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NORTH EAST SECRETARIAT ON HUMAN RIGHTS
NESOHR

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18.12.2006

His Excellency The Secretary General,
United Nations,
New York.

Your Excellency,

Humanitarian Crisis in Vaharai (Batticaloa)

North East Secretariat on Human Rights –NESOHR, as the only indigenous Human Rights protection for the Tamil people wishes to place before your Excellency, a humanitarian crisis situation in Vaharai in the Eastern coast of Sri Lanka.

Thousands of Tamil civilians are forced to flee for safety from Sri Lankan military bombing and shelling. These civilians include the indigenous population of Vaharai as well as those that were displaced due to shelling and occupation of Sampur by Sri Lankan military.

The access routes to this traditional Tamil habitat is blocked by the Sri Lankan Army (SLA) and humanitarian workers were denied access to carry essential food and medicinal requirements. Historical experience dictates that this is a systematic plan of the Sri Lankan Government (SLG) and its military to create an evacuation situation with a view to annex territory under the master plan of ethnic cleansing and Sinhalization/ militarization of parts of Tamil homeland.

NESOHR views this as a punitive measure adopted by Colombo in response to the Tamils aspirations voiced by the people for justice and equality

We therefore, request your Excellency to intervene meaningfully and cause creation of a safety zone in Vaharai and provide the necessary space to the inhabitants to move freely with unfettered access to livelihood and their day to day requirements.

Thanking you,

we remain,

yours sincerely,

Rev.Fr.M.X.Karunaratnam
Chairperson,
NESOHR.