

(The history, negotiations, abrogation of pacts, military operations, etc)

Severe Aerial bombing, artillery shelling by various governments in the island of Sri Lanka have caused massive human disaster and property damage in the Tamil homeland)

1505 The Portuguese arrived in Ceylon during the existence of three sovereign kingdoms, one Tamil Kingdom in Jaffna, and two Sinhala Kingdoms in Kotte and Kandy.

The island was divided into three kingdoms, a Tamil kingdom in the North East, the Kandy kingdom of the highlands and the Kotte kingdom situated in the South.

1619 Tamil sovereignty ended in June when the **Portuguese defeated the Tamil King**, and the Jaffna Kingdom became a Colony of the Portuguese.

1658 The Dutch arrived in Ceylon and the Jaffna Kingdom became a Dutch Colony.



Dutch 1658 - ceylon

1795 The British arrived in Ceylon and the Jaffna Kingdom became a British Colony.

1802 Ceylon became a British Crown Colony.

1833 For the first time in over 2,500 years of its recorded history, **the entire island of Ceylon was brought under a single administration** based on the recommendations of the **Colebrook-Cameron Report**.

1862 Tamils from Southern India were brought as labourers to work in the tea plantations in the hill country by the British. During the same period Tamil labourers from South India were taken to work in the sugar cane plantations in South Africa, Mauritius and in many other British colonies.

1885 Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan Tamil leader called for increased representation in Legislative council for Tamils.

1915 In June, Sinhala Buddhist-Muslim riots in Ceylon. Riots spread from the central province to the western and northwestern provinces.

There were heavy casualties amongst the Muslims. According to available records, 36 Muslims were killed and 205 Muslims were injured and raped. Nearly 85 mosques were damaged and more than 4,075 Muslim-owned shops were looted by the Sinhala rioters.

1919 The Ceylon National Congress (CNC), the first full-fledged "Nationalist" political party was formed by a celebrated Tamil, Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam.

1921 Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam **quitted the CNC, denouncing it as a party** representing mainly a section of the Sinhalese.

1927-1931 Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan and Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam **had talks** with Sinhala leaders when the **Donoughmore Commission** announced its recommendations in 1927. The **talks ended in a failure** as the Sinhala leaders ignored the aspirations of the Tamils.

1944 The first Tamil political party, “All Ceylon Tamil Congress-ACTC” was founded by G. G. Ponnambalam to champion the cause of the Tamils against Sinhala Buddhist domination.

1947 The United National Party (UNP) was formed.

The first constitution of Ceylon was adopted by an Order in Council rather than by a Constituent Assembly. It was known as the (Lord) “**Soulbury Constitution**” which remained in force until 1972.

1948 The British left Ceylon independence was granted to “Ceylon” and the power to govern Ceylon was handed over to the Sinhalese who were numerically superior.

After the stringent 15 November **1948 Citizenship Act** and the laws of disenfranchisement were enacted and adopted, the Tamils of Indian origin Tamils in the hill country (plantation Tamils) were deprived of selecting their representatives to the Parliament. **More than a million plantation Tamil workers were rendered stateless.**

1948-1950 The Government launched massive **Sinhala colonisation** schemes in the Eastern province. Gal oya in Batticaloa, Allai and Kathalai in Trincomalee were colonised under pretexts of development.

1949 Dissension with the “Tamil Congress” party led to the formation of the “**Tamil Federal Party**” (FP) under the leadership of S. J. V. Chelvanayagam.

1951 The first convention of the Federal Party was held and it was unanimously decided to campaign for a federal structure of governance with regional autonomy for Tamils living in North and East.

S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike broke away from UNP and forms the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP).

1956 The United National Party-UNP was ousted from power in the general elections by the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP), which swept the island with a wave of Sinhalese-Buddhist nationalism with strong anti-Tamil overtones.

On 14 June S. W. R. D. Bandaranayake **father of President Chandrika Kumaratunga** proclaimed the “**Sinhala Only Act**” which made the Sinhala language the only official language of Ceylon.

The peaceful Satyagraha campaign staged by the Tamils to protest against the “Sinhala Only Act” at the Galle Face Green, in front of the Parliament in Colombo was brutally savaged by Sinhalese thugs with the connivance of government. The outbreak of **first anti-Tamil riots** in the island. More than 150 Tamils were burnt or hacked to death and million rupees worth of properties belonging to Tamils were looted and destroyed. [<More>](#)

1957 Soon after the “Sinhala Only Act” was passed in Parliament, **talks** were initiated between the Prime Minister S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike and the Federal Party leader S. J. V. Chelvanayagam.

On 26 July an agreement known as “**Banda Chelva**” **pact was signed** between Bandaranayake and Chevanayagam. This agreement was based on a quasi federal system devolving certain powers to the Tamils in the North East provinces.

Within a week of signing the “**Banda-Chelva**” **pact, it was unilaterally abrogated** by the Prime Minister Bandaranaike due to vehement protests staged by the UNP, Buddhist clergy and SLFP. J R Jeyawardena of United National Party-UNP undertook a march to Kandy in protest against this pact.

1958 **Anti-Tamil pogrom** broke out in the island. Many Tamils were massacred and million of rupees worth of properties belonging to the Tamils were looted and destroyed. [<More>](#)

On 25 May, in the government sugar-cane plantation at Polonnaruwa and Hingurakgoda, the Sinhala thugs assaulted the Tamil labourers remorselessly. The Sinhala thugs set fire to the sugar canes

and burnt or hacked to death 500 Tamils in Polonnaruwa and Hingurakgoda. Violence spread to the Southern part of the island wherever the Tamils live.

1959 The Prime Minister S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike **was assassinated by a Buddhist monk.**

1960 Mrs. Srimavo Bandaranaike, widow of S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike and **mother of President Chandrika Kumaratunge**, swore in as the Prime Minister.

1961 A non-violent civil disobedience campaign was launched by the Federal Party.

The government reacted violently by sending Police and military forces to Jaffna to suppress the agitation. Anti-Tamil pogrom broke out in areas where Sinhalese were in a majority, killing hundreds of Tamils and rendering thousands homeless.

1964 **The Srimavo-Shashtri pact was signed for the repatriation of the Tamil people of Indian origin to whom citizenship was denied and disenfranchised through the 1948 Citizenship Act. They lived in the island for over 115 years.**

1965 Dudley Senanayake leader of the UNP formed the government with the **help of the Federal Party** and other parties.

Talks were held between the Prime Minister Dudley Senanayake and S. J. V. Chelvanayagam.

On 24 March, an agreement known as "**Dudley-Chelva**" Pact was signed between Dudley Senanayake and S. J. V. Chelvanayagam.

The agreement was abandoned without being implemented due to opposition from the SLFP, the Buddhist clergy, and UNP backbenchers.

1967 The Janata Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP-People's Liberation Front) was formed.

1970 Mrs Bandaranaike became the Prime Minister, as the United Front (a coalition of SLFP and other Sinhala leftist parties) gained a **two-third majority in the Parliament.**

1971 Armed revolution by the Janata Vimukthi Peramuna was suppressed by Srimavo Bandaranayake. Thousands of Sinhala JVP youths were killed.

Talks were held between various Tamils leaders and Srimavo Bandaranayake on constitutional amendments.

No agreement was reached but the Sinhala leaders went ahead undeterred with their republican constitution amending the minimum safeguards granted to Tamils by the earlier constitution.

1972 Ceylon became a "Republic" on 22 May and Ceylon was officially renamed as the "**Republic of SRI LANKA**"

The United Front government enacted a Sinhala-Supremacist "**Republican Constitution**" for the country, which made Buddhism the state religion.

Formation of Tamil United Front (TUF) comprising Federal Party led by, S. J. V. Chelvanayagam, Tamil Congress (TC) led by GG Ponnambalam, and Ceylon Workers Congress (CWC) led by Savariamoorthy Thondaman.

State discrimination against Tamil students' admission to Universities reached the peak with the introduction of "**Standardisation**". University admission based on merit was abandoned deliberately to stop Tamil students entering Universities.

A youth group comprising self-sacrificing and disciplined youths named **Tamil New Tigers (TNT)** was formed by Mr. V. Pirabakaran to fight for the right to self-determination of the Tamils in the North East.

1974 On 10 January, Sinhalese Police unleashed an unprovoked violent attack on those attending the prestigious "**4th Tamil Research Conference**" in Jaffna, leaving **nine innocent civilians dead.**

1975 On 5 May the Tamil New Tigers -TNT was renamed as **Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam LTTE**. Mr. V. Pirabakaran was named the Chairman and military commander of the LTTE.

1976 On 14 May, the Tamil United Front -TUF was renamed as **Tamil United Liberation Front-TULF**. The TULF passed the "Vaddukkodai resolution" **pledging to restore a free, sovereign, secular, socialist state of Tamil Eelam based on the right to self-determination, and also to safeguard the very existence of the Tamil nation in the island.**

1977 In July, Tamil United Liberation Front-TULF, contested and won overwhelmingly at the Parliamentary election giving them a mandate to establish the "Right to Self-determination" of Tamil Eelam in the North East. J. R. Jeyewardena of UNP became the Prime Minister, with a five-sixth majority in the Parliament. The TULF became the major opposition party in the parliament.

Talks took place between Prime Minister J.R. Jayawardena and the Tamil United Liberation Front. **No agreement was reached.** **Anti-Tamil pogrom** occurred immediately after elections in the areas where Sinhalese were in the majority killing hundreds of Tamils. [<More>](#)

1978 **A New Constitution** was enacted and J.R. Jeyawardena became **first Executive President** of the country. The phrase "Republic of Sri Lanka" was rephrased as "**Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**"

Sri Lankan security forces started perpetrating their dreadful atrocities against Tamil youths. Counter activities of Tamil militant organisations were also on the increase.

1979 **The government enacted the draconian** Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA), **banning the Tamil militant organisations. On 11 July, the Jaffna peninsula was brought effectively** under martial law **under Public Security ordinance.** Anti-Tamil pogrom **broke out in the island. Many Tamils were killed and properties belonging to Tamils were looted and destroyed.**

1980 Several Tamil youths were arbitrarily killed by the Sri Lankan security forces, Police and Army.

1981 In June, another **anti-Tamil pogrom** was unleashed. Increased military repression in the North. **The Jaffna Public Library was burnt down** by the Sri Lankan armed forces, allegedly under the direction of two senior government ministers, Gamini Dissanayake and Cyril Matthew. **95,000 volumes** of books including numerous culturally important and irreplaceable manuscripts and the buildings were totally destroyed by arson. The Jaffna city market, the office of the Tamils daily newspaper "Eelanadu", the office of the political party TULF, etc were burnt down by the Sri Lanka security forces.

An anti-Tamil pogrom broke out in the island. Many Tamils were killed and looting of the Tamils properties were widespread. [<More>](#)

1982 Government sponsored a **Sinhala settlement** in the Tamil populated Mullaitivu.

1983 **Major anti-Tamil pogrom** took place in July all over the island with the buoyed up support of the government. During the four days riots, more than **6,000 Tamils were killed and over 250,000 were rendered refugees.** Thousands of Tamils fled the country and went to India and to Western countries. Billions rupees worth of Tamils properties was looted and destroyed by the Sinhala rioters.

Between 27-28 July, **fifty-three Tamil political prisoners were massacred** inside the walls of the Welikadai prison in Colombo by the Sinhala inmates. The government masterminded this massacre and the Sinhala attackers were released from the prison and were rewarded with houses and properties in the Sinhala settlements in the Tamil homeland.

Hundreds of youths joined the LTTE movement and the TULF Members of Parliament sought asylum in India.

J. R. Jeyawardena's government enacts **the 6th amendment** to the constitution and rejected the right to self-determination of the Tamil people in the island **on 8th August.** This amendment outlawed the mandate voted by the Tamils in 1977 general election. The Sixth amendment and the

Prevention of Terrorism Act in 1979 along with the Emergency Law provisions became the instruments through which repression was unleashed on the Tamil people.

1984 At the beginning of **EELAM WAR-I**. Tamils living in the North East were lynched, arrested, tortured and killed. Women and many men disappeared. Sri Lankan Air Force bombers dropped lethal **napalm bombs** in residential areas causing severe loss and damage to the Tamil people and to their properties.

1985 Talks mediated by India took place in Thimbu, the capital of Bhutan, between the LTTE including other Tamil parties and the J. R. Jeyawardena's government. Two rounds of direct negotiations were held in July-August and on 17th September.

All Tamil parties worked out four cardinal principles as the basis for the negotiation, which are today known as the "**Thimpu principles**". The Sri Lankan government's reluctance to devolve powers and its refusal to recognise the Thimpu principles as the basis for the talk resulted in the abrupt premature termination of the negotiation. **No agreement was reached.**

1985-1987 State repression and counter attacks intensified in the North East resulting in all-out war between the Sri Lankan state and the LTTE. LTTE effectively **took control of the Jaffna peninsula** and other Northern areas.

Thousands of Tamils were killed as fighting turned brutal. Non-combatants were systematically targeted by the Sri Lanka Police, Army, Navy, Air force and Special Task Force-STF.

1986 In November, talks between the LTTE representatives and President J. R. Jeyawardena took place through the mediation of the Indian Prime minister in Bangalore, India.

LTTE Leader Pirabakaran and advisor Dr. Anton Balasingham participated in the talk.

Talks ended in a failure. J. R. Jeyawardena refused to recognise the right to self-determination and the homeland of the Tamils.

1987 An economic embargo was imposed by the Sri Lankan government on the Jaffna peninsula. Sri Lankan government launched a military operation named "Operation Liberation" to recapture the Jaffna peninsula. Sri Lanka's two army brigades launched an offensive in the early hours on the 26th May in Vadamarachchi. The operation continued for five days.

On the 29th July 1987, a peace accord known as "**Indo-Lanka**" pact was signed between Sri Lanka and India. Even though this accord purported to bring an end to the island's ethnic crisis, it was signed by India and Sri Lanka without any consultation with LTTE and the Tamils of the North East of the Island.

