

The Editor
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Dear Sir

I refer to your report dated 15 May 2008 under the heading of "Lankan prez slams western hypocrisy by RASHMEE ROSHAN LALL, TNN".

President Mahinda Rajapakse had boasted soon after assuming the office of President that he would only speak in Sinhala on important occasions, to make a virtue of a necessity that his acquaintance with the Queen's English was rather tenuous. But he managed to speak falteringly from a prepared script in English to the Oxford Union this week, engaging in a diatribe against the LTTE and implicitly against the Tamil Diaspora generally. He peddled lies and misinformation using the Oxford Union for his malign political propaganda.

It is a crying shame that Dilan Fernando in an act of perfidious Sinhala political chicanery had inveigled his colleagues on the Oxford Union committee to agree to invite this brazen human rights criminal and political reprobate. The hallowed halls of Oxford have never before been addressed by such a villain who is presently involved in killing and extirpating a whole nation of Tamils from their traditional homelands. He uses the most modern bombers such as the MIG 29s and multi-barrelled rocket launchers to bomb and kill Tamils by the score on each sortie. His modern army is engaged in a ruthless war to annex Tamil territory.

He shed crocodile tears when dissimulating that "We have attempted talks with the LTTE on several occasions - thrice since my election as President - but the LTTE has not reciprocated. The LTTE has always walked away from the talks offering lame excuses. We are still ready to talk, once we are certain we see the LTTE has a genuine intent for a political solution and a readiness to give up arms".

Most of those present were not to know that the truth is that it was his government that had abrogated the Cease Fire Agreement with the Tigers and ordered the Norwegian peace monitors out of the country in order that he might launch an all out war on the Tamils. It was for this reason that the EU and the co-chairs to the peace accord have castigated the government for its belligerence.

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He and his two power-crazed sadistic brothers in government have personally unleashed a regime of terror and human rights crimes against the Tamils that has appalled the UN, Human Rights Watch and international NGOs and caused them to protest with utter abhorrence.

He claims mendaciously that he is ready for negotiation with the Tigers, for indeed he seeks a military victory to hold the Tamils under his iron fist as second class subjects. Although he knows that he is fighting to repress the Tamils, his purpose is to dupe the West into believing that he is fighting terrorism. The world will not be conned for too long.

The Tamils will never again accept a position of servitude and will want to revert to their historical status as an independent nation who wish to live in peace and prosperity with their neighbours. He and the Sri Lankan Sinhalese Dilan Fernando of the Oxford Union should know that you cannot take all of the people for a ride all of the time. The truth will ultimately emerge.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

(Signed)

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