



Akkinip Parabaikal

**MAY ISSUE
2021**

Puradsi Media.
Phoenix - the Next
Generation



Puradsi Media - 5-year review on the Battles for the Tamil Narrative (Puradsi Media)

Five years have passed since Puradsi Media - the media outlet of Phoenix TNG, was launched officially. In these five years, Puradsi Media grew from a small guerilla-style acting group to an institution, which not only defends the Tamil narrative, but also creates its own.

Proceed to page 03 for more.

The CNN Effect: Visuality and self-victimisation (Senchudar Gemini)

What will ensue when self-victimisation and inferiority is instigated and widely fuelled by a resisting community in the visual representations of its otherwise unwavering and resolute struggle?

Proceed to page 29 for more.



“இலட்சியத்தால் ஒன்றுபட்டு எழுச்சி
கொண்ட மக்களை எந்த ஒரு சக்தியாலும்
ஒடுக்கிவிட முடியாது.”

National Leader of Tamil Eelam,
V. Prabhakaran

Puradsi Media - 5-year review on the Battles for the Tamil Narrative

PURADSI MEDIA

“Know your enemy and know yourself and you can fight hundred battles without disaster.” - Sun Tzu - The Art of War

Like Phoenix TNG, Puradsi Media was founded by Tamils, who were politicised during 2009 and witnessed the disastrous Tamil politics which ensued afterwards. To the founders of Puradsi Media, it was especially the absence of real Tamil knowledge, which led to the disastrous Tamil politics, thus causing us to isolate ourselves from the established Tamil organisations and institutions. However, this isolation was the beginning of a new chapter in the Tamil struggle.

Unification with Phoenix TNG

Before being launched officially, the Puradsi Media team created guerilla-style information videos to spread knowledge into the Tamil community. The videos focussed on subjects such as geopolitics in the context of Tamil Eelam, Tamil sovereignty and Tamil genocide. Simultaneously, contacts with Phoenix TNG were established. After several discussions, Puradsi Media became an integral part of Phoenix TNG and thus became the organisation's official media division. It is with the integration of Phoenix TNG that the spreading of knowledge has become more efficient.

The importance of narratives

“Narratives inform us about our world. They also tell us what people go through and make us come to realize what the world is really about.” - Unknown

The unification with Phoenix TNG brought other positive effects to the struggle, besides the efficient spread of knowledge. Now, Puradsi Media is able to conduct other initiatives besides the creation and spread of informative videos. In that time, Puradsi Media began to focus on various narratives which were circulating within the Tamil context. We were able to recognise that the narratives were used to shift not only the focus of the Tamil struggle, but even the Tamils' stance itself.

When we saw the necessity to intervene, we did it and achieved results. For that, we should examine one example, where narratives were used to shift the Tamil stance and Puradsi Media intervened as the mouthpiece of Phoenix TNG.

04.09.2017 - GFBV

On 04.09.2017, Puradsi Media published an investigative article, where we exposed the problematic stance of GFBV (Gesellschaft für bedrohte Völker) in the Tamil struggle. 2017 was the time where the first Tamil protests for land release (for example; the Keppapulavu protest) emerged from within our occupied homeland. The Keppapulavu protest spearheaded other protests at that time and also reactivated the Tamil diaspora again.

The Keppapulavu protest was significantly important, as the broader Tamil community did not realise at that time, that Tamil genocide was still ongoing. This protest was the first publicly visible aspect of the ongoing structural genocide. GFBV tried to hijack the Tamil community which had risen with revolutionary fervour at that time to alter the stance of the Tamils. It united the protesters from the Keppapulavu with the Sinhalese who were protesting against land grabs. The problem was that the unification of the problems of the two communities on the basis of land appropriation, nullified the genocidal component in the Tamil context.

The fact that the nullification of the genocidal component was not a coincidence became apparent when observing the GFBV's narrative regarding the issue of enforced disappearances. Their narrative is also trying to unify the Tamil enforced disappearances with the Sinhalese enforced disappearances - again nullifying the genocidal component on the Tamils' side.

That article was effectively spread by Phoenix TNG to all involved Tamil organisations, which led to a break in their cooperation with GFBV. Besides exposing the truth, Puradsi Media also settled an old score with GFBV. GFBV launched an initiative called "Fit for Action" in 2013, where they tried to establish new Tamil comfortable activists as a part of the Eelam War V - the so-called "peace builders". One member of Puradsi Media participated in this engagement and gained insights into how such mechanisms function.

Creating narratives

After intervening and dismantling problematic narratives, Puradsi Media realised that no real long term effects can be achieved for the struggle through only countering narratives. It was at this juncture that a realisation that it is through creating our own narratives that a change to the status quo for our struggle could be made.

While initiated as a social media campaign through GoTE (Glimpses of Tamil Eelam) - an Instagram account, it soon adapted to censorship and expanded reach through public events. These events became a platform where we explained the concept of Eelam War V through releasing books such as "Structures of Tamil Eelam: A Handbook" and "Rise of the Tigers." With these publications, topics such as the de-facto state of Tamil

Eelam were introduced into the Tamil community. The strategy for winning Eelam War V was also adjacently introduced into The Tamil community.

Later, the Akkinip Paravaikal Newsletter was launched and has functioned for 22 months to date. With this newsletter, the reach of our narratives has beamed to another level. This platform has facilitated the struggle to intertwine all of Phoenix TNG's various components through multimedial capacities.

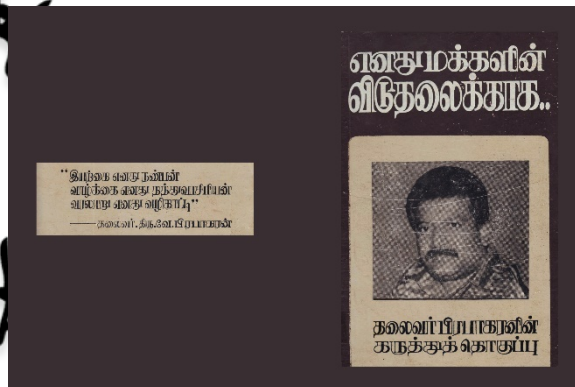
Towards Liberation and Tamil Eelam

After 5 years, Puradsi Media has emerged as an institution, which not only protects, but also creates their own narratives related to the struggle. However, with each step forward, new and more complex challenges emerge. Nonetheless, the capacities of Puradsi Media and Phoenix TNG are steadily rising. In the quest for Tamil Eelam, as the mouthpiece of Phoenix TNG - an organisation which emerged as a necessity for the continuation of the struggle, Puradsi Media will continue to play a crucial role in the Tamil struggle and is prepared to execute its duty without being phased about winning or losing.

PM-Timeline

- ▶ 01.05.2016 - Puradsi Media was officially Launched
- ▶ 29.02.2016 - Puradsi Media's Facebook page was created
- ▶ 14.01.2017 - Puradsi Media's First Article was published
- ▶ End of 2017 - Glimpses of Tamil Eelam (GoTE) was launched as a social media initiative
- ▶ 21.04.2018 - GoTE Facebook page removed
- ▶ 09.08.2018 - GoTE Instagram page removed
- ▶ 04.11.2018 - Eelam War V & Political Spaces Presentation
- ▶ 19.05.2019 - "Structures of Tamil Eelam: A Handbook" (SoTE) Official Launch
- ▶ 09.06.2019 - SoTE Sydney, Australia Launch
- ▶ 17.08.2019 - SoTE Melbourne, Australia Launch
- ▶ 04.08.2019 - "For the Liberation of My People" book re-release

- ▶ 02.09.2019 - Launch of Akkinip Paravaikal (AP) monthly newsletter
- ▶ 21.11.2019 - SoTE London, UK Launch
- ▶ 13.12.2019 - Ground Zero: Artist Talk with Christopher Kulendran Thomas - Schinkel Pavilion
- ▶ 31.08.2020 - Enforced Disappearances statement
- ▶ 22.11.2020 - "Rise of the Tigers" RoT Exhibition series launch
- ▶ 27.11.2020 - RoT official launch



International News

02.05.2021: **Afghanistan** - According to Newswire.lk, Sri Lanka's (SL's) Foreign Ministry had issued a statement on 01.05.2021 condemning the terror attacks which had occurred on 30.04.2021 in the Pul-Alam city of Afghanistan. It is noteworthy that the Government of Sri

Lanka (GoSL) had also expressed their support towards the Afghani government in the statement.

08.05.2021: **Middle East** - SL's Foreign Ministry issued a statement to congratulate the Kingdom of Saudi

Arabia's Saudi Green and Middle East Green Initiatives which targets on addressing environmental challenges through preservation of marine and coastal environments, reports Colombo Page.

09.05.2021: **China** - Remnants of China's largest rocket, "Long March 5B" were reported to have fallen into the Indian Ocean on 09.05.2021. Further reports from Newswire.lk indicate that the space debris had fallen near the Maldives archipelago. It is notable that debris from the same rocket had fallen on the Ivory Coast in 2020, causing damages to buildings. It is noteworthy that NASA had also condemned China's failure to manage their space debris efficiently.

11.05.2021: **Switzerland** - The UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED) released a report calling on Switzerland to initiate impartial investigation into the adoptions from SL. Reports from Colombo Page indicate that the investigation would be a means to determine if the children adopted by Swiss nationals may have been victims of enforced disappearances.

13.05.2021: **US** - The US intends to support SL's Attorney General's Department to track cases and legal files via electronic system reports to strengthen justice mechanisms, reports Colombo Gazette. Accordingly, an inauguration of the responsible training centre was launched virtually by the US Embassy's Deputy Chief of Mission Martin Kelly.

14.05.2021: **Buddhist extremism** - A 2020 Report on International Religious Freedom released by the US State

Department cited the Bodu Bala Sena (BBS) as responsible for the promotion of Sinhala supremacy and Buddhicisation on the island, reports Colombo Gazette. Further, the report highlighted that the group had enticed pro - Sinhala-Buddhist views and has effectively fuelled tensions and oppression.

20.05.2021: **Conference** - G. Rajapaksa participated in the 26th International Conference on the "Future of Asia" which was held virtually between 20.05.2021 - 21.05.2021. According to Newswire.lk, when questioned on how he balances his relationship between India and China, G. Rajapaksa had cited that:

"While we are aware of world power rivalries and regional power dynamics, our foreign policy is neutral."

