

Mrs. Margaret Thatcher,
Rt. Hon'ble Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London .

Dear Madam Prime Minister,

Human Rights Violations Against Tamil Women

The Tamils as a nation have suffered for more than 40 years in the hands of the successive Sinhala Governments of Sri Lanka. They have been discriminated against and denied the basic human rights including the right to their homeland, language, education and employment and now the very fundamental right to live. Since the Indo Sri Lanka Accord and the arrival of the Indian Peace Keeping Force the situation has worsened. There is no right to the freedom of speech, the freedom of press, the freedom of movement, the freedom of association and even the right to live and exercise their political will.

The Indian Peace Keeping Force is guilty of gross violations of human rights against hundreds of Tamil women, Young and old. They have been and continue to be sexually assaulted and killed. In some instances they were arrested, brutally tortured and killed. After arrest many have disappeared. Victims of rape have, due to shame, committed suicide or are subject to mental trauma. Tamil women treasure their virginity and once that is lost to them life is not worth living.

It is widely reported and well documented by independent human rights organisations. Such human rights violations continue unabated as countries like Britain, the mother of Parliament, an advocate in upholding human rights all over the world, remain silent, abdicating the responsibility towards the Tamils and in particular in betraying the bondage as a member of the Commonwealth.

We, the Tamils of U.K., therefore, appeal to you as Prime Minister of the leading member country of the Commonwealth and senior statesman in the western world to bring about pressure on the Indian Government to stop immediately the human rights violations against the Tamil innocent civilians.

We are confident that you would do whatever you deem fit to prevent injustice to the Tamils.

We remain,

Yours faithfully,