

## Former Deputy Prime Minister of Kosovo Haki Abazi to Deliver Keynote Address at TGTE Parliament

\*\* Arminian Assembly Co-Chairman Van Krikorian will also address the Parliament \*\* \*\* Watch Live: www.tgte.tv - https://www.facebook.com/tgteofficial

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Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE) Parliament's two day Sitting will begin on December 5th (Saturday) at 9:00 am New York Time. (UK: 2:00 pm; Sri Lanka: 7:30 pm; Malaysia: 10:00 pm; Australia: 1:00 am).

This Joint Sitting will be chaired by Parliament Speaker Dr. Sarveswarydevi Thevarajah and Senator Satya Sivaraman.

\*\* Former Deputy Prime Minister of Kosovo Haki Abazi will Deliver Keynote Address to the Parliament.

\*\* Arminian Assembly Co-Chairman Van Krikorian will also address the Parliament

\* The Theme for the sitting is: Geopolitics in the Indian Ocean - What are the Stakes for Tamils?

TGTE Members of Parliament from around the world along with TGTE Members of the Senate, its Advisory Committee, Ethics Commission, and Election Commission, will be joining virtually due to Coronavirus.

Progress reports form the TGTE Cabinet of Ministers, as well as TGTE's annual budget will also be tabled at the Parliament.

A number of Resolutions are expected to be debated and adopted at this Sitting, including on Nagorno – Karabakh and Taiwan. TGTE Parliament is expected to debate several issues of importance to Eelam Tamils including the current status of the Tamil National Struggle.

WATCH LIVE:

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

The Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE) is a democratically elected Government of over 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 thrice held internationally supervised elections among Tamils around the world to elect 135 Members of Parliament. It has two chambers of Parliament: The House of Representatives and the Senate and also a Cabinet.

TGTE is leading a campaign to realize the political aspirations of Tamils through peaceful, democratic, and diplomatic means and its Constitution mandates that it should realize its political objectives only through peaceful means. It's based on the principles of nationhood, homeland and self-determination.

TGTE seeks that the international community hold the perpetrators of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide against the Tamil people to account. TGTE calls for a referendum to decide the political future of Tamils.

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, 1977, 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 thousand Tamils were killed in six

months in early 2009 and Tamil women were sexually assaulted and raped by the Sri Lankan Security forces. A report by the International Truth and Justice Project (ITJP) published details of Sri Lankan Military run "Rape Camps", where Tamil women are being held as sex slaves. 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 Tamils.

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.

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