

# Sri Lanka: Several International Dignitaries Join Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE)

*TGTE's Senate - The Upper House of Parliament - have members from Africa, Europe, Asia and Americas*

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The Prime Minister of Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam Mr. Visuvanathan Rudrakumaran, today announced the names of fifteen Senators for the TGTE's second Parliamentary Session. The Senate serves as the Upper House of TGTE's Parliament.

Several international dignitaries include: a former US Attorney General, Senior Civil Rights and Human Rights Lawyers from France and Canada, a former Member of European Parliament and a representative from South Sudan People's Liberation Movement.

Also included are a Sinhalese Physician, Professors, Journalists, Political Leaders,

Academics and others from Malaysia, India and several other African, European, Asian and countries in the Americas.

Here is the full list of TGTE's Senate:

1. Mr. Ramsey Clark: Former US Attorney General: USA
2. Mr. Robert Evans: Former Member of European Parliament: UK
3. Mr. Daniel Mayan: Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM): South Sudan.
4. Dr. Brian Seneviratne: A Sinhalese Physician from Australia.
5. Mr. Roy Chetty: South Africa.
6. Mr. Gilles Piquois: Attorney - at - Law: France.
7. Mr. David Matas: Human Rights Attorney: Canada.
8. Mr. M. Manoharan: Attorney - at - Law and Political leader: Malaysia.
9. Mr. Satya Sivaraman: Journalist: India.
10. Mrs. Usha Sriskandarajah: Writer: Canada.
11. Mr Sathesh Muniyandy: Secretary World Tamil Congress - Malaysia.
12. Dr. Nagalingam Jeyalingam: Founder Illankai Tamil Sangam and former president World Tamil



Coordinating Committee: USA.

13. Prof. Mrs. Saraswathi Rajendran: India.

14. Dr. Thani Cheran: First President of World Tamil Organization & former President of the Federation of the Tamil Sangams of North America (FeTNA): USA.

15. Mr. Rajaratnam Subramaniam: Educator - Canada.

#### ABOUT TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL EELAM (TGTE):

Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE) is a democratically elected Government of Tamils (from the island of Sri Lanka) living in several countries.

It held internationally supervised elections among Tamils around the world to elect over 132 Members of Parliament and is leading a campaign to realize Tamils' political aspirations through peaceful, diplomatic and democratic means.

TGTE has a bicameral legislature and a Cabinet and held one of its Parliamentary sittings in the British Parliament.

The Constitution of the TGTE mandates that it should realize its political objective only through peaceful means.

The Prime Minister of TGTE is Mr. Visuvanathan Rudrakumaran, a New York based lawyer.

#### BACKGROUND:

Tamils have faced repeated mass killings since 1958 and the killings in 2009 prompted UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon to appoint a Panel of Experts to report on the scale of killings.

According to the report by this UN Panel, tens of thousands of Tamil civilians were killed (UN Internal Review Report on Sri Lanka: over 70,000 Tamils were killed in five months in 2009).

These people were killed due to deliberate and intense shelling and bombing of areas designated by the government as "no-fire zones", where Tamil civilians had assembled for safety. The Sri Lankan Government also restricted food and medicine for Tamils, resulting in large numbers of people dying from starvation and many of the injured bleeding to death.

According to the UN Panel, the killings and other abuses that took place amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity. Independent experts believe that there are elements of these abuses that constitute an act of genocide.

According to a May 2012 report by the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office on Human Rights and Democracy; there are up to 90,000 Tamil war widows in the North & East of Sri Lanka. A book "Unfinished War: Torture and Sexual Violence in Sri Lanka: 2009 - 2014" highlight the continuing sexual abuses by the Sri Lankan Security forces.

UN Human Rights Council in March 2014 established an international war crimes investigation for these killings.

Members of the Sri Lankan security forces are almost exclusively from the Sinhalese community and the victims are all from the Tamil community.

Tamils overwhelmingly voted in a Parliamentary election in 1977 to establish an independent and sovereign country Tamil Eelam. This Parliamentary election was conducted by the Sri Lankan Government.

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