Tens of thousands of Indian troops known as "Indian Peace Keeping Force" (IPKF) arrived in North East. Later this force was named by the Tamils and civil society as the "Innocent Public Killing Force" (IPKF).

The Sinhala nationalist Janatha Vimukthi Perumna (JVP) vigorously opposed the "Indo-Lanka" pact.

The LTTE's first public meeting was held in Suthumalai on 4 August 1987. The LTTE Leader Mr. Pirabakaran's speech in this meeting became known as the "**Suthumalai Declaration**".

On 5th August, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam -LTTE and other militant groups **surrendered their arms to the Indian army.**

On 3rd October, seventeen LTTE members, including two leaders, were intercepted at sea near the coastal waters of Point Pedro, by the Sri Lankan Navy and were held at the Pallaly military base. This was a violation of the cease-fire as an amnesty had been given to the militant groups in the "Indo-Lanka" accord. When the Sri Lanka army attempted to forcibly transport them by air to Colombo, all seventeen simultaneously bit cyanide capsules. Twelve died on the spot and five survived.

On 10th October, the Indian Peace Keeping Force-IPKF which came to maintain peace in the North East, started attacking the Tamils in the North East killing more than six thousand (6000) civilians, torturing, raping innumerable women, looting billions of rupees worth of jewellery. Fighting started between the IPKF and the LTTE.

- 1988** The leader of the United Socialist Alliance (USA), Vijaya Kumaratunge, **husband of President Chandrika Kumaratunga**, was assassinated allegedly by the members of Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna-JVP. Ironically JVP are present allies of President Chandrika. Ranasinghe Premadasa of the United National Party won the Presidential election.
- 1989** Talks between the LTTE the President Premadasa took place in Colombo. LTTE's chief negotiator Dr. Anton Balasingham, Mrs Adel Balasingham and many other LTTE high-level leaders took part in the talks.

While in negotiation with the LTTE, Sri Lanka President Premadasa demanded the Indian government to withdraw the Indian troops from Sri Lanka. The Up-rising of Janatha Vimukthi Perumuna (JVP) was suppressed by the government and the JVP leader, Rohana Wijeweera and many others were killed.

The LTTE formed a political party and named it as People Front of the Liberation Tigers (PFLT). The LTTE was preparing to participate in the Elections to demonstrate the peoples' support to the LTTE.

12 August, the PFLT representative attended the All Party Conference as an "Observer". Twenty six political parties participated in this conference in Colombo.

- 1990 In March, the IPKF withdrew from the island of Sri Lanka.**

As soon as the Indian Army left the island, **President Premadasa started changing his tactics** and kept on dragging on the issues negotiated with the LTTE. For example LTTE participation in an election to demonstrate the support of the people was systematically avoided. Premadasa was preparing for a military victory over the LTTE. Talks ended in a failure.

At the beginning of **EELAM WAR II**. Hostilities broke out again between the Sri Lankan forces and the LTTE. Economic blockade was imposed causing severe shortage of food and medicine in the North.

On the 10th September, 185 Tamil civilians were butchered by the Sri Lankan army at the Saththurukondan Army camp in the Batticaloa district. Tamils from Saththurukondan, Panichchayady, Kokkuvil, Pillaiyaraddy were the victims of the massacre.

- 1991** Tamils in the North East were subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention, torture, rape, summary executions and massacres. Properties of the Tamils worth million of rupees were destroyed in aerial bombardments and artillery shelling. Military operation '**JAYASHAKTI**' was launched to expand the Pallaly army camp and the airfield. In **September**, military operation code named '**SEA BREEZE**' was launched in Mullaithivu.

Military operation '**THRIVIDHA BALAYA**' was launched during the operation on the old Dutch Fort in the heart of Jaffna town. The military operation '**BALAVEGAYA - I**' was the largest military operation conducted at that time. '**AKUNUPAHARA**' was launched in the Niththikaikulam area and military operation '**BALAVEGAYA - II**' was launched in the Jaffna peninsula.

On 12th June, 82 Tamils were massacred in the village of Kokaddicholai, Mahiladi Theevu and Muthalai Kuddah in the Batticaloa district. More than 400 houses were looted and burnt by the Sri Lanka army

- 1992** On 9th August, 32 Tamils were killed in the village of Mailanthannai in Batticaloa district. Most of the victims were hacked to death by the Sri Lanka army.

- 1993** President Premadasa was killed in a bomb explosion at a May Day rally in Colombo. The then Prime Minister D.B. Wijetunge assumed Presidency. The then cabinet minister Ranil Wickremasinghe became the Prime Minister.

- 1994** The People's Alliance led by Chandrika Kumaratunge won the Parliamentary elections with the pledge to "end the war and bring peace". **The LTTE unilaterally announced a temporary ceasefire** to welcome the change of government.

Talks between the LTTE and the PA government led by President Chandrika Kumaratunga commenced in Jaffna. Kumaratunge won the Presidential election. LTTE chief negotiator Dr. Anton Balasingham, and many other LTTE high-level leaders participated in the talks.

- 1995** On 5 January, the Government of Sri Lanka (**President Chandrika**) and the LTTE (**Leader V. Pirabahakaran**) **signed an agreement for cessation of hostilities**. The Government announced lifting of the economic embargo on some items **only on paper**, but the embargo continued. Later Chandrika government argued that there was no such thing as an economic embargo in the Tamil region. This was considered by civil society and the international humanitarian organisations as an "Utter lie with hidden agenda".

The PA was not at all interested in a negotiated political settlement to the bloody ethnic conflict. The PA government was preparing for a military assault on the LTTE. In order to buy time they were sending non-governmental officials for talks with LTTE and were dragging on the promise to lift the economic embargo.

The LTTE gave a two-week ultimatum in March to the government to implement what they had promised to the civilians. This ultimatum was later extended by another three weeks until April 19th. **Talks ended in failure.**

Government launched a major offensive in July in several parts of the Jaffna peninsula after imposing a press censorship. This was the beginning of **EELAM WAR-III**.

On the 9th July, military operation '**OPERATION LEAP FORWARD**' was launched from Pallaly, Tellipallai and Mathagal towards Alaveddy, Sandilipay and Vaddukodai.

On the same day, St. Peters church at Navalay which was functioning as a temporary refugee camp for displaced people from the battle zone was bombed by Sri Lankan Air force killing 165 civilians, including many women and children.

On the 1st October, military operation '**THUNDER**' was launched in Vasavillan, Pathameni, Atchuvveli and Puttur.

On the 22nd September, Sri Lankan Air force bombed a school at Nagarkovil in Vadamardchi, killing 25 school children among the 71 killed on the spot.

On 17th October military operation 'RIVIRESA-I' was launched in the Valikamam area of the Jaffna peninsula. Most of the people had fled Valikamam during this military operation. The Sri Lanka army captured Valigamam and Jaffna city and this resulted in more than 500,000 civilians fleeing to LTTE controlled Vadamardchi, Thenmaradchi divisions of the peninsula and to Vanni. On the 30th October, Jaffna remained a "ghost town" sans people.

- 1995** On the morning of 15th November, the **NGO Forum took place at Bentota Beach Hotel**, in Bentota, in the South of Sri Lanka. Both foreign and local NGO representatives participated in this forum, which was designed to improve cooperation between local and international NGOs in the effort to promote equitable development. The forum meeting was disrupted by anti-NGO demonstrators.

Three journalists were nearly hammered to death by members of the crowd, which congregated outside the Bentota hotel! They smashed a car and attempted to throw a journalist into the river. The police authorities made no effort to prevent the assault or to rescue the victims. It was alleged that certain government politicians were behind the anti-NGO demonstration. The organisers of the NGO forum decided to shift the venue to the capital, Colombo.

On 16th November, the NGO Forum re-convened in the **morning** at a conference hall in **Ratmalana**, a suburb south of Colombo. The conference attendees, several of whom had been questioned by police officers at their hotel the previous night, once again became nervous. Just as the Forum was beginning its work, police officers arrived to "request" the Forum to suspend its

proceedings, claiming that the meeting was illegal! The meeting was dissolved and all attendees dispersed.

In the **afternoon** of the 16th November, the Forum's international Core Group and the Sri Lanka Working Group convened an emergency meeting at an NGO's office in Colombo to discuss their concerns regarding the disrupting of the NGO Forum in two different locations. Unfortunately this meeting, too, was disrupted when an angry crowd, made aware of the venue by radio news broadcast, converged on the site. It was evident that the discussions could not continue there either.

- 1996** Human rights violations by the army, including rape and disappearances increased in the Jaffna peninsula. This fact was brought to light by the revelation made of the rape and murder of Krishanthy Kumaraswamy, a Tamil schoolgirl. The girl's mother, brother and a neighbour were also murdered when they went to the army camp, inquiring about the fate of the girl.

The LTTE **released 16 Sinhala fishermen** captured earlier, as a gesture of good will for Christmas-New Year. During the month of April-May, the **2nd and 3rd Stages of Operation 'RIVIRESA'** were launched in Thenamarachchi and Vadamarachchi in the Jaffna peninsula. In September, the military operation **'SATHJAYA'** was launched in Kilinochchi and Paranthan areas.

- 1997** Sri Lankan forces began another major offensive in the Northern town of Vavuniya. In February, operation **'EDIBALA'** was launched in Mannar. In May, the longest and the largest military operation **"JAYSIKURU"** was launched in Vanni. Operation **"RIVIBALA"** was launched by the Army (53 and 55 Divisions) in Oddusudan town and along Nedunkerny Oddusudan Road.

On the 25th September, 38 NGOs serving in several parts of Batticaloa district, were ordered by Government of Sri Lanka to cease all their humanitarian operations. This immediately followed a government order **banning NGOs** from assisting people in the areas of Batticaloa.

- 1998** Sri Lankan armed forces shelled the residential area Karuvakeni. Medical embargo to the North-East continued. Sri Lankan Kfir bombers bombarded the towns. The Jaffna Teaching Hospital was on the verge of shutting down its surgical wards owing to the short supply of items. Two Catholic priests were killed by bombs dropped by Sri Lankan Kfir planes. The Sri Lankan army shot and hacked to death many Tamil civilians.

On the 5th July, it was revealed in High Court, Colombo by the former Army Lance Corporal that that "hundreds of men and women arrested by the army in Jaffna were killed and **buried in Chemmani**."

1999 OPERATION RANAGOSA

- Stage I** Military operation commenced in early March in Mundumurippu, Iranai, Illuppaikkulam and Puwarasankulam areas.
- Stage II** The military operation was launched (53 and 55 Divisions) in mid March 1999 in Madu and Palamppiddi areas.
- Stage III** Military operation was launched in early May 1999 in Periyamadu and south west of Chiraddikulam.
- Stage IV** Military operation was launched on mid June 1999 in Papamodai, Vedithalathivu and Welimarandmadu areas.

OPERATION RIVIKIRANA 1 & II

Military operation **'RIVIKIRANA I & II'** were launched in Ariyalai, Thanakillappu and Kaithaddy. Military operation **'KINIHEERA I'** was launched by 51,52,53 and 55 Divisions along the Thanakillappu-Chava Road. Military Operation **'KINIHEERA II'** was launched in Kaithaddy, Nunavil, Thanakillappu and Ariyalai.

OPERATION KINIHEERA III/IV

Military operation **'KINIHEERA III and IV'** was launched in Sarasalai, Puthur, Maduvil South and Nunavil East.

- 2000** On the 5th January, Human Rights Defender **Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam** was assassinated allegedly by the PA (Chandrika's) government's hirelings.

The Norwegian government came forward to facilitate peace talks between LTTE and the Chandrika government. The Norwegian chief facilitator Mr. Eric Solheim was shuttling between LTTE and the government. The Norwegian chief facilitator had meetings with LTTE Chief negotiator Dr. Anton Balasingham in London as well with LTTE Leader Mr. V. Pirabakaran in the Vanni. He also had meetings with other political leaders in Sri Lanka.

2001 Sinhala Muslims riots broke out on 2nd May in Mawanella, between Colombo and Kandy. Two Muslims were killed and Muslim- owned shops and houses were set on fire by the Sinhala rioters. On the following Friday Muslim worshippers at a Mosque in Colombo, demonstrated against the violence against Muslims in Mawanella.

There were also Sinhala-Muslim riots in Muttur in Trincomalee following the Mawanella incidents. Many shops in Muttur were razed to the ground.

The LTTE have announced unilateral **cease-fires many a time. One lasted for four months.** President Chandrika's government refused to reciprocate the cease-fire declared by the LTTE and opted to continue with its military agenda.

The Minister of foreign affairs Lakshman Kadirgamar accused the Norwegian peace envoy Mr. Eric Solheim of giving too much consolation to the Tamils and sidelined him, out of personal dislike for Eric Solheim. On the 7th June, Kadirgamar insisted that the Norwegian government must remove Mr. Eric Solheim from the peace mediation. This brought the mediation to a stalemate.

The Tamil political parties formed a front known as the "Tamil National Alliance (TNA)" and contested the Parliament elections in the North East on the 5th December 2001 and won in 16 electorates. **TNA's Election manifesto.**

In December, the UNP government headed by the Prime Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe came into power with the mandate for peace and negotiations with LTTE. The LTTE declared a **one month cease-fire** and it was renewed. The government also declared one month cease-fire and renewed it.

2002 LTTE released 10 prisoners of war as a gesture of good will for peace.

The Norwegian government re-activated its peace role. The Norwegian delegation led by Deputy Foreign Minister Vidar Helgesen and Mr. Eric Solheim met with the LTTE chief negotiator Dr. Anton Balasingham in London and the Prime Minister and other ministers in Sri Lanka.

On 21 February, an historic **agreement, a "Memorandum of Understanding"** was signed between Mr. V. Pirabakaran, the leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam LTTE, and the Sri Lanka Prime Minister Mr. Ranil Wickremasinghe. This MOU was worked out under the facilitation of the Norwegian government.

(Each Sri Lankan government has been responsible for the genocide of Tamils in the island. Perpetrators are neither properly investigated nor punished!)

