

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TAMIL LIBERATION STRUGGLE FOR SELF-DETERMINATION: 20 YEARS AFTER THE CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT (2002 - 2022)

The impact and benefit  
of de-listing LTTE

Socio-political Equality  
and Global Tamil  
Diaspora



Protect Tamil  
civil liberties

Justice  
and freedom

## Organized By Coalition for Tamil Political Rights

Tamil Genocide Memorial (TGM)  
Quebec Tamil Development Association (QTDA)  
Canadian Tamil Coalition for Justice and  
Accountability (CTCJA)  
Brampton Tamil Association (BTA)

Ottawa Tamil Association (OTA)  
United Tamil Solidarity Front (UTSF)  
The Delft People Cultural Organization Of  
Canada  
Tamil Canadian Centre for Civic Action (TCCCA)

The Necessity for Delisting of the LTTE, the Protection of Tamil Rights  
and the De-Stigmatization of the Global Tamil Diaspora

# Toronto, Canada - February 18-19, 2022

3: 00 pm: Inaugural Session

- Silent Tribute, Land Acknowledgement
- O Canada, Tamilthai Valzhthu
- Welcome Address

3: 25 pm: Terrorist Designation is the Continuation of Politics by Other Means

MR. RUDRAKUMARAN VISUVANATHAN

is the Prime Minister of the Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam, which aims to realize accountability for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes committed by Sri Lanka against the Tamil nation and to create a separate Tamil homeland, the only way Tamils can protect their rights, called Tamil Eelam in the island of Sri Lanka. He was the former legal advisor to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). By profession, he is a lawyer in the United States.

3: 45 pm: The Peace-Trap: The Tamil dilemma of peacemaking while confronting the peace-building narratives of counter-insurgency and geopolitics of the international community - The moral responsibility of the Canadian Tamil diaspora in course-correcting the narrative.

MR. JEYACHANDRAN KOPINATH

is TamilNet Founder, based in Oslo, Norway, has been covering the peace process related interviews. He was in touch with the Tamil leaders, who were involved in the peace talks during the Norwegian-facilitated peace process and one of the few editorial witnesses with internal insight and access to the Tamil side having interacted with all the LTTE leaders involved in the peace process.

4: 10 pm: The Impact of Listing LTTE on Tamil Youth and Their Future Pursuits

MS. ABINA NIMALRAJ

recently completed her Masters in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Waterloo and aspires to continue her work in the realm of human rights and conflict resolution. Coming from an Eelam Tamil family, she strongly believes that remedial justice and reconciliation is necessary for our brothers and sisters back home in Tamil Eelam.

4: 25 pm: The Consequences of Listing: Ethnic Stigmatization and an Unjust Psycho-Social Aggression.

PROF. JOSEPH CHANDRAKANTHAN

is a professor at University of Toronto and co-Author of Tamils' Identity and Aspirations. On completing his doctoral studies in Canada, he returned to the University of Jaffna and was founding Head of the Department of Christian and Islamic Studies. He held a Sessional Professorship in Biblical Studies at Concordia University in Montreal from 1996-1999 and in 2000 he joined the Faculty of the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics.

4: 45 pm: Wartime De-Listing 101

MR. RAJEEV SREETHARAN

is an author, engineer, and corporate attorney. Rajeev is also a co-founder of Neethi, and provides pro bono counsel in the practice areas of genocide, international humanitarian law (IHL), and international human rights law (IHRL) to selected NGOs and grass-roots organizations

5: 00 pm: The State of Tamil Eelam as a Subject of International Law: It's Status and Rights at the ICJ

MR. LORENZO FIORITO

is a lawyer and advocate for Eelam Tamil human rights. He has written for community media on Tamil issues for a decade and has participated in lobbying efforts at the UN Human Rights Council. He holds an LLM in international dispute resolution.

5: 20 pm: Roaring against Annihilation: How Sri Lankan state terrorism created Tamil Tiger salvational violence

DR. THOREAU REDCROW

is an American global conflict analyst who specializes in geopolitics, stateless nations, and armed guerrilla movements. He is a frequent speaker before the United Nations Human Rights Council and has been a foreign policy advisor for several semi-state entities. He holds a Ph.D. in Conflict Analysis and Resolution with specializations in ethnic conflict and terrorism.

5: 40 pm: The Terrorist Designation is a black cloud hanging over the heads of Tamil Canadians - Guest speech

MR. JACK MACLAREN

is a Canadian former politician who represented the eastern Ontario riding of Carleton—Mississippi Mills in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario from 2011 to 2018. He is a past president of the Ontario Landowners Association and graduated with a BSc in civil engineering from Queen's University in 1972.

