

T A F N Z TAMIL ACTION FRONT, NEW ZEALAND



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12 November 2013

Hon: Mr. David Cameron, MP

Hon: Prime Minister,

UK.

Hon: Sir,

CHOGM - SRI LANKA - 15-17, NOVEMBER 2013

It is indeed distressing to note that in spite of ALL possible appeals humans could make to you, you are determined to partake in the CHOGM scheduled to take place in the land soaked with Tamil blood and abdicate the Chair for the next two years, in favour of a war criminal who, is carrying through, a militarized intensified horrific agenda of genocide undeterred by the various instruments of the UN and the International Law.

You say you are taking a strong diplomatic message to a man who refuses to see or hear anything reasonable or humane. You being edged to deal directly, and that too in a periodical session of the Commonwealth, also hints at the dismal failure of your country's normal diplomatic channels. He has shown his obstinate rejection of your efforts thus far. You have yourself made your words ineffective by supplying millions worth of arms to post war Sri Lanka. What for? He is planning another blood bath.

The present Army Commander in the North of Sri Lanka Maj. Gen. Mahinda Hathurusinghe is allegedly behind most, if not all, violent incidents in the north. He seems to think that he can arrogate all the powers to himself. He is monitoring the elected representatives of Parliament and even casting aspersions. Having arrogated by mere military might over 6000 acres of peoples lands and having established a Tourist Hotel, factories and vegetable farms etc. and having bulldozed all houses, schools and temples of all religions and having built Budddhist Viharas in that area, ignoring a Supreme Court order that the displaced people must be resettled there, he

Co-Chairs: New Zealand -Tamil Society and New Zealand Tamil Forum.

has the audacity to accuse the TNA Leader R. Sampanthan of trying to discredit the Army. It is Hathurusinghe who is disgracing the Army that once had the good name of being non-politicised and independent.

The Police are mere onlookers fully co-operating with the Military. The newly appointed Superintendent of Police of Kankesanturai is jabbering about identity of Sinhala and Tamil culture.

Bomb explosions in a few places in Jaffna, the brutal attack on civilians in Manipay by the Police, the well orchestrated attack on soldiers on duty by two youths on motorcycle, continuing abduction and rape and killing of young women, all within the past month are only indicative of an impending severe military onslaught on the civilians in the North after CHOGM. Coming events cast their shadows.

We saw how, with the assistance of a Senior Police Officer in the North, the then Government of 1977 orchestrated nationwide race riots. Even the Sansoni Commission appointed to inquire into the causes of the riots was so culled out and directed that it blamed the Tamils. Commissions are not judicial bodies in the strict sense.

The suspect in the 2011 Christmas Murder in Tangalle of a Red Cross worker Khuram Shaik of Manchester is a close associate of the ruling Rajapakse family. In spite of all pressures the State protected suspect moved about freely. The efforts of the MP of the area from where Khuram Shaik hails made a personal visit and even his efforts were fruitless. However, as the CHOGM summit date neared and International pressures to boycott the summit began mounting, the State protected suspect has been indicted in the Colombo High Court with the said murder. However, there is no move in the gang rape and grievous hurt of Khuram Shaikh's girl friend Victoria Tkacheva who was admitted unconscious in the ICU of the Colombo National Hospital.

It is reported that His Royal Highness Prince Philip and you are scheduled to raise this issue directly with President Mahinda Rajapakse. We commend you for taking the responsibility yourself. The life of Khuram Shaik is precious and the dignity of Vitoria Tkacheva is equally precious. Please let the world know the outcome of your dialogue with President Mahinda Rajapakse on this issue.

Incidentally, we draw your attention to the latest Channel 4 exposure of the tragedies in the "No Fire Zone." You and your Staff could not have missed this document that has rocked the world. At least four incidents – the unbearable arrest, subsequent rape and killing of that innocent girl Shobah alias Isaipiriya, the killing of that unsuspecting child Balachandran, the killing

of Ramesh and the killing of a youth tied to a tree being cut and shot. They were in the custody of the Sri Lankan Army of which the overall Commander is President Mahinda Rajapakse. Please see what the Army Commander told his men in Kurunegala according a Daily Mirror report. He had told them that when they were hesitant to go ahead with military offensive in view of the large number of civilians trapped in the area, the order came from above.

"The current head of the Sri Lankan army, Jagath Jayasuriya, has said that President Mahinda Rajapakse personally instructed armed forces to press ahead with military operations despite coming under massive international pressure during the final phases of the war in 2009.

"President Mahinda Rajapaksa was determined and did not give in to pressures of the international community to suddenly stop the military operations when the Wanni humanitarian operations were entering a decisive phases around April 2009," Army Chief Jagath Jayasuriya told troops in the town of Kurunegala, according to the Daily Mirror newspaper."

Do you deny that President Mahinda Rajapakse is a *de facto* war criminal? They are also humans and their lives too are precious enough. What justice have you for them.

Your kind attention is drawn to two more important cases of the past, now conveniently forgotten. The exposures and trial in the school girl Krishanthy Kumarasamy rape and murder case, a test case in the Chemmani Mass Grave, ended in conviction. The then Government of President Chandrika Kumaratunge denied the existence of the Mass. One of the convicts, Premaratne Rajapakse spilled the truth and asserted that he was only carrying out the orders of the superiors. He was one of those who buried dead bodies brought daily by superior officers—Lieutenants, Captains Majors and above. Suddenly the Chemmani Road was closed and there was intense night activity in the Cemetery - cleaning operations. However Premarate Rajapakse asserted that there were buried bodies. He was taken under escort with the Judge and Police Officers. He identified some areas on the sides of the main ground and some bodies were exhumed and the remains were sent for DNA test by Court. The DNA tests identified the victims The case did not proceed further. It has been suppressed.

