Relevant Citations to get a picture of Sri Lanka’s complexities

On the genetics of Sri Lanka’s population groups: Ruwan J Illeperuma, Development of data bases for autosomal, Y-chromosomal and Mitochondrial DNA markers and their application in forensic casework and population genetics in Sri Lankan populations. Thesis submitted for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy to the Faculty of Science, University of Colombo. Findings of research conducted at the University of Washington, Seattle, USA and Genetech, Colombo at 2009

On the fictional basis of the “traditional homelands of the Tamils”: de Silva, K. M The "Traditional Homelands" Of The Tamils: Separatist Ideology In Sri Lanka : A Historical Appraisal Kandy International Centre for Ethnic Studies; Rev. 2nd ed edition 1995

Nature of Jaffna kingdom: The first detailed map of the Jaffna Kingdom by Baldaeus in 1672 AD shows it being confined to the Jaffna Peninsula and Mannar Peninsula. See: Baldaeus, Philippus, A description of the great and most famous isle of Ceylon New Delhi: Asian Educational Services, 1996 (reprint). Portuguese historian De Queryoz affirms the small size of Jaffna kingdom as a “kinglet” subject to the Singalese King of Kotte. The Portuguese King as well as the Portuguese correspondence at the time accepted the claim of Kotte as over lord of Jaffna. In the 17th century, when the King of Kandy Senerat called all his subordinate rulers in the country for a Council of state, Baldaeus mentions that representativeness of Jaffna also attended this meeting. Letters from the Dutch refers to King Senarat as the Emperor of Sri Lanka, the King of Kandy, Sitavaka, Trincomalee, and Jaffna and of other smaller political entities.

Jaffna kings’ sea piracy: Jaffna kings’ income from sea piracy is attested by Ibn Batuta who was warned by his sailors that the port was under the "evil doing tyrant [who] keeps pirate vessels"¹. Portuguese sources confirm this charge of piracy; Francis Xavier 1545 mentions that a ship’s goods were seized by the king of Jaffna². A letter to the Portuguese king Joao III in 1546 refers to the king of Jaffna as a brigand³. Portuguese historian Couto mentions that the king of Jaffna "acting the pirate had all the ships and vessels of the Portuguese that passed by its coast to be set upon and using stratagems to get them to put into the coast so as to rob them"⁴.

Jaffna kingdom included sizable Sinhalese population: The rulers of Jaffna at the coming of the Portuguese were Tamil but there are strong indications that the population was possibly still strongly Sinhalese. The Nam Potha, the 17th C text used for elementary education records many Sinhalese places of Buddhist pilgrimage in the Jaffna peninsula⁵. In the early part of the 20th century, Pieris, together with Rasanayagam discovered Buddhist Archaeological remains including with Sinhalese inscriptions, identical with those in the rest of the country⁶ and form the core of the Jaffna Museum. During the LTTE occupation of Jaffna these artefacts were all mislabeled (now restored), including one saying of a Buddha footprint similar to others found in the rest of the country as that of an indirect representation of “Jesus Christ [who] is sometimes considered an incarnation of Vishnu”, the first time we hear Jesus Christ considered an incarnation of Vishnu!

Jaffna kingdom Sinhalese: Accounts of the Portuguese administrative archives relating to the mid-17th century give evidence of the persistence of Sinhalese in Jaffna during Portuguese times. For example, in 1612, the local official in charge of the collection of elephants in the Jaffna
region is referred to by its Sinhalese name “Kuruwe Vidane”. Couto mentions that just after crossing what is today Elephant Pass, they found the bodies of dead Sinhalese. Boccaro writing around as late as 1632 mentions that in Jaffna the Portuguese employed two interpreters, one Tamil and one Sinhalese. And in 1645, reference is made to the rice field of Buddhist monks in Jaffna.

**Jaffna kingdom Sinhalese:** The Jaffna Chronicle *Yalpana Vaipava Malai* (the YVM) was compiled around 1736 AD at the request of Dutch officials. Although faulty as a historical document (Rasanayagam who authored the book *Ancient Jaffna*, saying this chronicle was done by an "illiterate"), the *Yalpana Vaipava Malai* has useful information on the Portuguese occupation. It mentions that Sangili, the last King of Jaffna (1617-1618) with “insane fury … fell upon the Buddhists [who] were all Sinhalese [who]… were many in this [Jaffna] kingdom” and expelled them. Baldaeus who lived in Jaffna for nine years from 1656 refers to the Portuguese defeating in Jaffna "Sinhalese forces" [his words] near Achivelli (Achuvely) by the "great pagoda" identified as Puttur, meaning Buddha village. Baldaeus use of the expression "Singalese forces" above is deliberate because elsewhere he mentions that the Malabars [Tamils] of Jaffna were different from Sinhalese.