20.05.2021: **Amnesty** - In their published statement, Amnesty International outlined that the GoSL's internal mechanism to "ensure justice for victims of war" had failed, reports Virakesari.

21.05.2021: **Britain** - A motion has been proposed in British parliament calling for the ban of genocidaire, Shavendra Silva and a British affirmation of commitment to SL accountability, reports Virakesari. Reports indicate that the motion was proposed by Scottish National Party MP, McLaughlin Anne and signed by 15 parliamentarians from various parties.

24.05.2021: **China** - According to Virakesari, Chinese Foreign Minister, Wong Hee's visit to SL which was scheduled to occur in June, 2021 had been cancelled due to the current COVID-19 situation. Further reports

indicate that the status of G. Rajapaksa's visit to China as a special guest for the Communist Party of China's 100th Anniversary celebrations also remains

questionable due to COVID-19. It is notable that 2 of G. Rajapaksa's earlier trips to China had also been cancelled.

Bilateral Discussions

03.05.2021: **Russia** - SL's Opposition SJB Leader, Sajith Premadasa met with Russia's Ambassador in SL, Yury B. Materiy to request for aid that includes PCR testing machines and Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds to combat the spread of COVID-19, reports Colombo Gazette.

05.05.2021: **UK** - Virtual meetings were held between 27.05.2021 - 29.05.2021 between the British High Commission in Colombo and the GoSL on the topic of "Nitrogen for Climate and Green Recovery". The Colombo Page reported that this initiative aims to expand the engagement of both bodies to address nitrogen management to curtail climate change.

05.05.2021: **Nepal** - SL's construction sector companies and small hydropower developers are seeking construction partnerships with Nepal. Investment and joint-venture opportunities have been discussed at an online forum organised by SL's Export Development Board (EDB) and the SL Embassy in Nepal. Both parties seek to strengthen partnerships in this matter, Economy Next reports.

10.05.2021: **Canada** - SL's Foreign Minister, Dinesh Gunawardena met with Canada's High Commissioner, David McKinnon at SL's Foreign Ministry where

concerns were expressed regarding the passing of Bill 104 on the "Tamil Genocide Education Week" on 06.05.2021 by Ontario's Legislative Assembly. Reports indicate that SL had cited that the finding of "genocide" had not been explicitly expressed by the Government of Canada and has sought immediate intervention before Royal Assent, reports Colombo Gazette. Further, it was reported that SL's Foreign Secretary Admiral Prof. Jayanath Colombage had noted that the Bill could potentially setback reconciliation processes and peace-building initiatives.

10.05.2021: **Korea** - SL entered into a USD 500 million worth agreement with Korea's Eximbank to finance projects between 2020 - 2022. According to Economy Next, SL will receive the money at low interest rates.

14.05.2021: **EU** - Opposition leader, Sajith Premadasa met with EU representatives at his office on 14.05.2021, reports Virakesari. Further reports indicate that the EU representatives had assured Premadasa that they would provide SL loans with low tax concessions through the European Investment Bank (EIB).

17.05.2021: **Bangladesh** - Bangladeshi High Commissioner to SL, Tariq Ariful Islam

called on SL Speaker, Mahinda Yapa Aberdeena to discuss issues of bilateral importance, reports Virakesari.

Issues:

- ◆ COVID-19 situation
- ◆ SL's handloom industry
- ◆ SL-Bangladesh cooperation
- ◆ Microfinance

19.05.2021: **EU** - Ambassadors of the EU in Colombo met with Dinesh Gunawardena at SL's Foreign Ministry where topics of mutual interest were discussed. According to Colombo Gazette, the GSP Plus process was also discussed following an earlier meeting which was held on 25.01.2021.

26.05.2021: **Pakistan** - The High Commissioner of Pakistan, Major General

Muhammad Saad Khattak had met with M. Rajapaksa at SL's Prime Minister's Office on 26.05.2021 to discuss issues of bilateral interest, reports Virakesari. Further reports indicate that Khattak had announced that special interest was being placed upon promoting bilateral cultural heritage and tourism. According to the Colombo Gazette, opportunities for higher education for SL students in Pakistan were also discussed. Reports indicate that the opportunities would be provided through the Allama Iqbal Scholarship which is offered by the Government of Pakistan.

Areas of cooperation:

- ◆ Economic
- ◆ Trade
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Sports

Message from Kaalagam – Death in Police Custody

KAARI VENTHAN

Editor's Note: In addition to the 2 individuals outlined in this piece, a third death has also occurred in Malaysian police custody since the time that this news was covered. According to Free Malaysia Today, 21-year-old Surendran Shanker was found to be deceased at the Simpang Renggam prison on 27.05.2021. It is noteworthy that as of 30.04.2021, reports from the Malay Mail further indicate that Gombak's Police Chief, Arik Tarawe, had warned the public to refrain from commenting on Ganapathy's death, or risk persecution.

While #JusticeForAGanapathy still trends across social media, another Malaysian man has died in police custody allegedly from breathing difficulties yesterday (20 May) morning, in less than an hour after his arrest. The victim, 43-year-old Sivabalan Subramaniam, was brought to the Gombak District Police Headquarters for documentation purposes to assist in the investigation of a criminal intimidation case, as reported by BERNAMA.

The Gombak District Police Headquarters is the same location where A. Ganapathy was detained as well. Gombak police chief, Arifai Tarawe said that the suspect who was reportedly still wanted, was arrested at 11.20am in front of a guard post at a factory premise in Taman Selayang Baru, Gombak.

After arriving at the Gombak IPD, Sivabalan stated that he was experiencing breathing difficulties and the police contacted Hospital Selayang for emergency assistance. However, when the ambulance arrived to provide emergency treatment, Sivabalan was declared dead at 12.30pm. Initial checks revealed that Sivabalan, who worked as a security guard, had a history of heart disease and the case was classified as sudden death. Post-mortem results of the case are still pending.

In an earlier case, A. Ganapathy, a 40-year-old man, spent 12 days in police custody from 24.02.2021 - 08.03.2021 to assist with investigations into his sibling's alleged crimes. The man who trades cow's milk for a living was allegedly brutally beaten by the police with a rubber hose. His mother received a call from a sergeant on 08.03.2021 informing her that her son was sent to the hospital. After spending a month at a hospital in Selayang and having his leg amputated, Ganapathy had passed away on 20.04.2021, based on a report by Malaysiakini.



A. Ganapathy



S. Sivabalan



S. Shanker

Military News

07.05.2021: **Training** - SL's Vanni Commander of Security Forces visited the 65th Infantry Division Battalion training school in Mulankavil to inspect recruit training on 04.05.2021, reports army.lk.

10.05.2021: **STF** - SL's STF had established and would be commanding a Special Waterborne Operation Squad which would address illegal activities in the country's waterways, reports Colombo Page. Reports indicate that the team would be composed of 16 STF officers

who have been trained by experts from the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crimes and SL's Powerboat Association. The squadron was officially launched in Balgoda on 09.05.2021.

12.05.2021: **Air Force** - A "Heated Humidified Oxygen Therapy Unit" manufactured by the SLAF was officially handed over to G. Rajapaksa at the SL Presidential Secretariat on 12.05.2021, reports Virakesari.

17.05.2021: **Drones** - According to airforce.lk, the SL Air Force (SLAF) uses its expertise on the usage of drones to support the SL Police and Special Task Force (STF) to manage traffic congestion.

Drones will be used to:

- ♦ Have an aerial view during rush hour
- ♦ Warn traffic-violators with drones which have audio-visual capabilities
- ♦ Guide ambulances and important individuals

It is noteworthy that it is mentioned that the SLAF had "mastered" the usage of drones during Eelam War IV. Earlier reports from Colombo Gazette on 06.05.2021 indicate that SL's Police spokesman, Ajith Rohana had reported that the SLAF and STF would be jointly-collaborating to use drones to monitor traffic congestion.

18.05.2021: **Promotions** - To celebrate SL's 12th War Heroes' Commemoration Day, 452 Officers of regular and volunteer forces of the genocidal SL Army and 4, 289 other ranks of the Army have been promoted to their respective next rank by G. Rajapaksa, reports Daily Mirror.

19.05.2021: **US** - 240 officers graduated from the US Coast Guard on 19.05.2021. According to an official statement released by the Coast Guard, 7 international students had graduated including the SL Navy's Sub Lieutenant Wishwa Fonseka.

International cadets:

- ♦ Sri Lanka
- ♦ Philippines
- ♦ Georgia

19.05.2021: **Defence** - An integrated defence headquarters complex has been unveiled at Sri Jayawardenapura to include all divisions of the Ministry of defence, reports Virakesari. Reports indicate that the complex had been unveiled to celebrate SL's "12th Anniversary of the Victory Day Against Terrorism" and was constructed with military expertise as a state-of-the-art complex. Kamal Gunaratne cited at the inauguration event that this integration would be a milestone in strengthening SL's national security. According to Virakesari, it is expected that all of SL's tri-forces headquarters would also be relocated to this facility in Sri Jayawardenapura in the future.

24.05.2021: **Navy** - An SL naval soldier engaged in some road development work between Kurikaaduvan and Nainativu was killed after being electrocuted, reports Virakesari.

24.05.2021: **Disaster relief** - According to SLAF spokesperson, Group Captain Dushan Wijesinghe, 9 helicopters and special rescue teams were on standby to conduct emergency disaster relief operations in face of the current

turbulent weather conditions. The weather in SL has been impacted due to the presence of Cyclone Yaas in the Bay of Bengal. Reports from Virakesari indicate that Beechcraft-200 aircraft were currently conducting surveillance operations to monitor the weather conditions. Earlier reports from defence.lk indicate that the SL Navy had deployed the "Rapid Response Rescue & Relief Unit" (4RU) and various other teams on 13.05.2021 to flood prone areas in response to torrential rains.

SLAF Bases on standby:

- ♦ Palaly
- ♦ Ratmalana
- ♦ Hingurakgoda
- ♦ Anuradhapura

27.05.2021: **Special rider team** - A Quick Reaction Special Rider Team, consisting of female soldiers from 7 Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps was formed on the instructions of Major General Priyantha Perera, SL Commander Security Forces-Jaffna and Colonel Commandant of SL Army Women's Corps, reports army.lk. Further reports indicate that the team was formed to monitor the spread of COVID-19 in Jaffna.