1. Not all arrests, torture, rapes, disappearances, lootings and damage to properties are included here.
2. **IPKF** atrocities (arrests, torture, rape, arbitrary killings, disappearances, lootings, damage to properties) are not included here.
3. In order to shorten the report the names of the victims and details of the incidents are not included but are available on request.

1994

11 January - Kodikamam Hospital was attacked by Sri Lanka Air Force helicopter in the Jaffna peninsula. Some houses in the area also were damaged.

11 January - Sri Lanka Puccaro planes bombed Nedunkerni in the Mullativu District. Many houses and tractors were damaged. A husband and wife, parents of four children were killed on the spot. Harvested crops of tobacco and chillies were destroyed.

07 January - Atchuveley Maha Vidyalayam attacked by a Sri Lankan helicopter. The school was in session at the time of the attack. Many of the school buildings were damaged. A bullet pierced the leg of a GCE (O/L) girl student.

07 January - Thondamanaru bombed by Sri Lankan Air Force helicopters. The Veerakathiplai school building was damaged.

05 January - Three women and an infant were killed in Thavady Jaffna. Their bodies were torn and limbs and flesh were strewn all over by Sri Lanka Air Force aerial bombing. Three houses were completely destroyed. Several other houses were damaged. The Thavady Sub Post Office and the office of the Grama Sevaka were also badly damaged.

1993

28 September Bunker Massacre in Chavakacheri, Jaffna. Aerial bombing on a bunker at Chankanthanai. **23 Ladies and children** were killed in this incident. Sri Lankan Air Force responsible for this killing

18 September Aerial bombing **killed 13** and seriously injured 40 civilians in Mathalan, Mullaitivu. The Sri Lankan Air Force deliberately bombed a public meeting in Mullaitivu.

02 January - 65 civilians crossing Killali lagoon killed by a series of attacks launched on them by Sri Lankan Naval gunboats. Many more injured. The passengers were travelling in a flotilla of sixteen boats when they were fired upon in the glare of a spotlight.

1992

3 August 18 disappeared and several injured. Sri Lankan army arrested 26 Tamil farmers working in their fields in the Karadiyanaru area. 9 were admitted to Batticaloa hospital with gunshot wounds, two escaped with minor injuries. The whereabouts of the other 18 are still not known.

31 May - 6 refugees killed and over 125 injured. A Sri Lankan air force plane mounted an attack on the Sri Durga Devi Temple in Tellippalai, Jaffna. Bomber aircraft and helicopters aimed grenades and barrel bombs at the Temple.

18 May - Vattrapalai Amman Temple shelled, 15 people killed in Mullaitivu. Vattrapalai Amman temple was shelled by the Sri Lankan army, the temple was packed with pilgrims for the annual Pongal festival.

29 April - 80 Tamil civilians were shot and hacked to death by Muslim Home Guards and other security forces in Karapola, Polonnaruwa District.

14 April - A family of 8 Tamil villagers were killed in Mandur, Batticaloa, by a group of army personnel.

1991

20 October - 15 people Killed in Kilali Lagoon. Sri Lankan helicopters bombed and strafed boats carrying civilians.

12 June - Kokaddicholai massacre, 82 Tamils were killed by the Sri Lankan security forces, in the villages of Kokaddicholai, Mahiladai Teevu and Muthalai Kuddah in the Batticaloa District. Nearly 450 houses were looted and burnt. Some were burnt alive by the rampaging armed forces. Many were barbarously clubbed and hacked to death.

30 March - 11 Tamil civilians killed, properties damaged in Iruthayapuram. Sri Lankan police officers went on the rampage in Iruthayapuram, burning shops and hacking to death 11 Tamil farmers.

1990

26 December - 4 Tamil villagers killed in Mandoor, Batticaloa. Sri Lankan army shot and killed 4 Tamils in Mandoor, Batticaloa.

25 December - 15 Tamil refugees were killed in Clappenberg, Trincomalee. The Tamil refugees from the Clappenberg refugee camp were taken away by the Sri Lankan army. Never seen again they are presumed dead!

21 December - Man shot dead in Pampaimadu, Vavuniya, by Sri Lankan army. He was a villager from Pampaimadu, Vavuniya.

17 December - 3 Tamils killed in Aladivembu, Amparai. Special Task Force personnel abducted these villagers and shot them dead.

17 December - 9 Tamils killed in Valaichenai, Batticaloa. The Muslim home guards armed by the government entered into the houses in Valaichenai, dragged out 9 Tamil civilians and hacked them to death.

17 December - 5 Tamil villagers killed by Sri Lankan army, as they were grazing their cattle, in Thanthamalai, Batticaloa.

14 December - 4 Tamil civilians killed in Valaichenai, Batticaloa. TELO members tortured 4 Tamil villagers and handed them over to Sri Lankan army in Valaichenai, Batticaloa. They are presumed dead!

10 December - 9 civilian killed, properties damaged in Kovilkulam, Vavuniya. The Sri Lankan Army rampaged the village, burnt houses and bodies of those killed.

10 December - 4 Tamils stabbed to death by Sinhala home guards in Palaiyadivetti, Batticaloa.

10 December - A man killed in Valichenai, Batticaloa. Sri Lankan army, accompanied by the Tamil group TELO, abducted a man named Seenithamby aged 32 and killed him.

09 December - A man killed in Batticaloa Town. Army and TELO members killed Letchumi Kanthan, an employee in Bank of Ceylon.

07 December - A young student was killed in Kaluthavalai, Batticaloa. M. Pakirathan aged 14 was taken by the army to camp in Kaluthavalai, Batticaloa. He is presumed dead.

06 December - 76 Tamil civilians were killed in Neelavanni, Batticaloa. The Sri Lankan army from Neelavanai army camp along with TELO members, rounded up residents of Neelavanni village. All of them taken to the army camp were tortured and killed. Tyres were put over the dead bodies and burnt. Some of those killed were students.

06 December - An elderly man killed in Sarasalai, Jaffna, in aerial bombing by Sri Lanka air force plane. K.Tharumaiah aged 60 was blown into pieces. Several other people were injured.

06 December - 2 villagers killed in 33rd Village, Batticaloa. T. Krishnapillai and Y. Sivalingam were shot dead by the Sri Lankan Army when they went into the forests surrounding the village.

01 December - 2 fishermen killed in Mandaitivu, Jaffna. Pragasam Rajendram and Rajappu Francis were shot dead by the Sri Lankan navy while fishing in the sea.

01 December - 1 killed and 1 raped and killed in Batticaloa. Sri Lankan army soldiers rounded the villagers of Arayampathy and killed a youth named Sundaram Prabakaran aged 25. Several other people were taken to Kaluvanchikudy army camp. In another incident a girl named Nallathamby Anusia was raped and killed by the Tamil group (TELO) which collaborates with the Sri Lankan army. Her body was thrown into a river.

01 December - A young girl killed in Chavakachcheri, Jaffna, when Sri Lanka air force planes bombarded the area. She was named Meena aged 22. In two other aerial bombardments, a woman named Vijayaletsumi aged 55 was killed in Alaveddy and 8 others injured in Thirunelvely.

27 December - 9 killed in Oddisuddan. Several Sri Lanka Airforce bomber planes bombarded Oddisuddan killing civilians.

23 November - 4 killed, 3 disappeared in Batticaloa. Army arrested 15 villagers. One Tamil youth and a woman were killed on the spot. **The fate of 3 persons taken to army camp is not known.** In another incident in Aithiyamalai, the Sri Lankan army entered into a church, forcibly took away 2 Tamil refugees and shot dead them.

12 November 6 refugees killed in Analaitivu, Jaffna. A boat carrying 42 refugees to India was attacked by the Sri Lanka navy near Analaitivu. 4 refugees were killed inside the boat. The Sri Lanka Navy captured the boat and brought it to the shore. 2 more persons died, succumbing to their injuries.

30 October - Civilians killed in Kalladdy, Batticaloa. In the villages, Kallady, Arayampathy, Thalankuda, Kirankulam, Puthikutiyiruppu, the Sri Lanka Army and Muslim homeguards rounded up the villagers and took the Tamil men to Arayampathy army camp. The men were tortured and brutally murdered. Their bodies were burnt with the tyres put over them.

29 October - 3 killed in Kokatticholai, Batticaloa. Sri Lanka army soldiers from Kathankudi army camp fired at a ferry carrying civilians from Kokatticholai to Manmunai, killing two people. Three houses were also destroyed. On the same day another woman aged 65 of Kulakarai veethi was killed by aerial bombardment. 2 houses were destroyed.

25 October - 25 refugees brutally killed by army in Clappenberg, Trincomalee. Sri Lankan army entered into the Clappenberg refugee camp in Trincomalee and brutally killed refugees.

20 October - 6 killed of whom one raped in, Batticaloa district. Sri Lanka army soldiers rounded-up the village of Kirankulam and arrested more than 100 and shot dead 4 villagers. In another incident in Thalavai village, the Sri Lanka army rampaged the village. One woman Kalikutty Indra was raped and killed. A fisherman was also brutally murdered.

19 October - A man shot dead by Sri Lankan security forces in Chetipalayam, Amparai. The army entered into the village of Amparai and shot dead a villager, Sichchaipillai Natkunaraja aged 30.

16 October 7 killed in Semmalai, Mullaitivu. 7 boats carrying refugees set out from Thiriyai in Trincomalee to Mullaitivu. The boats were attacked by Naval gun boats. One boat capsized. 4 men, 2 women and a small boy died. One escaper swam to the shore. The fate of the other 6 boats is not known.

15 October - A refugee woman was killed, 4 injured in Kaluthavalai, Batticaloa. A boat carrying refugees going from Kaluthavalai to Palukamam was attacked by a artillery shell fired from Kaluthavalai army camp. A woman, named Kanapathippilai Puranam aged 45 from Chetipalayam died. 4 refugees injured.

14 October - A woman killed and 10 others injured in Thirunelvely, Jaffna. Sri Lanka air force planes dropped 2 bombs on a crowded market place. A woman called Rajeswary aged 31, died on the spot. 10 civilians were seriously injured

13 October - 3 people killed, 5 injured in Uddupiddi, Jaffna. A Sri Lanka air force plane bombed Udupiddy junction.

13 October - A civilian killed in Naavaladi, Batticaloa. Sri Lanka Army rounded up the village of Naavaladi in Batticaloa, shot dead a civilian, put tyres on the body and burnt it.

12 October - 1 killed in Kondavil, Jaffna. Two artillery shells fired from Palaly army camp fell on Kondavil. A man aged 35 from Innuvil was killed while riding a bicycle

11 October - A man killed, 3 injured in Valvettiturai, Jaffna. An artillery shell fired from Pallaly army camp fell in front of Ranjana Cinema theatre. Rasaiah Balasingam, age 60 died on the spot. 3 injured.

09 October - 10 killed in Chavakechcheri, Jaffna. A Sri Lanka air force helicopter fired rockets on the Chavakechcheri market. Another 17 civilians were injured.

08 October - A fisherman killed in Thirukovil, Amparai. The army fired on 3 fishermen who went to sea fishing. 2 escaped and one was killed in rifle fire.

07 October - 52 Tamil civilians killed in Vantharumulai, Amparai. 52 Tamil civilians including several women and children were killed by Sri Lankan military personnel in Vantharumulai, Amparai. 40 dead bodies of men and women were found inside the wells in the area around Vantharumulai University refugee camp. Those who went to their villages from the refugee camp to see their houses and have a bath were killed and thrown into the wells. The bodies had deep wounds inflicted by knives. The bodies of young women showed they had been raped. After the refugees evacuated the Vandarumulai University refugee camp, 12 dead bodies of Tamil civilians were found inside the University premises.

07 October - A man shot dead in Thirukovil, Amparai. 4 Tamil men were taken away by the army. One was shot dead and the other 3 were kept in detention.

05 October - A man killed in Unnichchai, Batticaloa. Sri Lankan army shot dead an innocent civilian named Arunalsalam Selvaratnam.

01 October - Body of a man washed ashore in Thirukovil, Amparai. Later it was identified as a Tamil man from Thirukovil in the Amparai district.

30 September - 6 killed in Akkaraipattu, Amparai. The army rounded up a village called Panankadu and shot dead 2 Tamil civilians on the spot and burnt the bodies. In another incident, on the beach near the 40th mile post army camp, 4 dead bodies of men were found. Because of mutilation their identities were not established.

29 September - 3 killed by Sri Lanka army in Kurinchamunai, Batticaloa.

29 September - 2 hacked to death by Sri Lankan Army in Vinayagapuram, Amparai.

27 September - 2 killed by army in Kurrinchamunai, Batticaloa. Two Tamil civilians Maanikkam Kanthakuddy aged 29, Sinnathamby Arumugam aged 53 both from Pillayar Kovilady, Kurrinchamunai, Batticaloa were shot dead by the army

26 September - 50 Tamil civilians arrested by Sri Lanka Army were disappeared in Thambiluvil, Amparai. They are presumed dead!

26 September - 3 bodies of fishermen washed ashore in Vinnayakapuram, Amparai, with cut wounds. Another one person was shot dead by the army on the same day in Vinnayakapuram, Amparai.

24 September - 4 civilians arrested by Army in Ayyathimalai, Batticaloa. They are presumed dead!

24 September - 16 civilians hacked to death in Puthukudirupu, Batticaloa. 16 civilians including children and women were hacked to death by STF(Special Task Force) commandos and Muslim homeguards in Puthukudirupu, Batticaloa. Another 17 injured.

23 September - 2 people killed in aerial bombardment in Jaffna town.

23 September - A civilian was killed in Thirukkovil, Batticaloa. The Civilian named Manoharan from Thirukkovil, Batticaloa was taken by Sri Lankan Army to army camp and was shot dead.

22 September - 2 people killed and 5 injured in Naavalar Road, Jaffna. Two people were killed and another 5 civilians were injured by Sri Lanka air force aerial bombardment.

22 September - 35 villagers including women and children were hacked to death in Thallavai, Batticaloa by Sri Lankan Army and Muslim homeguards. Their bodies were burnt to ashes.

