



Global Tamil Forum

Issued for Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE – PRESS RELEASE – PRESS RELEASE

Global Tamil Women Forum calls for end to violence against Tamil women in Sri Lanka

Global Tamil Women Forum (GTWF) joins worldwide calls for end to violence against women to mark International Women's Day.

In United Kingdom, GTWF joined thousands of women, of all ages and backgrounds, in a march organised by Million Women Rise on Saturday 6 March 2010 through central London, to celebrate and honour women's activism, courage and continued struggle against global male violence in all its forms.

A representative of the GTWF spoke of the trauma inflicted on Tamil women in Sri Lanka who are subjected to ongoing violence and sexual abuse by government forces with impunity. "The United Nations removed more than 100 Sri Lankan peacekeepers from Haiti after they were accused of sexual exploitation and abuse, so you can imagine the fate of Tamil women at the mercy of these soldiers as the army of occupation of Northeast Sri Lanka for four decades", she said.



The Forum also called for a boycott of Sri Lankan products, urging the assembled audience to consider how their actions would fund ongoing state sanctioned violence against Tamil women in Sri Lanka.

In Australia, members of GTWF performed at an event organised by Latin American Social Forum on Saturday 6 March in Sydney.

Campaigns are also to take place in the US and other countries in Europe to celebrate International Women's Day and highlight the plight of Tamil women in Sri Lanka.

GTWF is an internationally coordinated group of women activists focusing on transforming the socio-economic and political status of Tamil women in the island of Sri Lanka and worldwide.

- Ends -

Media Contact:

Dr Sam Pari
Spokesperson – Global Tamil Women Forum
Tel: +61 433 428 967
Email: sam.pari@globaltamilforum.org

Suren Surendiran
Spokesperson – Global Tamil Forum
Tel: +44 (0) 7958 590 196
Email: surensurendiran@globaltamilforum.org

Notes to Editors:

Global Tamil Women Forum is part of Global Tamil Forum which exists to harness the skills and the knowledge of the members of the forum, well-wishers and significant others including mainstream decision makers in the international governments, institutions and organisations with the aim of alleviating the sufferings of the Tamil community in the Island of Sri Lanka and to further their right to self determination within a democratic framework under pinned by international law, its covenants and conventions. The forum was set-up in 2009 with the support of many International Tamil community organisations. For more information and our mission and vision statements please contact info@globaltamilforum.org and/or visit: www.globaltamilforum.org