

TGTE Solemnly Marks the International Day of the Disappeared by Remembering the Many Tamils who Have Dissappeared

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Today, the Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE) solemnly recalls the tens of thousands of Tamil citizens who after seven years remain missing and unaccounted for. We share their families' feelings of frustration and injustice at the Government Sri Lanka's continued refusal to provide concrete information about the many who disappeared after being detained by Government Forces.



Families of disappeared

Last September, the UN High

Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr. Zeid Ra'ad al Hussein issued a report on the crimes committed in Sri Lanka. In this OISL report he said: "The phenomenon of enforced disappearance has affected tens of thousands of Sri Lankans for decades during all stages of the armed conflict...with devastating effects on their families, as well as on the wider communities."

The devastating effect of these disappearances has not dissipated over the last seven years. The families of the missing continue to suffer by not knowing what happened to their loved ones. The families continue to be frustrated by the Government's continued failure to provide concrete information about the missing. The families of the missing deserve more than Prime Minister Wickremesinghe's off-the-cuff statement earlier this year that the missing, are most probably dead.

The TGTE shares the grief of these families and commits itself to work tirelessly to help the families of the missing obtain more information about their loved ones and to secure justice for the crimes committed against them.

ABOUT TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL EELAM (TGTE):

Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE) is a democratically elected Government of a million strong Tamils (from the island of Sri Lanka) living in several countries around the world. TGTE was formed after the mass killing of Tamils by the Sri Lankan Government in 2009.

TGTE twice held internationally supervised elections among Tamils around the world to elect 132 Members of Parliament. It has a bicameral legislature and a Cabinet. It held one of its Parliamentary sittings in the British Parliament.

TGTE is leading a campaign to realize Tamils' political aspirations through peaceful, democratic and diplomatic means. 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.

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TGTE Welcomes Ban Ki Moon's visit to Sri Lanka. Cautious Him about False promises and hoodwinking by the Government

BACKGROUND:

Tamils in the island of Sri Lanka faced repeated mass killings in 1958, 1965, 1977, 1981 and 1983 and the mass killings in 2009 prompted UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon to appoint a Panel of Experts to report on the scale of the killings.

According to UN internal review report on Sri Lanka, over 70,000 Tamils were killed in five months in early 2009 and Tamil women were raped by the Sri Lankan Security forces. There are over 90,000 Tamil war widows and thousands of Tamils disappeared due the conflict.

According to this UN report, 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.

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

A Buddhist Monk shot and killed a Sri Lankan Prime Minister 1959 for having talks with Tamil political leaders.

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

Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam

TGTE

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