21 September - 25 civilians arrested by special Task Forces in Karaitheevu, Batticaloa.

17 September - 35 shot dead by Sri Lanka Army and Muslim homeguard in Sorikalmunai, Batticaloa. Sri Lankan Army and Muslim homeguards surrounded the village of Sorikalmunai and took away the Tamil youths to Savalakkaddi army camp. Later all of them were shot dead.

16 September - 28 killed and over 60 injured, in an aerial bombing over the entire Jaffna peninsula by Sri Lankan Airforce bomber planes. Several buildings and other properties were badly damaged.

15 September - 4 killed in Muthur. Tamil refugees were shot dead by the Sri Lankan army inside Pallikkudiyiruppu refugee camp in Muthur.

14 September - A youth killed in Thopur, Muthur. Motor shell fired from the Trincomalee army camp fell inside the Pallikudiyiruppu refugee camp. Vairamuththu Malar, 12 year old girl was killed and 3 people were injured.

13 September - 28 killed in indiscriminate aerial bombing in Jaffna Peninsula by air force planes and helicopters. More than 60 were seriously injured and 28 killed. Several buildings and houses were also destroyed.

10 September - Massacre 184 Tamils in Saththurukondan. Over 180 Tamil Ladies, elders and children were butchered by the Sri Lanka army at the Saththurukondan Army Camp in the Batticaloa District. At an inquiry into the massacre, the Officer-in-Charge of the camp, Captain. Gamini Varnakula Sooriya said "On that day no search or arrest was conducted by us". The sole survivor of the massacre, Kanthasamy Krishnakumar aged 27, however recounted the chilling facts. A. M. W. Senivaratne of STF (Special Task Force) is responsible for this massacre

07 September A civilian killed in Thalankodai. Chathrukan Akasthian was arrested and shot dead by the Army.

05 September - Vantharumualai University massacre in Batticaloa. 159 Ladies, elders and children were kidnapped and hacked to death in this incident. P. A. Karunatilaga is responsible for this massacre.

05 September 3 killed and 5 girls raped and killed. Sri Lankan army arrested and shot dead three people in Thalankodi and raped and killed five girls in Pullumalai. The girls' bodies were later found in a well.

05 September - 10 killed in Kallaru. Sri Lankan Army rounded up the village of Kallaru and took 10 Tamil refugees from Pandiruppu, to the Neelavanai army camp and shot them dead.

04 September - 2 youths tortured and killed in Pallikudiyiruppu. Youths from Pallikudiyiruppu refugee camp were taken by Sri Lankan Army to Thoppur camp, tortured and killed. The youths were identified as Pathinikunjan, aged 18 and Kalirasa Sellan, aged 22.

02 September - 3 women shot dead in Vandaarumullai. The Sri Lankan Army shot dead 3 women inside the University refugee camp.

01 September - 3 civilians killed in Valvettiturai, in an aerial bombing in the village of Nediyaakaadu.

27 August - 3 women killed by bombardment in Kopay, Jaffna.

24 August - 4 refugees killed in a boat in Keratheevu. Boat carrying refugees was attacked by the Sri Lankan Air force helicopter.

22 August - 10 refugees killed in Thambalaakamam, Trincomalee. Refugees who went out of refugee camp were brutally killed by the Sri Lankan army.

21 August - 25 killed in Jaffna peninsula. In an aerial bombing by the Sri Lankan Airforce, civilians were killed and several buildings and properties were badly damaged.

21 August 10 killed in Eravur. The Sri Lankan Army and Muslim home guards have killed innocent civilians and University students.

20 August - 11 killed in Atcuveli, Jaffna peninsula. 11 civilians killed and 10 injured in an aerial bombardment by Sri Lankan Air Force planes.

19 August - 3 killed by Sri Lankan Army and Muslim homeguards in Kannakipuram.

18 August - 20 killed in Sorikalmunai. Muslims home guards shot dead 20 civilians. Another 10 children below the age of 5 months were brutally killed. Their heads were smashed against a Temple wall.

18 August - 91 massacred in Veeramunai. Sinhala homeguards supported by Sri Lankan soldiers entered into this village and massacred 91 Tamil civilians. This includes several children under the age of 15 and women. More than 125 people were injured in this brutal incident.

17 August - 3 killed and 7 injured in Nallur, Jaffna by aerial bombardment.

17 August - An American Jesuit Rev. E.J.Hebert killed in Batticaloa. An American Jesuit Rev. E.J.Hebert was killed by Muslim homeguards for helping Tamil refugees at a place called Sithandy.

17 August - 14 killed in Muthur. In the village of Muthur, 14 people were shot dead. 3 women among them were raped before being killed by the Sri Lankan army.

15 August - 90 killed in Senkallady. 90 civilians were shot and hacked to death by Muslim homeguards supported by Sri Lankan army. The Muslim thugs went into the homes and massacred them. There were several children and women among the dead.

12 August - 95 hacked to death in Thuraineelavanai. Tamil civilians including several children and women were hacked to death, at least 5 were burnt alive by Sri Lankan army and Muslim homeguards.

12 August 8 killed in Amparai. Muslim policemen and homeguards ran amok in a Tamil village, killing at least 8 civilians. Surviving residents of the "4th colony" village, Amparai district, fled the area. The 4th Colony has been sealed off by members of the Special Task Force, a police commando unit, which controls the area where the massacre took place.

09 August - 16 killed in Mamadu Kovilkulam, 9th mile post and another **8 Tamil Civilians killed** by aerial bombardment near main railway station in Jaffna.

08 August - 75 hacked to death in Trincomalee. 75 refugees travelling on three boats were hacked to death by army and Muslim homeguards in the Trincomalee.

07 August - 47 killed in Erakanni. Tamil civilians were hacked to death by Muslim home guards.

14 July - 10 Bodies found in Batticaloa town.

Hundreds of thousands of people fled their homes as fighting intensified. In early August there were over 300,000 refugees in Jaffna District alone, and fears of food shortages. **(AI Report, 10 July 1990)**

09 July - 19 killed in Batticaloa The bodies of civilians killed by STF were found dumped in public places in Batticaloa. **4 Bodies found in Kaluvanchikudiyiruppu.**

06 July - 5 Bodies recovered in Batticaloa town.

01 July - 1 woman killed, 6 people injured, in Chunnakkam, Jaffna, in an aerial bombardment on a market.

July 1990 - 38 killed, 100s injured in Amparai. Civilians were shot dead in Sinnawattai Malayarkathu in Fourth Colony and other colonies. Over a hundred others wounded.

Since 21 June Hundreds of people in north-eastern Sri Lanka reportedly '**disappeared**' after being detained by Sri Lankan security forces. Bodies, some of which had been identified as those of prisoners, were dumped in several places. In Kalmunai, **over 70 people** were reportedly detained and then '**disappeared**'. **Over 30 bodies** were dumped in a burnt out shop in Kalmunai.

13-14 June - Sri Lankan Army shot dead 15 civilians in Vavuniya.

1989

02 August - Valvettiturai Massacre by IPKF. The Indian Peace Keeping Force deliberately killed over 50 Tamil civilians in Valvettiturai in the Jaffna Peninsula. This massacre was described as **India's Mylaió**.

1988

28 February - Navy shot dead a refugee in Mannar Sri Lankan navy opened fired on a group of Tamil refugees waiting at Mannar shore to flee to India. One woman was killed while another was severely injured. The following day the Sri Lankan Navy arrested 54 Tamil woman refugees waiting at Mannar Beach to flee to Tamil Nadu. The Navy rounded up the women and took them away. The refugees were fleeing to India to escape army atrocities in Tamil territories.

1987

28 January - Kokkaddichcholai massacres - over 150 Tamil civilians massacred in Kokkaddichcholai. Civilians were massacred at Kokkaddichcholai during a military operation by members of the Special Task Force armed with helicopter gunships and armoured cars. Several houses and other properties were also destroyed during this operation.

1987 - 680 Tamils disappeared - The police and armed forces continued to kill non-combatant Tamils. Of particular concern were reprisal killings by the security forces and reports that Tamil suspects taken into custody were shot or tortured to death and their bodies disposed of in secret. By the end of 1987, over **680** Tamils had reportedly '**disappeared**' since 1983 and no substantive attempts had been made by the government what had happened to them. **(AI Annual Report, January to December 1987)**

21 October - Massacre by IPKF at Jaffna General Hospital. So called Indian Peace Keeping Forces IPKF entered the premises of the Jaffna General Hospital and massacred the patients, workers, medical staff in this hospital. Military offensive started by the IPKF on the 10th day of October 87 in the North East of the island

1986

11 November - 20 killed, 21 disappeared and 3 women raped in Batticaloa. Sri Lankan security forces went on a rampage in a village in the Eastern Batticaloa District. During the course of this rampage, three women were raped and killed.

11 November - Massacre in Periya Pullumumalai. 23 killed, 21 disappeared. Several houses and shops were also set on fire when security forces went on a rampage at Periya Pullumumalai, a village in the eastern Batticaloa district.

12 October - Adampan Massacre, 21 people killed in Adampan by Sri Lankan army soldiers.

19 September - 11 people killed in Batticaloa town. Police Commandos of the Special Task Force (STF) went on a rampage in the Batticaloa town killing civilians.

17 July - 10 killed in Mullaitivu by Sri Lankan air force helicopter. The passengers who were travelling in a State-Transport Board bus were killed in Thanduvan village in Mullaitivu district.

16 July - Refugee camp massacre - 44 refugees killed by the Sri Lanka army in Peruveli/ Manalchenai in Trincomalee.

13 July - Adampan massacre - 50 killed by the Sri Lankan army in Mannar. Many Muslims were also killed.

28 June 10 farmers killed by the Sri Lankan army in a cordon and search operation in Paranthan, Kilinochchi.

28 June - Thampalakamam massacre - 34 killed in Thampalakamam in Trincomalee district. The victims were abducted and killed by the Home Guards.

26 June - Sambaltivu massacre - 15 killed in Sambaltivu, Trincomalee, by the Sri Lankan army in a search operation.

20 June 32 Refugees massacred - In Nachchikudah, Mannar. Tamil refugees in a boat bound from Gurunagar, Jaffna to India were shot dead by Sri Lankan Navy. Two survivors of this massacre managed to swim to the shore, and related their pathetic story.

10 June 31 Fishermen massacred in Mandaitivu, Jaffna. Fishermen from Gurunagar, Jaffna set out for fishing at about 5am in a boat named "Thuya Oli" (Holy Light) and were massacred in the sea by the Sri Lanka Navy.

17 May - 18 young Tamils killed in the Eastern province. Young men were taken into custody and shot dead by the STF.

20 May - Nedunkerny massacre - 16 killed. Women and old-age pensioners were killed by the Sri Lankan army in a search operation in Nedunkerny in Eeddimurichchan 26 miles from Vavuniya.

19 February - Udumpankulam massacre - 60 killed. STF commandos rounded up the workers in the paddy field at Udumpankulam, Amparai and shot dead the workers.

19 February - Akkaraipattu Massacre. More than 90 Tamil civilians killed by the STF in Akkaraipattu.

Upto 80 people mainly Tamil farm workers are said to have been killed and their bodies burned in a massacre in eastern Sri Lanka. The killings happened on Wednesday (19 February 1986), but confirmation of the incident was made only yesterday after community leaders had visited the remote spot near the town of Akkaraipattu, where the farm workers were shot. The farm workers were taken back to the paddy fields and shot. Several empty cases of ammunition have been found in the field. The bodies were piled on top of the dry rice harvest and burned. **(reported by Humphrey Hawksley in the Guardian 22 February 1986)**

25 January - Kilinochchi railway station massacre - 12 killed by Sri Lankan army soldiers. 12 civilians were shot dead and several others injured in an indiscriminate fire by the army. The dead included four women and two children.

19 January - Iruthayapuram Massacre. 24 civilians killed by the Sri Lankan army in Iruthayapuram.

04 January 14 killed by the Sri Lanka army in Jaffna.

1985

05 January 8 killed in Mannar. Civilians outside of a Vankalar Catholic church were shot dead by the Sri Lankan army near the town of Mannar. Then, the soldiers broke into the chapel and shot dead two boys, ages 12 and 14, who had been living with the priest.

1985 Church massacre 10 killed. Sinhala army murders Christian priests - 1984/85 Church in Mannar under seige. A village priest was one of ten people killed by the army on church premises. **His body was never found.** The government claimed that no witnesses had come forward to testify to his death, **but this was contested by the Bishop of Mannar, Dr.Thomas Savundranayagam.**

1984

28 March 8 killed in Chunnakam market place. Air force officials based in Chunnakam opened fire at the civilians.

20 March - 7 killed and 24 injured - In an aerial bombing by the Sri Lankan Airforce, many civilians were killed and injured in Jaffna and Vavuniya.

09 April - 50 killed in Jaffna - The Government Agent for Jaffna estimated that 50 people were killed between April 9 and 12. Emergency regulations, which permitted police to bury casualties without post-mortem or inquest were in effect and the identity of those killed was never established.

11 August 9 killed in Illupangadavai, Mannar. The army attacked the town of Mannar and gasoline bombs were thrown at shops and houses. The main bazaar was set on fire. Adjoining villages of Adampan and Manthai were also attacked.

11 September - 16 killed and 10 injured in Vavuniya. A long-distance coach was hijacked near Vavuniya, while on its way from Colombo to Jaffna, by Sri Lankan security armed forces. The coach was driven to a lonely spot on the Mannar Road, where the women and children were chased into the jungle, and the men were shot as they attempted to flee.

01 September - At least 16 civilians were killed in Point Pedro. Police killed 16 civilians in Point Pedro. Police also burned shops and several buildings in Hartley College. The National Security Minister accepted that 6 to 10 civilians were killed, and a few shops were burned.

04 December - 16 killed in Ootuvayankulum, Mannar. They were working on a farm when they were shot dead by the Sri Lankan army. The army also attacked two state transport buses between Murungan and Vavuniya, **killing 37 more people.** In an Army rampage in Murungan near Post office **at least 90 were killed.**

02 December - Cheddikulam massacres - 27 killed in Vanni by the Army. This includes the area of Cheddikulam and Chemamadu in the Vanni area.