31.05.2021: **Weapons** - SL's Navy Spokesman, Captain Indika de Silva informed Colombo Gazette that a large stock of weapons had fallen into the sea. Reports indicate that the stock had fallen into the sea following transfer to a vessel in Galle after the net snapped in a voyage towards the Red Sea. Accordingly, 36 weapons and a stock of ammunition fell into the sea with the SLN

launching a search and recovery operation.

31.05.2021: **Book release** - SL Major Sujith Chaminda Edirisinghe released two books outlining experiences in Tamil Eelam in light of SL's 12th Victory Day, reports army.lk.

Books:

- ♦ "From Mullaitivu in the Midst of Death" (Maranya Medin Mullaitivu Sita)
- ♦ "Tension in a Battlefield" (Avi Bimaka Giniyama)

India

The SL Navy has established a 24-hour patrol of the waters of occupied Tamil Eelam. According to Colombo Gazette, the patrol has prevented poaching in the waters and has prevented illegal immigration via sea.

04.05.2021 - Indika De Silva informed Colombo Gazette that 11 Indian boats with 86 fishermen were detained and returned back to India after entering the Northern occupied waters of Tamil Eelam.

11.05.2021 - The SL Navy arrested an individual illegally returning to SL from India via boat on 11.05.2021, reports Virakesari.

30.05.2021 - The SL Navy turned four Indian fishing vessels with 40 fishermen back to India after they had entered waters near Mannar and the 40 fishermen were turned back.

Even in death, we will live.

சாவிலும் வாழ்வோம்



Switzerland's PMT, a reflection of SL's PTA

PHOENIX TNG

Switzerland aims to introduce a new Draconian law titled, Polizeiliche Massnahmen zur Bekämpfung von Terrorismus (PMT) which is due for public voting on 13.06.2021. The imposition of this law will be used to minimise opportunities for freedom of expression and would thus restrict and criminalise the activities of activists but also children. Hence, it is crucial for all Swiss residents to vote Nein (no) to this law. With sufficient votes against the law, the rights of individuals within the jurisdiction of Switzerland can be protected.

Attached below is detailed information published by Phoenix TNG in English regarding the issues with the PMT:

PMT = PTA?

Human rights organisations, youth activists, UN experts and law professors are heavily criticizing the new Swiss Prevention of Terrorism law. A few arguments why we have to vote against the enactment of the law:

Switzerland locks away children

The coercive measures can be ordered for children from 12 years of age and house arrest from 15 years of age. In doing so, the law violates the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Children should be specially protected and not locked up - the law sees it differently.

Switzerland locks away innocent people

A suspected person would have to produce impossible evidence that they will not commit a crime in the future. This would mean that a presumption of danger would apply instead of the presumption of innocence!

Switzerland - a police state

The measures in the law, with the exception of house arrest, are not ordered by a court, but by the police on suspicion. This undermines the principle of the separation of powers in a blatant way: because without prior control by a court, the police are both judge and executioner at the same time.



13. Juni - Nein!

Switzerland ignores human rights

In order to commit a terrorist activity, one would neither have to plan nor carry out a criminal act. The assessment that someone is spreading - as it is literally in the law - "fear and terror" is sufficient. This new definition of terrorist activity has even been sharply criticized by the UN. With this law, Switzerland is taking on the level of an illegitimate state.

NO to arbitrary arrests

According to a legal opinion commissioned by the police department itself, the law undoubtedly violates the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). The law allows people to be placed under house arrest without evidence. Switzerland would be the only western democracy that knows about an arbitrary deprivation of liberty.

Why Tamils should oppose the law

Tamils know the first hand experience when a state misuses its legal framework in the name of "fighting terrorism". For decades the draconian "Prevention of Terrorism Act" PTA is used by the Sri Lankan state to arbitrarily arrest and detain Tamil political activists and even civilians, who are seen by the state as a threat. Thousands of Tamil political prisoners are waiting for years for a fair trial, many of them were tortured, killed or forcibly disappeared in the custody of the Sri Lankan state. Recently, the Sri Lankan state is using the PTA to target Muslim activists and lawyers, who are also seen as a threat to the Sinhala-Buddhist ethnocracy. UN experts warned that the Swiss PTA sets a "dangerous precedent worldwide" and that the legal framework could be used by other states to silence and arrest dissenters.

Swiss law enforcement could even use the new law to sanction Tamil activists who are seen as a threat to the Swiss state. The NDB, the Swiss intelligence service stated in their annual report, that Kurdish activists are a threat because of their connections to the so-called "left-extremists". Since 2019, Tamil activists have started to work with Kurdish activists and extra-parliamentarian leftists. So there is a great chance that Tamil activists can be targeted by the Swiss state.

Additionally, in 2018 the Swiss tried to portray the Tamils struggle as terrorism, but it failed. There are some radicalized Tamils, who are trying to coordinate and fund activities, which can be used by the Swiss government to define the Tamils struggle as terrorism, like in other countries.

Under this context, this law is a threat for the Tamil struggle in the diaspora. Let's all vote NO on the 13th June 2021.

Domestic News

Tamil Eelam

05.05.2021: **Suspect** - According to army.lk, four SL Military Intelligence Corps troops under the Kilinochchi Security Force Headquarters and occupational police had apprehended a civilian carrying counterfeit notes, worth around LKR 815,000 from the general area of Santhipuram on 03.05.2021.

Grenades

According to Virakesari, an array of unexploded explosives were uncovered and retrieved across Tamil Eelam.

01.05.2021 - A hand grenade was found and recovered by occupational Mulliyawalai police in the Thannimurippu area, Mullaitivu. It is notable that recently, 10 RPG bombs had been recovered from the area.

03.05.2021 - The STF uncovered 7 unexploded mortar shells from the Kunchukulam and Velankulam areas in Vavuniya.

15.05.2021 - Following information from SL Army Intelligence, a bomb had been recovered from abandoned land in Vinayagapuram, Batticaloa by the occupational Kalkuda police.

17.05.2021 - Following reports from a local, occupational Poovarasankulam police recovered 30 hand grenades from private land in Poovarasankulam, Vavuniya. Further reports indicate that

the site had previously been the location of an LTTE camp and the occupational police had mentioned that they would search the area further once they had retrieved permission from the courts.

08.05.2021: **World Red Cross Day** - Scholarships were provided to 2 students from Mannar at the Mannar Branch of SL's Red Cross Society at 11.00 am local time, report Virakesari. Further reports indicate that the first phase includes the provision of LKR 2,500 per month. It is notable that a tree planting was conducted at the conclusion of the event and similar events were held across occupied Tamil Eelam and SL.

08.05.2021: **Vesak** - The SL Ministry of Buddha Sasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs has reported that SL's Vesak festival due to be held at the Nagadeepa Rajamaha Viharaya in Nainativu, Jaffna had been cancelled due to the spread of COVID-19, reports Colombo Gazette. At present, the GoSL intends to hold the event at another date and location which remains undetermined at present.

13.05.2021: **Arrest** - An Indian family from Rameshwaram was arrested in Jaffna for illegal entry. Earlier in May, 2 families hiding in Puttalam and Kochchikade were also arrested for the same reason. Moreover, the arrest was justified because the deadly strains of SARS-Cov-

2 must be kept away, Economy Next reports.

21.05.2021: **Assistance** - According to Jaffna's District Government Agent, K. Makesan, food packages worth LKR 10,000 were being distributed to families of isolated COVID-19 victims in Jaffna, reports Virakesari. Reports indicate that 7,251 families had received packages thus far.

21.05.2021: **Sand smuggling** - A sand smuggling gang was shot by the STF in Vadamarachchi East Kudathanai, causing the gang's vehicle to meet an accident, reports Virakesari. 1 gang member from Thunnalai was arrested while the remaining 3 members had fled the scene.

Seafood farm

22.05.2021 - Members of the Jaffna Fishermen's Associations met with SL's Fisheries Minister, Douglas Devananda on 22.05.2021, reports Virakesari. Reports indicate that Devananda had instructed relevant authorities to assist in the development of a seafood farm in the waters adjoining Jaffna as per the wishes of the fishermen to allow them to engage in such activities.

12.05.2021 - A discussion was held with occupational tri-forces officials and other stakeholders at the SL Fisheries Ministries' Jaffna Office under Douglas Devananda, reports Virakesari. In a discussion held at the Pawan Hall in the

Office, it was affirmed that prohibited activities conducted within the occupied waters of Tamil Eelam would be controlled with cooperation from SL's occupational Naval and Coast Guard. According to Virakesari, the discussion further sought an easy way for fisheries investment in the Jaffna District for local fishermen.

Prohibited activities:

- ♦ Shred fishing
- ♦ Light fishing
- ♦ Dynamite use
- ♦ Trawler use for coastal net industry
- ♦ Shrink net use without permission
- ♦ Use of nets smaller than permitted

24.05.2021: **Deployment** - SL's Health Division recommended the deployment of SL Army or Special Operations Forces to Vavuniya Wholesale Market to regulate compliance with COVID-19 regulations, reports Virakesari. Further reports indicate that SL's Health Division had made the recommendation to the Vavuniya District Corona Prevention Task Force.

24.05.2021: **Complaint** - Vavuniya District's MP and Chairman of the Vavuniya District Development Committee, K. Dileep has mentioned that SL's President, Prime Minister and Minister of Health will be notified of the failure of compliance with COVID-19 regulations at the Vavuniya Garments Factory in an urgent letter, reports Virakesari.

Sri Lanka

04.05.2021: **Commemoration** - SL's flag was pinned on G.Rajapaksa to declare

the month of May as the month of War Heroes' Commemoration, reports defence.lk

14.05.2021: **ID** - SL's National Identity Card (NIC) system which was reintroduced on 13.05.2021 will aim to reduce the movement of individuals in SL commencing from 17.05.2021 - 31.05.202, reports Colombo Gazette. Further reports indicate that SL identification documents ending in odd numbers are permitted to leave their homes on odd dates whilst the corresponding applies for even dates and numbers. A. Rohana noted only those attending work could leave their homes on a daily basis whilst all others could only leave for essential needs on their specified dates.

Documents:

- ◆ NICs
- ◆ Drivers' licences
- ◆ Passports

18.05.2021: **Victory Day** - In his "Victory Day of Humanitarian Action" address to SL Parliament, M. Rajapaksa mentioned that they had ended an era of wandering as refugees for Tamils from occupied Tamil Eelam. According to Virakesari, he had mentioned this portion of his speech in Tamil.