**For the morphing into [Indian] Tamil chauvinism of a South Indian Dalit Buddhist movement initiated through Sri Lankan Buddhist connections see:** Aloysius, G. *Religion as Emancipatory Identity: a Buddhist Movement among Tamils under Colonialism* New-Age International Ltd, New Delhi 2000

**On pro LTTE elements opposition to archaeology:** In 1982/83, archaeology excavations were abandoned under LTTE threats. When archaeology was resumed since the LTTE’s defeat it was opposed by pro LTTE personnel evidently for fear that the traditional homelands myth would be subject to a harsh searchlight. Over the last 5 years archaeology in the former LTTE areas has revealed archaeology no different from the rest of the country. For details of opposition to archaeology see TamilNet the pro LTTE site, issues of: 22/3/11, 10/6/11, 27/2/11, 23/3/11, 07/10/10, 07/10/10, 07/10/10, 30/6/09, 30/12/09, 30/12/09, 30/12/09, 30/12/09, 30/12/09.

**On the caste system in Jaffna:**


Jane Russell *Communal Politics under the Donoughmore Constitution, 1931 – 1947*, Tisara Prakashayo Ltd.


See also Bryan Pfaffenberger’s studies, British Government Agents; (in India “Collectors”) Annual Reports of Jaffna and Northern Province. Details of caste persecution are vivid and revealing.

**On overrepresentation of Tamils in government jobs (now reversed) due to British divide and rule policies** see: Tambiah, S. J. “Ethnic representation in Ceylon’s higher administrative services, 1870-1946", *University of Ceylon Review.* 13 (2 and 3) April-July)

**Prevention of Social Disabilities Act (No. 21 of 1957) becoming an upper caste trigger for Tamil separatism**

http://www.commonlii.org/lk/legis/num_act/posda21o1957373/s3.html  

**On Jaffna caste factors as a strong contributor in Tamil separatist politics** see:  
http://www.colomboherald.com/world-politics/tamil-caste-discrimination

**On Indian cross border terrorism** see: Gunaratna, Rohan *Indian Intervention In Sri Lanka: The role of India's intelligence agencies* South Asian Network on Conflict Research 1993 Colombo. Also Maneka Ghandhi’s *Surya* exposure of the early 1980s.

**On Hitler ideology in LTTE:** see Michael Roberts “Inspirations: Hero Figures and Hitler in Young Pirapāharan’s Thinking”


**On Hitler ideology in LTTE** see Ragavan on Tamil Militancy


**On Hitler ideology in LTTE** see “Hitler, Nationalism, Sacrifice: Koenigsberg and Beyond … Towards the Tamil Tigers”

http://www.libraryofsocialscience.com/ideologies/docs/roberts_koenigsberg.html

**On the last stages as LTTE herded hundreds of thousands and demanded two fighters from each family:** The Maakkal Padai or Peoples Militia as Arm of the LTTE during Eelam War IV

http://www.flickr.com/photos/thuppahi/sets/72157627005320170

**On the last stages of LTTE:** For a non-Sinhala, non-Tamil Sri Lankan (Eurasian) voice, see Michael Roberts “Generating Calamity, 2008-2014: An Overview of Tamil Nationalist Operations and Their Marvels”

On the last stages of LTTE: Indian Reporter Pics at NFZ-14-to-18 May 2009 =
http://www.flickr.com/photos/thuppahi/sets/72157626797805167/

On the last stages of LTTE: Mullivaikkal Hospital Last Redoubt =
http://www.flickr.com/photos/thuppahi/sets/72157626797848747/

On the last stages of LTTE: TIMES Aerial Images, Last Redoubt, 23 May 2009 =
http://www.flickr.com/photos/thuppahi/sets/72157626922360092/

On the last stages of LTTE: Final Battle, Last Redoubt, 13-19 May 2009 =
http://www.flickr.com/photos/thuppahi/sets/72157626921596968/

1 Batuta, Ibn Travels of Ibn Battutah Tim Mackintosh-Smith (editor) Picador 2002 reprint p 143
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3 Perniola, Fr V The Catholic Church in Sri Lanka : The Portuguese Period - Volume I  p 210
4 Barros & Couto p 180
5 Pieris, P.E. "Nagadipa and Buddhist Remains in Jaffna" Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, Ceylon Branch Vol 70 1922 pp 11-44
6 Pieris, P.E. "Nagadipa and Buddhist Remains in Jaffna" Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, Ceylon Branch Vol 70 1922 pp 11-44
8 Barros & Couto p 194
10 Pieris, P.E. The kingdom of Jafanapatam 1645 : being an account of its administrative organization as derived from the Portugese archives Colombo The Ceylon Daily News, Printers, 1920 Asian Educational Services reprint 1995 pp 26,64
11 Pulavar, Mayilvagana The Yalpana-vaipava-malai, or, The History of the Kingdom of Jaffna translated by E.Brito in 1879 Asian Educational Services reprint August 1999
13 thus Pulavar, Mayilvagana The Yalpana-vaipava-malai, or, The History of the Kingdom of Jaffna translated by E.Brito in 1879 Asian Educational Services reprint August 1999  p 25, 33
14 Baldaeus, Philippus, A description of the great and most famous isle of Ceylon New Delhi: Asian Educational Services, 1996 p 316
15 De Queyroa, Fernao p 50