

## **On the Agenda of Defeating “Separatist Terrorism”:**

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Let us first study the range of political forces that subscribe to the agenda of defeating ‘separatist terrorism’. With the exception of the Tamil National Alliance (TNA), the entire ruling class made up of the ruling People’s Alliance and the Opposition shares responsibility in carrying out military operations against the LTTE in order to defeat “separatist terrorism’. The ruling class is constituted by all political parties and the ideological agents that share and perpetuate state power. There are differences among these fractions of the ruling class. With the exception of the TNA, all these parties, in varying degrees, share responsibility for justifying the war to liquidate the LTTE and defeat “Separatist Terrorism”. The main parties that openly support and justify the war against the LTTE to militarily defeat ‘separatist terrorism’ are the SLFP, UNP, JVP, JHU, MEP, TMVP and the EPDP. The other constituent parties of the regime- LSSP, CP (Moscow), CWC, UPPF, DLF, DVJP, NUA- share complicity in the war due to the need to share the spoils of state power. These parties are agreed, or simply go along, with the claim that the main issue is to confront and defeat the ‘separatist terrorist ‘ agenda as represented by the LTTE. Internationally, all the imperialist and regional powers –the US, European Union, Japan, Russia, India and Pakistan- concur with this agenda and support the State, while parroting the need for a political settlement.

Is there a separatist-terrorist agenda represented by the LTTE? The LTTE does represent an agenda for a separate state of Tamil Eelam in the North-East, and it does practice a political-military policy of terrorism. However, the main aspect of the LTTE is that it is a political organization that stands for realizing the right of national self-determination of the Tamil nation, which follows a policy of negotiation with the Sri Lankan state to achieve it. The demand for a separate state is the ultimate demand. This demand rises in the face of the continuing failure of the State to offer an acceptable alternative solution. However, it has presented proposals for negotiation for some form of sharing power with the Sri Lankan state-as expressed in the Interim Self-Governing Authority (ISGA) proposals. The LTTE wages armed struggle to realize this demand for self-determination, since all other legal-constitutional methods have been closed by the State. It resorts to terrorism as a means of countering state terrorism by delivering intolerable political costs to the state, including targeting unarmed civilians and places of religious worship and other public institutions. However, while such forms of struggle may serve to deal blows to the state and the system, it can never lead to its final and complete overthrow. It can never lead to genuine liberation of the people.

The Ceylon Communist Party (Maoist) rejects terrorism as a policy and principle. The politics of terrorism issue from bourgeois ideology, which relies on weapons and technology, and denies the role of the masses in liberating themselves through revolutionary struggle. Terrorism does not rise above the system, but is a product of the system, which remains enslaved in the same relations of domination that it enforces. Terrorism is used by these class forces as a negotiating tool to gain or share state power within the system. The Ceylon Communist Party applies the science of Maoism towards building the vanguard leadership of the proletariat , as a detachment of the international proletariat, to hasten and advance the world revolution aimed at the eradication of all forms of domination, exploitation and oppression and achieving the new world of Communism.

In spite of our opposition to terrorism in any form, we hold that the formulation that separatist terrorism represented by the LTTE constitutes the main threat to national sovereignty and territorial integrity and that, therefore, militarily liquidating it is the foremost priority, is a barefaced lie and a twisted deception. The separatist-terrorist agenda represented by the LTTE is an *effect*, a *product*, of a systematic, gross and intensifying policy of violent suppression and subjugation of the Tamil nation cohabiting in the North-East. Separatist terrorism has been generated by a highly centralized, chauvinist, hegemonic, Sinhala-dominated Comprador Capitalist State, which has unleashed unbridled state terrorism against the Tamil nation, in the form of repeated communal pogroms, massacre of civilians, gang rapes and inhuman torture. This terrorism

has been accompanied by systematic denial of basic human and democratic rights in the fields of language, religion, education, health, employment and other developmental benefits. Every successive government since independence has carried out this policy of national suppression and subjugation. Beyond that, they have sabotaged every single attempt at addressing these issues and working out a negotiated solution. This has been the history with the BC-Pact, the DC-Pact, the Indo-Lanka Accord, P-Toms and the Oslo-Agreement. The single greatest threat to national sovereignty is the policy of selling out the country to world imperialism and entering into military agreements with the US and strategic partnership with India. These states control the lifelines of our economy and decide our future politically.

Nor is the prevailing neo-colonial puppet State, a state of the people. It is a state that has been rigged up and foisted on the people of Lanka. It is ruled by a class of parasitic, bureaucratic compradors and feudal agents which has spilled the blood of the people, while getting fat on the spoils of exploitation and war! This state and political order has perpetuated and intensified poverty, misery and degradation for the vast majority of workers, peasants, fishermen and other producers who provide our daily sustenance. It has displaced nearly a million people and visited untold suffering on the people. It has defiled and betrayed our ancient glorious legacy. While pretending to stand for the Sinhala-Buddhist nation, it has opened the gates of the decadent, egoistic culture of Coca-Cola and Fair and Lovely. It has wasted our land and divided our people.

The people have no stake in defending this defunct, corrupt, war-mongering feudal-colonial state. The foremost task confronting the people is to unite all genuine revolutionary forces to overthrow this state and uproot its social order and embark on the historic journey, in unity with the oppressed people of the world, to achieve a world free of domination, exploitation, oppression and WAR!