



(World Alliance for Peace in Sri Lanka)

PO Box 4066, Mulgrave VIC 3170, Australia`

Phone: +61 3-97957143 , Email: ranjiths@spur.asn.au, Website: www.spur.asn.au

22nd March 2014

Her Excellency Ms. Karen Pierce

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

Permanent Representative

Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations to Office and other international organizations in Geneva

Dear Madam,

Number Game in Sri Lanka

Any unprejudiced, impartial person who has interest in studying those ‘events at the last phase’ of war against LTTE terrorism in Sri Lanka would be perplexed by the figures suggested by various sources as to the number of deaths of Tamil civilians. These suggested numbers are strikingly contradictory; their range is so wide from a few thousands to 170,000 and even as high as 300,000 as suggested by a Tamil Bishop in the North, a few days ago!

The following is a tabulated record of such numbers as recently cited in an article published in The Island newspaper in Sri Lanka (04 Feb 2014) by Prof. G.H. Pieris, Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Estimates of Civilain Deaths by Various Parties in the War Zone During the Final Phase of the War in Sri Lanka with the LTTE Terrorists

S.no	Date	Source	Number of Deaths	Comments (The estimate except where stated otherwise, cover the period from 1 st January to 19 th May 2009)
1	2011	Dr. Rohan Gunarathna	1,400	Dr. Gunarathna, a well-known researcher who has written authoritatively on “internal Conflicts”, is quoted in Roberts (2013).
2	2012	V Shanmugaraja	2,500	Dr. Shanmugaraja served as a senior medical officer in the LTTE controlled areas throughout 2008 and up to about 14 th May 2009 at places close to the LTTE operation centre. His estimate is mentioned in a legally valid affidavit.
3	October 2009	U. S. State Department Report	7,700+	The report submitted to the U.S. Congress (Source: The UK daily, The Guardian, of 16 th December 2010).
4	2009	U.S. Country Team	7,737/17,700	From early January to 13 th May – 7,737. With extrapolated values for the days thereafter the overall total has been increased to 17,700. However, in the light of the Indian journalist Reddy’s spot report there were no civilians left in the LTTE held 1.5km ² by 15 th May.

S.no	Date	Source	Number of Deaths	Comments (The estimate except where stated otherwise, cover the period from 1 st January to 19 th May 2009)
5	2013	Independent Diaspora Analysis Group	15,000	The report could be access via the website of the Institute of Conflict Management , Delhi.
6		1. Rajasingham Narendran 2. Muthukrishnan Sarvanandan 3. Noel Nadesan	6,000-10,000 10,000 11,000	These three are Tamil Professionals who have tendered to adopt a “moderate” stand vis-à-vis the eelam campaign. Their estimates are evidently based on various orally conveyed and documented sources of information. (source: Roberts) (Contd.)
7	2013	Michael Roberts	10,000-18,700	Prof. Roberts is a western researcher and author of many scholarly works on the Sri Lankan conflict and other topics.
8		Institute of Conflict Management , Delhi	11,111	Civilian deaths in the year 2009, presented in a tabulation title; “ <i>Fatalities in Terrorist Violence in Sri Lanka, 2000-2014</i> ”. Source: ICM-Terrorism Portal website
9	2011-2012	Department of Census and Statics	7,400	All deaths “due to unidentified other causes” said to be based on an official field survey.
10	Nov. 2012	Darusman Report	40,000	The report was prepared by the member panel appointed by UN secretary General. What the report says is that the civilian death toll could have been as high as 40,000.
11	2009	UN internal review panel	70,000	Report states that the civilian death toll could have been as high as 70,000.
12	2009	University Teachers for Human Rights- Jaffna	20,000-40,000	The UTHR-J has regularly ‘monitored’ the Sri Lankan conflict and other conflicts and/or human rights since violation since the late 1980s.
13		Alan Keenan	40,000-147,000	Keenan was the chief of the Colombo Unit of the ‘International Crisis Group’ (which has been fiercely hostile towards Sri Lanka) headed by Gareth Evans, and anti-Sri Lanka campaigner
14	Dec. 2012	Frances Harrison	50,000-101,748	Harrison was a Colombo-based BBC correspondent (2002-04) and has continued to be hyper critical of the government of Sri Lanka, demanding stern action against alleged ‘war crimes’