18.05.2021: **Palestine** - Sajith Premadasa mentioned in SL Parliament that the genocide conducted against Palestinians must cease immediately, reports Virakesari.

18.05.2021: **HRCSL**: The Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL) demanded a report on deaths in police custody from SL's Inspector General of

Police (IGP). According to Economy Next the HRCSL had also demanded that the safety of suspects within custody were ensured.

19.05.2021: **Vaccine Cards** - SL's Army Hospital in Sri Jayawardenapura Kotte had launched N. Rajapaksa's proposed Vaccine ID Card projects curated by the Information and Communication Technology Agency of SL to streamline national vaccination, reports Colombo Gazette.

19.05.2021: **FBI** - According to SL Minister of Public Security Rear Admiral Sarath Weerasekara's report to SL Parliament, the US's Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) had confirmed that Baufur Maulavi had introduced Wahhabism and ISIS ideologies to SL and was in contact with Zahran Hashim since 2016. Accordingly, the Colombo Gazette reported that ISIS training camps had been established in Nuwara Eliya and Hambantota.

Colombo Port City Commission Bill

18.05.2021 - All proposed amendments to the Bill were passed by SL's Supreme Court. According to Economy Next, a referendum would not be required for the Bill to be passed.

20.05.2021 - According to Daily Mirror, the Bill was passed with amendments in SL's Parliament with a majority of 91 votes.

27.05.2021 - SL's Speaker, Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena signed and validated the Bill which will be effective from 27.05.2021, reports Colombo Gazette.

31.05.2021 - SL President's Counsel, Gamini Marapana has been appointed as the Chairman of the Colombo Port City Commission reports, Colombo Gazette.

22.05.2021: **Plaque** - SL Justice Minister, Ali Sabry has removed a memorial plaque from SL's Attorney General Department which did not incorporate the Tamil language, following Thondaman's request, reports Virakesari. A plaque which was unveiled at an electronic library constructed within the department with Chinese funding had signage in English, Sinhalese and Chinese but not Tamil.

23.05.2021: **Surveillance** - According to A. Rohana, special surveillance drone operations would commence in residential areas in Colombo from 23.05.2021 to monitor COVID-19 regulation violations, reports Virakesari.

Ship

A Singapore sailing container ship, MV X-press Pearl which was travelling from a Gujarat Port in India to Colombo Port had caught fire near Colombo Port on 20.05.2021 causing immediate crisis management operations to be launched by the SL state. Reports indicate that almost 300 tonnes of fuel was on board the vessel and suspect that the fire was caused by a chemical reaction.

21.05.2021 - SL Navy vessels and an SL Ports' Authority tugboat were engaged in providing assistance to extinguish the fire whilst the container ships were

being closely monitored by both authorities.

SL Navy vessels deployed:

- ♦ SLNS Sagara
- ♦ SLNS Sindurala
- ♦ Fast Attack craft

23.05.2021 - Ban imposed on coastal fishing between Panadura and Negombo.

25.05.2021

- ♦ Despite the earlier containment of the fire, flames were sighted again due to an explosion.
- ♦ 25-member ship crew were rescued of which 2 Indian nationals were hospitalised due to injuries.
- ♦ 8 cargo containers had fallen into the sea from the vessel
- ♦ SLN deployed Bell-212 helicopters to contain the fire by dropping dry chemical powders onto the fire.
- ♦ SL's Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA) warn public not to touch debris which washes onto the shores as it may be harmful.
- ♦ Tier II oil spill declared.
- ♦ India's High Commissioner in Colombo deployed to assist containment of fire. Vessels deployed:
 - ♦ Coast Guard Vessels
 - ♦ ICG Vaibhav
 - ♦ ICG Dornier
 - ♦ Tug Water Lilly
 - ♦ Maritime reconnaissance aircraft

26.05.2021

- ♦ SL Police disclose that an investigation has been launched to

locate those who collect debris from the burning ship.

- ◆ Travel advisory put in place by India's High Commission warning Indian nationals in SL to avoid accessing the sea near Colombo and Negombo

27.05.2021

- ◆ 8 individuals arrested for violating quarantine laws to collect debris from the burning ship. According to A. Rohana, the arrests were made based on visuals and photographs shared on social media accounts.
- ◆ Ship operators deny claims made regarding a refusal of entry for the ship into Qatar and India when an acid leak had been found before arrival to Colombo as per the ship's itinerary.

28.05.2021

- ◆ SL commences beach clean up.
- ◆ Pollution and debris from the burning ship inhibit coastal fishing activities between Kalutara and Negombo hence affecting the livelihood of the fisheries community.
- ◆ MEPA announced that severe environmental damage had been caused due to the fire where debris had spread from Negombo to Moratuwa.
- ◆ SL's State Minister of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Public Sanitation, Dr. Nalaka Godahewa reported that fish and other marine life such as turtles had been killed.

- ◆ SL Navy commander, Nishantha Ulugetenna reported that the ship is stable and the likelihood of the ship to break into 2 pieces was low.

29.05.2021

- ◆ M. Rajapaksa instructed authorities to purchase equipment following a visit to the site of the fire.
- ◆ M. Rajapaksa instructed authorities to offer financial assistance to fishermen affected by the incident.
- ◆ Ship owners mention that they will cooperate with the probe into the fire.

31.05.2021

- ◆ Fire deemed mostly under control.
- ◆ Salvage specialist considers towing the damaged vessel onboard another.
- ◆ Captain of the ship interviewed by SL authorities to calculate preliminary claims of compensation for environmental damage.
- ◆ A. Rohana reports that SL's CID had taken over investigations following instructions from SL IGP C.D. Wickremeratne.

26.05.2021: **Release** - According to Virakesari, 240 prisoners had been released in light of Vesak in accordance with SL's Health Act.

26.05.2021: **Travel** - According to SL's Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), passenger travels had been permitted to resume from 01.06.2021, reports Virakesari.

28.05.2021: **Media** - Shavendra Silva participated in a virtual "International Conference on Mass and Marketing

Communications in the time of COVID-19" coordinated by European Centre for Peace and Development (ECPD) University for Peace. According to Colombo Gazette, he had announced during the conference that media outlets would be closely monitored to ensure that correct information is shared with the public. It is reported that he had further stated that as a democratic nation, authorities must only suppress media platforms that cause adverse

effects. Earlier reports from 07.05.2021 indicate that SL's Media Minister, Keheliya Rambukwella shared that 2 million inactive Facebook accounts would legally be suspended to protect SL's national security as 27% of total accounts failed to have a valid owner. Reports indicate that Rambukwella and Ali Sabry had submitted a Cabinet Memorandum regarding the matter.

Date	Appointment	Role	Status
05.05.2021	M. Rajapaksa	Chair of Asian Development Bank's Board of Governors	Appointed
06.05.2021	Dappula de Livera	SL's High Commissioner to Canada	Rejected by de Livera
	Abdur Rahim Siddiqui	Country Director and Representative of UN World Food Programme to SL	Appointed
06.05.2021	W.D.J Seneviratne	President of the SL -Indonesia Parliamentary Friendship Association	Appointed
27.05.2021	SL President's Counsel, Sanjay Rajaratnam	SL's Attorney General	Appointed

Congee of Hope

PHOENIX TNG

Congee of Hope is an initiative led by young survivors of the peak of Tamil genocide which occurred at Mullivaikkal, who currently reside across the Tamil diaspora. The initiative aims to redirect Mullivaikkal commemoration from one of self-victimisation to one representative of Tamils' hope and resistance. This is facilitated through encouraging Tamils to commemorate Mullivaikkal week and encourage discourse regarding Tamil genocide within Tamil households over a bowl of congee.

Some of Puradsi Media's members and the coordinator of Phoenix TNG briefly share the impact of this project upon themselves and the Tamils' struggle.

Jathuram

The Congee project is a great idea to convey the identity of the peak of ongoing Tamil genocide to future generations and various other communities. This project will be an efficient communication tool to convey the genocide that the Tamils are subject to in current and future contexts. Further, this project allows us to comprehend the difficulties that our people experienced during that time period. This project should continue to function in the future years so as to reach many other countries and individuals from those countries as well.



Nitharsan

The Congee project is a good starting point to get connected with the Tamil genocide. One - it is giving us a glimpse of what our people went through in Mullivaikal. Second - it is a good tool to introduce non-Tamils to the history of Tamil Eelam. This important project has to grow and expand in various forms, so that this congee eaten in the month of May will always be a part of the Tamil identity. With this symbol, the resistance and resilience of our people will be put in the forefront, instead of the victimised mentality.

Kayalvizhi

This project initiated by these young people is very important. This allows the diasporas and future generation to connect with the genocide, to taste and feel what our people

had consumed during the last phases. The kanji was the hope for our people to survive. For us, it must be a reminder to fight and to establish Tamil sovereignty. We hope that through this project, many people will join each May - not only to commemorate around a cup of Kanji the Tamil genocide, but also to remember Tamil resistance. It should become a habit - part of our history.

Vithusa

Mullivaikkal - a word synonymous to the peak of the genocide of Tamils carried out by Sri Lanka and its allies, has been consistently seen through the lens of horror. The sole validity in this lens disregards moments of hope, sharing of comfort and times of relief that was often brought forward by a vessel of kanji by our people, who were internally displaced by the Sri Lankan state. The power of the Congee of Hope collectives' initiative ties the importance of food in dismantling these victimized narratives. Undoubtedly, the offering of kanji in those grave moments of life brought forth a sense of community and normalization in an incomprehensible juncture of existence. Witnessing the survivors of Mullivaikkal take back their narratives and reposition it from a place of ongoing healing, showcases the strength of their determination to exist - bringing forward a sense of hope to us all. I am deeply indebted to them for maintaining and sharing *hope*.

Ranjini

The Congee project allows us to bring back the precious memories of that time. This is a great way to deal with the situation in Mullivaikkal during May. Drinking congee in May makes us realise how heavy the suffering of our brothers and sisters was. At the same time, it also gives us the hope and will to continue fighting because they proved at that time that they can live with very little. Thus, they proved that no matter the nature of the situation that arises, we can handle it. So we should all drink congee on the occasion of Mullivaikkal to connect with the situation at that time and to commemorate the genocide.

