

The war in Sri Lanka came to an end six years ago. Yet, the ethnic conflict still continues today, as the root causes have not to date been addressed. In order to move forward as well as to create genuine reconciliation, it is vital that the root causes of the conflict are addressed.

A conducive atmosphere could eliminate the fear and insecure feelings felt among the Tamil people in the island. However, the new government has not shown their political will and commitment to create normalcy in the North and East.

As long as military occupation and Sinhala settlements remains in the North and East, it is very difficult to work on genuine reconciliation and accountability. As a result of militarization and Sinhalization through out the North and East, fear, insecure feelings and psychology of war continue to dominate Tamil lives. Also, victims and survivors feel insecure to engage with any justice process.

The current land grabbing plans need to be understood as the calculated outcome of a state policy. The grabbed land is mainly taken for either militarization or colonization purposes. In principle, both militarization and Sinhalization projects are mutually interconnected and they are specifically designed to complete the annihilation plan of the Tamils as a nation. In addition, the policy is aimed at eliminating the collective national existence of the Tamils, and intends to ensure that any future Tamil national revival would never materialize.

Therefore, it is imperative for the International Community to put pressure on the Government of Sri Lanka to:

- recognize that the wide array of international crimes committed by Sri Lankan state apparatus particularly military, against Tamils as part of a systematic violence against a nation of people;
- to commence demilitarization and remove state sponsored Sinhala settlements without any further delay;