

People for Human Rights and Equality (PHRE) and Darebin Ethnic Communities Council (DECC)

invite you to a  
**Public Meeting**

# On Human Rights and Media Freedom in Sri Lanka

And in remembrance of Lasantha Wickrematunge  
Editor, Sunday Leader & Winner, UNESCO World Press Freedom Prize 2009,  
brutally assassinated in January 2009

and all other murdered or incarcerated journalists



**Saturday 06 June 2009 at 3.30 pm for 4.00 pm start**

*An opportunity to meet with guest speakers at 3.30 pm with light refreshments served.*

**Bdg K, Theatre K3.09, Monash University, Caulfield Campus (Melway Ref: 68 F1)**

**Guest Speakers:**

**Dr. Paikiasothy Saravanamuttu**

Co convener Platform for Freedom, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Alternatives  
& distinguished human rights campaigner

**Mr. J C Weliamuna**

Co convener Platform for Freedom, Executive Director, Transparency International Sri  
Lanka, Attorney-at-Law & leading human rights and anti corruption activist

In Sri Lanka today, while civilians continue to be killed in the war zone, there is unchecked assault on human rights and democratic freedoms throughout the island.

A major casualty of the conflict is media freedom. The Sri Lankan media are either co-opted into the propaganda machinery of the regime or suppressed with extreme violence. The current government has now more than matched the LTTE's own dedication to eliminating dissent and dissenters.

**The human rights situation in Sri Lanka needs the urgent attention of the global community.  
Left unchecked, the situation is set to deteriorate.**

**THE WORLD NEEDS TO ACT NOW TO PREVENT THIS HAPPENING!**

For more information please contact: 0427 610 823 E-mail: [contact@phre.org.au](mailto:contact@phre.org.au)

 <b>Assassinated</b>	 <b>Arrested</b>	 <b>Arrested</b>	 <b>Assassinated</b>	 <b>Attacked</b>	 <b>Attacked</b>	 <b>Attacked</b>
<b>P. Devakumar</b> was hacked to death. He was 36 years old and married. He had worked for Sirasa, Shakthi and MTV.	<b>J.S. Tissainayagam</b> , a freelance journalist for The Sunday Times and The Daily Mirror was arrested in March 2008 & remains in detention.	<b>N. Vithyatharan</b> , editor of the Sudar Oli in Colombo and Uthayan in Jaffna, was abducted on February 27, 2009, severely beaten & detained. International pressure caused his release on April 24.	<b>Dharmaratnam Sivaram</b> , a senior editor of Tamilnet, was kidnapped in front of a police station. His tortured body was found the next day near the Parliament of Sri Lanka.	The editor of the weekly Rivira, <b>Upali Tennakoon</b> , and his wife were attacked and wounded by four men on motorcycles.	<b>Keith Noyahr</b> , Deputy Editor of The Nation was abducted & severely assaulted.	<b>Namal Perera</b> , former Telshan Networks (TNL) news director and a Sri Lanka Press Institute employee, was the victim of a vicious assault, narrowly escaping death.