

Tamils in Sri Lanka (Ceylon) need your help

1,500 Killed 350,000 Displaced
55,000 Refugees 600,000 Stateless

'We will never go back to those places'

'We had lived in those areas for three generations and they – the very ones who lived with us – hit us, took away all our belongings and chased us, how could we go back to live with them?'

'We would rather die here in these camps.'

'By asking us to get back, are you trying to kill us and eradicate us?'

'If you can help us, please do so; or else kill us; but do not ask us to go back.'

'I had lived for forty years in Maho and now they have chased me out. How to go now? If you can't help us to live here, you can shoot us.'

Refugees

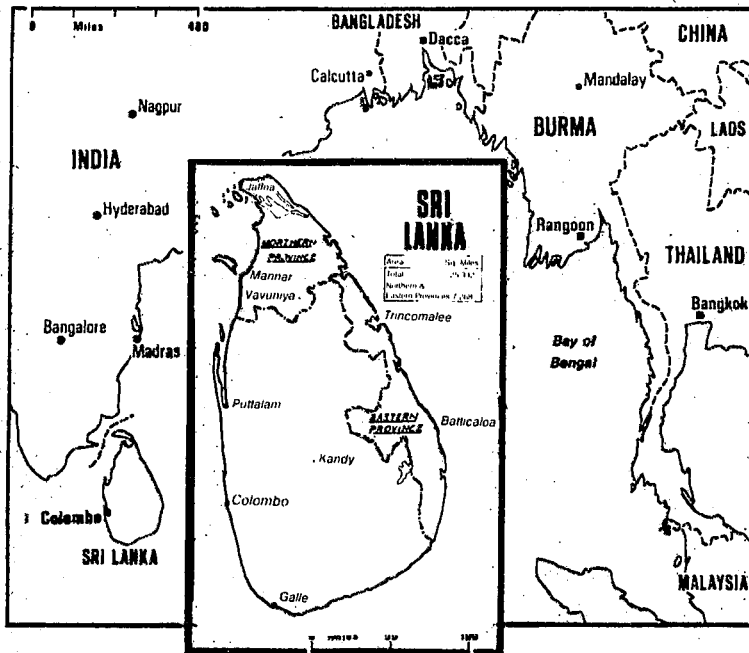
THE CENTRAL BRITISH FUND FOR TAMIL REFUGEES REHABILITATION

Reg No.1409222

Charity No.277264

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Tamils of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)

Geography and History

- Population** 3.5 million
- Homelands** 7,268 sq. miles.
- Strategically located in the Indian Ocean, 20 miles of the southern tip of India.
- 1619-1795** Colony of Portuguese and Dutch.
- 1796-** Colony of British.
- 1833** The Tamil and Sinhala territories were brought together into one administrative unit by the British for reasons of administrative convenience.
- 1931** Introduction of Universal adult franchise.
- 1948** The British handed over power to the majority (Sinhalese) with the assurance that minorities would be protected.
- 1948-1949** One million Tamils disenfranchised
- 1950** Introduction of state-aided colonisation of Tamil homelands with Sinhalese which changed the ethnic composition.
- 1972** Adoption of the Republican constitution eliminating all safeguards to the minorities.
- 1977** Tamils voted overwhelmingly for independence by supporting the Tamil United Liberation Front who fought the General Election on the basis of a separate state of TAMIL EELAM for Tamils.

Anti-Tamil riots

Mobs have:

- burnt Hindu Priests alive.
- destroyed over 100 Hindu Temples.
- killed 1,500 Tamils.
- been involved in gang raping of Tamil women.
- driven over 55,000 refugees to the North.
- attacked Tamils in every Sinhalese settlement established in Tamil Homelands by the state.

Army/Police have:

- taken part in violence against the Tamils.
- assisted mobs involved in violence against Tamils.
- burnt Tamil towns, buildings, shops and cultural institutions.
- burnt Jaffna Public Library.
- burnt an independent Tamil press.
- tortured and killed Tamil youths.
- tortured and detained:
 - Catholic Priests
 - Methodist Ministers
 - University lecturers
 - Social workers
 - Doctors

The Tamils are a disadvantaged people

- One million Tamils were disenfranchised in 1948 and made stateless.
- 300,000 Tamils from the plantation areas were forced to emigrate to India and 600,000 are still stateless in Sri Lanka.
- Adoption of Sinhala, the language of Sinhalese as the *only* official language throughout the entire Island has excluded Tamils from the main stream of life.
- Introduction of a system of language-wise standardisation of marks in the University admissions has resulted in the progressive decline in the admission of Tamils.
- Tamils have been subjected to violence in 1956, 1958, 1961, 1974, 1979 and 1981.
- Since introduction of the Prevention of Terrorism Act in 1979, Tamils have suffered from great insecurity and they have been arrested and held in detention without trial.

