

TAMILS - ARE THEY REFUGEES?

The recent arrivals from Sri Lanka are claiming persecution, but are they genuine refugees?

The conflict that was going on for many years in Sri Lanka was centered around the ethnic group Tamils, that were demanding a separate country be established within Sri Lanka for themselves.

To push their case for separate statehood they conducted continued terrorist attacks on the government of Sri Lanka. So is it any wonder that they may not be treated well by the Sri Lankan majority.

All Tamils have either through direct involvement with the terrorist forces (the Tamil Tigers) or support for this made themselves targets of persecution !



If Tamils are being persecuted in Sri Lanka they can take the 50 Km trip to India that has established a state for Tamils.

Any Tamils entering Australia claiming refugee status should be returned to either Sri Lanka or India if that country permits them.

In a broader sense people who have invited or participated in conflict should not be able to claim refugee status.

The term “refugee” is too broad and must be associated with innocents as to the problems they are affected by.

Craig Bradshaw
30/10/09