



International Federation of Tamils

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Jeyakumar: A Proud Son of the Tamil Diaspora

The sudden demise of Mr. Jeyakumar, a senior Australian Tamil leader, is a painful shock to Tamil people.

This is an unbearable loss to his beloved wife and son – a painful loss to his fellow Australasian Tamil community, and a great loss to the International Tamil community.

Jeyakumar Annai, as he was popularly known, has a two decade-long history, unreservedly dedicated to the Tamil liberation struggle. His boundless energy, enthusiasm and dynamism helped him reach the Tamil community the world over. His relentless endeavour to harness dedication and support for the Tamil liberation struggle in all continents, especially in Australasia and Africa, the national awakening he inspired among the Tamil people in all lands and the valiant leadership he offered were exemplary, demanding emulation. With sincerity and persuasive leadership, he was successful in mobilizing the Australasian and African Tamils to raise their voice in exposing the Sinhala oppression in the traditional homeland of the Tamils in the island of Sri Lanka.

Jeyakumar Annai was soft-spoken; yet firm and convincing. These endeared him to his people. He was respected and loved. Those who know him, remember him as a worthy gentleman. An academic and an intellectual, yet, he chose to be a grass-root worker, though. His sacrifice, the Tamil nation is the beneficiary of. He was the embodiment of Tamil will and Tamil unity in Australasia.

With the recent deterioration in world attitude towards fair play and justice, Jeyakumar Annai also had to face trials and tribulations of greater magnitude. He withstood the onslaught and served the Tamil cause, valiantly. He has earned his place in the history of the Tamil people.

The Tamil Disapora is poorer today, without Jeyakumar Annai.

The International Federation of Tamils wishes to express its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

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