In this backdrop, it would be much pertaining to take account of the number of ‘Tamil Civilian Killings’ unfailingly reported by one of the Tamil media institutions, the Tamilnet, which had a presence in the Vanni and all the battle fronts throughout the war. It is not a secret that the

Tamilnet's reporting was biased towards the LTTE; it was actually the voice of the Tigers! However, a noteworthy advantage of using Tamilnet figures seems to be that the Tamilnet reports were contemporaneous and kept records on day-to-day basis. Tamilnet seemed to have not missed out even a single individual casualty on a given day. However, it also requires to be cautious against that Tamilnet did not differentiate between the deaths of civilians, LTTE cadres and conscripts in order to exaggerate the 'civilian deaths' (Ref. UTHR, University Teachers for Human Rights (Jaffna); Special Report No. 32, Date of Release: 10th June 2009). Considering all that, it can be safely assumed that the figures reported by the Tamilnet are the maximum possible deaths of Tamil civilians killed during the last phase of the war, even if they possibly have included LTTE cadres and aides.

Extracted from the Tamilnet archives, the total numbers of civilian deaths reported from 1st January to mid-May 2009 are as follows:

- January – 161,
- February - 781,
- March=1063,
- April – 2,771,
- May – 2,116,

Total = 6,892;

(Please see Appendix-A containing links to related Tamilnet archives)

When compared, this total figure is almost tallying with those figures cited (see Table above) by US State Department Report in October 2009 (7,700+ deaths), U.N. Country Team in 2009 (7,737 deaths from Jan to May2009) and the field survey conducted by Department of Census & Statistics, Sri Lanka in 2011-2012 (7,400 deaths). Such comparison stands out as most objective approach in a silly number game played by those who are hell-bent to batter Sri Lanka for their own political or personal agenda.

As almost all anti-Sri Lankan elements scream from the rooftops as a firmly established fact that 40,000 civilians (or much more) were killed in the course of the final phase of the eelam war, the above should reveal to any independent, nonpartisan mind that to those elements 'factual accuracy and fairness' are trivia and do not matter.

We, a concerned group of Sri Lankans, believe that it stands to reason to any unbiased mind that this malicious number game has continuously been played by those who need to bully and coerce Sri Lanka for their geo-political and personal interests. We hope that this vicious campaign against a small, sovereign country by a section of International Community and its media should

be stopped forthwith; it must not be allowed to go unchecked. For that end, we earnestly appeal to your impartiality and fair mindedness for viewing the above revealing, and to take a firm stand against the duplicity and unfairness of those who have an axe to grind against a small and weak country for their hegemonic agenda.

Thank you in advance for your forthrightness,

For World Alliance for Peace in Sri Lanka - WAPS



for Ranjith Soysa
Media Spokesman for WAPS

APPENDIX - "A"



Summary of Tamilnet data of Civilians dead from 1st January 2009 to 19th May 2009

January 2009

[TamilNet, Thursday, 01 January 2009, 09:41 GMT]

Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) bombers hit civilian settlements three times in Murasumoddai in Vanni killing civilians and causing injuries to many on Thursday. At least 5 civilians have been reported dead so far by the medical staff at Tharmapuram hospital

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=27884>

[TamilNet, Thursday, 08 January 2009, 06:26 GMT]

Three civilians, including a child, were killed Thursday morning when Sri Lanka Army (SLA) artillery guns stepped up shelling on densely populated Vaddakkachchi in Vanni, according to initial reports from Tharmapuram hospital.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=27948>

[TamilNet, Thursday, 08 January 2009, 07:52 GMT]

The Sri Lanka Army fired artillery shells targeting Tharmapuram Junction, the remaining centre of displaced civilians in Vanni killing at least four and causing injuries to many around 1:20 p.m. on Thursday, after artillery shelling killed three, including a child in Vaddakkachchi.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=27949>

