

RESPONSES TO THE PRESS RELEASE

Issued on 17 May 2000

Dear Shakthi,

I support your call for wholeheartedly. If the solution to the on going problem is going to be through negotiation , tomorrow, why not today? If they stop fighting and negotiate today they could save many thousand of lives. It doesn't matter who is winning battles at various stages, because that is not permanent. Immediate classifier and negotiation is the only way to achieve permanent peace in Sri Lanka.

Regards,

P.M.

Dear Shakthi,

I am highly impressed by your page contents. I am so glad to find intelligent people who can see further than the end of their nose. You are a rare breed among the expatriate Sinhala communities around the world. There is only a very few us who are trying hard to work for peace and dignity in our Motherland.

All the very best, and keep us informed about your activities. Please do not hesitate to ask for anything we can offer you.

Good Luck,

P.L.

Dear Shakthi,

Thank you for being on the side of the masses of people, those who are not decision makers, who are being sacrificed at the alter of the egos and ambitions of the decision makers.

Jehan Perera

Shakthi,

Yours is an EXCELLENT MEMORANDA. I applaud it heartily.

M. Roberts

Dear Shakthi,

I wholeheartedly endorse you Press Release. My only fear is that that in this world people like us do not count and the world and community opinion is by and large moulded by those very unscrupulous and filthy rich marauders of human rights whom we seek to condemn in the Release. However, we cannot give up.

My heart reaches out to those who have been and suffering misery and deprivation for no fault of theirs. Chauvinists rule the roost on either side and there seems to be no way of ejecting them out of the system. Normally, one would have perhaps sympathised with the LTTE had they not resorted to killings and terrorist tactics. In the name of defending rights of the Sri Lankan Tamils they are committing mass murders, enticing children and innocent youth to take to gun and suicide tactics and are therefore themselves being worst violators of the huamn rights of not only their adversaries but of the poor and hapless Tamilians themselves. They deserve unqualified condemnation from one and all. The rulers and the fundamentalists on the other side have been no better. Had they acted with sensibility and restraint from the beginning they would not have had to face the present disaster. Instead of committing mass murders of innocent civilian Tamils they could have initiated a

dialogue. As for those who are funding the killings on either side from outside it reminds me of people backing cock fights making them bleed to death to satisfy their ego or win a bet. Watching fun from a distance is a pastime for which one needs neither courage nor sensibility but just some bucks.

I fully lend my support to your efforts to put pressure on all sides engaged in fighting or promoting this senseless and inhuman war. As of this moment it appears that the world need to put more pressure on the LTTE to halt the war and agree to a ceasefire on as is where is and start a dialogue as it is in a position to do so. The other side may at present have no option but to agree to it.

Krishna B. Garg

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Dear Shakti,

There is no ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka. There is a problem of terrorism, State and Counter-terror. Minorities enjoy unprecedented rights in Sri Lanka. Key Govt. positions, control of big business, representation in sports, tamil is a National Language etc. One can go on. THE Asian Diaspora in Australia, have no such rights, priviledges or positions of power. The true natives of australia, have lost all, to white colonisers, and the arrogance of these Collonisers have been noticed. If you wish to help the land you left, please do so in a more rational and concrete manner.

May the simple political realities of this land, enlighten you.

Arjuna

Shakthi,

I appreciate the human concern of Shakthi which has released its opinion without any bias and prejudice. Let us all hope, wish and pray that good sense will prevail among warring groups and humens will prove humane.

KARORI SINGH

Shakthi,

Well said, please let me know if there is anything I can do.

Regards,

Linda