

The York Federation of Students condemns brutal attacks against students from the University of Jaffna

For Immediate Release

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The York Federation of Students (YFS) strongly condemns the brutal attacks committed by the Sri Lankan military forces towards Tamil students at the University of Jaffna. On November 27, 2012, Tamil students at the University of Jaffna participated in a peaceful protest, to commemorate the Tamil Remembrance Day also known as Maveerar Naal. These students, who marched peacefully to shed light on the oppression committed towards the Tamil people by the Sri Lankan government, were brutally attacked. The Sri Lankan military officials that attacked the students injured ten and detained four students.

The York Federation of Students, stands united with the Tamil students who chose to commemorate such a significant event. The York Federation of Students stands in solidarity with the Tamil students who were urging international non-governmental organizations to recognize the punitive action taken against their peaceful assembly.

"These occurrences are not new to Tamil students at this university, and continue to serve as a reminder of the constant state of oppression in which the Tamil people in Sri Lanka live. Until the right to self-determination, homeland and nation are recognized, Tamil students and people will constantly be under attack." said Jessica Thyriar Vice President Campus Life.

The York Federation of Students believes that all students have the right to freedom of expression and to peaceful assembly. This attack represents an affront to the rights of Tamil students in Sri Lanka who are seeking justice and freedom for their community.

The York Federation of Students represents 54 000 undergraduates students at York University. For more information contact Jessica Thyriar at vpcampuslife@yfs.ca.