[TamilNet, Sunday, 11 January 2009, 03:11 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) fired artillery shells killed four displaced civilians, including the parents and the daughter of a family, residing in the settlement located behind the hospital of Puthukkudiyiruppu in Mullaiththevu district Saturday night, according to medical sources.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=27981>

[TamilNet, Tuesday, 13 January 2009, 13:13 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) fired artillery shells hit a nursery killing a 28-year-old civilian Tuesday around 1:30 p.m., reports from Puthukkudiyiruppu town said.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28005>

[TamilNet, Thursday, 15 January 2009, 13:36 GMT]

Unidentified gunmen shot and killed Wednesday night a youth in Kaa'liku'lam in Vavuniyaa police division.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28027>

[TamilNet, Friday, 16 January 2009, 15:39 GMT]

Sri Lankan artillery attack on overcrowded Kaiveali and Koampaavil, and also on Visuvamadu, from where civilians were fleeing Friday, killed five civilians,

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28035>

[TamilNet, Sunday, 18 January 2009, 02:41 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) fired artillery shells claimed the lives of four civilians in Puthukkudiyiruppu and Visuvamadu on Saturday, according to medical sources. Four children were among the wounded.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28048>

[TamilNet, Sunday, 18 January 2009, 14:27 GMT]

At least 18 civilians have been confirmed killed within the last 24 hours till 3:00 p.m. Sunday in several villages of Mullaiththevu district and the outer suburbs of Ki'linochchi district to the east of A9 highway.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28054>

[TamilNet, Thursday, 22 January 2009, 08:11 GMT]

The roads of Va'llipunam and Theavipuram are full of blood and dead bodies are spotted all over the places in the area that has come under attack by the Sri Lanka Army (SLA) artillery and Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL) fire. The carnage worsened after the SLA declared the area as "safe haven". On Tuesday, 16 civilians were killed, 20 reported killed Wednesday and around 30 civilians within the past 12 hours of Thursday, according to Regional Director of Health Service (RDHS) for Mullaiththevu district. Dr.T.Varatharajah.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28094>

[TamilNet, Friday, 23 January 2009, 13:03 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) fired artillery and Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL) shells continued to target Tamil refugees in temporary settlements of Mullaiththevu district Friday. Three civilians were killed around 10:00 a.m. and 33 were wounded.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28120>

[TamilNet, Friday, 23 January 2009, 16:53 GMT]

Five civilians, including a 10-year-old girl and a 56-year-old Saiva priest, were killed and 83 civilians wounded Friday when Sri Lanka Army (SLA) fired artillery shells targeted 'safe zone' areas such as Iruddumadu in Udaiyaarkaddu and Va'llipunam in Mullaiththevu district at least four times, according to medical sources in the region.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28124>

[TamilNet, Saturday, 24 January 2009, 14:00 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) continued artillery shelling on Udaiyaarkaddu on Saturday killing at least 7 civilians.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28133>

[TamilNet, Sunday, 25 January 2009, 19:13 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) has continued artillery shelling on densely populated 'safety zone,' in Chuthanthirapuram, Udaiyaarkaddu and Thearaavil in Visuvamadu throughout Sunday, at least twice attacking the vicinity of the supply centre, located at Chuthanthirapuram playground, the only centre in Vanni where humanitarian supplies brought in by the UN World Food Programme are distributed. Two shells exploded in the premises, killing five members of a single family of Mr. Jegatheeswaran, owner of a saloon displaced from Visuvamadu. Five more civilians, including children and women, were also killed. Body parts were scattered across the locality and not all of them could be identified, according to medical sources. At least 13 civilians were wounded at the site.

