

# JUSTICE FOR SURVIVORS IN SRI LANKA

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## DEMAND ACCOUNTABILITY IN SRI LANKA

Five Tamil students were killed and two others were seriously injured in January 2006 by the Sri Lankan security forces. To date, no one has been brought to justice for these violations – merely one example of the lack of accountability that plagues Sri Lanka.

On 2 January 2006 a grenade was thrown from an auto rickshaw at a group of students in Trincomalee. At least three were injured. Between 10 and 15 uniformed officers, believed to be police from the elite Special Task Force, arrived. They forced the students into their jeep, beat them with rifle butts and then pushed them out onto the road. According to a witness, the security forces personnel then shot dead five of the young men: Shanmugarajah Gajendran, Lohitharaja Rohan, Thangathurai Sivanantha, Yogaraja Hemachandran and Manoharan Rajihar. Two other youths survived with injuries.

The security forces initially claimed the five had been killed when the grenade exploded, which they alleged the students had been carrying. However, a post-mortem later revealed that they died from gunshot wounds. Three had been shot in the head.

## TAKE ACTION NOW

PLEASE SIGN AND SEND THIS POSTCARD  
TO YOUR FOREIGN MINISTER.

*Image:* Funeral procession for the five students, January 2006.  
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**Dear Minister,**

Please ensure that the United Nations support accountability for human rights violations in Sri Lanka by:

- Calling for a public report of the findings of the UN Panel on Sri Lanka, scheduled to run until 16 January 2011.
- Asking the UN Secretary-General to further support an independent, international investigation into human rights violations in Sri Lanka.

Yours sincerely,

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Country:** \_\_\_\_\_

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*Image:* Funeral procession for the five students, January 2006. © Private  
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