1983

23-29 July - 1983 Riots - more than 3000 Tamil civilians killed in Colombo and its suburbs. The Sinhalese thugs with the connivance of government forces killed and burnt Tamils and looted and burned Tamils' properties. The riots lasted for several days and thousands of Tamils were hacked to death. Millions of dollars worth of their property was destroyed.

Fifty three Tamil political prisoners were massacred in the Welikadai prison in Colombo by the Sinhala inmates. The government masterminded this massacre and the Sinhala attackers were released from the prison and rewarded with houses and properties in the Sinhala settlement in Tamil homeland.

18 May -175 homes of Tamils burnt in Jaffna by Sri Lankan armed forces. One killed, many wounded in Thineveley, Jaffna.

1982

1982 Anti-Tamil, anti-Hindu offensive in Mullaitivu - 1982 Kuranthan Malai, Mullaitivu. According to plans drawn up by officials working under the Ministry of Industries and Scientific Affairs, a Buddhist vihare (temple) and a Sinhala settlement were established. Army personnel, an ex-Director of a Public Corporation under the Ministry, several leading members of the UNP Trade Union (The Jathika Sevaka Sangamaya), several Ceramics Corporation vehicles, and employees of the government Tile factory of Oddichuddan were involved in the implementation of this project! This is one of the latest Sinhala settlements!

1981

1981 Continued attacks on Tamil civilians - July/August 1981 - Incidents of violence centred on three specific areas against the Tamils in the island of Sri Lanka. **(1)** The gem mining area of Ratnapura, **(2)** Negombo near the capital city of Colombo, **(3)** and the plantation towns in central Sri Lanka.

Before the violence was brought under control... at least 10 plantation Tamils had been killed, numerous Tamil shops and businesses burned, and more than 5000 Indian Tamils had fled to refugee camps...

31 May - 1 June - Destruction of Jaffna Public Library - A large group of police (estimated variously from 100-200) went on a rampage on the nights of May 31-June 1 (1981) and June 1-2 **burning the market area of Jaffna**, the office of the **Tamil Newspaper**, the home of the **member of Parliament for Jaffna** and the Jaffna Public Library.

The destruction of the Jaffna Public Library has caused intense distress to the Tamils. The 95,000 volumes of the Public Library destroyed by the fire included numerous culturally important and irreplaceable manuscripts.

1979

14 July - Several Tamils were killed after emergency declared in Jaffna. On the **11th of July 1979** President Jayawardene appointed his nephew Brigadier Weeratunga, as commander of the security forces in Jaffna... On the same day, a state of emergency was declared in Jaffna, and a Public Security Ordinance gave the police and armed forces the power to dispose of dead bodies without an inquest.

1977

1977 - Organised pogrom against Tamils - 300 killed in various parts of the island of Sri Lanka. The political conflict following the 1977 elections, turned into a racial massacre. It is estimated that between 250 and 300 Tamil citizens lost their lives and over 40,000 were made homeless.

1961

1961 Sinhala army attacks Tamil Satyagrahis - The military forces of Ceylon (Sri Lanka) under the command of Colonel Udugama, attacked the non-violent satyagrahis. Nearly 200 security personnel stationed at the Jaffna Kacheri kicked them and used belts, batons and rifle-butts to assault them. They arrested the leaders.

1958

25 May - 1958 Genocide - The most heinous crimes in the history of Ceylon were carried out against the Tamil nation. The Sinhalese thugs struck the Tamil labourers in the Government farms at Polonnaruwa and Hingurakgoda and Polonnaruwa sugar-cane plantation, remorselessly. The Tamil labourers fled the farms when they saw the Sinhalese approaching and hid in the sugar-cane bushes. The goondas set the sugar cane alight and flushed out the Tamils. As they came out screaming, men, women and children were cut down with swords, grass cutting knives and katties, or pulped under heavy clubs. **This was the beginning of the government sponsored Tamil genocide in the Island of Sri Lanka, then Ceylon.**

1956

The outbreak of first anti-Tamil riots in the island. The peaceful Satyagraha campaign staged by the Tamils to protest against the 'Sinhala Only Act' at the Galle Face Green, in front of the Parliament in Colombo was brutally savaged by Sinhalese thugs with the connivance of government. **More than 150 Tamils were burnt or hacked to death and million rupees worth of properties belonging to Tamils were looted and destroyed.**

(Few noteworthy violations between 1995-1997)

(Each Sri Lankan government has been responsible for the genocide of Tamils in the island.

Perpetrators are neither properly investigated nor punished!)

4. • Not all arrests, torture, rapes, disappearances, lootings and damage to properties are included here.

1997

31 December - 3 civilians killed in a land mine buried by the Sri Lanka army. The three were travelling in a tractor when it ran over the pressure mine. Two people - Ponnaiah Saminathan (52) and Maialagan (40) - died on the spot while the tractor was totally destroyed. The other person - Iyathurai Thanchaiyan (45) - died in the Jaffna hospital.

31 December A civilian shot dead by Sri Lanka army in Valaichchenai (Batticaloa). Sebamalai Jeevarayan (49) was walking along Sudalaiadi street when the Sri Lanka army manning a checkpoint fired at him.

31 December - Jayasukuru displaces a thousand families in the Vanni. 4481 people belonging to 1081 families displaced by the onslaught of the eight month old Operation Jayasikurui of the Sri Lankan army.

28 December A youth in Madduvil in Jaffna district was shot dead by the Sri Lanka army.

27 December - Young Tamil man killed in police custody in Maharagama, suburb of Colombo. S. Krishnapillai (25) who was arrested on suspicion and detained by Maharagama police was believed to have been strangled to death by the Police. A knotted rope around his neck was found on his dead body.

25 December A Young girl raped by Sri Lanka police. Kandhaiah Amudha of Vidathalthivu in Mannar was allegedly raped by a Sri Lankan Police intelligence operative in Vavuniya town.

23 December - A mother of three children was shot dead by Sri Lanka army in Varani in Jaffna. Her name was Nagan Jeyamany (43). Her eight year-old child, Nagan Janarthanam, was severely injured.

22 December A 26-year old man was found hanged in detention in Vavuniya. He was believed to have been tortured and hanged by the Sri Lanka army.

14 December - Mentally ill Tamil 20-year-old, from Batticaloa mental hospital, **shot dead by Army in** Batticaloa.

12 December 3 Tamil prisoners murdered in Kalutara prison. Three Tamil detainees were killed in prison custody at Kalutara prison, suburb of Colombo.

10 December A student killed by Sri Lanka army in Batticaloa. Kirupananthan Arulnathan (19) year old was shot dead in Jayanthipuram in Batticaloa.

10 December - Unborn babies of 2 pregnant women died due to Army harrassment in Batticaloa. 24-year old pregnant Tharmalingam Yasotha, suffered injuries in grenade attack was taken to a hospital, where her unborn baby was discovered to have died in the womb. In Valaichchenai, army opened fire at civilians, injuring pregnant Thayalini. Her unborn baby had to be removed from her womb after bullets went through her stomach, killing the baby.

06 December - A school teacher killed in Kaithady. S. Raveenthiran was shot dead by Army in Kaithady in Jaffna.

04 December - Land mines killed 2 in Neerveli in Jaffna. A landmine buried by the Sri Lankan army exploded killing two field workers.

30 November - 1 Child killed and 2 injured when Sri Lanka police opened fire indiscriminately in Koiladi in Vairavapuliyankulam, suburb of Vavuniya town.

29 November - 1 shot dead by Army. A youth who was disembarking from the boat in Eruvil jetty at Eruvil East was killed.

27 November - Over 220 Tamil prisoners suffering prolonged detention at Colombo's Magazine prison in Welikada launched a protest fast demanding trial or immediate release.

24 November - Tamil mother of four killed in Army shelling Kilinochchi Sri Lankan forces fired artillery shelling from Kilinochchi town at the Tamil village of Unionkulam, killing Thayanadevi Saravanaperumal. Two children were severely injured. Sri Lankan armed forces at Kilinochchi regularly fire artillery at surrounding Tamil settlements.

20 November - 3 killed, 9 seriously wounded, in Sri Lankan air force attack. Sri Lankan Kfir warplanes mounted an indiscriminate aerial attack on civilian targets in Pooneryn.

16 November - 29 lorry loads of Food items to Mullaitivu destroyed by Army at Parayanalamkulam checkpoint in Vavuniya. When it was about to rain the Sri Lanka army in Vavuniya insisted on unloading those lorry loads of food items to examine it. The food stuff composed of flour, sugar and rice was soaked in the rain and could not be used.

15 November - A church and several houses destroyed in air force bombing in Mankulam. The Sri Lankan Air force Kfir jets had bombarded the areas of Mankulam badly destroying a church and several houses.

13 November - University student found shot dead in Jaffna. A student of the Jaffna University was found shot dead under mysterious circumstances at the Durga temple near the Kanakampuliyadi junction in the Thenmaradchi in Jaffna.

04 November - A man died in police custody. Seevarathnam Sivarasa was arrested in Vavuniya, detained at the Mt. Lavinia Police station in Colombo and died in the Colombo General hospital. He had been seriously tortured by the Police.

31 October - 2 killed in Kilinochchi, by the army. Thiruchelavam (42) and Shanmugasundaram (45) were both taken by the Sri Lankan army to the 7th Channel area and shot dead. Later the army dumped both bodies in a toilet pit.

29 October - Girl raped by the Army attempts suicide in Jaffna. A girl who was abducted and raped by the Army was found near her house tied up and unconscious in Nayanmarkaddu in Jaffna. She attempted suicide by consuming a large quantity of kerosene.

28 October - 40 year old woman raped by Army in Manthikai in Jaffna. The army had abducted and raped her. She was admitted to the Manthikai hospital with injuries.

27 October School girl maimed by exploded pressure mine. Jaffna school girl Kalpana Kanagalingam was maimed when she stepped on an anti-personnel pressure mine, buried in the garden of her house by the Sri Lanka army.

26 October - Student killed by Army in Batticaloa. 'A' level student P. Santhirakumar (18) from Kiran's Maha Vidyalam in Batticaloa was shot dead by Army in Batticaloa.

19 October - Body of a woman washed ashore with breasts cut off, onto the shores of Kudarappu (Nakarkovil, Vadamaradchy East), Jaffna. The woman's breasts were found to have been completely cut off with knives. Believed to have been done by Sri Lankan army. The woman's body could not be identified and was cremated by local people.

19 October - 5 civilians killed in Killinochi by army soldiers, when they went to recover belongings from their homes in Sonthakarankulam Koyilkulam in Killinochi district were killed by the army soldiers. Another two civilians, Selvam and Kunchurasa, who went to Uruthirapuram on a bullock cart to recover belongings went missing, feared abducted by the occupying army. More than 90 civilians revisiting their homes have been killed in Killinochi area by the army.

17 October - A civilian hacked to death by Army in Chavakachcheri. The severely mutilated body of Kandiah Subramaniam was found on the roadside.

16 October - Rape and murder by Police in Amparai. A Tamil woman, Thankanayaki, was raped and murdered in Amparai by Police and homeguards. Her son said the Sinhalese security forces butchered her private parts after gang-raping her.

13 October - 7 civilians killed in an aerial bombing in Vanni. Two Kfir warplanes of Sri Lanka air force bombed the residential areas in Oddusuddan-Peraru in Vanni, killing six women and a man.

11 October During anti-polio cease-fire a Hospital was bombed in Vanni by Sri Lanka airforce ! The Sri Lankan government broke its pledge to UNICEF to observe a cease-fire during the annual anti-polio drive for children.

10 October 1 killed 3 injured in a Kfir bombing in Mankulam. A man was killed in an aerial bombing on a passenger van by Sri Lanka Kfirs in Mankulam and Kanakarayanakulam. Three others were critically injured in the incident.

09 October - 22 civilians missing within 7 days in Kilinochchi. They went to recover belongings from their former homes in parts of Kilinochchi and were abducted by army soldiers. The victims were from Santhapuram, Selvapuram, Vasanthapuram and Murikandy.

08 October Sri Lankan soldiers break up Jaffna protest. Sri Lankan army troops chased out members of the Jaffna mother's Front and the Organization for the Arrested and Missing in Jaffna when they attempted to stage a Satyagraha in front of the Buddhist temple at the Ariyakulam junction in the Jaffna town.

05 October - 13 civilians drowned after Navy open fire on boat in Karainagar. A boatload of refugees crossing from coastal Mulankavil-Mannar district to their former Jaffna homes drowned after their boat, attacked by Navy, sunk in the waters off Karainagar. Six of the Tamil civilians killed were from Eevinai, two were from Kayts and five from Erlalai. Shortly afterwards, the Sri Lankan military claimed that 3 boats belonging to Tamil guerrillas had been sunk in the region.

05 October - 2 decomposed bodies discovered in Kilinochchi, with unmentionable evidence of torture, while ten other civilians went missing (presumed dead). In the village of Parathipuram Muthiah Krishnasamy (27) and Nallasamy (52) were cut to pieces by Army soldiers and their body parts strewn on the bare ground in front of the house.

02 October 8 Fishermen missing - Sri Lanka Navy Fast-attack Craft (FACs) attacked fishermen of Mullaitivu's fishing village. In the incident, 8 fishermen have gone missing and 25 fishing boats were destroyed.

01 October The headless body of a man who had gone looking for food in the Vanni jungles was discovered in Marampaikulam (Rampaikulam, Vavuniya district). Sinniah Selvarasa (26) of Marampaikulam was believed to have been ambushed and **killed by the army**. Sinniah had been missing for two days before he was found dead.

01 October - Burnt body in Amparai not identifiable -The charred body of a young man was lying unclaimed in Amparai's 4th colony - where STF went on the rampage. One Mr. Suntharalingam (22) was known to be missing but relatives are not sure whether it was his body. 67 homes were burned by STF who ran amok in the town killing civilians. 1700 Tamils (347 families) of 4th colony fled the town in panic.