The inquiry into the blood curdling abductions in white vans and the killing of Tamil youths led to the STF (Special Task Force) – a militarized wing of the Police Force as the culprit. The dead bodies floated in the Diyawanna Oya, adjacent to the current Parliament complex. Here too, the sprats were charged leaving the sharks

out. After some preliminaries, the suspects were bailed out and the case ended there and has not been pursued.

There are two important post war murders in Jaffna which needs mention. One is the kidnapping of Kapilnath, a 17 year old student of a leading School in Chavakachcheri and son of a well to do businessman in Jaffna for ransom. As the ransom was not paid, he was killed and the body was recovered and the suspect was identified (*TamilNet 29 March 2010*). He was a member of the Jaffna Municipal Council and a member of the armed paramilitary group in Jaffna. This Paramilitary group's leader is a Minister in the Cabinet of President Rajapakse. There is an open arrest warrant issued by the High Court of Chennai against this Minister on charges murder, ransom etc. The Chavakachcheir Magistrate did his judicial duty and remanded the suspect. There were death threats to the Magistrate and Rajapakse administration transferred the Magistrate out of Chavakachcheri.

The other case is still more interesting. Dr. Priyantha Seneviratne who is alleged to have raped and killed nurse Tharsika Saravanai of Velanai Hospital was safely transferred out of Jaffna to the South. Some body parts and stomach contents of the deceased were sent to Government Analyst for report. Nothing further seems to have taken place since the suspect is a Sinhalese (*TamilNet 12.7.2010*).

Abduction. rape and killing of young women is a recurrent feature in post war North. The bruised disfigured body of a woman supported by a Convent in Jaffna was recovered from the Car of Nachchimar Kovil, about 4 km from Jaffna city. Medical report says she was raped and klilled (Sunday Leader 3 November 2013).

Maithili Amirthalingam of Puththoor was kidnapped in a van raped and killed and dumped in a well (*TamilNet 8 November 2013*). Another young woman was abducted in a van on 11 November 2013 in Punnalaikadduwan (*Tamilwin 12 November 2013*). Further details are unavailable.

The Justice and Peace Commission of Jaffna has documented and reported to Vatican the forced sterilization of women in Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu Districts. This constitutes genocide.

The non violent Satyagraha Campaign to win back the rights of the Tamils was suppressed with military might on 17 April1961. Ever since, State racism coupled with State terrorism started to increase. Our respected leader late S J V Chelvanayakam made an appeal to the 20th Commonwealth Summit held in 1974 to help restore the lost rights of the Tamils. Among the 10 items listed except the right of Tamil leaders to leave the country and the KKS BY Election, the others remain and have worsened since then.

It was in this background that the Vaddkkoddai resolution was passed. The perusal of the preambles will enlighten you on why separation as the only solution was adopted. In his last speech in Parliament on 19 November 1976 our leader left a message to the Sinhalese and the International Community.

It is that we were driven to this conclusion due to the continued cheating by the Sinhala leadership.

The founder of the Ceylon National Congress and First President of the Congress that fought for independence Sir P. Arunachalam also formed the Tamil League to establish a separate State when the Sinhalese started dilly dallying on Tamil rights.

This year marks the 95th year since Sinhala leadership started to abrogate unilaterally all Pacts with Tamils on the rights of Tamils. The first Pact dated 7 December 1918 on the need for a seat for the Tamils in the legislature was unilaterally abrogated in 2 years.

The Vaddukkoddai resolution was mandated by the Tamils in the 1977 General Election. The Sinhala leader J R Jayawardena also campaigned for a mandate to address the grievances of the Tamils underlined in the Vaddukkoddai resolution and got 5/6th majority. He declared war on the Tamils and gave expression to his vision through the 1983 race riots.

Mahinda Rajapakse has swept under the carpet these vital developments and is painting a picture that Pirapakaran demanded separate State from an established Sinhala Buddhist State. He is accusing the Tamil diaspora of echoing Pirapakaran's demand. On 10 April 2002 at the world Press meet in Kilinochchi when this question was put to him by an Indian journalist he said that it was not his demand and that it was a demand of the Tamil leadership mandated by the Tamils in the 1977 Elections. He said he was only following the Tamil peoples mandate. This video clipping is still available.

Dear Hon. Prime Minister, even Colebrooke who was sent to devise a unified administration of the territories that belonged to the Kandyan, Kotte and Jaffna Kingdoms, made a meticulous recommendation that no legislation should advantage any one community or disadvantage another community. He was emphatic that the individuality and identity of the ethnic and cultural groups should be preserved without hindrance This was upheld in all changes to the administrative setup as Royal Instructions and ended up as article 29 in the Soulbury Constitution. It was removed in the illegal 1972 Constitution.

When in 1883 a sub Committee of Legislative Council unanimously adopted a resolution moved by E J Young (Planters Representative) to make Ceylon a 3 unit Federation (Kandyan, Tamil and Low Country) the then lazy sluggish Governor James Longden, for laziness to do some extra work, rejected the idea. J F Dixon, a Government Agent supported E J Young and gave boundaries, population figures and a map

Leonard Woolf, a one time Government Agent of Ceylon addressing the Ceylon students in London in 1938 advised them to give up their communalism and adopt a federal constitution. Sinhala racism is in-built in the Sinhala psyche and it will never change.

If not for lazy Longden the country would have been in peace. 130 years on your crowning of a war criminal as Commonwealth head will only help epitomize Tamil genocide. What a crime!! Please do not damage the Tamil cause.

Yours Sincerely,

A.Theva Rajan, QSM Spokesperson for TAFNZ