

Media Release

George Floyd – Online Live Homage from Tamil Nadu

A memorial for George Floyd on Tamil soil is organized today (10.06.2020) from 4.30 pm onwards, involving various political parties, socio-political movements, human rights organizations and democratic forces across the State. This online public event is designed to take a pledge against discrimination based on caste, religion and race, in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter Movement in the US, condemning the brutal murder of the Afro American, George Floyd at the racist white American Police in Minneapolis, Minnesota on 25th May. We stand united with the black and other coloured people of the US who have been suffering racial discrimination for more than four centuries. We from India have special interest in the Black Lives Matter Movement, as we are ourselves up against caste discrimination, which is another form of racial discrimination.

There will be an expression of physical solidarity to Black Lives Matter in two cities in Tamil Nadu, Madurai and Coimbatore, wherein leaders of political parties and people's movements will take part in, which will be shown on live during the memorial.

An online signature campaign has been designed and tens of thousands of signatures from people across the state, jointly addressed to Mr. Donald Trump, the US President and Mr. Narendra Modi, the Indian Prime Minister, condemn the racist attacks against the Afro Americans and institutional racism in the US and deep rooted caste discrimination that is widespread across Indian sub continent.

Voices of the people's Movements against institutional racism, police atrocities and caste discrimination will be raised during the live public meeting today. Mr. Gerald Staberock, Secretary General, World Organization against Torture (OMCT), Geneva, Prof. Gay McDougall, Civil- Rights Activist and International Lawyer, UN Independent Expert on Minority Issues, Georgia, Mr. Prashant Bushan, senior advocate, Supreme Court of India,

New Delhi, Arch Bishop Antony Poppusamy, President, Tamil Nadu Catholic Bishop's Council and Mr. Henri Tiphagne, Executive Director, People's Watch will join the online memorial event this evening.

The leaders of the political parties and people's organizations include Dr. Thol Thirumavalavan, MP and President, Viduthalai Siruthaigal Katchi, Mr. Vai Ko, MP and General Secretary, MDMK, Mr. T. K. S. Ilangovan, MP, DMK, Mr. Balakrishnan, State Secretary, CPM, Mr. Mutharasan, State Secretary, CPI, Prof. Jawahirullah, President, Manitha Neyya Makkal Katchi, Mr. Nellai Mubarak, State Secretary, SDPI, Mr. Velmurugan, Founder and President, Thamilaga Vaazhvirimai Katchi, Mr. K. Veeramani, President, Dravidar Kazhagam, Mr. Thiagu, President, Tamil National Liberation Movement, Mr. Kolathur Mani, Dravidar Viduthalai Kazhagam, Mr. Thirumurugan Gandhi, May 17 Movement, Mr. P. Maniarasan, Tamil Thesiya Periyakkam and Mr. Mi. Tha. Pandian, Tamil Thesa Munnani and others.

We invite you all to take part in the online memorial event to pay homage to George Floyd and to raise collective voice against all forms of discrimination on the basis of race, religion, and caste.

BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT – TAMIL NADU
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