SELF-HELP

The Tamils do all they can to help themselves. The refugees and the displaced persons erect their own homes, grow food and are learning new skills so that they can contribute to the betterment of the community.

The caring organisations are working hard with dedication and without fear to help the victims.

And, what you could do to help is perhaps to make a small donation monthly or annually.

FOR AS LITTLE AS £3.00 A MONTH YOU GIVE HOPE TO THE TAMIL VICTIMS. If you are willing to help, please complete Section 'A' over-leaf.

How to make your subscription

There are three ways in which your (monthly £3, annual £36) subscription can be made

1. By DEED OF COVENANT. If you pay the standard rate of income tax you further benefit the Association AT NO EXTRA COST TO YOURSELF by completing Sections 'B' and 'C'.
2. By BANKER'S ORDER. If you do not wish to covenant your gift simply ensure regular payment by completing Section 'D'.
3. By DIRECT PAYMENT by cheque to THE CENTRAL BRITISH FUND FOR TAMIL REFUGEES REHABILITATION and completing Section 'D'.

A. TO: The Treasurer, The Central British Fund for Tamil Refugees Rehabilitation, 11 Beulah Road, Thornton Heath, Croydon, Surrey CR4 8JH.

I wish to contribute towards the work of the Association and look forward to receiving annual reports/accounts and the quarterly journal 'Tamil Refugee'.

Name: Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address:

B. My Covenant to The Central British Fund for Tamil Refugees Rehabilitation.

I (Mr/Mrs/Miss) Full name in block capitals

of (Address)

undertake to pay The Central British Fund for Tamil Refugees Rehabilitation each year for seven years (or during lifetime if shorter) from today, the sum that will, after the deduction of income tax at the basic rate, be £ (just put here the amount you wish to pay annually and we do the rest).

Date

Signed, sealed and delivered

To complete this covenant your signature requires a witness.

Signature of Witness

Address

C. BANKER'S ORDER

To: (Name and address of your bank)

Account No:
Please pay to National Westminster Bank Ltd., Southfields Branch (60-20-09), Southfields, London SW19 6NL, for the account of The Central British Fund for Tamil Refugees Rehabilitation (Account No. 41611543) the sum of £

(.....) (amount in words)

on 19. . . and thereafter on the same day each month/year until otherwise notified.

Signature:

Date:

Address:

Postcode

D. I enclose my first subscription of £. (Monthly £3/Annual £36)
I require receipt.

E. I enclose a donation of £. I require receipt

THE CENTRAL BRITISH FUND FOR TAMIL REFUGEES REHABILITATION

The Central British Fund for Tamil Refugees Rehabilitation (C.B.F.T.R.R.) is an incorporated national and overseas charity established in 1979 to relieve poverty. The formation of C.B.F.T.R.R. was inspired by the August 1977 disturbances in Sri Lanka.

The Association is committed to help the Tamils at the ragged edge of survival to lift themselves toward a better life.

It works with organised groups working at grass-roots level and where necessary encourages the promotion and assists the growth of institutions concerned with the welfare of Tamils in places where they do not exist or where there are inadequate facilities.

How is it financed

- Subscriptions and public donations from UK and abroad.
- Funding Agencies.
- Special Appeals.
- Fund Raising Activities.

Progress report

The association has in the past:

- assisted in settlement of Refugees through Gandhiam Society and Tamil Refugees Rehabilitation.

- published the book 'Insecurity of Tamils in Sri Lanka'.

- used the film 'Banished from Paradise' in English and Tamil in the Association's awareness programmes:

- assisted in the collection of books for the Jaffna Public Library.

- assisted in the Feeding Scheme for the orphaned children and elders at the North Ceylon 'Sri Paramananda Children's and Elders' Homes and Ashram Trust.

And, the Association proposes to:

- continue with its assistance to Refugee settlements.

- publish a journal 'Tamil Refugee'.

- collect funds for the work of Gandhiam Society.

- compile and publish a directory of all Institutions in the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka.

- publish the *Economic Atlas of the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka*.

- run an Information Centre in the UK.

- run a library for the benefit of Tamils in the UK.

- continue to encourage self-help.