



கனடியத் தமிழர் தேசிய அவை  
National Council of Canadian Tamils  
Conseil National de Tamouls Canadien

## MEDIA ADVISORY

**For Immediate Release**  
Wednesday May 16, 2012

### **Thousands of Tamil community members, members of parliament, international delegates and human rights activists to re-affirm call for justice on War Crimes Day**

**Toronto** –Thousands are expected to attend the third annual War Crimes Day event to be held this Friday, May 18. Community members, members of Parliament, international delegates and human rights activists will re-affirm the necessity of an independent international investigation into violations of international and human rights law in Sri Lanka as well as stress the importance of a political solution.

According to the United Nations Panel of Experts Report on Sri Lanka, the war in the island state of Sri Lanka ended amidst the backdrop of over 40,000 Tamil civilian deaths caused by the indiscriminate bombings of civilian “safe zones,” hospitals and humanitarian operations. “Three years after the formal end of the war on May 18th, 2009 the Tamils living in the NorthEast of the country continue to endure violations of human rights and protracted genocide ” states Krisna Saravanamuttu, the NCCT National Spokesperson.

The Tamils have endured not only well documented examples of violent persecution with the consequence of physical genocide but also a slower and deliberate scheme aimed at destroying their culture and livelihood. The protracted genocide of the Tamils today is carried out through a brutal military occupation and a deliberate program of Sinhala settlements. “The military controls all aspects of individual, social and professional life and the military occupation threatens the safety and security of not only the Tamils within the island, but also Diaspora Tamils- as recent reports indicated the murder of a Tamil-Canadian citizen by the Sri Lankan military” states Saravanamuttu.

“Sri Lanka’s unwillingness to take concrete steps to address serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law means that the only way to determine the facts and identify those responsible is through an independent, impartial and international investigation,” he further said.

Siobhain McDonagh - the UK Member of Parliament & Vice Chair of All Party Parliamentary group for Tamils (APPGT) and Fr S. J Emmanuel - the President of Global Tamil Forum will address the event along with Canadian MPs and MPPs from all political parties as well as prominent human rights activists.



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**What:** War Crimes Day

**Where:** Albert Campbell Square (Next to Scarborough Town Centre)

**When:** Friday May 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 PM – 9:00 PM

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For more information contact:

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*The National Council of Canadian Tamils (NCCT) is a grassroots organization, composed of elected representatives from across Canada that serves to organize Tamil-Canadians on a democratic and cooperative basis.*