

A diagram consisting of a grid of 60 small squares arranged in 4 rows and 15 columns.

தமிழகத்தின் மீது தாக்குதல் நடத்தியது. *TAMIL NATION*
LOST A WARRIOR

NEW YORK, USA, March 5, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ --

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We have gathered here today to celebrate the life of our beloved and respected Mr. Anton Sinnarasa.

Mr. Sinnarasa's lifetime of contributions to the protection and promotion of human rights is invaluable and to humanity at large is immeasurable.

Today we also recognize and pay homage to Mr. Sinnarasa's abundant and selfless contributions to the Tamil national struggle, which were multidimensional: theological, spiritual, political, intellectual as well as material.

From his early days as a young man and a young priest, Mr. Sinnarasa dedicated himself to the realization of the Tamils' inherent right to self-determination. His arrest by the Sri Lankan State in 1983, in fact, was a catalyst in galvanizing the People in support of the struggle. I first began work with Mr. Sinnarasa in 1995 during Suresh Manickavasagam's notorious 40.1 removal proceedings. The proceedings were a result of the Sri Lankan State accusing Mr. Manickavasagam of engaging in terrorism by providing support to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. Mr. Manickavasagam's response to the charge was that the Eelam Tamils have a right to self-determination and that the LTTE's armed campaign was for the realization of that right; Therefore the armed campaign falls within the purview of the 1977 Additional Protocol I of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the LTTE cannot be charged for "terrorism". Mr. Sinnarasa played a pivotal role in collecting and organizing materials pertinent to the Tamils right to self-determination for those proceedings. He also participated in strategy sessions with attorney Barbara Jackman, the lead attorney for Suresh.

Mr. Sinnarasa also participated in many human rights conferences. His actions and presentations at these conferences illuminated his passion and commitment for human rights. After the Mullivaikkal Genocide, Mr. Sinnarasa dedicated himself to collecting evidence for accountability. Notably, he did not wait for the UN to collect evidence. He took that task as his. He also was one of the pioneers of TGTE's Victims-Driven International Justice Initiative.

In 1981 when the Sri Lankan state burned the Jaffna public library, risking his life to collect evidence in order to show to the international community the cultural genocide committed by the Sri Lankan state. His principled courage is in his DNA. An important attribute of him was his willingness to share the evidence collected by him and his expertise to any individual or to any entity irrespective of their political affiliation.

He was above partisan exercise. The collective emotions and grief pouring out on social media over his passing demonstrates his unifying credentials. The proper respect for him is that we all act in unison and continue our struggle for justice and for an independent state of Tamil Eelam. Above all, Mr. Sinnarasa was simply a good human being. His compassion, warmth, and respect for fellow human beings were his hallmarks.

The TGTE salutes Mr. Anton Sinnarasa and holds the hands of his family and friends in solidarity.

Tamils' Destiny is in Tamils' Hands. The Thirst of Tamils is Tamil Eelam.

Thank you,

Visuvanathan Rudrakumaran
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