October 1997 60,000 Tamil Refugees in Mannar without adequate food and medicine - at least 6 die every month. The refugees in five camps around the Madhu Church in Mannar District suffer without adequate food and medicine.

28 September - Massacre of civilians in East. Police of Amparai's Central Camp station together with some Muslim homeguards stormed the 4th Colony Tamil village randomly killing civilians and burning 50 homes. **7 dead bodies** were discovered - only 5 of which could be identified. 20 other civilians were critically injured in the police rampage.

28 September - Relatives of Jaffna's 'disappeared' protest in Jaffna. Parents and relatives of Tamil civilians who 'disappeared' in Sri Lankan army custody staged a protest in the premises of St. James Church, and vowed to continue their struggle for justice.

28 September - Army actions lead to death of an infant in Vadamaradchy. Infant Arul Gananaratnam Anastan (3) died because Army soldier of Nakarkoil coastal division in Vadamaradchy refused to let him be taken to the Manthikai hospital. The child was in need of urgent medical attention for viral fever.

26 September - A youth killed in Chunnakam. Manoharan Sayanthan was shot dead by the Army in Chunnakam, Jaffna.

25 September - Government orders 38 NGOs out of Batticaloa. In Batticaloa more than 38 NGOs serving in Batticaloa district were ordered by the Chandrika government to cease all humanitarian operations.

24 September - A civilian shot dead by Army in Pampaimadu. 45-year old resident of Pampaimadu, Vavuniya, a father of four, who went into the jungles in search of wild animals for food was shot dead by the army.

22 September - 500 Jaffna Tamil women stage symbolic fast. The Women's Union of Jaffna - formed to trace the whereabouts of 750 Tamil civilians who disappeared after military arrest - have expressed grief and dismay that the Sri Lankan government does not intend carrying out legal proceedings against military offenders.

22 September A man shot dead by Army, in his own compound, in Uduvil, while he was urinating.

20 September A man shot dead by Army, in the island of Velanai. Nagarajah Anandarajah (22) was school gate-keeper at the Sir Vythialingam Duraisamy Maha Vidyalayam.

20 September Father and son stabbed to death in Kilinochchi by Sri Lanka army. Variapillai Murukesu and Murukesu Palan who went to recover belongings from their former home in Kanakapuram in Kilinochchi 9th Farm division were attacked and killed by the army. Their bodies were discovered with knife wounds.

17 September - Army shell killed 1 and injured 6 in Valaichchenai. Indiscriminate army shelling of Valaichchenai killed Pakkiam Peter (72) and injured six other people.

16 September - Headless body found near army camp in Siththandy. The headless body of a father of two children S. Chinnadurai (26) was found 200 yards away from Siththandy army camp. He had been arrested earlier by Army during a routine round-up in Siththandy, Batticaloa.

14 September - 227 dwellings destroyed in 8 months by Sri Lanka army in Valaichchenai. Between January and August - army has destroyed 227 homes and 27 grocery stores after misappropriating goods.

11 September - Insult added to injury for Torture victim, Colombo. 23-year old A. Sureshkumar who travelled to Colombo in order to go abroad for a job was arrested by Bambalapitiya police on 11 September. He was taken into custody where he was severely beaten with iron rods by three police officials -- Sergeant Tharmapala and constables Jegath and Veerakon. Mr. Sureshkumar then had his testicles crushed before the three officials hung him upside down in a remand room and beat the soles of his feet to tatters. The injured man was taken to court on a stretcher four days after this, where the **Sinhalese magistrate ordered him to be kept in jail** under the prevention of terrorism act. It was only after the supreme court heard Mr. Sureshkumar's fundamental rights appeal that he was released. **No order was made against the police or magistrate concerned**

09 September - Killing of Reverend Arulpalan (42) in Konavil, Killinochchi. Rev. Arulpalan was arrested by the Sri Lankan Army on 25 August 1997 after which he disappeared. On 9 September his mutilated body was found in Kilinochchi. Documents of his identity were found by his side. Two people who accompanied him were also murdered. Rev. Arulpalan was a priest of the Church of South India and tirelessly served the displaced persons of Vanni.

06 September - 170 civilians killed in one village alone. In the village of Karaithuraipattu, in Mullaitivu, over the period of the past 7 years the Sri Lankan army has killed - by shelling and aerial raids - 170 Tamil civilians living in the village.

05 September - Body found in a drinking well in Batticaloa. A man arrested by the army was found dead in a drinking well close to the Siththandy army camp in Batticaloa. His wife had regularly gone to the army camp to plead for his release, and had been told he would soon be released. Residents who discovered the body said they were alerted by the dreadful smell that was coming from the well. When the man's body was taken out it was found to be headless, but his wife was able to identify it as him. The area's former army commander **Gerry de Silva once remarked that the army collects heads for the purpose of identification.**

05 September - 6 year old girl gang raped by Army soldiers in Jaffna A six-year old girl was gang raped at an army checkpoint in Atchuveli, Jaffna. Six-year old Palanthi was stopped on her way to school by soldiers of the Kathiripai army checkpoint. She was then dragged into the confines of the checkpoint and raped by one soldier after another, leaving her with severe physical injuries. Not long before this incident, a **twelve-year old girl from the same area was raped** in a similar manner by Army soldiers. Parents of

school children in Jaffna were compelled to accompany their children to school and back every day to avoid such happenings.

01 September - Father and a baby killed in an army shell fire. Vinasithamby Sathasivam (38) and his 2-year old daughter Sathasivam Kokila were killed by shell fire in Muthuaiyankaddu. The 3-year old son Sathasivam Ketheesvaran and a cousin Nallaiyah Thavachelvan (16), were admitted to the hospital in critical condition.

01 September 2 killed in temple grounds in Suthumalai by Sri Lanka army. Army hiding inside the Suthumalai Amman temple shot dead two civilians on the temple's premises. Mahalingam Uthayakumar (24) of Suthumalai and A. Ramesh of Tellipallai were the victims.

30 August 1 killed in a round-up in Trincomalee. Ledchumykanthan Thamayanthan (23) of Thirukadaloor, Trincomalee was shot dead by Army. Several others were also wounded in the unprovoked gunfire at the defenceless man.

28 August 2 killed in Olumadu. A girl of five was one of two people killed in a shell fired by Army.

26 August - A woman killed in Manipay. The army shot dead Veerasingam Sellamuthu (56) of Sankuvely in Manipay during a round-up conducted by the security forces of the area.

25 August A woman killed in an aerial bombing. Mrs. Kunasingam Sarojadevi (35), who was critically injured by a Sri Lankan Kfir bombing died in hospital, five days after the incident. She was a resident of Puthuvilankulam.

25 August - 2 farmers shot dead by Army in Kaithaddy in Jaffna. Two farmers who went to water their plants in Kaithady, Thenmaradchy in Jaffna were shot dead by Army soldiers as they fled in fear from an approaching army patrol. One of the dead was identified as Mailavaganam Thavapalan (37) of Kaithady north.

17 August - 2 killed and 3 critically injured in Army artillery shelling in Mannar, fired from the Army camp at Uyilankulam and Kaththankulam in Mannar.

15 August - 9 Killed and 21 critically wounded in Church Bombings, when Sri Lankan Kfir bombers bombed a Catholic Church and premises in Vavunikulam, Vanni.

13 August One civilian shot dead in Vavuniya, by Army at Mathar Panikka Mahilankulam. Many civilians wounded.

11 August Many civilians killed in "JAYA SIKURU" stated government representative (GA) of Mullaitivu in the Vanni. In Oddusuddan, 18 killed and 15 wounded. Nedunkerni 13 killed and 16 wounded. Mankulam 9 killed and 4 wounded. 56 others injured.

10 August - 14 houses were burned down in Mailankurichchi, Valaichchenai, Batticaloa. Tamil occupants were driven out of their homes at gunpoint. Unrest and panic prevailed in and around the area, with residents fearing more such attacks.

10 August - 5 disappeared - Five civilians who went to inspect their former homes in Murasumoddai, Kilinochchi (which they had fled when the Sri Lankan army captured the area) disappeared.

10 August 1 killed in Army shelling. The army wreaked devastation on the town of Mankulam, pounding residential areas with mortars and artillery shells.

08 August - Pregnant woman died during curfew hours in Jaffna. Kanakarathnam Satheesvary (36) of Thenmaradchy, in urgent need of medical care, died at home during army curfew hours.

06 August A baby and 3 shot dead by army. One of the Tamil mercenary groups shot dead 4 Tamil civilians including a small baby in Senkalady (Batticaloa). The two and a half year old baby, Sasitharan, and his mother, Kovinamma (57), died together. The other victims were identified as Kanesan (38) and Sivaskathy (17).

05 August - Young mother torn apart by Army shells in Omanthai. A 22-year old mother of two children was killed in a artillery fire from Omanthai. Sothilingam Kalaichelvi was killed instantly, her body was completely torn apart.

04 August - School Burnt Out. The Kanakarayankulam Maha vidyalam was totally destroyed in an army shelling and aerial bombing.

01 August - Remains of school boy found. Residents in Vavunathivu found the dead body of a school boy still dressed in his school uniform, 300 yards from the office of the assistant government agent of Vavunathivu, Batticaloa. It was confirmed that the body belonged to a boy arrested with many other boys by the army and whose fate remains unknown.

31 July - 2 abducted by Army in Kandawalai. Two men who were living in Kandawalai disappeared after going to Kompady to cut sticks for building cottages. Balasingam Manoharan and Murugesu Nadarajah were presumed abducted by Army soldiers of the Elephant Pass army camp.

30 July - Mutilated body found in Vavuniya. The mutilated body of Nagamuthu Naguleswaran (19) was discovered after he went to Sonthakaran Kulam, Vavuniya to inspect his former home.

19 July - Volunteer Teacher gang-raped by army soldiers in Jaffna. 20-year old, Krishnapillai Santhirakala, was gang-raped by soldiers as she walked from her workplace to her home in Karanavai, Vadamardch.

17 July - 8 killed and 22 injured in an Army shelling in Nedunkerni. Shelling from the army camp in Nedunkerni hit the towns of Thatchadampam, Karipattamurippu and Olumadu. The victims were: Periathamby Selvamalar (22); Selvarasa Janarthanan (13); Sinkaravelu Rakunathan (15); and Sithamparampillai Vanniasinkam (18) also from Periapuliyankulam.

17 July School girl raped in Araly South by Army soldiers while she was on her way to her school.
17 July - 2 civilians knifed to death by army in Mannar, when they went to Sonthakarankulam in Mannar to recover valuables they left behind.

16 July 2 murdered by Army in Valaichchenai. The dead bodies of two farmers earlier arrested by the army at Valaichchenai were discovered in nearby paddy fields. Their bodies were discovered with knife wounds by local residents.

15 July - Mass protest in the Vanni: 75,000 Tamils hand letter to UN Secretary General. Vanni Akkarayan (Kilinochchi) saw an eruption of mass anti-government demonstrations protesting against the Sinhala-dominated government's food-siege of Tamil Vanni.

15 July 3 killed by Army who went on a rampage at Puthukudyiruppu. Soldiers ran amok attacking people, killing three people and setting houses ablaze. Furniture was thrown out and burned on the roads.

15 July 4 killed in Artillery attack on Hospital. The Army attacked a hospital at Akkarayan, Kilinochchi, killing four members of one family. Artillery shells pierced through Akkarayan hospital's staff quarters killing a staff-member Antony Kanapathy (47), his father-in-law Raman (70), his wife Ketharny (43) and his son Umasankar(14).

14 July - 1 killed, another 3 critically ill in Vaddakachchi. Sathianatham Sivakumar (22) died in a shell fired by the army in Vaddakachchi which also wounded several others.

12 July - 90,000 houses destroyed by military action in Batticaloa. Over the years this estimated number of Tamil homes have been demolished by Sri Lanka's security forces.

12 July - 10 Killed in a Navy attack off Mullaitivu coast. Fast Attack Craft (FACs) of the Sri Lankan Navy attacked a group of fishing boats off the Mullaitivu coast. The fishermen abandoned their boats and nets and attempted to swim back to the shore, but were killed in the Navy attack.

08 July A boy killed in Amparai by Sinhala homeguards. 14-year old Rasalingam Sivakumar in Amparai was shot dead and his father A. Rasalingam, was also injured in the shooting.

07 July - Milkman hacked to death by army. 18-year old Selliah Karunanithy, was stabbed to death by Army soldiers on Mahilady Bridge, in Batticaloa. The unprovoked attack on took place on the bridge itself while he was delivering milk.

03 July A school bombed and two children critically injured in an attack on civilians by Sri Lanka Kfir jets, in Munrumurippu Palapani, Mankulam.

02 July 1 killed by Army. A young man called Kumar was shot dead by Sri Lankan armed forces in Kilinochchi when his bullock cart carrying coconuts was ambushed in Uruthirapuram. Another man, Pathmanathan, was badly injured. The fate of three others who were on the same cart is not yet known.

July 1997 - 1 killed by Army in Kilinochchi. Markandu Kumar from Skanthapuram, who went to recover his belongings from the house he deserted was shot dead by the Army.

25 June - A Hindu temple damaged - 6 children injured in Mankindimalai. Six children were seriously injured when army shelled a Hindu temple. The artillery attack came while the children were engaged in devotions. The temple, Kumulamunai Kottukinattady Nagathambiran Temple, was badly damaged.

24 June 5 killed in Puliyanakulam. Artillery fired by Army at Puliyanakulam's civilian settlements killed five in Paranattakal. The victims are : Sinnathurai Ponnuthurai (47), Ponnuthurai Mohanathas (20), Ponnuthurai Kantharupan (16), Kopal Sasikumar (20), Kasinathan Kulanathan (33).

21 June 4 killed in Jaffna by Army.

16 June 1 killed and 3 disappeared by police in Batticaloa. Palipody Sundarmoorthy (18) was found murdered while Velmurugu Rajmohan (18), Sinnathamby Thadchanamoorthy (24) and Kandia Pavendirarajah (22) went missing after being arrested by the police in Santhiveli.

14 June - Fisherman killed in sea off Nagarkovil in Jaffna. Sri Lanka Navy fired at Kandiah Vijendran, killing him instantly.

