The Forgotten Victims of the Unfinished War in Sri Lanka

Tragic Plight of the Tamil Widows & Victims of Sexual Violence In Sri Lanka & Abroad

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History & Background

Hooliganism in Colombo

Attacks on Tamil Satyagrahis

From Our Correspondent

Colombo, June 5

Violence has been occurring in Colombo all day. It started this morning at Galle Face, the long stretch of green between the House of Representatives and the sea where about 200 Tamils performed satyagraha by merely sitting on the grass.

What You Can’t Hide is Genocide
“The Sri Lankan security forces have committed untold numbers of rapes of Tamil men and women in custody. These are not just wartime atrocities but continue to the present, putting every Tamil man and woman at serious risk.”

**Brad Adams,**
Asia director
Human Rights Watch.
• Abduction, arbitrary detention, torture, rape and sexual violence have increased in the post-war period.

• These widespread and systematic violations by the Sri Lankan security forces occur in a manner that indicates a coordinated, systematic plan approved by the highest levels of government. Members of the Sri Lankan security forces are secure in the knowledge that no action will be taken against them.

• This report establishes a prima facie case of post-war crimes against humanity by the Sri Lankan security forces, with respect to (a) torture and (b) rape and sexual violence.
Lack of safety & Impunity in Sri Lanka
Social Stigma & Lack of Mental Health Treatments

Suicides in 2012
(from January 01 to September 30)

- Drinking pesticides and insecticides: 212
- Hanging: 863
- Consumption of natural poisonous substances: 45
- Jumping in front of moving trains: 55
- Drowning: 36
- Setting oneself on fire: 64
- Consumption of liquids containing acids: 22
- Using firearms: 12
- Using hand grenades: 4
- Using sharp objects: 3

Total Male: 2,092
Total Female: 612

Source: Police spokesperson's office
Poverty

Poverty in Sri Lanka

Sectoral Distribution of Poverty

Source: Department of Census and Statistics, 2008

Poverty Headcount Ratio (Percentage of population below the national poverty line)
Forced recruitment of Tamil women into Army & Abuse
Above the Law: Violations of Women’s Reproductive Rights in Northern Sri Lanka

by The Social Architects - on 10/11/2013
In Gender, Healthcare, Politics and Governance, Post-War
29 Comments

Image courtesy The Social Architects

This report, TSA’s fourth, outlines the findings of the organization’s September 2013 field mission on coercive contraception clinics in...
Tamil Women seeking Asylum in the UK
Recommendations:

- Urge the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) to initiate inquiry into Sri Lanka and what the government is doing to address the problems of widowhood.
- Urge the government to Develop National Action Plan with timeline to promote the rights and welfare of women headed households in Sri Lanka.
- Declare War Widows as a “Particular Social Group” (PGS) that require special protection within the context of Article 1A(2) of the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees.
- All decision makers within the UK Home Office should give careful consideration to the reports produced by well-established NGO’s on the position of returnees and current UNHCR guidance on country conditions in Sri Lanka.
- Given the emerging evidence of ongoing systematic torture and rape in Sri Lanka asylum applications from Sri Lanka should not be subjected to accelerated asylum procedures.
- UK Foreign and Commonwealth office to immediately take action to prioritize Sri Lanka in its initiative of preventing sexual violence.
Individuals have international duties which transcend the national obligations of obedience. Therefore, (individual citizens) have the duty to prevent crimes against peace and humanity from occurring."

Nuremberg War Crime Tribunal, 1950 ~
Finally, Urge the UK Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary to keep their promise on Sri Lanka.