At least 22 civilians have been killed in various localities inside the 'safety zone' throughout Sunday. More than 60 civilians, including children and women, have been wounded in a number of artillery attacks from 2:45 a.m. till 9:15 p.m. Sunday, according to TamilNet correspondent in Vanni

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28137>

Total dead for the month of January 2009 is 161
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February 2009

[TamilNet, Monday, 02 February 2009, 02:14 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) shelled Puthukkudiyiruppu (PTK) hospital Sunday night killing nine civilians, including patients and their family members in the ward. More than 15 civilians were injured.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28260>

[TamilNet, Thursday, 05 February 2009, 09:42 GMT]

The only remaining hospital in Udaiyaarkaddu within the so-called safe zone has again come under heavy shelling by the Sri Lanka Army on Thursday. At least 7 civilians were killed and 27 wounded in the close vicinity of the makeshift hospital functioning at a school.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28307>

[TamilNet, Sunday, 08 February 2009, 04:00 GMT]

More than 120 civilians were killed in Sri Lanka Army (SLA) shelling Friday and Saturday inside the safety zone in Chuthanthirapuram, Iruddumadu, Udaiyaarkaddu and Theavipuram within the last 48 hours. At least 59 civilians were killed Friday and more than 62 killed on Saturday. Sri

Lanka Air Force (SLAF) bombed Puthukkdiyiruppu (PTK) Ponnampalam hospital killing 61 patients on Friday.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28340>

[TamilNet, Thursday, 12 February 2009, 11:14 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) soldiers engaged in road patrol opened fire on two youths as they were cycling along Aadiyapaatham Road near Thirunelveli junction in Jaffna, killing them on the spot.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28389>

[TamilNet, Saturday, 14 February 2009, 18:11 GMT]

More than 50 civilians were feared killed in Theavipuram and Va'llipunam in Sri Lanka Army (SLA) artillery barrage on Friday, according to people who were reached Puthukkudiyiruppu Friday night. Meanwhile, medical staff at Maaththa'lan hospital said fifteen civilians were killed and 35 wounded at Ira'naippaalai Saturday morning and that an elders home and the surrounding area came under artillery fire where four elders were killed and around 50 persons wounded.'

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28418>

[TamilNet, Monday, 16 February 2009, 23:18 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) artillery barrage has boxed Theavipuram and Va'llipunam villages within the old 'safety zone,' trapping thousands of civilians preventing them from moving to the new 'safe zone'. Around 275 civilians are feared killed since Saturday and the roads remain continuously under heavy artillery barrage, civilians who managed to flee the area said on Monday.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28439>

[TamilNet, Wednesday, 18 February 2009, 03:30 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) launched indiscriminate artillery barrage into the newly announced 'safety zone' killing at least 108 civilians and causing injuries to more than 200, according to initial details from the medical sources in the area.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28449>

[TamilNet, Wednesday, 18 February 2009, 09:10 GMT]

At least 50 civilians were killed Wednesday around 12:50 p.m. when four Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) bombers dropped cluster bombs on Internally Displaced Civilians at Aananthapuram in Ira'naippaalai, according to initial reports from medical sources.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28451>

[TamilNet, Saturday, 21 February 2009, 14:26 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) launched artillery barrage on civilian targets in Vanni Friday night causing severe injuries to more than 70 civilians within the 'safe zone' and the adjoining areas. 13 of the 70 wounded civilians rushed to Maaththa'lan hospital died, according to medical authorities.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28484>

[TamilNet, Sunday, 22 February 2009, 15:44 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) artillery barrage has killed 33 civilians on Saturday and 73 were brought to the makeshift hospital at Maaththa'lan with injuries. 14 deaths were registered by the hospital. On Sunday, around 20 civilians were killed in the SLA barrage and 60 wounded were brought to hospital, according to medical sources.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28498>

Total dead for the month of February 2009 is 781

March 2009

[TamilNet, Monday, 02 March 2009, 22:36 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) fired artillery shells have claimed the lives of more than 45 Tamil civilians Monday within the 'safety zone' at Mu'l'livaaykkaal, Valaignarmadam, Pokka'nai, Maaththa'lan and the adjoining Ira'naippalai. On Sunday, around 37 civilians were killed and the day before around 40 were reported killed in SLA barrage and Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) bombardment

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28574>

[TamilNet, Tuesday, 03 March 2009, 13:04 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army fired artillery shells targeting the environs of Maa'ththa'lan makeshift-hospital within the 'safety zone' from 5:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday. The shells hit the IDP settlement, located 200 meters near the hospital, claiming the lives of 13 Tamil civilians.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28591>