11 June - A British Tamil couple was arrested near the President's Temple Trees residence on suspicion.

10 June - A civilian killed in a shell fire in Vanni. Artillery fired by the Army killed Andy Nadarasa (38). Shells were fired incessantly at the towns of Palamoddai, Panichankulam and Iluppaikulam.

08 June 7 killed and 17 wounded in Mankulam town by the Sri Lankan army who shelled the town centre. Three of the dead were mutilated beyond recognition.

07 June - One woman killed and 3 others critically ill in a hospital in Sammanthurai after Sri Lanka's Special Task Forces (STF) force-fed poison to them while in custody. The STF had earlier arrested the 4 women from their homes in their village (15th Colony).

3 June Arrests and torture of Tamils - Over 50 Tamils were taken into custody in the Pettah commercial district.

01 June - A girl killed and several others injured in an artillery shelling in Omanthai. Kanthappu Yasothathevi was killed and several others injured when the army fired artillery shells at Omanthai area.

02 June - Army shelled Puthukudyiruppu, killing a woman, injuring 18 others and damaging 50 houses.

June 1997 - 1 killed when Sri Lanka army shelled refugee camp in Batticaloa. A shell fired at the Peithlai refugee camp killed 15 year-old Nadarasa Premavathy. Indiscriminate shelling by security forces has caused many deaths.

26 May - A civilian killed in a Puccara bombing. Vaithilingam Selvarasa was killed in bombing by a Sri Lankan air force plane, in Nedunkerni.

24 May - Nearly 4000 Tamil civilians displaced from Nedunkerni. 3776 Tamil people lost their homes as a result of Sri Lanka's military operation in Nedunkerni. The town was literally flattened by Sri Lankan bombardments.

20 May - 80-year-old woman killed in Jaffna. Ms. Velupillai was shot dead by Sri Lankan soldiers at a checkpoint on the Chunnakam-Mallakam road in Jaffna. She was shot at point-blank range as she walked past the soldiers unable to hear the soldier's call to stop.

17 May - Mother of four children Raped and Killed in Batticaloa. Murugesupillai Koneswary was gang-raped then killed at her home in 11th Colony village by a grenade being thrown at her genitals. Her two-year-old child was present when the attackers entered her house. Her husband and three older children were not at home.

15 May - 5 killed in a shell fire in Nedunkerni. The Sri Lankan army fired artillery shells into Nedunkerni town from its base in Manal Aru, killing five Tamil civilians.

13 May - 2 killed, 2 escape with injuries in Kilinochchi. Jeganathan (30) and Sasikumar (14) were killed while Munisamy (30) and Puvaneswary (10) escaped with serious injuries when Army soldiers attacked them. One soldier stood on Jeganathan's chest and hacked him to death, said the eyewitness to the army atrocity, who managed to escape.

13 May - At least 56,000 Tamil houses gutted when Jaffna was invaded. Tamil homes were wrecked by the Sinhala military when it captured Jaffna, according to Sri Lanka's government agent (GA) for the region.

13 May 6 killed and 7 wounded in an Airforce bombings. Six fishermen were killed and another seven wounded when Sri Lankan Air Force Kfirs bombed fishing boats on Mullaitivu coast. Several boats were also destroyed in this attack. Two of the dead were a father and son. Four of the injured were critically injured.

13 May - 300,000 Tamils displaced in the Vanni, says ICRC. The Sri Lanka armed forces launched a large-scale military operation in Vanni. Ground troops, armoured vehicles, artillery and air support were employed in this operation.

11 May - Fisherman killed in Batticaloa Lagoon. A Tamil fisherman was shot dead by Army soldiers in Batticaloa. The victim, Velmurugu Muthucumaru (44) was fishing in the Kinnaiyady part of Batticaloa lagoon.

10 May - "Police made me drink my own blood" - Torture Victim in Colombo. Rajendran Mahendran (33) underwent excessive torture at various Police stations in Colombo. He was arrested in November while staying in Vavuniya. Local police beat him on the head with iron rods then kicked him in the face as he squirmed on the ground. He was then ordered to drink the blood that poured from his nose and mouth. A month later Rajendran Mahendran - who is 33 - was transferred to Borella police station in Colombo where the torture continued. Officers squeezed his testicles in an iron device and denied him treatment even as pus leaked from his ears. He was later taken to Colombo magistrates court where he was remanded for an indefinite period. Mahendran is a father of three from Karainagar. Not even the scant legal formalities relating to arrest and detention under the country's draconian emergency regulations were observed.

10 May 4 killed in Refugee camp. The Sri Lanka army shell fired on a Tamil Refugee Camp killed four in Kalmadu refugee camp in Valaichchenai, Batticaloa. The sustained mortar fire also wounded several other Tamils, including a 5-month old baby. The mother of the baby died while still holding the child in her arms.

09 May 3 killed in Puliyanukulam Hospital Bombing by Sri Lanka Airforce helicopters. Three civilians were killed and several others injured when two MI24 helicopter gunships targeted shops, homes and other residential buildings in Puliyanukulam. The hospital was badly damaged.

08 May - Hospital and houses ruined by Army shells in Vaddakachi. Vaddakachi hospital and surrounding homes lay in ruins as a result of days of non-stop shelling by Sri Lanka army at Elephant Pass.

08 May One killed and 6 injured in army ambush in Mannar. Ponniah Jesuthasan (29) from Nakathalvu was shot dead and 6 others were critically wounded when Sri Lankan army ambushed a group of civilians in Uyilankulam in Mannar.

May - 1997 Mass arrests & torture of Tamils in Colombo. In late May the Human Rights Task Force (HRTF) recorded over 810 Tamils detained in Colombo and Kalutara prisons and at the Police headquarters.

29 April - 2 civilians killed in Valaichchenai, Batticaloa by Army. Pakianathan Shankar (20) from Kannakipuram and Velupillai Suthakar (20) from Puthukudiyiruppu were shot dead by the Army.

29 April A fisherman killed by Navy. Muthiah Krishnan (36) was shot dead by the Sri Lanka navy while fishing along the coast of Mannar.

20 April 3 killed and 7 wounded by STF in Valaichchenai. Special Task Forces shot dead three and severely wounded another seven who were shopping in the market.

20 April - "Disappearances in North East continue. Kandiah Sivakumar (20), Kanagasabai Ravichandran (20), two firewood sellers from Rukam village in Batticaloa, were reported 'disappeared' after they were taken into custody by the army near the Black Bridge, Chenkalady, Batticaloa district.

18 April - 3 killed and 6 severely injured in Nachchikuda by Sri Lankan Kfirs. Three fishermen were killed and 20 fishing boats demolished when two Sri Lankan Kfirs dropped bombs off the coast of Nachchikuda in the northwest of the island.

17 April 5 shot dead by Army in Kilinochchi. They were returning to Uruthirapuram, Kilinochchi to salvage goods from their former homes. 16 year old youth, Maniyam Paramanathan, survived the attack, but sustained severe injuries and was admitted to Akkarayan hospital.

03 April 2 people including a 4 Year old child killed by STF in Eravur. A child of four years old and a man of 45 were killed after Eravur police went on a rampage firing mortars and bullets at surrounding Tamil villages.

March 1997 1 killed in army shelling. Marimuthu Kandasamy (44) was killed by Sri Lankan army shells while he was tilling his plot of land in Vantharumoolai (Batticaloa). The artillery was fired from the Kommathurai army camp.

27 March - Two boys killed by army in the Kaluvankerni region of Batticaloa district. The boys were first stopped in the street by a Sri Lanka army soldier who started to beat the boys with their rifle butts and then shot them dead.

26 March - Bullet-ridden body found on Jaffna Roadside. A man's body torn apart with gunshot wounds has been handed over to Jaffna hospital after being discovered on the Chavakachcheri main road. The army had killed the man while in custody, dumped his body on the road, then retrieved it on a later patrol.

23 March A boy shot dead in public in Jaffna. A 21 year old boy was gunned down by Army in Thenmaradchy, Jaffna peninsula, in front of others during a cordon-and-search operation.

22 March - 370,000 Tamil people in Batticaloa's twelve divisions face starvation. Since January 1997 no amount of food relief had reached these people because Sri Lankan military officials had blocked all access routes to the area.

17 March Two sisters raped by Sri Lanka army. Velan Rasamma (34) a widow and her sister Velan Vasantha (28) were raped by four Army soldiers at their home in Mayilampaveli Colony, Batticaloa district.

15 March 1 killed and another wounded in Batticaloa. Sri Lanka army launched motor fire from Valaichchenai police station killing a man and critically injuring a woman in the village of Karuvakerni. S. Pandaram (56) was killed while S. Ranjithamalar (36) was critically wounded.

15 March - '650 Jaffna Disappearances' - Human Rights Task Force (HRTF) admitted 650 Tamils were 'disappeared' in Jaffna. HRTF is an official of the government's token body set up chiefly to assuage the international community.

14 March 2 young women killed. Kumaraswamy Sujitha (24) from NeerVELly, Jaffna and Mekanathan Jeyasutha (22) from Rampaikulam in Vavuniya were found dead on a Vavuniya roadside near an army camp. Both girls were inmates of the Vavuniya detention centres operated by the Sri Lankan military. Sujitha

and Jeysutha had been on their way to Colombo, where their parents live, when they were detained. Soldiers had taken them away from the camp and the girls were only seen again as corpses dumped on the roadside.

13 March - A boy was shot dead by army soldiers at Barr Road in Batticaloa town. Antonyrasa Thavarasa Gomes was a devout Catholic who attended church regularly despite the risks of army harassment.

13 March Refugee camp shelled, 6 Refugees Killed. Six refugees huddled inside the Valaichchenai refugee camp in Batticaloa were killed by shellfire from Valaichchenai police station. Another six were critically injured, including four children - Sivalingam Sarojinidevi (8), Nadarasa Sinnarasa (12), Uthayakpao (12) and J. Arichandran (16).

06 March - 1 killed in Army shelling in Pooneryn. Shells fired from Elephant Pass army camp landed on a family home in Nallur, Pooneryn, killing a man and badly injuring another person.

February - 3 killed another 6 injured in Puttur. Sri Lankan soldiers rounded up residents of Annamar Koilady, Puttur and assaulted them with iron rods and rifle butts then opened fire on nine of them, killing 3 and injuring 6.

23 February - 12,000 acres of paddy field in the Vanni were totally destroyed by the Sri Lanka army in a military operation code name 'Edibala'. The army wiped out and burned, shelled and trampled 12,000 acres of paddy fields which were just ready for harvest. This military push was intended to cause as much damage to crops as possible.

18 February - Nearly 2.5 million trees wiped out in North Eastern area. The Sri Lankan military is carrying out a covert tree-demolition project in captured areas of the northeast.

17 February ĩTamilis should limit the number of children they haveÓ said Sinhala female Doctor who refused to treat a Tamil pregnant woman in Colombo. A female Sinhalese medical officer at a prominent Colombo maternity clinic has told a pregnant Tamil woman that she is not welcome at the clinic should she get pregnant in the future. The doctor elaborated, in front of witnesses, that Tamils should limit the number of children they have as Sri Lanka is hardly a big enough place for the Sinhalese. She even went as far as to tell the woman's husband to make sure his wife does not get pregnant again. The doctor responsible for the statements will face no penalties.

10 February - Youth killed by army in Pallikudiyiruppu, Mutur. Kanapathipillai Nithiananthan was shot dead by Sri Lanka army while on his way to work.

09 February 3 killed in Valaichchenai East by the Army. Sri Lankan soldiers shot dead three civilians.

06 February Youth tortured to death. Vijayanar (29), was found beaten to death after torture at the hands of the Sri Lanka army in Thenmaradchy. His death caused deep anxiety and distress among the residents in Meesalai.

05 February 2 killed and many injured in a shell attack. Army artillery shells fired from Mavadivempu army camp in Batticaloa killed 11-year old boy, Karuppaiyah Sriskumar and a middle-aged man, Sadacharam Perinparajan. Three others were critically injured.

03 February 24 schools shelled in Killinochi by the Sri Lanka Army.

01 February - Businessman killed by Army in Trincomalee. Kanapathy Pechchimuthu (31), a businessman was shot dead in a Sri Lankan army ambush in Seruwila, Trincomalee.

01 February - 1 killed by army. Tamil father of six children K. Velmurugu (56) was shot dead by Sri Lankan army in Kunchan Kulam in Batticaloa.

February 1997 - Operation ĩEdibalaÓ causes mass exodus in Vanni. Sri Lanka army and airforces shell and aerial-bomb villages in Vanni causing mass exodus in Vanni.

31 January - 2 killed in a bakery in Mullaitivu by the Sri Lanka air force.

29 January - 9 killed in Jaffna peninsula when a bomb planted by Sri Lanka Navy in the town of Pannalai, Karainagar exploded.

24 January - Decapitated body floats ashore in Mullaitivu. A fisherman whose head was cut off by Sri Lanka naval personnel was washed ashore onto Ampalavan Pokkanai in Mullaitivu district.

22 January - 1 killed by Navy. Elderly fisherman in Trincomalee was shot dead by the Sri Lankan navy.

15 January - Mother of 8 children killed in Batticaloa lagoon. A widow with 8 dependent children was shot dead by the Sri Lankan army while she was catching prawns in the Batticaloa lagoon.

13 January - 2 killed by Special Task Force-STF in Wellaweli, Batticaloa. Father of five Chelliah (65) and Kanapathipillai Paghirathan (23) were shot dead.

12 January - Village of Kandavalai destroyed. Sri Lankan Air Force planes bombed and destroyed residential areas, Ganesh Hindu Temple in 2nd Mile Post and shops in Kandavalai.

09 January - 4 killed in an aerial bombardment in Visuvamadu and Chundikulam, Vanni.

06 January - 2 killed and 1 Disappeared in Kithul, Batticaloa. Sri Lanka army shot dead S. Muthulingam (14) and Thambirasa Kanthasamy (32) during its military operation 'Rivijaya'. Sabapathy Mylvaganam disappeared during the operation and is believed to have been killed by the Army soldiers.

