



We Reject the Himalaya Declaration

December 20th, 2023

Canadian Tamil youth unequivocally condemns the recent engagement of Canadian Tamil Congress (CTC) and Global Tamil Forum (GTF), with the Sri Lankan government, including Mahinda Rajapaksa who is a genocide perpetrator and has been sanctioned by the Canadian government.

It is a unilateral move without the mandate from Eelam Tamils both in the homeland and diaspora. It is a betrayal of over 75 years of the Tamil freedom struggle, and it is an insult to the memory of tens of thousands of victims of the Tamil genocide. It is an insult to our nation which continues to face acts of genocide and live under military occupation. This act further enables the Sri Lankan state to continue and expedite the genocide of Eelam Tamils.

We join Jaffna University Student Union, Tamil Civil Societies, and numerous other diaspora organizations in rejecting the Himalaya Declaration.

We further demand a public apology from GTF and CTC and to course correct its actions immediately. Furthermore, Canadian Tamil youth note that over the years GTF and CTC has distanced itself from the aspirations, mandates and principles of the Eelam Tamils in the homeland and diaspora. As such, we call upon the Board of Directors of both organizations to resign immediately and that a space be given for new leadership that will espouse legitimate voices and aspirations of the Eelam Tamil nation. Those leading community initiatives, in positions of leadership and representing our people, should understand and know the value of the immense sacrifices that our nation has made for freedom over the last 75 years.

We call upon members, volunteers, sponsors, and donors of GTF and CTC to immediately take a principled stand and disassociate from these actions.



We reiterate to the International Community that perpetrators of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide of the Eelam Tamils must be brought to justice for their crimes. Canadian Tamil Youth call upon the International Community to engage with legitimate representatives of the Tamil nation in the homeland and diaspora to find a lasting solution to the Tamil National question based on the right to self-determination of the Eelam Tamils in their traditional, historical, and ancestral homeland, Tamileelam.

The Above Statement is Jointly Endorsed by the Following Organizations:

- Brock University Tamil Students' Association**
- Canadian Tamil Youth Alliance**
- Concordia University Tamil Mantram**
- OCAD University's Tamil Students Association**
- Ontario Tech University Tamil Students' Association**
- Queen's University Tamil Students' Association**
- Tamil Youth Organization Canada**
- The McMaster Tamil Students' Association**
- TMU Tamil Students' Association**
- Trent Tamil Students' Association**
- University of Guelph / Guelph Humber Tamil Students' Association**
- University of Ottawa's Tamil Students' Union**
- University of Toronto Mississauga Tamil Students' Association**
- University of Toronto St. George Campus Tamil Students' Association**
- University of Waterloo Tamil Networking Association**
- Western Tamil Students' Association**
- Wilfrid Laurier University Tamil Students' Association**
- York University Tamil Students' Association**