Senchudar Gemini

The Congee project brings about a much needed shift in the discourse of Mullivaikkal which is often viewed as the place where all hope for liberation was lost. Through placing hope at the forefront of their campaign, the young team have created a space for families to engage in discussions not only about Tamil genocide but Tamil resistance. In a time where the oppressing powers continue to systematically increase barriers for subjugated communities to assert their distinct sovereignties, hope is crucial to motivate Tamils to progress the struggle until Tamil sovereignty is re-established. The team's commitment to motivate an entire community is inspiring and should be a lesson for all Tamils to shed their cloak of self-victimisation to be unwavering in resistance.

Senneruppu Naal

PURADSI MEDIA

Phoenix - the Next Generation conducted their inaugural Day of Red Fire or செந்நெருப்பு நாள் events on 19.05.2021. The event was conducted online in an attempt to redirect the Tamil struggle for liberation towards an unwavering nature and away from self-victimisation. The online event occurred in 2 segments which addressed two of the core issues through the event. It is notable that this event was curated by the Australia Division of Phoenix TNG as their first official project.

1. **International Complicity** in Tamil genocide

This aspect was addressed through the online screening of an original production entitled "Beyond the Red". "Beyond the Red" is a mini - documentary produced by the Australia division of Puradsi Media in English with a run-time of 21 minutes. The documentary addressed the international state actors' involved in the enactment of the peak of Tamil genocide in 2009 at Mullivaikkal as well as the undertakings taken by such external forces in misdirecting the struggle away from the re-establishment of Tamil sovereignty. The documentary further outlined the stance which must be upheld to progress the Tamils' struggle for liberation based on the Nandhikadal principles in face of such acts.

2. **International Solidarity** in progressing the struggle

The second portion of the event was an international solidarity forum featuring contributions from Australia and Switzerland including an inaugural Day of Red Fire statement presented on behalf of PTNG.

The Day of Red Fire will henceforth be conducted in an annual manner by PTNG. In line with the Nandhikadal principles, our stance in conducting and continuing this event in preserving the Tamil legacy serves as both a source of motivation in progressing a struggle for liberation in an unwavering manner. However, it also serves as a warning for any force which stands as an obstacle in the path to re-establishing Tamil sovereignty.



"The Tamil people have a weakness within them where, when they are unable to fulfill something, they objectify those who are doing that as a demigod and carry this on their shoulders. The duty that I have undertaken is that duty that we all have to our Tamil Nation. This is the same duty that we each are responsible for. When you understand this, that is when you will recognize I will not appear as a hero or a demigod, rather we will realize our collective duty. This is the same for our cadres, we cannot expect them to fulfill everything on our behalf, as they too themselves are contributing to the most of their capacity. That is the weakness of our people, where we place responsibility onto another to meet our needs. To remain within this is a flawed understanding of self and this perspective hinders one from taking action by confining them to the sidelines."

வெல்வது
உறுதி!



Economic News

SL's Economic Profile – May 2021		
GDP		↓ to USD 3, 682 / person
Real		↓ by 3.6%
Nominal		↓ to LKR 14, 973 billion
Sovereign Rating	Standard & Poor's	CCC +
Loans to GoSL		↑ by LKR 211.4 billion
FOREX Reserves	March 2021	USD 4.05 billion
	April 2021	↑ to LKR USD 4, 476 million
	2020	2021
Exports	USD 10 billion	USD 12.5 billion
Imports	USD 16.1 billion	USD 17.8 billion
Foreign exchange reserves	4.2 months	3.2 months
Exports	January – April 2021	↑ by 29.62% to USD 3, 699.34 million
	April 2021	USD 789.9 million
Imports	March 2021	↑ by USD 1.96 billion
PMI	↓	manufacturing & service sectors
Import Tax	LPG	7.5 % or LKR 2, 000 / tonne
Money Printing	April 2021	↓
Total Credit	April 2021	↓ to LKR 4, 965 billion
Private Credit	March 2021	↑ by LKR 112.2 billion
	April 2021	↑ by LKR 57.7 billion
Peg	Non-credible peg	USD 199.95

SL's economic developments reported within the month of May, 2021.

02.05.2021: **Urban development** - Dr. Nalaka Godahewa and M. Rajapaksa held discussions to review the progress of all institutions under SL's urban development ministry. According to Dr. Nalaka Godahewa, several urban development plans have been identified with the goal of institutionalising public goods and services to enhance SL's production reports Colombo Page.

07.05.2021: **World bank** - The World Bank launched a public consultation to update its Systematic Country Diagnostic (SCD) in SL, reports Colombo Page. The online initiative aims to identify the

trajectory of SL and will be in operation between 06.05.2021 - 20.05.2021.

Highways

07.05.2021: **Expressway** - Construction of the expressway to Ratnapura worth LKR 54.7 billion rupees is to be initiated by SL-based company, Maga Construction. This is the first section of the 76-kilometre expressway between Kahathuduwa and Ingiriya, reports Economy Next.

11.05.2021: **Highways** - M. Rajapaksa's proposal for USD 200 million to finance the 2nd Consolidated Highways

Investment Programme has received SL Cabinet approval, reports Newswire.lk.

25.05.2021: **China** - The SL Cabinet had approved a construction project connecting the Athurugiriya Interchange and New Kelani Bridge, reports Newswire.lk. Further reports indicate that the construction project had been designated to the China Harbour Engineering Cooperation upon the basis of the Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) Agreement. According to Economy Next, the high-speed line would be returned to SL after 15 years of operation.

11.05.2021: **Task Force** - According to a President's Media Division (PMD) press release, G. Rajapaksa had appointed a 46-member "Presidential Task Force on Creating a Green Sri Lanka with Sustainable Solutions to Climate Change" chaired by B. Rajapaksa, reports Newswire.lk.

Monetary Policy

18.05.2021: **Monetary policy** - SL has pursued an expansionary monetary policy to close the output gap, through maintaining low interest rates and bank lending. Nevertheless, SL's rupee continues to depreciate with no improvement, reports Economy Next.

17.05.2021: **ISP** - According to Economy Next, SL continues to prohibit the Central Bank of Sri Lanka from purchasing international government bonds. Reports indicate that the prohibition has been enforced to maintain SL's exchange rate and to avoid the outflow of foreign exchange.

20.05.2021: **Business Program** - The Kilinochchi District had been selected for the SL Presidential Task Force on Economic Revival and Poverty Alleviation's Youth Business Program project which had been envisioned by N. Rajapaksa to boost economic prosperity across SL's districts, reports Virakesari.

21.05.2021: **Bitcoin** - M.Rajapaksa intends to introduce digital currencies such as crypto, and bitcoin exchanges into SL as these would become the modern transaction facilities of the global economy and suppose SL's Special Economic Zone, reports Economy Next.

23.05.2021: **Dollarisation** - The dollarisation of the Colombo Port City will protect the depreciation of SL's currency, reports Economy Next. The denomination of economic activities and salaries through designated foreign currencies amongst dollarisation and other measures would facilitate such stability. Further reports indicate that the port would further attract foreign talent. The Port City will also attract foreign talent, Economynext reports.

25.05.2021: **Oil refinery** - According to Economy Next, the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation's (CPC) state-owned refinery monopoly will be ended and expanded to 45,000 bpd under a LKR 600 billion project. To allow companies to invest, CPC's current law, which allows it the sole authority to operate the oil refinery, will be amended.

28.05.2021: **Samurdhi** - SL State Minister of Samurdhi, Household Economy, Micro Finance, Self Employment and Business Development, Shehan Semasinghe

announced that an allowance will be paid to families. According to the Colombo Gazette, an allowance of LKR 5, 000 will be paid from 02.06.2021 to low income families affected by the

pandemic. Further reports indicate that families already receiving government assistance less than LKR 5, 000 will be paid the remaining amount of their allowance.

MAY 2021

SL'S ECONOMIC FORUM

Date	Forum	Organiser (s)
27.04.2021	Webinar "Accelerating Growth of Food Sector and a Buyer Seller Meet"	Enterprise Singapore x SL's High Commission
28.04.2021	Webinar "Grow Beyond Traditional Markets"	SL Embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel National Chamber of Exporters (NCE) SL Federation of Israeli Chamber of Commerce (FICC) Israel – SL Chamber of Commerce
29.04.2021	Investment webinar	Guangdong's Department of Commerce SL's Board of Investment
07.06.2021 – 09.06.2021	Virtual Forum	SL Chamber of Commerce SL's Board of Investment Colombo Stock Exchange

MAY 2021

SL'S INCOME

SL Government Bonds

USD 2.2 BILLION

INTERNATIONAL GOV.
BONDS RECLASSIFIED AS
DOMESTIC DEBT

Agreements

USD 500 million

SL FOREIGN MINISTRY
X
KOREA'S EXIMBANK

2021 - 2022

GOSL
X
WORLD BANK

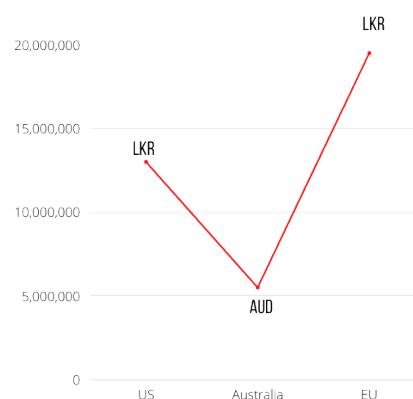
USD 80.5 million

Approvals

USD 200 MILLION - ADB
SL CABINET APPROVED

USD 200 MILLION CURRENCY SWAP

BANGLADESH BANK
BOARD APPROVED



The CNN Effect: Visuality and Self-Victimisation

SENCHUDAR GEMINI

The viscosity of a struggle is influenced by an oppressor vs oppressed gaze. This gaze, in turn, affects the representation of the said struggle. Thus, how a struggle is portrayed is deeply affected by external and internal factors, where the internal viewpoint is also intrinsically manipulated by the oppressor. Through such manipulation of visual representations, global and inter-communal perceptions of a struggle are altered and often nullified. Consequently, this detracts from the alternative narratives that such struggles present against the status quo of oppressing regimes.

Despite being a community which prides itself in resistance, resilience and bravery, Mullivaikkal has been used as a symbol of destruction and failure which has resulted in the self-belittlement of the Tamils' stance and revolutionary fervour. Thus it becomes essential to contextualise such acts within media representation and viscosity to realign the Tamils' struggle for liberation.

