

UTHR(J) — University Teachers for Human Rights, Jaffna

The University Teachers for Human Rights (Jaffna) — independent Tamil academic human-rights documentation from 1988 onwards, distinguished for cross-cutting critique of all armed actors.

The University Teachers for Human Rights (Jaffna) — UTHR(J) — has been one of the most distinctive sources in the Sri Lanka human-rights record since 1988. Its bulletins and special reports document violations by Sri Lankan state forces, the LTTE, the IPKF, Tamil paramilitary groups and other militant organisations. The work has cost lives: co-founder Rajani Thiranagama was killed in Jaffna in September 1989. UTHR(J)'s commitment to cross-cutting critique — refusing the binary that one side's victims cancel another's — is part of the methodological lineage TLTE explicitly works in.

§1 Standing in the record

UTHR(J) bulletins are cited by every major Tier-A documentation source on the Sri Lankan conflict — the UN Panel of Experts (2011), OISL (2015), HRW, Amnesty, ICG. The reports' distinguishing feature is the willingness to document violations by Tamil actors with the same rigour as those by Sri Lankan state forces.

§2 Why TLTE cites it

UTHR(J) is the standing rebuttal to the framing that Tamil-source documentation is necessarily partisan. Its cross-cutting method — Tamils documenting Tamil-actor violations — is part of the lineage TLTE explicitly works in. TLTE does not duplicate UTHR(J)'s archive; it cites and routes.

Sources

- [uthr-jaffna](#)
- [icg-srilanka](#)
- [un-poe-2011-darusman](#)

What this is not

- This page does not aggregate UTHR(J) findings in TLTE voice.
- This page does not name UTHR(J) members beyond Rajani Thiranagama, who is already in the universal public record.