



Conference Convenor and Host

Justice C.V. Wigneswaran MP,
Former Chief Minister, Northern
Provincial Council



Special Guest

Hon. R. Sampanthan MP
Leader of Tamil National
Alliance & Veteran Politician,
Former Opposition Leader of
Sri Lanka

**Loss of the Tamil
Homeland:
Identifying Issues
and Creating
Strategies to
Preserve Tamil
Land**

Keynote Speakers



Dr. Navaneetham Pillay

Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
Former Judge, International Criminal Court
Former President, International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

David Mataa CM

International Human Rights Lawyer
Nobel Peace Prize Nominee 2010
Member of the Order of Canada
Legal Advisor, Tamil Rights Group



Cherie Blair CBE QC

International Human Rights Lawyer
Founder of Omnia Strategy LLP
Cherie Blair Foundation for Women



#SaveTamilHomeland
#ProtectNorthandEast

**March 20, 12:30–5:30pm (BST) 6:00–11:00pm (IST)
8:30–1:30pm (EST)**

Web Link <http://bit.ly/TamilLand>

Zoom Webinar ID: 925 7244 2450

Passcode: 238923

landgrabconference2021@gmail.com

Instagram: lgc_2021

Facebook: "Loss of the Tamil Homeland: Online
Conference March 2020"



Moderator
Dr. Ibrahim Seaga Shaw
 Chairman and Information
 Commissioner, Right to
 Access Information
 Commission in
 Sierra Leone



Co-Moderator
Dr. Tham Sivaraj
 Tamil-Americans United
 PAC

Loss of the Tamil Homeland: Identifying Issues and Creating Strategies to Preserve Tamil Land



Anuradha Mittal
 Founder and Executive Director, Oakland Institute
 Director, Environmental Defender Law Center
 Compiled Land Grab Report "Endless War:
 Destroyed Life, Land, and Identity of the Tamil
 People in Sri Lanka" (2021)



Wiley Nickel
 North Carolina State Senator, USA
 Former Obama White House Staffer
 Former prosecutor; practicing attorney



Bhavani Fonseka
 Senior Researcher, Centre for Policy Alternatives
 Constitutional and Human Rights Lawyer
 Co-author of Land Grab Report "Land in the Eastern Province:
 Politics, Policy and Conflict" (2010)



Kathirgamathamby Kurunathan
 Former Land Commissioner, Eastern Province
 Activist Against Illegal Land Seizure

Panel 1

Illegal Acquisition and Expropriation of Tamil Land in the North and East



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Sowjeya Joseph - Moderator

Attorney-at-Law &
Tamil Rights Activist

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Panel 2 Perspectives on Legal and Political Challenges, & Remedies, to Land Grabs in Sri Lanka



KS Ratnavel

Attorney-at-law, Bar Association of Sri Lanka
Represented victims/survivors in Sri Lankan human
rights violations
Director of Centre for Human Rights and
Development



R.T. Vignarajah

Retired Jaffna High Court Judge
Former Legal Consultant, Northern Provincial Council

Thavaththiru Velan Swamigal

Coordinator of P2P People Uprising Movement
Visiting lecturer and board member at the Faculty of Hindu
Studies, University of Jaffna



Dr. K Sarveswaran

Former minister for Education, sports, culture
and youth affairs of Northern Province.



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Moderator

Dr. M. Sornarajah, Professor Emeritus of Law, National University of Singapore
Author, *The International Law on Foreign Investment*

Loss of the Tamil Homeland: Identifying Issues and Creating Strategies to Preserve Tamil Land

Dr. V. Nithianantham, Professor of Economics,
University of Jaffna (Retired)
The Origins of Land Grabbing in Sri Lanka



Dr. Thamil Ananthavinayagan, Teaching Associate in International Human Rights Law at University of Nottingham (UK)
Tamil Homeland Matters: Designing Resistance into International Investment Law

Veronika Pavlovskaya, LLM
Senior Associate, Arzinger Law Offices
Chief Coordinator at Young ADR - Belarus
Recommended Arbitrator at Chamber of Arbitrators (Minsk)
Land and Investment Protection: An Eastern European Perspective



Lorenzo Fiorito, LLM (Conference Co-Coordinator)
Member of LCIA Young International Arbitration Group (London)
Fundraising Coordinator, British Tamil Conservatives
Eyre and Montrose Development v Sri Lanka: What Does it Mean for the Tamil Diaspora?



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Panel 3

Land Ownership, Foreign Investment, and Bilateral Investment Treaties

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**Kabiliny Ratnasingam -
Moderator**

Microbiological analyst, research assistant for Tamil Academic Journal, member of YRS.

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Youth Voices Panel

Abiramy Logeswaran

Medical student in Boston, co-founder of Tamil Diaspora Alliance, bringing inter-generational unity to protect & enhance Tamil Diaspora identity and identify practical solutions in the Tamil homeland.



Dr Kumuthini Kunaratnam

Medical Doctor, Entrepreneur, community volunteer and works with different Tamil organizations that work towards seeking justice for the Tamil genocide.



Barbara Vencilas

Director of Tamil Youth Organisation UK. An organization focusing on uniting Tamil youths across the UK and to help promote & understand our unique language, history, culture and identity.



Eelavan Karikalan

Activist for the Tamil homeland, collaborating with peers in the Diaspora, Ground and Tamil youth to promote national values in Generation Z.



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