



தெற்காசிய மனித உரிமைகள்
NORTH EAST SECRETARIAT ON HUMAN RIGHTS
NESOHR

தெற்காசிய மனித உரிமைகள்
நெடுவூரி
புதுச்சேரி
நெடுவூரி, ய 021 2285986

KARADIPPOKU JUNCTION
KILINCHCHI
e-mail : nesohr2006@yahoo.com
www.nesohr.org

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**Forced Evacuation of Tamils from Vaharai- A part of Sri Lankan
long term politico military agenda.**

North east secretariat on Human Rights (NESoHR) strongly condemns the Sri Lankan government for its continuous mass murders of Vaharai people to fulfill its long aspired its politico military agenda of Sinhalization of Tamil Home land. There is no point in clarifying with the SLMM whether the Cease Fire Agreement (CFA) is still in vogue or not. Instead, we urge the international community, Human Rights activists and humanitarian agencies to exert their full strength and force to halt the human tragedy in Vaharai and the forced evacuation of Tamils from their home land. Justification of Sri Lankan government's deliberate military attacks on innocent Tamil civilians at Vaharai by stating that Sri Lankan military is targeting them only in retaliation, cannot be justified by any norms of humanitarianism. Based on its track record it is no surprise that the Sri Lankan government inaugurated its 2006 Human Rights day celebration while at the same time butchering Tamil innocent civilians including women, children, infants. Aerial bombardments by Israeli Kfir war planes and systematic shelling on refugee camps, Schools, Temples, Churches, Public places and densely populated areas in Vaharai by the Sri Lankan state after having closed all the exit points and blockading all food, medicinal and other essential things to Vaharai for more than three months cannot be glossed over as an act of retaliation of Sri Lankan Army but should be concluded as a part of the continuing Sri Lankan state agenda of genocide of the Tamil people.

The chasing of Tamils out of their home land especially in the east, is not a new adventure for Sinhalese governments. The advent of evacuating Tamils forcibly out of their eastern part of the Tamil home land had been ventured by the late D.S.Senanayaha, the first prime minister of the then Ceylon for the sole purpose of sinhalization of Tamil homeland by Sinhala thugs and condemned criminals thereby changing the demography. The 1958 ethnic cleansing of Tamils was meticulously organized by the state and its military machinery not only in the south of Sri Lanka, but also in the eastern part of the Tamil home land. The protection of the Tamil home land envisaged by the Banda-Chelva Agreement (B-C Pact) in 1956 was counteracted by the very infamous 1958 ethnic cleansing organized by the Sri Lanka state. In the name of fast development with the heavy flow of funds from the international community in the form of grants and loans, Sinhala governments opened up several irrigation projects in many parts of the Tamil homeland with the purpose of sinhalization. Amparai Gal-oaya, Maduru oya, Padaviya, Kanthalai, Seru Nuwara are some of the major sinhalization projects. State sponsored thugs with military protection and criminals with the help of militarized Sinhala civilians terrorized

unprotected Tamils in their own homeland. Tamils were chopped, shot, burnt alive, raped looted, and chased out of their homeland. These acts of Human Rights violation have been successfully committed by the Sri Lankan state brazenly in the open, unseen and unheard by the outer world and thus with impunity. The governments carried on this agenda without any consideration for the Human dignity of the Tamil people. No International community, no Human Rights and humanitarian activists, no religions leaders condemned these acts of gross Human Rights violations and stopped this cruelty. Instead, their silence and big financial assistance encouraged, Sinhala governments to continue the ethnic cleansing in the eastern part of the Tamil homeland.

NESOHR would like to draw immediate attention of the Human Rights activists to the unfolding tragedy of bombarding, starving to death and thereby forcing the Tamils to flee from their traditional habitats. A mass ethnic cleansing was experimented in Jaffna in 1996. This was the same pattern put into play earlier by the Sri Lankan regimes in chasing away the indigenous Tamil population from Mullaitivu and Kilinochchi districts. Kokilai, Nayaru fishing coast a part of Mullaitivu district is still not accessible to the Tamils who were forcefully chased out of these areas, where Sinhala fishermen were brought for settlement. Manalaru a Tamil habitat in Mullaitivu district was literally renamed to its Sinhala version "Weli-oya" and attached in paper to the district of Anuradapura in the North Central Province, geographically by-passing the Tamil districts of Vavuniya and Trincomalee. The chauvinistic Sinhala governments and the innocent Sinhala electorate that was politically manipulated also to become chauvinistic, 'religiously' believe the legendary "Mahavansa" tales of Sinhala superiority, still perceive that this island, previously called Ceylon, only belongs to Sri Lanka Buddhists and act accordingly. They Sinhala ruling elite will never be satisfied till they achieve this, for this requirement to cover up their misgovernance rid with corruption, malpractices and nepotism. That is why they try to solve the Tamils issue by silencing them by fire power, by evacuating them out of their homeland, by blockading food, medicines etc and destroying their properties and culture, by letting them to starve and die, by denying their livelihood and creating a desperate situation around them.

All what the Sinhalese government want is that the Tamils should not claim their homeland and their Tamil national identity or be assimilated into Sinhala nationality in full surrender at their feet, losing their national cultural and religious identity. NESOHR strongly advises ICRC, SLMM, UN and other organization to weigh the past Human Rights records of and the present Genocide of Tamils of Sri Lanka government. Your intervention in the Sri Lankan Sinhala politics in the name of human rights and humanitarian activities would lead to complete annihilation of the Tamil community in their homeland as it happened to several nations of people else where.

NESOHR expresses its shock that, instead of giving protection to the Tamil people in their own land at Vaharai, the International community and humanitarian agencies are caught up in the dirty politics of Sri Lankan state. Directly or indirectly this attitude forcing the Vaharai people to evacuate their homes leaving their properties and land behind in the hands of the brutal Sri Lanka military and thereby locking them inside

the roofless prison of Army controlled areas of Batticaloa and Trincomalle region as they did to the Jaffna Tamils in 1996.

The promises of the international communities and agencies are not only illusory but also a dangerous trap for the Tamil people. The Tamil returnees to Jaffna in 1996 were promised paradise but alas they were trapped and still continue within the confines of the roofless prison as human shield for an occupying Army. The international community and humanitarian agencies satisfy themselves by making passing references and remain contented that they have done the maximum to liberate the Tamils from the grip of Sri Lanka military. The suffering Tamils of Jaffna are very much frustrated and disappointed that the international community and agencies have not exercised their power and have failed to put a rogue state into the dock.

It is very interesting that the international agencies and communities who are unable to protect the Tamil community in Jaffna and assure their free movement, peace and decent life, appeal to the Vaharai refugees to come to the Sri Lankan military controlled areas promising protection. It is unfortunate that these humanitarian agencies who are still unable to visit these desperate people, who are unable to find a safety zone for these people in their own area, who are unable to pressurize the failed state of Sri Lanka, who are unable to condemn a notorious state military for its gross human rights violations, who do not seem to have the capacity to advise the Sri Lankan government to provide maximum devolution of power to the Tamil people, who cannot provide guarantee of life to the Tamil people are now speaking about the free movement and protection to the people of Vakarai.

NESoHR considers it obligatory to spell out to the international community the impending danger in continuing to assist the government of Sri Lanka and its expedient Tamil-hate partners to achieve their long aspired goal of making Sri Lanka a pan Sinhala-Budhdhist state, a cherished goal of the Sinhala elite for the last two thousand years. It is no over stating to the international community that legend and ground realities are quite different and do not fit well in the modern context.

Rev.Fr.M.X.Karunaratnam
Chairperson,
NESoHR