

## Webinar

### Webinar Topic:

Democracy Under threat: Incitement and glorification of LTTE Tamil Terrorism

**Date:** Sunday, November 22, 2020.

### Time:

11:00 AM EDT (Canada and US)

4:00 PM GMT, London, UK.

9:30 PM IST, New Delhi, India.

9:30 PM IST, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

5:00 PM CET, Geneva, Switzerland.

### Abstract

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) Tamil terrorist waged 26 years long ruthless campaign to create a mono-ethnic state for the Tamils in the north part of Sri Lanka. Suicide bombers are the hallmark of LTTE Tamil terrorism. LTTE invented suicide vests and deployed women suicide carders for political assassinations. LTTE Tamil terrorists carried out 378 suicide attacks against civilians and civilians' objects that caused massive destruction.

Tamil terrorists killed over 160 Tamil politicians, academics and intellectuals and massacred over 3000 innocent civilians living at boundary villages' so-called de facto state Tamil Eelam. LTTE also recruited over 7,000 child soldiers. At the final stage of the armed conflict, Tamil terrorists used civilians as a human shield and fired point-blank at civilians trying to escape from the LTTE clutches.

There are sufficient facts to prove that the LTTE remnants and groups aligned with its terrorist ideology; greater Tamil Eelam are active in foreign countries, working to incite violence and destabilize India and Sri Lanka.

November 26 and 27, each year, LTTE remembers their death cadre. The events continue to be observed in Canada LTTE and their proxies despite the LTTE's military debacle in May 2009.

Most importantly, LTTE never mourned the loss of Tamils, who belonged to other Tamil militant movements. The sectarian LTTE did not regard others as fallen terrorists. Only LTTE cadres were given that recognition. Families of dead cadres belonging to other movements were not allowed to mourn their loved ones publicly. They could only mourn in private.

Tamil tiger terrorists and their proxies organize events in November, and November 26 and 27 events manage to generate more funds by exploiting people's emotions and pledge for violent separatist agenda. These events are glorifying terrorism, and authorities must take action to ban such activities.

## Panelists



**Prof. Dr. Mehmet Şükrü Güzel (Switzerland)**  
Center for Peace and Reconciliation Studies, Geneva, Switzerland.

Mehmet Şükrü Güzel is the founder of the Center for Peace and Reconciliation Studies, a non-profit NGO based in Geneva, Switzerland.

Mehmet's research areas focuses on the history of the World War I, terrorism, decolonization, genocide and peace making. Mehmet is the author the books *Boomerang Effect of the Ethnic Cleansing to the Turks*, *Exchange of Populations( in Turkish )*, *Solving Statelessness in Myanmar*, *The Chagos Archipelago Case in the International Court of Justice*, *Article 140 of the Constitution of Iraq* and co-author of the books *War Crime against the Ottomans (in Turkish)* and *Modus Vivendi Situation of West Papua*. He has written numerous academic articles. He is currently working on a peace building and conflict reconciliation project.

Mehmet received Prof Dr. honoris causa from International Academy of Science Vektor, Baku, Azerbaijan. He was nominated two times to the Nobel Peace Prize alone for his efforts to prevent a new future legitimized civil war by the United Nations in Iraq and solving the problem of the statelessness of the all minorities in Myanmar. Mehmet was also nominated to the Nobel Peace Prize together with Mr. H.E Leon Kaulahao Siu from Hawaii for their work on a peaceful solution of the West Papua dispute.

## Abstract of the presentation

The Human Rights Council (HRC) in the preambulatory clause of its resolution 11/1 had defined the past-armed conflict as “countering terrorism” in Sri Lanka while in the perambulatory clauses of its resolutions, 19/2, 22/1 and 25/1 defined armed conflict as “combat terrorism”. The HRC resolution 30/1 even if defined the armed conflict in the perambulatory clause as combat terrorism, in the operational clause 5 did not ask for the implementation of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy (UNGCTS ) and in fact had nullified the definition of combat terrorism of the perambulatory clauses of the past resolutions by giving reference to the OISL report which defined LTTE as a Non- State Armed Group, not as a terrorist organization and the past armed conflict as an internal war, not as combat terrorism.

Although the HRC resolutions 30/1 mentioned the need for a process of accountability and reconciliation for the violations and abuses committed by the LTTE in the operative clause 5, the HRC resolution 40/1 only asked in the operative clauses to the Government of Sri Lanka to implement fully the measures identified by the Council in its resolution 30/1 that are outstanding; but did not ask any investigation as written in the operative clause 5 of the resolution 30/1, by which a total impunity was given to the terrorism of LTTE in Sri Lanka.

The responsibility of the HRC for the implementation of the UNGCTS and ask for an international committee of inquiry for the financing of terrorism under Pillar II of the UNGCTS on measures to prevent and combat terrorism against the recurrence to achieve sustaining peace in Sri Lanka under the UN Peace Building Architecture is an obligation whereas the HRC gives total impunity to the terrorism of LTTE by its resolution 40/1.



