



# Tamil Information Centre

தமிழ் தகவல் நடுவம்

Committed to Human Rights and Community Development

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## **A Tribute to Ketheesh Loganathan – A martyr in the “struggle for peace”**

Ketheesh Loganathan was, in the best and positive sense, an idealist. He believed passionately in justice, equality and solidarity of people promoting peace in Sri Lanka. Ketheesh's assassination on 12 August 2006 shocked us all. The Tamil Information Centre strongly condemned that senseless act of violence and hatred, which deprived all of us a remarkable and a visionary leader who loved his people. He was assassinated for believing in a future without bloodshed, a future of tolerance and coexistence. He pursued the path of peace even when it did not bring him popularity. He paid a very high price for his pursuit of peace for all of us.

The loss of Keethesh also taught us a lesson – those who pursue peace in Sri Lanka walk in terrible danger. The farther they go, the greater is their risk. But the cowardly act that took the life of Keethesh will not sway the people from standing against lawlessness and terror. His legacy is a greater responsibility to pursue those efforts for peace. Today, more than ever, we must work together for a future of hope and prosperity to the peoples of Sri Lanka. This would be the greatest tribute that we can pay for Keethesh. His steadfast courage and wisdom contributed to the resolve that never to yield to the forces of hate and perpetual strife, but to stand together against acts of violence and to promote human rights and peace in the island. The responsibility to ensure security and a better future for future generations rests with all of us. Neither Norway nor any other country can alone bring peace to Sri Lanka. The burden of responsibility for peace and justice rests on the shoulders of the civil society.

Ketheesh will always be remembered for his commitment to democracy and the larger unity of the peoples of Sri Lanka. He lived a respectful life and was liked and admired by his comrades. He would be missed by his family, by the country, and by all who believe in a better future for the island. He has become a martyr in the “struggle for peace”.

We owe him a great debt of gratitude and must always remember the thoughts of Ketheesh that fear and intimidation will not bring liberation. Liberation comes through people's will and through the freedom of the people to express that will.

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