out, of secret smocks, the savages that perpetuated such crimes in the North.

New Shadows

New shadows have certainly fallen across the country with "the leadership in Jaffna". For the first time in the history of Parliament, the TULF, as the second, largest political party in Parliament has submitted an abstention to the government giving five conditions upon which they would attend Parliamentary sessions.

The States in the Indian and Malaysian federations can, in addition, be compared with two cows which are constantly for the District Development Councils of Sri Lanka. Like in Malaysia, both in the TULF, despite the sweeping powers enjoyed by the Federal Governments there, it is, what political scientists have called, "bargaining factions" which are playing the politics of the world of realpolitik in which people have to call to bargain and reason with each other to gain a little ground in the negotiation of governing. In the world of real politics it is the Federal Government and in the state Governments do not function in water-tight compartments, each enacting their respective powers, as prescribed in their constitutions. No federal system, no even the federal systems of the western world, could function if this were to happen. The fact of the matter is that the federal governments enjoy a plenitude of financial powers. They are therefore at all times under scrutiny as to how the state governments are to carry out their policies. When it comes to federalism in Malaysia it is therefore there a great deal of give and take between federal and state governments and their state governments and the federal governments in the United States itself.

Nor is the situation in the Federation of Malaysia much different. National economic development to a great extent is assigned to the Federal Government of Malaysia. The scheme for the distribution of aid which was found by the Asian Development Bank and the Executive Committee, the cabinet in the districts. Unlike in the case of the Indian or Malaysian federations, the Executive Committee cannot be dismissed at will by the central government. As has been stated, if an Executive Committee is dissolved by the President of the Federation, the entire system is void. In this case the President of the District Development Council must (to be continued).

The government up its part while making certain harrowing admissions about those who were responsible for "the incidents" in Jaffna has been vocal in its condemnation of the Tamil crisis of the TULF and its supporters and of the death of 19 policemen over the years 1977-1981.

What the future has in store for the Tamil speaking people is yet to be seen.

But one thing is certain to any observer of the political scene in Sri Lanka today. Where fear becomes the dominant motive of both government and people, the most important services in a country, are the police and the secret services.

The Final Goal

Amid the tumultuous scenes of last week in Jaffna, we were happy to receive Dr. A.J. Wilson's article on "Development Councils" a promise he made in an earlier article a year ago, May 1980.

The article, has been well timed and we quote this significant extract wherein the writer puts his finger on the central issue which colours the matter. "The scheme grants many of the essentials of the Tamil demand for autonomy. There is ample scope for its improvement in detail. The main set up can be entrenched in the Constitution. All that is really needed is that if the system is to work on both sides, is prepared to co-operate in the working of the system. (Italics are ours)"

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