[TamilNet, Wednesday, 04 March 2009, 02:55 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army fired artillery shells and air attacks by the Sri Lanka Air Force have claimed the lives of at least 73 civilians, most of them inside 'safety zone' on Tuesday in Mullaithevu district, according to the details from medical and local aid workers in the district.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28597>

[TamilNet, Thursday, 12 March 2009, 23:40 GMT]

Mullaitheevu Medical Superintendent V. Shanmugarajah narrowly escaped Wednesday from Sri Lanka Army fired Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL) shells that hit Mu'l'livaaykkaal inside the 'safe zone', and a 7-year-old child was killed in long distance gunfire near the inland waters in Maaththa'lan. Totally, 82 civilians were killed and more than 130 wounded.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28699>

[TamilNet, Tuesday, 17 March 2009, 17:19 GMT]

Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) bombardment and Sri Lanka Army shelling that targeted Pachchaippulmoaddai, Valaignardam areas within the so-called safety zone announced by the Sri Lankan government on Tuesday killed 52, causing injuries to 182, according to initial reports

by the Voice of Tigers (VoT) evening broadcast. Earlier, in the morning, 32 civilians were killed in the shelling in other areas of the 'safe zone', according to independent sources.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28748>

[TamilNet, Saturday, 21 March 2009, 05:21 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) artillery shelling killed 46 civilians Friday inside the safety zone in the besieged pocket in Mullaiththeevu. SLA-fired shells hit 6 tarpaulin shelters of the IDPs in Maaththa'lan Friday, killing 16 civilians. Meanwhile 4 civilians were killed around 11:00 a.m., 300 meters near the coastal spot, where the ICRC was transporting wounded civilians. On Thursday, 39 civilians including 11 children were killed and at least 17 civilians were reported killed inside the safety zone on Wednesday.

6 civilians were killed in Pokk'anai when a single shell hit an IDP hut around 1:00 p.m. on Friday.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28788>

[TamilNet, Tuesday, 24 March 2009, 01:34 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army short-range mortar shelling, Rocket Propelled Grenade (RPG) attacks and gunfire killed 96 civilians, including 19 children within the 'safety zone' Monday. 32 civilians, including 7 children were killed Sunday, according to local aid workers and medical authorities.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28810>

[TamilNet, Tuesday, 24 March 2009, 17:32 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) stepped up shelling on all areas within the so-called safety zone from 12:30 a.m. Tuesday, killing 62 civilians and causing injuries to many. Artillery and mortar shells hit the safety zone killing 27 civilians during the night.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28820>

[TamilNet, Saturday, 28 March 2009, 20:34 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) attacks have claimed the lives of 179 civilians within the three days of Thursday, Friday and Saturday, according to the casualty figures collected by TamilNet correspondent in Vanni.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28864>

[TamilNet, Monday, 30 March 2009, 14:34 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) continued artillery, mortar and long-distance gunfire throughout Sunday killing at least 53 civilians and causing injuries to around 119. At least 17 civilians were killed in Maaththa'lan, 18 in Pokka'nai, 15 in Valaignarmadam and 3 in Pachchaip-pulmoaddai, reports TamilNet correspondent from Vanni[

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28878>

[TamilNet, Tuesday, 31 March 2009, 16:17 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) shelling on Monday claimed the lives of 70 civilians as Fifty Caliber gunfire from the SLA positions across the lagoon also killed 18 civilians on the road, which links the makeshift hospital with IDP settlements.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28889>

[TamilNet, Tuesday, 31 March 2009, 17:48 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) shelling killed 43 civilians throughout the day on Tuesday. 13 civilians, including 9 members of 2 families, were slain in Ampalavanpokka'nai and Valaignarmadam area in the morning. 3 of the killed were children. Four civilians were killed hit by gunfire. 120 civilians were wounded throughout the day, according to medical and aid workers in the safety zone.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28891>