5: 45 pm: Plenary Discussion

PROF. JOSEPH CHANDRAKANTHAN & SPEAKERS

Questions from Audience and discussions

9: 00 am: Opening Address

**PROF. JOSEPH CHANDRAKANTHAN**

Summary of Session 1 from previous day

9: 15 am: Right to Self- Determination & Eelam Tamils

**PROF. RAMU MANIVANNAN**

is the head of the Department of Politics and Public Administration of the University of Madras, and a long-time academic researcher and author in the Human Rights arena. His voluminous work on the international crimes committed by the Sri Lanka State in and around Mullivaikaal is titled 'Sri Lanka: Hiding the Elephant' Documenting Genocide, War Crimes, Crimes against humanity.

9: 35 am: Legal Implications on Malaysians post-Tamil Eelam War

**MS. KALAINILAA KALAIYARASU**

is an advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya, Legal Team of the Judicial Review Application by Balamurugan Veerasamy against the Malaysian Home Affairs Ministry.

9: 55 am: On De-listing the LTTE

**PROF. PETER SCHALK**

is the Chair Professorship of History of Religions, especially Hinduism and Buddhism, at Uppsala University. Though he is now retired, he keeps on his many research interests in religious expressions in intra- and inter-state conflicts in South Asia and Southeast Asia, He has been engaged in Tamil Studies since the 1970s, and started his field work in Sri Lanka in 1970. Professor Schalk was behind the very productive exchange program between Yalppanam University and Uppsala University since the 1970s.

10: 15 am: 20 Years After the Ceasefire - Strategic Considerations for Tamil Aspirations

**MS. SOWJEYA JOSEPH**

is an attorney-at-law with a post-graduate degree in International Law & European Law. She has advocated for Eelam Tamil rights at the UN Human Rights Council, as well as working towards equal and just treatment for Tamil people on the island of Sri Lanka in collaboration with different stakeholders. Professionally, she works as a finance lawyer, with experience in London and Zurich.

10: 35 am: Eelam Tamils right of self-determination

**MR. GAJENDRAKUMAR GANGASER PONNAMBALAM**

is a barrister-at-law from Lincoln's Inn and was called to the bar of England and Wales in 1997. Returning to Sri Lanka, he qualified as an attorney-at-law and was called to the bar of Sri Lanka in 1999. He is the leader of Tamil National People's Front and Member of Parliament in Sri Lanka,

10: 55 am: Improper decolonization of Sri Lanka

**MS. RATHIKA SITSABAIESAN**

is a former Canadian politician and activist of Eelam Tamil origin. She was formerly part of the New Democratic Party and represented Scarborough—Rouge River in the House of Commons of Canada as a Member of Parliament between 2011 and 2015. She was the first Tamil to be elected to the Canadian federal parliament as well the first woman and first visible minority to be elected as Member of Parliament for Scarborough—Rouge River. Rathika is currently a professor with The Business School at Centennial College and a PhD student at University of Toronto.

11: 15 am: Calling out the Continuous Genocide of Eelam Tamils: the Power of Diasporic Youth

**MS. SHARUTHIE RAMESH**

is an undergraduate student at the University of Toronto, pursuing studies in evolutionary anthropology and sociology of genocide. Author of the Chosen Hybrid Series since the age of thirteen, she is also the record label producer of WYN Entertainment, under the alias 'shaya.' Sharuthie is an activist for Tamil Rights, having addressed the 46th General Assembly of the UN's Human Rights Council on behalf of Tamil students across the globe in 2021.

11: 35 am: Self-determination and remedial secession in the context of the Eelam Tamils and the mechanisms in the UN

**PROF. ALFRED-MAURICE DE ZAYAS**

has been visiting professor of law at numerous universities including the University of British Columbia in Canada, the Graduate Institute of the University of Geneva, the DePaul University Law School (Chicago), the Human Rights Institute at the Irish National University (Galway) and the University of Trier (Germany). From 1 May 2012 to 30 April 2018, he served as the first UN Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, At present, he teaches international law at the Geneva School of Diplomacy.

11: 55 am: Special Address by Mayor Patrick Brown

**MR. PATRICK BROWN**

He is a Canadian politician who is currently serving as the Mayor of Brampton. Prior to his election as mayor, Mr. Brown was the leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario and Ontario's Leader of the Official Opposition from 2015 to 2018. He graduated with a law degree from the University of Windsor.

12: 05 pm: Plenary Discussion

**PROF. RAMU MANIVANNAN & SPEAKERS**

Questions from Audience and discussions