



37 Years of Service

## Standing Committee of Tamil Speaking People (S C O T)

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2014

Dear Members,

At S.C.O.T.'s last Christmas Dinner/Dance event I spoke of the generation gap between the Tamil youth in the UK and the older generation, and thereby the very few youngsters getting involved in S.C.O.T. itself. As I said at the time, I do not believe this constitutes a lack of motivation to help the Tamil cause in Sri Lanka, but maybe a hardship in finding an organization that fits the culture appropriately.

I asked at the dinner/dance for any young people to speak to me if they were interested in helping and thankfully a few did, which was very encouraging. However we do need plenty more to come forward.

Since then S.C.O.T.'s General Council has voted in favour of the formation of a Youth Committee, and has tasked me with helping its growth and recruiting as many youngsters to its cause as possible. The Youth Committee will be run by the youth, for the youth. We will have to clear our decisions with the General Council, but we will be left to strategize and operate on our own.

The purposes of this Youth Committee are multiple. In the long term we intend to organise our own fund-raising events geared towards our age bracket, but welcome to all. Similarly, we will have a greater influence and presence in planning the annual Christmas dinner/dance. Affiliation with universities all around the country will be formed, so that S.C.O.T. can increase its presence and impact country-wide. This will also help us youngsters to create a professional network that will aid us in university and in our careers. The experience of working with a national charity that operates internationally in itself is a great learning curve, and I can only speak for myself when saying that I have grown as a person and learnt a lot since I started with S.C.O.T.

Most importantly, all our activities and events will be done in order to raise funds for projects that aid Tamils who have been affected by war in Sri Lanka, and will help us make a difference. At our next event, the lecture/lunch on April 27<sup>th</sup>, I will have a station set up for anyone to come and speak to me and hopefully sign up to join the cause. So to those of you reading this letter if you are between 16-35 please come along on the date above or if you have children in this age bracket, please bring them along. It is a very important time for us to take some action ourselves and not leave it to our fathers, mothers, uncles and aunts.

It's our time to make a difference.

Thank You,  
Sayon Rudran

**SCOT Youth committee chairman**

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