Total dead for the month of March 2009 is 1063

April 2009

[TamilNet, Friday, 03 April 2009, 20:40 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) continued artillery and mortar shelling during the past 3 days in addition to firing Rocket Propelled Grenade (RPG) shells and Fifty Calibre rounds inside the so-called safety zone, killing 90 civilians and causing injuries to 195, according to medical and humanitarian workers within the 'no-fire zone'.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28933>

[TamilNet, Saturday, 04 April 2009, 12:28 GMT]

Twelve pregnant mothers were killed due to shell blast injuries during March, according to a Mullaitheevu Regional Director of Health Services (RDHS) report, a copy of which was obtained from Vavuniya District Secretariat.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28937>

[TamilNet, Sunday, 05 April 2009, 15:45 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA), which has been blaming that the Tigers were using civilians as 'human shields' on Sunday contradicted its claims saying that main LTTE fighting formations were inside a territory outside the safe zone, besieged by the SLA and claimed that the area has now been brought under its control, causing heavy casualties to the LTTE. Meanwhile, the SLA has stepped up attacks on civilians inside the safety zone from 8:30 p.m. Saturday, according to the latest reports from the civilian safe zone. At least 71 civilians were killed and 143 sustained injuries

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28950>

[TamilNet, Wednesday, 08 April 2009, 20:49 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) fired artillery shells claimed the lives of 129 civilians inside the so-called 'safety zone' throughout the day on Wednesday, according to the latest reports.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=28980>

[TamilNet, Saturday, 11 April 2009, 03:25 GMT]

Hospital records alone have registered 599 civilians killed and 3,350 injured inside the so-called safety zone, since the last UN statement on casualties on 13 March. But, the actual number of

civilians killed could exceed 1,500 as many of the bodies were not brought to the hospital to be counted and buried, said medical officials in Vanni on Friday.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29006>

[TamilNet, Sunday, 12 April 2009, 09:11 GMT]

At least 31 civilians were killed throughout the day on Sunday inside the 'safety zone'. Exact figure of wounded civilians was not known, but at least 36 injured were rushed to the makeshift hospital at Puthumaththa'lan

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29022>

[TamilNet, Monday, 13 April 2009, 10:43 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) fired shells and gunfire killed at least 23 civilians within the last 12 hours from 8:30 p.m. Sunday to 8:00 a.m. Monday, according to TamilNet correspondent reporting from the safety zone in Vanni. Most of the killings, numbering between 15 - 20, occurred in the early hours of Monday when SLA stepped up a fresh ground push to advance into the safety zone.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29030>

[TamilNet, Wednesday, 15 April 2009, 05:42 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) Wednesday morning turned its artillery, mortar, 40 mm cannon, Rocket Propelled Grenade (RPG) and gunfire ranging from 50 caliber machine guns to LMG fire into the so-called safety zone, causing a carnage within a short period of time between 7:40 and 10:40 a.m. killing and maiming hundreds of civilians, according to the latest update by TamilNet correspondent in Vanni reporting from the area under attack. Civilians were struggling to transport the wounded to the hospital and many of the injured were lying along the roadside as gunfire and artillery barrage by the SLA continues. "It is impossible to assess casualty details, but at least 180 civilians are feared killed within 3 hours in the area

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29048>

[TamilNet, Wednesday, 15 April 2009, 19:22 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) offensive units are continuously engaged in an offensive push, targeting Iraddai-vaaykkaal junction from Puthukkudiyiruppu (PTK) Mullaiththeevu road, amidst heavy resistance by the Liberation Tigers of Tamileelam (LTTE), according to latest reports from Vanni. Stiff fighting was heard near Iraddai-vaaykkaal junction, close to the entrance of the so-called safety zone. Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) bombers attacked the area at least 6 times in the morning and helicopter gunships were seen firing rockets in the evening as Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL) shells that hit Mu'lli-vaaykkaal rocked the safety zone. As dead civilians were buried where they were attacked, only 83 wounded civilians managed to reach the hospital at Puthumaaththa'lan upto 5:00 p.m., according to medical sources.

