



கனடியத் தமிழர் தேசிய அவை  
National Council of Canadian Tamils  
Conseil National de Tamouls Canadien

## MEDIA ADVISORY

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### **Tamil community members, members of parliament, and human rights activists to convene at Albert Campbell Square to re-affirm their call for justice on Tamil Genocide Day**

**Toronto** – Thousands of Tamil Canadians are expected to attend the fifth annual Tamil Genocide Day event to be held this Sunday, May 18. Community members, members of Parliament, and human rights activists will re-affirm the necessity for an independent international investigation into violations of international and human rights law in Sri Lanka.

According to the United Nations Panel of Experts Report on Sri Lanka, the war in Sri Lanka ended amidst the indiscriminate killing of 70,000 civilians, caused by the intentional bombings of civilian “safe zones,” hospitals and humanitarian operations.

“It has been five years since the war’s formal conclusion on May 18<sup>th</sup> 2009, even after United Nations passed a resolution earlier this year calling for an international investigation into violation of international human rights law, Sri Lanka is defiant and still unwilling to take concrete steps in addressing serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law”, states Prof Sri Ranjan the NCCT Chairperson. “As Sri Lanka continues to act with impunity in its violations of international law, the urgency increases for implementing the international accountability into Sri Lanka’s crimes” states Prof Sri Ranjan.

The protracted genocide of the Tamils today is carried out through a brutal military occupation, and a deliberate program of Sinhala colonization and settlements. “While government sponsored settlements aim to destroy Tamil homes and livelihoods, the military occupation of the North-East controls all aspects of individual, social and professional life, threatening the safety and security of Tamils, and brutally suppressing any dissent against the Sri Lankan state oppression,” said Prof Sri Ranjan.

“Sri Lanka’s contempt for human rights and international law means that the international community must apply the standards of universal justice through an independent



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investigation into war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide,” states Prof Sri Ranjan, “We demand a sustainable and just political solution based on the inalienable right to self-determination in order to prevent the emergence of another violent war. In line with the precedents set in East Timor and South Sudan, an internationally monitored referendum will facilitate basic political and human rights to help the Tamil people peacefully determine their own future in the island” he concluded.

Prominent human rights activists along with Canadian MPs and MPPs from all political parties will address the event.

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*The National Council of Canadian Tamils (NCCT) is a grassroots organization, composed of elected representatives from across Canada that serves to organize Tamil-Canadians on a democratic and cooperative basis.*