



University Student's Union

University Of Jaffna

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World University Students Association

Our Sisters and Brothers,

PLEASE MAKE A VOICE FOR OUR RIGHTS

The students in the secondary schools of Jaffna and the tertiary institution and university of Jaffna have been facing a life threat all the time. Three undergraduates of University of Jaffna and eight school students has been shot by the armed forces near the army checkpoints since the closure of A-09 highway in the August last year. More than twenty students has been apprehended and tortured by the armed forces before they are released. Consecutively on the 04th of May 2007, four school students were arrested or kidnapped during midnight by the armed men at their homes in front of their parents; these men went in civil and military uniform in more than 20 motorbikes. This incident happened in a place surrounded by many military check points. They have not been released as yet.

The very same day night at 1.30am, some armed men entered into the University of Jaffna and assaulted the security guard on duty, also they destroyed and smashed the framed photographs of the undergraduates who were shot dead by the armed forces. Afterwards there was a hit list released and displayed in the university premises on the 10-05-07, regarding the number of students, staff, professors and employees (altogether-320), who could be served death sentence in future. The above life threat was also distributed to some students and a teacher of the leading schools of Jaffna as well. Later more than sixteen names of the the students from the schools and eight students of the university of Jaffna were printed out and the hit list of names were issued in Jaffna Schools and University by the civil armed men. These events have led to the Jaffna academic community in question regarding their safety, security and human rights issues. We ourselves are engaged only in protests in a non violent manner whereas all these protests have been suppressed violently and are suppressed to express ourselves freely. And there has been a threat released saying "the university will be closed if the student involve in anything else than the education".

Hence we kindly make an earnest appeal for our loving sisters and Brothers living worldwide to voice the rights of our students to pursue their studies in an atmosphere in which they could have their academic activities in a free and fair manner without any interruption. We are disheartened that the Sri Lankan government has not even taken a single step to resolve the burning issues of the students. We please your voice, for we are in a situation where we cannot speak out for our own basic rights.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely

STUDENT'S UNION
UNIVERSITY OF JAFFNA