

# Former President of Bougainville to Address Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE) Parliament

*Parliament Sitting on 4th Saturday & 5th Sunday: Watch Live: [www.tgte.tv](http://www.tgte.tv) -- US/Canada: 9:00 am -- UK: 2:00 pm -- Eelam / India: 7:30 pm -- Malaysia: 10:00 pm.*

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The Fifth Sitting of the Third TGTE Parliament will take place on December 4th (Saturday) and 5th (Sunday). TGTE Members of Parliament from around the world along with TGTE Members of the Senate, its Advisory Committee, Ethics Commission, and Election Commission, will join via Zoom.



\* The Theme of this Parliament Sitting is: "Nation Under Threat And State In The Making."

TGTE TV will broadcast Live: [www.tgte.tv](http://www.tgte.tv) -- US/Canada: 9:00 am -- UK: 2:00 pm -- Eelam / India: 7:30 pm -- Malaysia: 10:00 pm.

\* Keynote address will be delivered by Hon. James Tanis, Former President of Autonomous Region of Bougainville (ABG): National Conflict and Referendum. He was the Head of the ABG's Department of Peace Agreement Implementation responsible for the ABG's preparation for the referendum. Currently as part of the ABG's team preparing for the next week third round post-referendum consultation. Advisor to the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) founder and leader Francis Ona.

Other Speakers:

- 1) Heather McPherson, MP, Canada: Canada's Role in Securing Justice for Tamils.
- 2) Aris Babikian, MPP, Ontario: Ways and Means of getting recognition for Tamil Genocide.
- 3) Steven Schneebaum: Legal Battle Against Ban on LTTE in US.
- 4) Prof. Matt Qvortrup: How to Create a State.
- 5) Anuradha Mittal: Land Grab.

TGTE Parliament is expected to debate several issues of importance to Eelam Tamils. Tamil National Struggle in today's context and its priorities for the years ahead will also be discussed. A number of Resolutions are expected to be adopted at this Sitting. Reports from the Cabinet of Ministers as well as TGTE's Budget will also be tabled at the Parliament Sitting.

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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.

International Truth and Justice Project (ITJP) in February 2017 handed over details to UN of Sri Lankan Military run "Rape Camps", where Tamil women are being held as "sex slaves". Also, According to UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office report on April 2013, there are over 90 thousand Tamil war widows in Sri Lanka.

Thousands of Tamils disappeared, including babies and children. UN Working Group on Enforced Disappearances stated in 2020 that the second highest number of enforced disappearance cases in the world is from Sri Lanka.

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.

Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam

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