**Shamindra Ferdinando  
Journalist with Island**

Having joined Sri Lankan daily *The Island* in June 1987 as a trainee journalist, Shamindra Ferdinando continues to serve the same editorial for over three decades and now contributes to its sister paper, Sinhala language Divaina. Ferdinando, now the News Editor of the newspaper, covered the North East conflict as well as the second JVP-led insurgency (1987-1990) in addition to political reporting et al.

As a young journalist he had the chance to cover the Indian Army deployment in the Northern and Eastern parts of Sri Lanka (July 1987-March 1990) under the acronym IPKF (Indian Peace Keeping Force) in terms of the Indo-Lanka Accord and the southern insurgency during an extremely volatile period. After the conclusion of the war in May 2009, Ferdinando focused on post-conflict issues, particularly accountability issues. His extensive coverage of the conflict and related issues received public attention over the years and the opportunity to discuss such matters both on television and radio on numerous occasions.

Among those who had been interviewed by Ferdinando pertaining to the conflict and post-conflict matters is Lord Naseby whose Oct 2017 disclosure in the House of Lords of classified British documents gave Sri Lanka a real chance of countering unsubstantiated war crimes allegations leading to Sri Lanka. A pro-Western government that came to power in January 2015 however co-sponsored an accountability resolution in Geneva against its own armed forces and its war winning previous political leadership.

Colombo under that subservient government to the West also conveniently refrained from exploiting Lord Naseby's disclosure to the country's advantage.

Ferdinando received opportunities to visit the Soviet Union before the breakup of the USSR, US, South Korea, Belgium, Japan, India, Pakistan et al on the invitation of respective governments/EU for various programmes. Ferdinando regularly comments on security and political affairs and other matters of public interest.

## **Abstract of the presentation**

Over a decade after the eradication of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the separatist agenda remains a viable threat, though the revival of once feared conventional military capability of the separatists is no longer a possibility.

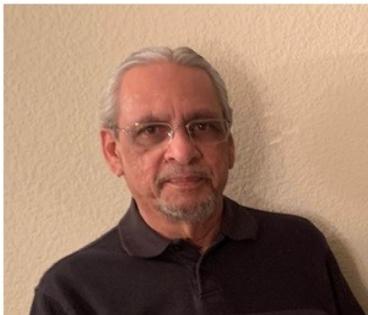
However, what the LTTE couldn't achieve through terrorism and military means, its rump and followers might be able to make it a reality with foreign intervention. That is a reality. Stimulation and glorification of terrorism through costly propaganda campaigns and political exercises at the expense of the elected government, portend grave threat to post-war Sri Lanka. For want of cohesive action on the part of successive Sri Lankan governments, including the Rajapaksa administration that brought the war to a successful conclusion in May 2009, some of those who had pursued a separatist agenda though not really involved with the LTTE during the war are now at the forefront of high profile diaspora projects meant to divide the country on ethnic lines. Their successes largely depend on overseas political support.

On one hand a section of the international community accommodated separatist elements and made them powerful by making them a part of the political system while undermining Sri Lanka by adopting war crimes resolution in Geneva in 2015. The Geneva intervention is nothing but glorification of those who waged war against a member State of the UN using terrorism as the

weapon of choice. The Geneva project should be examined against the backdrop of annual commemorative events held in various parts of the world with the backing of both the government as well as Opposition political parties. Growing number of voters of Sri Lankan origin in different countries, lucrative industry in accommodating asylum seekers and human rights lobby contribute to Sri Lanka's plight.

Actually, Sri Lanka now faced a bigger threat in spite of the eradication of the LTTE's military capacity.

One-time LTTE mouthpiece, the Tamil National Alliance (TNA) succeeded in compelling Sri Lanka to launch a new constitution making process severely inimical to the country. That project had the backing of the US and the UN and could have succeeded, if not for Treasury bond scams perpetrated by the then ruling party resulting in political turmoil. What Sri Lanka should keep in mind is that the absence of military threat does not mean the country's unitary status cannot be challenged by other means.



Daya Gamage, B.A. (USA)  
Former Public Affairs, and Foreign  
Service National Political Specialist,  
Department of State, USA

Daya Gamage had a 25-year career (1970 through 1995) at the United States Department of State, initially as a Public Affairs Specialist, and the final fifteen years as a Foreign Service National Political Specialist, worked at the U.S. diplomatic mission in Sri Lanka during two southern youth insurrections and as an investigative analyst, keen observer, and political interpreter of the separatist Eelam war launched by the Tamil Tigers (LTTE). During the volatile atmosphere in Sri Lanka Mr. Gamage assisted Washington understand the ever-changing socio-political climate of Sri Lanka which coincided with U.S. national interest.

His deep knowledge of socio-economic-political trajectory in Sri Lanka gave him an up-close understanding of disparities in the Sri Lankan society as a whole, the misinterpretations and diabolical misinformation of 'ethnic issues' and most importantly

the manner in which the 'Sri Lankan issues' were used by the LTTE propagandists within the Tamil Diaspora in Western nations during the Eelam War IV and thereafter to tarnish the image of Sri Lanka. Since his departure from the State Department, Mr. Gamage has been combating the Diasporic Eelam elements' global propaganda.

He read economics and European Political History at the University of Ceylon, Peradeniya (Sri Lanka), and had his initial education in Kandy at the Trinity College.