The CNN Effect

Within media spheres, the CNN effect is a generalised concept which refers to the effect that mainstream media has upon decisions made by policymakers. In relation to global struggles of subjugated communities, the CNN effect facilitated the silencing of alternative narratives to state governance models. This was especially facilitated in a post-9/11 context where the "War on Terror" was used as a means to create a visualisation of communities with a non - Eurocentric background to be portrayed as cultural others.

It is through acknowledging such agenda - setting mechanisms that the LTTE - the Tamil leadership, had established media institutions such as Niedharsanam, The National Television of Tamil Eelam (NTT), and the Voice of the Tigers (VoT) to name a few. This shift in the geopolitical condition of televised viscosity was explored by Taraki D. Sivaram where he cites that, "[the NTT] has introduced a new strategic dimension to Sri Lanka's ethnic divide" thus addressing the "war on perceptions" which had emerged as a significant point of crisis for many struggles. This was countered in an efficient manner through analogue media by the then Tamil leadership.

However, with the destruction of the Tamil Eelam state and Tamil leadership through the combined efforts of global oppressors at Mullivaikkal, a rise in the social media era has resulted in a two-pronged shift in the "war on perceptions" conducted against Tamils.

Televised conflicts and interpretations

The Vietnam War was the first most televised conflict within world history. The coloured images and almost instantaneous footage of colonial offensives within Indochina were telecast to global audiences within households, causing widespread discontent against US presence within the region. However, through successful media manipulation, the one image of a naked child running in the midst of a Napalm attack became an icon of that war - detracting from the intensity of the US and Allied offensives conducted within the region against the subjugated and resisting community including systematised chemical bombings, rape and massacres.

Similarly, advertisements circulated by institutions such as World Vision are also efficient in manipulating visual representations of communities. Their efficiency in affecting global perceptions on poverty as being synonymous with Somalian and African communities were facilitated through visuals of starving children staring into a screen with their ribs visible from hunger. This is a fundamental aspect of Shapiro's "personal code" where individuals are foregrounded to represent the situation of conflict. The use of the "personal code" in the representation of the Darfur crisis as well as many other global conflicts had contributed to the global oppressors' agendas of distracting struggling communities from their goals of asserting their sovereignty. This is enabled through the portrayal of the subject group in a vulnerable position thus deepening self-victimisation.

Statist visuality and genocide

The height of Tamil genocide at Mullivaikkal where known locations of hospitals were bombed were facilitated through the SL state's access to satellite imaging. These images which pictures Tamils trapped and moving within the SL government allocated no-fire zones allowed the state to maintain a surveillance and monitoring gaze upon their targets allowing them to target and destroy Eelam Tamils in a systematic manner.

This statist visuality is a fundamental component of the military - industrial - surveillance complex. The 3-tiered complex facilitates a militarised oppressive state to act in accordance to supposedly reasonable grounds for reaction in where they monitor and attack through industrial means. Through such situational awareness, the state's aspirations will be attained with statist visuality and technologies. It is through the application of this fundamental complex that the genocidal Sri Lankan state was able to utilise the surveillance and industrial capacities which it had retrieved from its global counterparts including the US, China, India, Britain and the EU to execute the peak of Tamil genocide through the combined military prowess of many countries.

However, the extension of such statist visuality in furthering Tamil genocide is evident through SL's establishment of 2 task forces around May 18 this year to conduct drone surveillance within occupied Tamil Eelam. These task forces strengthen the genocidal state's 3-tiered military complex where earlier donations of drones and training in the

usage of such technologies by the Australian Federal Police would assist the SL state's aspirations and "reasonable grounds for reaction".

Eelam War V & War on Perceptions

The employment of COIN methods and the dilution of Tamils' political spaces across the diaspora form a crucial component of Eelam War V. Through pacifying Tamil actors through "capacity-building" and various other means, the Tamil narrative has been shifted through a victim-centred approach. Through doing so, the overarching agendas of the Tamils' unwavering resistance portrayed on the shores of Nandhikadal as well as the intensity of international complicity in Tamil genocide become nullified. Thus the "war on perceptions" remains a significant tool employed by such forces against the progression of the Tamils' struggle for liberation.

Following 2009, Mullivaikkal and Tamil genocide have become synonymous with mass destruction, blood-shed, starvation and death. For 12 years, the same photos and videos portraying Tamils crying for help are circulated incessantly by Tamils and non-Tamils to commemorate Tamil genocide. However, the viscosity of these images must be considered from a media perspective to comprehend their detrimental effect.

Certain visual representations of Mullivaikkal which have now become the mainstream pool of content are associated with the entire Tamil struggle and the conflict between Sri Lanka and Tamil Eelam. These representations are captured from an elevated angle where the subject is viewed from a higher position. Shapiro's "personal code" is used in multiple instances including where Tamils are pictured reaching out from within bunkers. Here the code causes the struggle to be perceived in a victimised perspective. The self-victimisation in turn heightens self-pity and thus detracts from any motivation to resist against the root causes of such destruction. This interplay of shifting power dynamics are portrayed through a study by van der Gaag and Nash which cites the increased focus of women and children when representing conflicts as follows:

"All these pictures overwhelmingly showed people as needing our pity - as passive victims. This was through a de-contextualised concentration on mid and close-up shots emphasising body language and facial expressions. The photos seemed mainly to be taken from a high angle with no eye-contact, thus reinforcing the viewer's sense of power compared with their apathy and hopelessness."

Thus it becomes evident how the "personal code" reflects the intentions of statist viscosity in alienating and dehumanising Eelam Tamils.

Stripes to wings

However, it is at this point that the realignment of the Tamils' narrative of resistance becomes crucial in affecting the progression of the Tamils' struggle for liberation. As a result, social media initiatives such as Puradsi Media's Glimpses of Tamil Eelam (GoTE)

realigned the perception of the Tamils' struggle through systematically portraying the efficiency of Tamils' state governance models. The extension of such portrayals beyond neoliberal media censorship through the publication of such information through books and other platforms of media communication, further echoes the Tamil leadership's comprehension of the CNN Effect within a digitised context.

Obituary

கண்ணீர் அஞ்சலி

DATE OF DEMISE: 01.05.2021



S. RASAVALLAVAN (AGE: 79)

FATHER OF TAMIL POLITICAL PRISONER,
RAJAVALLAVAN THABORUPAN PASSED AWAY DUE
TO HIS DETERIORATING HEALTH CONDITION.
THABORUPAN WAS ARRESTED UNDER THE PTA IN
2009 AND SENTENCED TO LIFE IN 2019.

CHUNNAKAM, OCCUPIED TAMIL EELAM



Witnessing Genocide

RAVI ANNA

Editor's Note: Direct transcription of act of genocide witnessed on 08.04.2009 by Ravi, Former Editor of Viduthalai Pulikal Newspaper. Footage regarding the incident linked [here](#).

I went to meet Para Annai who was the responsible for the Judicial System of Tamil Eelam of LTTE. While talking to him at his tent, there was a sudden explosion directed in our direction. The attack was about 100 meters away from us. Additionally, there were about 50 - 60 bombs that had gone off during the attack. Following the attack when we left the tent, we witnessed that the entire area was under smoke, the people were frantic and carrying their loved ones. As such, recognising that there was need for immediate assistance, myself and Para Annai ran towards the location targeted. As we approached the location, what we witnessed deeply disturbed us - an unfathomable direct witnessing. What we witnessed was a flood of blood mixed with a huge civilian casualty toll, wailing in distress - it was an exhaustive sight to see.

The location was close to a fresh water well. This is where about 10, 000 displaced Tamils would collect their water for daily usage and would also use it for bathing. The frequent accessing of the water resulted in the general area surrounding the well to become muddy overtime. The space was about the size of half a soccer field. Within this space, there were UNHCR provided tents for families. That particular day near the well, mothers, fathers and children were gathered nearby to participate in a UNHCR directed internal discussion meeting. The goal of the meeting was to provide children under the age of three with baby formula - this was an initiative that was shared among us. However, due to the lack of communication within the displaced population, only those nearby had attended with their children. About 500 - 600 people gathered that day when a multi barrel rocket attack was undertaken at one time. 50 - 70 projectiles were shot within a 50 - metre radius which exploded at the same time towards the gathering - rendering the spot a sight of massacre.

The UNHCR formula distribution was notified to Vavuniya's international bodies who ultimately informed the SLA and requested the protection of that region during the hosting of the distribution. However, the Sinhala Army used this information intentionally to carry out its genocide via rocket attacks. As such, a minimum of 250 mothers, fathers and children were killed in this attack, with over 500 individuals who had sustained life-threatening injuries.

This incident has been utilised and documented by the UN as it relates to Sri Lanka's War Crime under the heading - "Milk Powder Incident". Human mortality is one component of the incident. The other is the human aid that was offered by those who survived the attack. During the recovery aid process, the people helped one another by bringing them into their own tents. At the same time, there were two tractors that suddenly appeared where those who were injured here were loaded onto the tractor. There was no uniformity in this process. These two tractors were to be taken to Mullivaikkal Hospital from Mathalan towards Mullivaikkal through a seaside gravel path approximately 7 - 8 kilometres in distance. The injured people that were loaded onto the tractor commuted on this route. On either side of the path there were approximately 100,000 displaced Tamil civilians on each side, totalling 200,000 who could have witnessed the tractor. Along this path, as blood was being shed from those wounded aboard the tractor, it followed along the path towards the hospital, those on either side of the path witnessed in silence and disbelief as the tractor passed them. Following this incident, those who recovered from the injuries sustained are unknown to me. However, according to the UN, this incident resulted in the killing of over 300 individuals.

This incident had been deeply embedded within my soul. That aside, those who were directly impacted by this attack - particularly the children who would now be 12 - 15 years of age - those children may still be alive. Their parents may have also survived with their children or the children may have become forcibly orphaned. Those families, the amount of pain they must have endured - the fact that this pain will carry forward until their final breath as a living memory, and the witnessing of these events by people like me is an undeniable truth. As long as we live, this pain will be carried with us.

