

The First Month of Biden-Harris

What the new administration means for Tamil-American Advocacy



Dear <<First Name>>,

Thank you thus far for your continued support of USTAG's work and mission. It is with your valuable support that we are able to continue our advocacy into the first month of the Biden-Harris administration. We are making preparations to work with the new administration and influence the course of the upcoming UNHRC session. The next few months will be a crucial time period for USTAG, as we will be working hard to further exert our influence and be a voice for the Tamil people. To help us with the work we continue to do for our brothers and sisters in the homeland, please consider [donating today](#) for our work during this essential time frame.

[Donate Now](#)

Here is what we have been doing this month to make a difference.

January Accomplishments:

Our advocacy focus this month has been reaching out to our new members of Congress and the Senate, communicating issues in Sri Lanka at the UNHRC, re-registering the Caucus of Ethnic and Religious Freedoms in Sri Lanka, and condemning the Jaffna Demolition.

January 12th: Responding to the Jaffna Demolition- Threat to Memorialization and Ongoing Tamil Genocide Event

On January 8th 2021, the Mullivaikkal Memorial Monument on the campus of the University of Jaffna was bulldozed by Sri Lankan authorities. This monument was built by the Tamil students to remember the hundreds of thousands of Tamil civilians who were massacred in 2009 by the Sri Lankan Army. This act of destroying a memorial monument is to erase the memory of the Mullivaikkal genocide and to eradicate evidence of wrongdoings by the Sri Lankan Government.

This incident is a continuation of structural genocide that's taking place in Sri Lanka on Tamils. USTAG along with BTF, CTC and ATC organized a [zoom event](#) within a short period to condemn this heinous crime on Jan. 12th.



[Event Notes PDF](#)

Re-Registering the Caucus of Ethnic and Religious Freedoms in Sri Lanka

In order to keep Sri Lanka on Congress's watch, USTAG is currently working with Congressman Danny Davis, the Caucus's Democratic Chair, to re-register the Caucus of Ethnic and Religious Freedoms in Sri Lanka. It is by keeping Sri Lanka as an item of interest in Congress that we can update the government about ongoing abuses in the homeland.

Networking with the New Administration

With a new majority party leading in both Congress and the Senate, we have worked to welcome our re-elected and newly elected Representatives by sending out congratulatory emails following the various fundraising campaigns which we set up for helpful candidates prior to the general election in 2020. We urge you to congratulate your representative as well and ask him or her to join the Congressional Caucus on Ethnic and Religious Freedoms in Sri Lanka. For more information on how to make the ask, email outreach@theustag.org for email templates or visit the [advocacy section](#) of our website.

Report: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Sri Lanka

With less than a month away from the UNHRC March sessions, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights report stating its grave concern for ongoing issues in Sri Lanka and its intention to continue assessing the nation's emerging threats to democracy and civilian safety was a glimmer of hope for Tamils around the world. For the full report, see the PDF link below.

PDF



Continued Projects

Congressional Advocacy Internship

The USTAG strongly values the involvement of young people in our cause. For this reason, we work every week with young people across the country on Zoom and help them become better advocates for justice and peace for Tamils in Sri Lanka. We are always welcoming passionate, young individuals to join us in our mission. **If you know a young person who is passionate about justice and human rights, please consider sharing [this flyer](#)**

with them or email

outreach@theustag.org for more details.

Announcements

Our New Executive Committee

This month, a new Executive Committee for USTAG was elected to serve and work together towards a stronger political voice for the Tamil people here in the United States. We congratulate the new EC members for their dedication and hard work to carry out the mission and vision of USTAG. For more information, please email info@theustag.org

REMINDER: PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES!

If you have not done so already, please stay current with your involvement with USTAG by paying your dues this year. Being a member is the best way you can continue to stay in the loop on what's happening in the United States on Eelam Tamil issues and the best way to serve the Tamil people from here in the US. Remember to pay your dues before the year is over through our [website](#).

To **renew your membership**, please click [here](#).

To **start a new membership**, please click [here](#).

Show your Support for Tamils in Sri Lanka

To continue doing the valuable work we do, we need support from people like you now more than ever. YOU can deliver hope not only to our cause but also directly to Tamils in Sri Lanka by supporting our work.

Donate Now

Join Us Today

Visit our Website for More Information



Be sure to add outreach@theustag.org to your email contacts list for our newest updates!
Doing this protects against overzealous spam filters.

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