Medical sources earlier reported that 12 wounded patients had died on their way and not brought to hospital. The hospital managed to send ambulances to Mu'llivaaykkaal when the shelling ceased. Out of 83 admitted at the hospital, 6 died after admission, according to the medical authorities around 5:00 p.m.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29051>

[TamilNet, Monday, 20 April 2009, 13:18 GMT]

Hundreds of dead bodies and wounded civilians were still lying in Maaththa'lan and Pokka'nai, and more than 600 seriously wounded have been brought to a makeshift hospital functioning at a

school in Mu'lli-vaaykkaal in LTTE held area throughout Monday, TamilNet correspondent reports from Vanni. The correspondent personally witnessed nearly 300 dead bodies while fleeing from the area.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29105>

[TamilNet, Monday, 20 April 2009, 21:56 GMT]

The Sri Lanka Army Sunday morning in a cordon and search operation shot and killed three Tamil youths at Thevarku'lam area in Vavuniyaa police division.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29109>

[TamilNet, Tuesday, 21 April 2009, 08:20 GMT]

More than 1,000 civilians were killed and 2,300 wounded Monday when SLA fired internationally banned cluster shells, napalm and Phosphorus munitions boxing the same area and forcing the civilians to move into the hands of the SLA.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29111>

[TamilNet, Tuesday, 21 April 2009, 09:11 GMT]

A doctor at the makeshift hospital in Valaignarmadam and several other medical staff including civilians were killed Tuesday afternoon when Sri Lanka Army (SLA) fired cluster bombs on them, TamilNet correspondent in Vanni said citing a fleeing patient who escaped from the attack.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29112>

[TamilNet, Thursday, 23 April 2009, 05:40 GMT]

Rev. Fr. T. R. Vasanthaseelan, the director of Human Development Centre (HUDEC) of Caritas Jaffna, the social arm of the Catholic Church in the Jaffna Diocese, was seriously wounded Thursday morning around 7:30 a.m. when Sri Lanka Army (SLA) fired shells on Our Lady of Roses Church in Valaignarmadam for the second day. 14 civilians who had taken refuge at the church were killed.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29135>

[TamilNet, Friday, 24 April 2009, 09:31 GMT]

A new document originating from the UN and circulated among the diplomatic missions in Colombo this week has put the figures of the civilians killed in Vanni since January as at least 6,432 and 13,946 wounded, according to a news report by the Associated Press Friday. "The casualties were reported as 'verified data' in the document," the AP said.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29148>

[TamilNet, Wednesday, 29 April 2009, 16:32 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army is expected to embark upon the worst phase of massacre any time soon in the narrow stretch of land, 5 km long and 1.5 km wide, remaining in the so-called safety zone congested with nearly 120,000 civilians, sources in Vanni said. SLA attacks normally begin in the early hours. Heavy 100 mm cannon fire and machine gun fire from naval craft of the Sri Lanka

Navy already began around 4:00 p.m. A total of 300 are feared killed in the latest use of heavy weapons.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29217>

[TamilNet, Thursday, 30 April 2009, 11:53 GMT]

Tamil National Alliance (TNA), Trincomalee district MP and parliamentary group leader, R. Sampanthan, and parliamentarian Suresh Premachandran told the visiting British Foreign Secretary, David Miliband, that 7,000 Tamils in Vanni have been killed and 14,000 injured in the last three months,

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29220>

Total dead for the month of April 2009 is 2,771
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May 2009

[TamilNet, Friday, 01 May 2009, 16:37 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) stepped up artillery, mortar and Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL) fire on Mu'lli-vaaykkaal, causing panic among civilians in a heavily congested village of Mu'lli-vaaykkaal Friday from 9:30 a.m. Friday. Many civilians were killed as the shelling has continued for hours throughout the evening. Medical staffs at the makeshift hospital were only able to report the deaths of those who succumbed to the injuries. 110 wounded civilians were admitted up to 4:30 p.m. at Mu'lli-vaaykkaal hospital which came under attack on previous two days. 27 of the wounded have succumbed to their injuries. Many more, killed in the SLA barrage were buried or burnt by their kith and kin.

Father and his child died on April 30th in night sleep.