News about Oppression & Resistance

Date	Act of commemoration	Participant (s)	Location
12.05.2021	Vigil to mark 1st day of Mullivaikkal Week	TNPF Party members including MP Selvarasa Gajendran	TNPF HQ, Kokuvil
12.05.2021	Lighting of lamp to mark 1st day of Mullivaikkal Week	M.K. Sivajilingam	Outside M.K. Sivajilingam's Office, Valvettithurai

12.05.2021	Memorial stone brought to Mullivaikkal	Public	Mullivaikkal
13.05.2021	Vigil to mark 2nd day of Mullivaikkal Week	Selvarasa Gajendran Kandeevan Sukaas	Mullivaikkal
13.05.2021	Coconut shells with inscription of "May 18", lamps and some rice were distributed to houses in Trincomalee.	Trincomalee youth Agaram Foundation Union of Civil Societies – Trincomalee District	Trincomalee
17.05.2021	Lighting of lamp to mark 6th day of Mullivaikkal Week, and piecing together broken monument.	M.K. Sivajilingam	Mullivaikkal
18.05.2021	Tamil MPs to attend SL's Parliamentary session on 18.05.2021 in black attire.	Tamil MPs	SL Parliament
18.05.2021	Vigil	TMTK party members and C.V Wigneswaran	TMTK Jaffna Office
18.05.2021	Vigil	M.K. Sivajilingam ITAK Youth Front representative, Peter Ilancheliyan Nishanthan Suveekaran	Nandhikadal

18.05.2021	Vigil	Tamil National Right to Life Movement Religious leaders Mannar Mayor Representatives of public organisations V S Sivakaran	Tamil National Right to Life Movement's Mannar Office
18.05.2021	Mullivaikkal Declaration released		
18.05.2021	Vigil	TNA MPs M A Sumanthiran Chanakyan	Parliament
18.05.2021	Vigil	Council members Manivannan	Jaffna Municipal Council
18.05.2021	SL government sites hacked	Tamil Eelam Cyber Force	Online
18.05.2021	Vigil	Luzrin Mohan Raj TELO Party Members EPRLF District Coordinator S.R. Kumares	TELO's Mannar Office
18.05.2021	Vigil	Mavai Senathirajah E. Saravanapavan ITAK Party Members	ITAK Jaffna Office
18.05.2021	Vigil & Mullivaikkal congee served	Bishops Colonel Jasrin Gnanapirakasam Andakai	Diocesan Bishop's House, Jaffna

freedom in the South
Repression in the North

இலங்கை அரசிடம் கையளிக்கப்பட்ட உறவுகள் எங்கே?

01.05.2021: **Protest** - Following participation in a May Day protest, the Director of the Working Women's Organisation mentioned that in the upcoming SL Provincial elections, Tamil political parties should have 30% of their nominees as Tamil women, reports Virakesari.

01.05.2021: **Deaths** - According to Virakesari, 17 relatives of Tamil Political prisoners had died thus far in their pursuit of releasing their arrested relatives.

02.05.2021: **Arrest** - A young Tamil who had destroyed a Buddhist statue near Nallinakapuram, Keerimalai had been arrested by the occupational police in Kankesanthurai, Jaffna, reports Virakesari.

02.05.2021: **PTA** - K. Mohan (a leader of a Tamil organisation) was arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) by occupational Eravur police for supposedly reviving the LTTE via Facebook, reports Virakesari. Further reports indicate that the police stated that K. Mohan had been arrested and would be detained and investigated by police for 3 months based on the authority of an obtained court order.

04.05.2021: **Rehabilitation** - The SL Cabinet approved a proposal to appoint Rehabilitation Facilitation Officers across occupied Tamil Eelam, reports Virakesari.

Appointments:

- ♦ Geethanath Kasilingam - Coordinating Secretary to the SL Prime Minister, M. Rajapaksa
- ♦ Sugathadasa Kongala Liyanage
- ♦ Yasaranga Godawela

06.05.2021: **Land** - An individual who had erected fence posts around the perimeter of his lands in Karaituraipatru had the posts forcibly removed from the privately-owned lands by the Pradeshiya Sabha members on 06.05.2021, reports Virakesari. Whilst the individual had not initially obtained permission from the Pradeshiya Sabha, once notified by the officials, reports indicate that he had submitted a letter to the officials requesting an extension to obtain the required approval. In spite of this, the officials had violated individual's lands.

06.05.2021: **Jaffna** - According to Newswire.lk, around 20 individuals had been arrested for violating COVID-19 regulations on 06.05.2021 during special operations.

07.05.2021: **Colombo** - According to video footage from News First LK, individuals who had violated COVID-19 regulations were arrested in a similar forcible manner to those arrested in a special operation in Jaffna.

07.05.2021: **Elephants** - Vavuniya locals complained that local officials are inefficient in dealing with the local destruction caused by wild elephants, thus affecting their livelihood, reports Virakesari. Further reports indicate that beneficial trees and crops are destroyed and trampled upon due to the elephants' activities for over 3 years. As a result, the locals had requested officials for an elephant fence to be erected - a request which has not been addressed.

Trees destroyed:

- ◆ Banana
- ◆ Papaya
- ◆ Cassava

10.05.2021: **Protest** - According to Virakesari, a protest was held opposite the Secretariat of the Governor - Northern Province on 10.05.2021 calling for the permanent appointment of 970 health volunteers who had worked in a temporary capacity in the Northern province.

10.05.2021: **Arrest** - A special siege operation was conducted in the occupational Kantalai police area in the Trincomalee district where individuals who were not wearing face masks were arrested. According to Virakesari, the operation was being conducted in a forcible manner across all police divisions in Trincomalee. 30 individuals were arrested in a similar manner by the Bandarawela Police on 09.05.2021, reports Virakesari. Further video footage circulated across social media of police officials forcibly "man-handling" individuals in Jaffna on 06.05.2021 had caused an uproar across the diaspora. Occupational Vavuniya police engaged

in special raids across Vavuniya on 01.05.2021.

11.05.2021: **Resolution** - The Kinniya City Council passed a resolution on 11.05.2021 condemning the arrest of Rishad Bathiudeen, reports Virakesari.

14.05.2021: **Arrest** - According to Virakesari, 30 individuals from occupied Tamil Eelam who were attempting to migrate abroad illegally had been arrested in a special operation jointly conducted by the occupational SL Navy and Coast Guard between 13.05.2021 - 14.05.2021.

Demographics of those arrested:

- ◆ Jaffna
- ◆ Batticaloa
- ◆ Mullaitivu
- ◆ Puttalam

14.05.2021: **Arrests** - According to Newswire.lk, a 38-year-old man had been arrested by the TID under the PTA for organising lectures on extremism in Muttur in December, 2018.

15.05.2021: **IGP** - According to a circular released by the Inspector General of Police (IGP) C.D. Wickramaratne, police were instructed not to "carry" COVID-19 violators away, reports Newswire.lk.

15.05.2021: **Surveillance** - A surprise surveillance operation was conducted by occupational police in the Pattanichur village of Vavuniya on 15.05.2021 where complaints were filed against many individuals for the violation of COVID-19 regulations, reports Virakesari.

17.05.2021: **Protest** - Mannar's General Hospital nurses staged a symbolic protest between 11.00 am - 12 noon on 17.05.2021 at the hospital premises putting forth 4 demands, reports Virakesari.

Issues addressed in demands:

- ◆ Special leave provided by GoSL to other nurses not provided to nurses in Mannar
- ◆ Pregnancy leave provided by GoSL to other nurses not provided to nurses in Mannar
- ◆ Antigen duty nurses not provided adequate facilities for disinfection or rest
- ◆ Ambulance drivers travelling to other districts not provided proper restrooms

18.05.2021: **Rapid Deployment Unit** - According to airforce.lk a new Rapid Deployment Unit was launched on the instruction of G. Rajapaksa. This unit is composed of SLAF Regiment Special Force (RSF), Police Special Task Force (STF) and Intelligence Operatives. They launched an operation in Muttur against illegal sand mining on the 18th May. It's further stated that this new unit will be on 24-hour readiness to deal with environmental destruction, drug smuggling and other illegal operations.

18.05.2021: **Arrest** - A 38-year-old man was arrested for commemorating the LTTE and the National Leader of Tamil Eelam in Kalkudah, reports Newswire.lk. According to the occupational Kalkudah police, the individual would be investigated under the PTA. According to Daily Mirror, 10 suspects including two

women were also arrested alongside the 38-year old.

18.05.2021: **Farmers** - Farmers who had gone at night to protect their farmlands from wild elephants had been prevented from doing so and were detained by occupational police in the Mullaitivu district, reports Virakesari. Further reports indicate that other farmers had protested demanding the release of the detained farmers.

Farmlands the farmers aimed to protect:

- ◆ Mullaitivu
- ◆ Mulliyawalai
- ◆ Puthukkudiyiruppu

19.05.2021: **Army officer** - SL's Retired Lieutenant General Jagath Dias mentioned that the parents of LTTE cadres should be allowed to commemorate their children. According to Dias, 95% of the LTTE are forcibly recruited compatriots who were misguided by a false ideology and belonged to SL which is evidenced through notes. Moreover, he mentioned that Tamil civilians in the North are peacefully co-existing with the occupational army troops stationed there, reports Economy Next.

20.05.2021: **Sand mining** - The Rapid Deployment Unit (RDU) which was formed on 18.05.2021 commenced their first operation to target illegal sand mining activities near the Sitar Bridge in Muttur, reports Newswire.lk. Reports indicate that the operation was conducted based on SLAF intelligence and intelligence obtained through a Beach King B-200 from the No 3 Maritime Squad. The occupational forces who

arrived at the site via a MI-17 helicopter, arrested 56 illegal miners and seized an array of equipment before transferring them into occupational police custody.

Equipment seized:

- ◆ 8 trucks
- ◆ 13 tractors
- ◆ 34 boats
- ◆ 37 motorcycles

21.05.2021: **Arrest** - A. Rohana reported that a 29-year-old suspect identified to be Mohammad Sahim was arrested by the TID in Mawanella on 20.05.2021 under the PTA and has been remanded for further investigation following connection to Zahran Hashim reports the Colombo Gazette.

23.05.2021: **Journalists** - Despite the possession of travel permits issued by occupational police, journalists as essential service workers have been harassed and detained by occupational SL military - especially in Mullaitivu, reports Virakesari. A journalist who was travelling with a permit to Mullaitivu to cover district news was detained by the occupational military at a checkpoint on 21.05.2021. According to Virakesari, another journalist who had gone to cover this incident on 23.05.2021 was also detained by the occupational military.

26.05.2021: **Surveillance** - According to the occupational Jaffna Police Station,

10 individuals had been arrested and later released after a warning for the supposed violation of traffic regulations in a joint drone operation conducted by the occupational SLAF and Police, reports Virakesari.