04 January - Couple and a child were killed in a shell fired by the Sri Lanka Army in Samanthiaru, Batticaloa. The victims were Krishanapillai Pavalasingam (25), Pama (25) and Jeevitha (01).

04 January - Woman raped by Special Task Force STF in Batticaloa. STF commandos of the Mansoor Tileworks army camp raped a woman carrying food to her husband who was working in their paddy field.

04 January - Man killed in front of his wife and children in Meesalai in Jaffna peninsula. Sri Lanka army in Meesalai, Thenmaradchy shot dead a man at his home, in front of his wife and six children. Victim Nagalingam Varapragasami's wife was also assaulted when she tried to save her husband.

02 January 3 women were raped at gun-point including a mother and the daughter in Thiyavattavan in Batticaloa by the STF. **2 other incidents of rape were reported in Mandoor.** The STF terrorise Tamil women in the East.

1997 - 150 Tamils died in refugee camps in the Pooneryn area of Vanni, due to disease. About 16,000 displaced people from Jaffna live in these camps. Diseases wide spread due to lack of medicines.

1996

Fate of 656 Tamils who 'disappeared' in 1996 not yet known but Tamils continue to 'disappear' in North East.

26 December - Woman found dead on roadside. Kandasamy Vijayakumari (33), from Mankulam, was found dead on a drenched street in Vavuniya with her new-born baby crying by her side. While pregnant, she had been suffering from medical complications and was due in Colombo for treatment. The Sri Lanka army refused to permit her passage through Vavuniya to Colombo forcing her to remain in one of the notorious detention centres. She had three other children.

16 December - 400,000 displaced Tamils in Vanni says US Committee for Refugees.

15 December 4 killed in a school in Batticaloa. Sri Lankan Airforce bombers bombed a school in Pavatkodichenai, Batticaloa, killing four and damaging the school badly.

December - 110 died in refugee camps in Vanni. They had been admitted to the Mallavi and Puthukudyiruppu hospitals in Kilinochchi District, Vanni. Their deaths were caused due to lack of health facilities for refugees in the Vanni.

December - 3 bodies of school girls washed ashore in sea off Mullaitivu. Three bodies of school girls, some in school uniforms, were found washed ashore in gunny bags on Mullaitivu coast. One of the bodies of

a girl in school uniform was found with a neck tie of a leading girls school in Chundikuli. (Sunday Times - 15/12/96)

November - Many women have been sexually abused at the Poonthottam school camp by the police. A woman who was raped was admitted to the Vavuniya hospital. Pregnant women have been denied access to the hospital.

12 November Girl-child raped by Sri Lanka Army in Atchuvely, Jaffna. Selverajah Theenuka (10) living in Pathmeni, Atchuvely, Jaffna Peninsula, was abducted by soldiers while she was on her way to school and taken to Puttur V.C. camp. There, she was stripped and raped repeatedly by many soldiers.

November Woman raped and killed in a detention centre in Vavuniya. Eight Sri Lanka army soldiers gang-raped and killed a young woman detained in Vavuniya.

October - 3 killed in Chundikulam. Sri Lanka Air Force attacked Chundikulam village killing 3 and injuring several others.

30 September - A young woman raped and killed in Urumpirai North, Jaffna. Velauthapillai Rajani (22), from Urumpirai North was arrested at Kondavil-Urumpirai Road check point by the Sri Lankan army. This arrest was seen by several people. She was dragged into a house where two elderly people were living. The soldiers chased the two occupants out of the house and Rajani was raped. Later her naked body was found in the compound.

27 September - 4 killed and 8 injured in Vanni. Sri Lanka Air Force Kfirs attack Konavil, Kilinochchi area killing four and injuring eight others.

26 September - 4 killed and 12 wounded in Vavunikulam. Sri Lanka Air Force Kfirs bombed Vavunikulam town, killing four and seriously wounding twelve. Several houses were destroyed in this bombing.

10 September - Woman gang-raped in Thirunelvely, Jaffna. A 55-year-old woman employed in the Thirunelvely Co-operative Milk Board was gang-raped by Sri Lanka Army soldiers.

08 September - Girl harassed by Sri Lanka army in Jaffna. Four Sri Lankan soldiers in civil dress and two soldiers in army uniform went in to a house and tried to take a young girl away. The girl, Vasuki, and her neighbours raised cries and the soldiers fled with Ms. Vasuki's National Identity card.

07 September - Krishanthy Kumaraswamy raped and killed, and 3 others killed. Krishanthy Kumaraswamy (18) was returning home after sitting her GCE (A/L) examination at Chundikuli Girls High School. She was seen alive for the last time at 11.30am at Kaithady checkpoint in Jaffna. Never returned home. Her mother, brother (Pranavan -16) and family friend (Mr Kirupakaran - 35) went in search of her. They too disappeared. All were killed and the women were raped.

25 August - 10 killed, 35 injured in the Vanni. Sri Lanka Air Force aircraft continued to attack refugee camps at Puthumurippu, Poonithoduvai in Kilinochchi.

05 August - 2 killed in Murukandy by bombs dropped by Sri Lanka Air Force planes.

24 July - 9 killed and 24 injured in Mallavi, Vanni. Sri Lankan Air Force bombers bombed the heavily populated Mallavi junction in the Vanni, killing seven including a 3 year old child. Twenty others were injured.

27 May Abducted 2 youths found killed. On 25th May Sivarasa Krishna and Palanivel Gunasingham, from Anbuvalipuram in Trincomalee were abducted in a white van belonging to military death squads. The bullet-ridden bodies of the two youths were found on 27th May at Selvanayagapuram in Trincomalee.

16 May 6 killed in Jaffna peninsula, when Sri Lanka Air Force Kfirs attacked residential areas of Maruthankerni and Sempianpattu. Six were killed and many more injured.

15 May 1 killed and 6 injured in Mullaitivu, when Sri Lanka Air Force Kfirs launched attack in Mullaitivu.

20 April - 42 killed and 75 injured in Kilaly. Civilian who tried to cross over to the main land from the Jaffna peninsula have been bombed by Sri Lanka Airforce bomber planes.

20 April 1 killed in Kfir attack in Muhammalai in Jaffna. Sri Lanka air force Kfir planes bombed Muhammalai in the Jaffna peninsula and killed one person.

24 February 2 killed and 4 injured in Vanni. Sri Lanka Airforce bomber planes bombed the village of Thampirai, killing two and injuring four.

11 February 24 Massacred in Kumarapuram by Sri Lanka army. Sri Lankan army from the 57th mile post near Kilivetti massacred 24 civilians and severely injured 28 others. One of those killed was a ten month pregnant woman. 17-year-old Ms. A. Thanalakshmi was gang raped and killed by the soldiers. Among those killed were many small children.

31 January - 2 killed and several wounded in an Airforce attack at Udayarkaddu, Mullaitivu.

21 January - 5 killed and 20 seriously injured in a Sri Lanka Airforce attack on a refugee camp in Mannar.

04 January 30 killed in a human shield in Batticaloa. Eyewitness accounts of the incident indicated that the Sri Lankan security forces forced hundreds of civilians to remain inside buses, vans and cars using them as human shields. Thirty civilians were killed in the incident, in the eastern district of Batticaloa.

1996 More than 600 Tamils disappeared in 18 months in Jaffna. An Amnesty International delegation which visited Sri Lanka concluded that of the 600-odd people who disappeared in the last 18 months, after their arrest by the security forces, nearly all have died as a result of torture or been deliberately killed in detention.

1996 More than 300 disappeared in 6 months - U.S. Department. Sri Lanka 'Disappearances' at the hands of the security forces increased alarmingly, especially in the east and north, though some occurred in Colombo, says **U.S. Department of State, Sri Lanka Country Report on Human Rights Practices for 1996.**

1995

26 December 1 shot dead and 3 seriously injured in Batticaloa in open fire by the Sri Lankan Army in Batticaloa.

16 December - 1 killed and another 1 injured in an artillery shell fired from the Palaly and Elephant pass camps in the Peninsula.

05 December 19 killed in Puthukudiyiruppu in Batticaloa by the Sri Lanka Army.

19 November - 10 killed and 27 injured in Valikamam. In an Artillery Shelling by the Sri Lanka army ten killed and twenty seven seriously injured in the Valikamam area.

13 November - 1 killed, another one injured in an artillery shell fired by the army in Valvettiturai.

13 November - 10 killed and 14 seriously injured in an Aerial Bombing by Sri Lankan airforce bombers and Artillery shelling by the army in Thenmaratchi.

12 November - 6 killed, 21 seriously injured in Vadammaradchi in an Artillery shelling by the Army. More than 50 houses were also destroyed.

11 November - 2 killed and 11 seriously injured in Kaithady, in Artillery Shell fired from the army camps.

03 November - 2 killed and 5 seriously injured in Thenmaratchi in an Aerial Bombing. A vehicle marked with 'Cross' sign, indicating medical relief, was also damaged.

October - (1) Mass Exodus from Jaffna. As a result of military operations in Valigammam, 104 people were killed. Waves of displacement across the villages of Mathagal, Illvalai, Vasavilan, and the islands of Mandaithivu, Kayts, Delft and Pooneryn displaced the people from those places to Manipay, Sandilipay, Chunnakan and Killinochchi.

30 October - Historic exodus and military occupation of Jaffna. On the night of Monday 30th October history witnessed an unprecedented exodus of people screaming and squeezing themselves out of the narrow roads and lanes of Jaffna. Half a million people in and around the town were literally on the roads in

pouring rain inching their way out of the densely populated town into the sparsely populated and ill-equipped suburban villages of Chavakachcheri, Kodikaman and Palai. It was for everyone a flight for survival from the Sri Lanka security forces.

27 October - 25 killed and 23 injured in Ariyalai in an aerial bombing by Sri Lankan airforce planes.

19 October - 54 killed and many injured by aerial bombing in Jaffna District fired by the Sri Lanka army and airforce.

13 October - 2 killed by artillery shelling by the Sri Lanka army in Vadamaratchi.

06 October - 3 killed in an artillery shell fired by the Sri Lanka army.

05 October - 8 killed, in artillery shelling during military operation 'Thunder' by the Army in Thenmaratchi area. Many houses were looted and destroyed.

04 October - 16 killed and more than 60 injured in Jaffna district. Eight civilians killed and thirty seriously injured by the artillery shell fired from the Army camp in Thenmaratchi. Another six killed in Valikamam and other two people killed and more than thirty wounded in Vadamaratchi by artillery shelling by the army.

03 October - Sri Lanka Army launched a heavy attack on densely populated villages in the Jaffna peninsula. The offensive was against Atchuveli, Vasavilan, Puthur, Pattaimeni, Avarangal and Vallai. Heavy shelling was directed into civilian centres from the Pallaly army base. Shells fell sporadically in Navatkuli, Kaithadi, Navakiri and Neerveli sometimes throughout the day.

02 October - 6 killed by Artillery Shelling fired by the Sri Lankan army in Valikamam area. Another 55 seriously wounded.

01 October - 8 killed and 6 seriously wounded, when the Air force planes bomb the Mannar area. Five houses were completely destroyed.

22 September - 25 school children were among 71 Tamil civilians killed Nagerkoil School bombed. Nagerkovil Central School in the Jaffna peninsula was bombed in an intensified aerial bombing and shelling by Sri Lanka airforce and the army. The bombing of the school happened at 12.50 p.m. during the school's lunch break. Nearly 200 others were injured, most of them students in the same school. Elsewhere in the area, 15 other civilians were also killed in the course of the same bombing raids. Pieces of human flesh were strewn around the area including the tree branches, making identification impossible.

August - Woman raped in Trincomalee. Lakshmi Pillai was raped at her home in Trincomalee by two army informants in front of her two sons. She had been raped by the same people, before at Plantain Point army camp in August 1993.

9-13 July - 180,000 displaced and 200 civilian killed in Jaffna. In an aerial bombing and shelling by the Airforce and Army in the Jaffna peninsula, 180,000 have been displaced and 200 have killed between 9 July to 13 July.

09 July 165 killed in St.Peters Church in Navaly. The government having asked the people to move to places of worship and ordered the Sri Lanka air force planes to attack the places of worship where displaced people had sought refuge. In such an attack at Navaly St. Peters Church - 165 people were killed, many of whom were women and children. Rescue workers reported torn limbs and pieces of human flesh strewn over the area.

29 June 6 floating bodies in Welihinda Thotupola. Six bodies of tortured and disfigured males were found floating near Welihinda Thotupola in the Maha Oya - Alawwa (North West Province). One of the bodies was identified as 24 year old Naresh Rajadurai. On 26th June Naresh Rajadurai left his work place, a video shop in Wellawatte, at 8.15pm and was on his way home at Sri Saranankara Road, Dehiwela within the Colombo city limits. He was stopped on the way, in front of a hotel, forced into a white van and taken away by military death squad.

19 June 5 floating bodies in Panadura side of Bolgoda Lake. Five bodies found in the lake had been starved as no traces of food was found in their stomachs. All five of the victims had both his arms and legs bound together with rope before being drowned. They were killed by the Sri Lanka military white van death squad.

June 14 floating bodies in Modera & Negombo. Fourteen bodies were found had been starved, tied up, brutally tortured and their bodies mutilated and disfigured beyond identification. They were killed by the Sri Lanka military white van death squad.

23 May - Extra judicial killings of 4 Tamils at the Jeyanthipuram camp, one of the most horrific camps where growing abuses are perpetrated by the Sri Lanka security forces against the people in the town and surrounding villages.

13 May 95 huts were burned in Pottuvil by the Police. Inspector Etram Milakudiyetra was leading this attack.

06 May 5 killed in Pulmodai. Five Muslim civilians including a 2 year old child, a 56 year old man and a 70 year old woman, were killed when members of the army stationed at Pulmodai fired at the civilians in Pulmodai.

30 April - 7 killed, Thondamanaru Selvachannathy temple. A shell fired by the army from Palaly killed seven civilians and badly damaged the Thondamanaru Selvachannathy temple.