

Let's Realize Martyrs' Dream – Only Resolution Based Self Determination Resolve Tamil Question: TGTE

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Today is Martyrs' Day, our Maveerar Naal, the Great Heroes' Day!

A day for us to install and worship in the temple of our hearts the memory of our martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the liberation of the Tamil Eelam nation.

Our heroes fought for the emancipation of our people. They swam the river of fire, blew off the mighty storms, and even entered airtight places to destroy the enemy.



Whenever they fell to the ground they thought of themselves as seeds of the liberation of our land. It was the thought of the last breath of our martyrs that the nation of Tamil Eelam would fight to the last for its freedom.

Our martyr-heroes were not those who took up arms to reclaim old pride saying what was wrong in the past rulers coming back to rule again. Nor were they politicians who waxed eloquent thriving on heroic orations.

They took up arms only in order to protect the nation of Tamils from deliberate genocide perpetrated by Sinhala-Buddhist supremacism, and secure our dignified existence and safety.

They plunged into the fire of struggle by virtue of their resolute conviction to create a nation beyond any national or social oppression whatsoever, where the highest degree of social justice would prevail.

Our martyr-heroes took up arms not out of love for weapons. It was the enemy's armed violence that determined their path of struggle.

They had to take up arms only as a logical response the suppression by arms of the peaceful struggle and resistance of the Tamil people. Had the leaders of the Sinhala nation faithfully adhered to the tenets of the Buddhist religion, our heroes would not have been forced to take up arms.

It was the struggle of our great heroes that drew international attention to the Tamil Eelam liberation struggle. Our martyr-heroes are omnipresent in the hearts of the Tamil people. Their memories are sure to last forever among the Tamil people. And these memories sustain our thirst for freedom. Dear people!

We now stand at a very important stage of history. It is for the Tamil people to choose between carrying on the struggle for freedom upholding the dream of our martyr-heroes, or accepting Sinhala hegemony to suffer a life of slavery.

It is a time when illusory fawns are roaming around us in the name of good governance and in the guise of a political solution acceptable to the Tamil people, when the Tamil people have to be highly vigilant lest they may be taken in by outward pomp and shine.

It is for the Tamil people to stop our leaders from continuing to lead these fawns of illusion among them. These leaders are doing so out of inability or ignorance or a self-assumption of realism or consideration of their own interests. We have but to stop them in their tracks in the name of our martyr-heroes.

The present rulers style themselves as givers of good governance. The change of government could have rudely shaken the earlier dynastic rule and thereby done some good to the Sinhala people.

As for the Tamil people, how can they feel this government to be good governance? It is a government full of those who committed genocide against the Tamil people and those guilty of the crime of genocide.

- 1) It is a government which refuses to withdraw the Sinhala army occupying the Tamil homeland.
- 2) A government which is mercilessly refusing to release the Prisoners of War arrested on political grounds.
- 3) A government which is dragging its feet on the complete release of the lands of Tamils in army occupation.
- 4) A government which shoots to kill university students on the street.
- 5) A government which leaves the ethnic-hate-mongering Buddhist bikus free without any legal action.

How can we regard such a government as good governance?

Only due the cruelty of the earlier Rajapakshe regime the Tamil people supported the change of guard. Yet it is a fact that the Tamil people are not ready to recognize the new regime as good governance.

Not just the present rulers, but no Srilankan regime hardened by the vice grip of Sinhala-Buddhist supremacism would ever be in a position to provide good governance to the Tamil people.

As far as the Tamil people are concerned, only that government can be good governance, which recognizes the Tamil community as a nation, accepts the North and East of the Lankan island as Tamil homeland, and, on the basis of the right to self-determination of the people of Tamil Eelam, comes forward to find a solution to the Tamil national question by holding a referendum among the Tamil people in the homeland and in the diaspora, allowing for a choice inclusive of the option of a separate Tamil state.

No Sri Lankan ruler is open to such sort of advanced thinking. It is learnt that the present rulers by negotiation with the leadership of the Tamil National Alliance are engaged in a venture to "solve" the national question through a constitution which would make unitary rule appear as federation.

As per this scheme, the North and East are not going to be merged. Some of the powers concentrated in the Center are only going to be spoon-fed to the provinces. The new scheme is going to be one which falls far short of even touching the political aspirations of the Tamil people.

The election promise of the Tamil National Alliance to the Tamil people is for a federal solution based on North-East merger by recognizing the right of the Tamil people to national self-determination. On what sort of an authorization can the leaders of the Tamil National Alliance negotiate with the government leaders for a kind of solution in conflict with this election promise?

There are also some in our midst who tell us that the government of Sri Lanka would never agree to such fundamental standpoints of the Tamil people as homeland, nationalism, and self-determination. This being the reality, they propose that the Tamil people settle for whatever is available and strengthen themselves.

We have no conflict with the idea of the Tamil people strengthening themselves in the homeland. At the same time, it is our standpoint that the Tamil people can never accept the half-baked scheme proposed by the GOSL as a solution to their national question.

Sinhala racism is not going to give up on its plan of Tamil genocide until the GOSL accedes to the fundamentals of nationalism, homeland and self-determination. Therefore we would like to reassert that whatever the political solution may be, it should contain ways and means for the Tamil people to take their own political decisions with dignity, equality and security and without being subjected to genocide.

The North-East region is also homeland for Muslims who live there. The Tamil and Muslim political leaders should negotiate an agreement between themselves on the political arrangements for the Muslim people.

Due to its strategic location, the island of Lanka is of interest to the international powers. The Tamil people in the Lankan island are of strategic importance. However, the Tamil people have yet to succeed in utilizing this strategic importance to serve their own interests. We have deeply to reflect on why this failure. Maybe because we lack the diplomatic tradition due to the fact of our having long been a stateless people. The Eelam Tamil nation needs further to pay attention to this.

On this occasion of observing our Martyrs' Day we would like to pay our profound respects and homage to Comrade Fidel Castro, the leader of the Cuban revolution and former President of Cuba, who has just breathed his last. Castro has been an ideal hero for the oppressed people of the world. Fidel Castro and Che Guvera have played a cardinal role in sowing the seeds of confidence in revolution in the minds of revolutionaries.

It may not be out of place here sadly to point out that, in later days, the thinking of the Government of Cuba deviated from supporting the oppressed people and once it based its standpoint on state relations, it joined hands with the oppressors and acted in opposition to the people fighting for liberation. The Eritrean and Tamil Eelam liberation struggles may be cited as examples.

Dear people!

Our martyr-heroes have sown the seeds of a noble ideal all over our nation. They have sacrificed their lives with a passion for a life of freedom in keeping with the values of the world.

They have led a life of dedication beyond the imagination of ordinary humans. They have left behind a proclamation of their conviction of rights with not an iota of fear of death.

They have given new meaning to valor and made the world turn to them. They have sculpted the history of the Eelam Tamil people through a three-decade-long life of struggle.

The Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam upholds the dream of the martyr-heroes in adopting the ideal of Tamil Eelam as its political objective. On this holy day when we cherish the memory of martyr-heroes it must be our moral determination to work for the realization of their dream. Let us once again rededicate ourselves on this day to work with courage and conviction for realizing the dream of our martyr-heroes.
Tamil Eelam... the thirst of Tamils!

Thanks,

V. Rudrakumaran
Prime Minister, Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE)

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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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 to 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 in 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

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