Locations of surveillance and arrest:

- ◆ Nallur
- ◆ Ariyalai
- ◆ Kurunegala

27.05.2021: **Political Prisoners** - According to Bishop M. Sattivel, the coordinator of the National Organisation for the Release of Political Prisoners, political prisoners should only be released with a political solution, reports Virakesari.

28.05.2021: **Arrest** - SL's TID arrested a former LTTE cadre near Nakarkoyil, Vadamarachchi East after supposedly receiving information that they were in the possession of weapons. According to Jaffna 7, the occupational officials were forced to leave the scene when they had gathered due to discontent portrayed by locals. Reports indicate that the former cadre was in hiding after attacking an SL soldier in 2020.

Weapons in possession:

- ◆ Claymore bomb
- ◆ Chargers
- ◆ Bullets

Act of intimidation	Perpetrator(s)	Location	Target(s)
Restraining orders against commemoration organisers	Mullaitivu Police Division		32 suspected organisers – Motion submitted seeking revocation of ban
Surrounding residence to intimidate	Occupational armed forces	Personal residence, Manatkudiyiruppu, Mullaitivu	ITAK Youth Front representative, Peter Ilancheliyan
Interrogation	Over 50 occupational Mullaitivu Police	Mullivaikkal	Bishop Leo Armstrong
Destruction of Mullivaikkal monument and removal of memorial stone	Occupational armed forces	Mullivaikkal	
Restraining orders preventing Mullivaikkal commemoration	Occupational Kopay Police		Application rejected by Jaffna Magistrate A. Peter
Roads blocked	Occupational Mullaitivu Police	Roads into Mullaitivu	
Police intimidation, cordon off area (prevention of access)	Occupational Mullaitivu Police	Mullivaikkal	Durairasa Ravikaran Andiya Bhuvaneswaran

Detainment	Occupational Mullaitivu Police and Army	Mullivaikkal	Anyone who visited the site despite the court restrictions
Intimidation	Occupational Vavuniya Police	Vavuniya Kumari Amman Temple	Journalists who intended to cover the Mullivaikkal Athmasanthi Poosai
Extinguishing of lamp, prevention of access	Occupational SL officials	Jaffna University Campus	Jaffna University Students.

United in Resistance

Solidarity with the Colombian Community

On 29.05.2021 our comrades in Toronto, Ontario, Canada bore witness to a Colombian art-based resistance action which was held in front of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The Colombian diaspora gathered to stand in solidarity during their "24 Hours of Art & Performance in Protest Against the State Violence in Colombia" demonstration which occurred between 17.00 on 28.05.2021 - 17.00 on 29.05.2021.



The people of Colombia who have been subjected to mass state-enforced police violence for years, ignited demonstrations on 28.04.2021 following an increase in the Alt-Right regimes' enforcement of taxation imposed on the middle to lower class communities who have been deeply affected by COVID-19. Since the resistance was carried out by locals, the State, according to local sources, began withdrawing. However, the momentum of the people's resistance continued - calling for the

universalisation of health care and an end to impunity and corruption. The people of Colombia continued to push for social change in the country.

Notably, Iván Duque Márquez - the President of Colombia with ties to the Alt-Right politicians and elites, anticipated the resistance as per local sources in Colombia. Unexpectedly, the rapid nature of mobilisation in the city centres has been unique to the Colombian space. Sources told the Akkinip Paravaikal Team that majority of the resistances in the past have largely been contained within the rural regions of the country. They went on to share that following the peace accord established between Colombia and the guerilla movement - Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC) on 24.08.2016, the political climate in Colombia was relatively calm. It is noteworthy that some of the FARC forces remain active and have not agreed to the peace accord that has been introduced. Subsequently, those who have followed through with the agreement have gained high-ranking roles within the military and governmental sectors. Additionally, the state has been involved in ongoing mass killings as a means to incorporate Counter Insurgency (COIN) tactics to shift the nature of the accord with recruitment of rural youth, taking them to a secluded area, killing them and dressing them in FARC uniform post murder. It is undoubtedly clear that those in power have reluctantly agreed to the accord.



During the early phases of the demonstration in Colombia, police have been deployed to supposedly monitor the resistance with the military on standby. Yet, on 28.05.2021, the military was deployed to address the ongoing resistance following supposed protestors gunning down other protesters. However, local sources in Colombia who were a witness to the violence have shared that police watched without intervention as those in civil attire walked brazenly with guns in hand and had shot point-blank at the protestors. Locals are certain that the

shooters are either paramilitary forces or police officials in civil attire and that this is a state-aided pogrom to effectively bring the military into the city to quash civil resistance. According to our Colombian source, around 7, 000 military troops have been deployed into the capital of Cali.

Uniquely, the resistance continues. Some cities and villages have established for the first time a front-line defence to counter police violence. Through the use of man-made shields, those in the front lines have established a barricade to protect the locals from violence and to facilitate the continuation of the protest whilst minimising the hindrance to the social life of their respective spaces. Our sources in Colombia have shared that

the situation continues to intensify with some areas going into a 72-hour lockdown effective from 01.06.2021, informing them to stock appropriate food and resources. Yet, the state has failed to provide locals with social assistance in order to effectively do this. With the ongoing pandemic, many have been financially strapped for several months. The situation in Colombia remains dire.

“As state violence and genocide are a thread weaved through colonialism, we recognize the Colombian People in Toronto are binding together as they continue their act of demonstration against Colombian state violence through art and, recognize the power in this act as international media remains mute.”

Solidarity with Palestine

On 22.05.2021 Phoenix TNG joined a solidarity protest for Palestine in the city of Basel in Switzerland. At this protest, Phoenix TNG made a speech, where they explained why the Tamil people stand behind the Palestinian struggle and addressed the similarities between the two struggles.



The speech:

Some may wonder why we are here. The answer is that the problem of the Tamils in Tamil Eelam has many similarities with the situation in Palestine.

Like the Palestinians, the Tamils are suffering under an apartheid state. With us, it is against Sri Lanka, that we have been fighting against for decades. Initially, it was through peaceful protests and after the bloody suppression of it, we took up armed resistance.

After a genocidal massacre, where more than 169,000 Tamils were massacred within a few months, we have now landed in a political void and are defenceless against genocide. Yet resistance continues in our country.

As in Palestine, targeted settlement projects are taking place in Tamil Eelam, which will change the demographic composition of Tamil Eelam in the long run. This is being done through militarisation, Buddhicisation and Sinhalisation. Additionally, large irrigation

projects, conservation of forestry and archaeology are being used as weapons to drive the Tamils out of Tamil Eelam.



Gamini Dissanayake, a mastermind behind the Sri Lankan settlement projects, has said that he was inspired by the settlement projects in Palestine. Apart from this overlap, there is another overlap between the two struggles. We have both been abandoned by the international community, all the institutions and by all so-called liberals and moderates. More clearly, we have been and are being screwed by all of these.

So it is important that we know that we have each other. We both understand our pains. Therefore, it is important that we show solidarity with more revolutionary and progressive forces and strengthen our struggles with International Solidarity. Then, neither fundamentalist nor geopolitical interests can harm us.

வெல்வது உறுதி! - Victory is Certain



Phoenix TNG stands in collective solidarity with the People of Palestine.



Comrades in Canada attend Palestinian solidarity protest.

Signs of Structural Genocide

06.05.2021: **Recruitment** - According to the Civil Military Cooperation, Jaffna's occupational Commander Security Force had visited the Vidaththalpalai battalion training school on 05.05.2021 where new Tamils, Sinhalese and Muslims were recruited.

11.05.2021: **Kurunthoormalai** - A mass-scale Buddhist chanting event was organised in Kurunthoormalai, Mullaitivu with the assistance of occupational army officers, reports Virakesari. Further reports indicate that the event is being conducted in the presence of 100s of occupational army officers, monks and SL archeological department officers in violation of COVID-19 regulations. According to Virakesari the event is conducted under the supervision and leadership of the Mullaitivu Security Forces. It is notable that the event was conducted without a permit from health officials, the police or magistrate.

17.05.2021: **Archaeology** - According to Virakesari, SL's Department of Archaeology has occupied the Mankulam area of the Vavuniya district to conduct archaeological research into a possible buddhist site of worship. Further reports indicate that brick ruins near the Mankulam area had been inspected by a team of officers from the Vavuniya Archaeological Officers after being instructed by the Commanding Officer of the 16th Division of the Sinha Regiment. Earlier reports from 16.05.2021 indicate that excavations had also been carried out by the department in the

Kodaliparichchan Forest area, Vavuniya.

COIN Methods

19.05.2021: **WHAM** - To coincide with the 12th year of SL's National War Heroes' commemoration day, the occupational Palaly Army Base Hospital is to be further expanded and improved with the addition of a new two-storied building with wards, reports army.lk. Such methods will be utilised to increase civil-military cooperation within occupied Tamil Eelam.

19.05.2021: **WHAM** - Responding to a request made by the Kilinochchi Blood Bank, occupational troops of the SL Security Force Headquarters, Kilinochchi volunteered to donate blood for the benefit of patients on 17.05.2021 at the Army Base Hospital Kilinochchi premises, reports army.lk. Such methods are a portion of Winning Hearts the Hearts and Minds of the local Eelam Tamils thus attempting to shift the existing civil-military distrust.



முள்ளிவாய்க்கால் கவிதை

உரிமை இழந்தோம்
உறவை பிரிந்தோம்
அச்சம் கொண்டோம்

மண்ணை தூளாய் சிதறவைத்தாய்
இறதி துளிக்குருதியை உறிஞ்சிக்
குடித்தாய்
நியும் ஒரு மனிதனா?
அல்லது ஒரு மிருகமா?

தமிழா நீ கலங்காதே
பலவினத்தை காட்டாதே
வெற்றி நமதே

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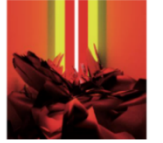
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FOR THE LIBERATION OF MY PEOPLE



RISE OF THE TIGERS



STRUCTURES OF SAMIL EELAN

Akkinip Paravaikal

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Address:

Phoenix TNG
Hängertstrasse 1
3114 Wichtrach
Switzerland

Phone: +41 79 618 10 33

Email: ap.puradsimedia@gmail.com

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Email: contact@puradsimedia.com

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