Around 200 civilians were rushed to the hospital on Thursday. 39 of them succumbed to their injuries.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29237>

[TamilNet, Sunday, 10 May 2009, 02:55 GMT]

Indiscriminate barrage of shelling by the Sri Lanka Army (SLA) on the 'safety zone' starting from Saturday night to Sunday morning slaughtered more than 2,000 civilians including large number of women and children, medical sources in Vanni said quoting the injured who managed to reach the makeshift hospital. Dead bodies are scattered everywhere and 814 wounded managed to reach the makeshift hospital up to 9:25 a.m., doctors said.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29311>

[TamilNet, Sunday, 10 May 2009, 11:26 GMT]

Rescue workers within the Mullaiththeevu Safety Zone have counted more than 1200 bodies after the large scale slaughter Saturday night and Sunday morning by the Sri Lanka Army (SLA) with the use of cluster ammunition, multi-barrel rocket launchers and cannons, sources from Vanni said.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29318>

[TamilNet, Tuesday, 12 May 2009, 05:51 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) fired artillery shells killing at least 47 civilians, patients and the Administrative Officer K. Tharmakulasingham Tuesday morning around 8:00 a.m. At least 55 patients sustained serious injuries in the attack on the makeshift hospital which was functioning at Mu'l'li-vaaykkaal junior school. The attack came while around 2,000 wounded patients within the last 3 days were waiting for the ICRC to be transported in the ship. More than 2,600 civilians were killed within the past 3 days in Sri Lankan attacks in Vanni.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29337>

[TamilNet, Friday, 15 May 2009, 16:27 GMT]

Sri Lanka Army (SLA) launched shells fell and exploded in a boat in which 12 persons from war torn Vanni were fleeing to Point Pedro Thursday night, killing a father while injuring his wife and two children and another woman, sources in Point Pedro said.

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29374>

Total dead for the month of May up to 15th May 2009 is 2,116
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Notes:-

If only the body count of 1200 of 10th May the number of deaths reported in May would be only 1269.

TamilNet also reports two other estimates of civilian deaths made by competent sources.

1. [TamilNet, Thursday, 30 April 2009, 11:53 GMT]

Tamil National Alliance (TNA), Trincomalee district MP and parliamentary group leader, R. Sampanthan, and parliamentarian Suresh Premachandran told the visiting British Foreign Secretary, David Miliband, that 7,000 Tamils in Vanni have been killed and 14,000 injured in the last three months,

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29220>

2. [TamilNet, Wednesday, 20 May 2009, 04:20 GMT]

Noting that the slow genocide of Tamils in Sri Lanka accelerated to more than 10,000 killed in the last few months, far exceeding the horrors of Srebrenica, Professor Boyle in conversation with Los Angeles KPFK radio host, Michael Slate, Tuesday, accused Sri Lanka Government of bulldozing and destroying evidence of massacres in the Safety Zone while preventing access to the Red Cross and UN agencies.

(Professor Boyle has been a legal advisor to the LTTE and would have had direct access to real time information from the battlefield on satellite telephone)

<http://tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=29415>

TamilNet also does not report on deaths of civilians killed by the LTTE. The LTTE killings of Tamil civilians are reported in the Special Report No. 32, of 10th June 2009 by the UTHR, University Teachers for Human Rights Jaffna, in some detail in the following paragraphs.

“The night of the 17th saw heavy fighting going on into the 18th morning. Some reliable witnesses and other IDPs who were present when the Army entered are certain that a large number, perhaps the majority, of those killed in the NFZ during the last 12 hours were killed by LTTE shelling. Shells were falling into them and from the direction they are certain that they were fired by the LTTE.

In conclusion, the civilian casualties after 19th April need careful research. Speaking of averages is meaningless and of a hidden massacre is misleading. Such an expression immediately puts the government forces in mind. We know that on the May 14th and May 17th night, the LTTE was to a large extent responsible for civilian deaths. When an organisation fell apart in that manner, one section joined the civilians and escaped, another section feeling abandoned by the leadership and facing certain death from a Government that did not want to accept surrender, lost its balance and was angry with the others seeking to protect their life.”