

Sabaratnam was founder member of militant student organisation. (1994, May 4). *The Observer*.

Murder of Tamil activist in Paris Sabaratnam was founder member of militant student organisation

By a Staff Reporter

SABALINGAM SABARATNAM, shot dead by suspected Tiger activists in suburban Paris on Sunday was a founder member of the militant student organisation in Jaffna during the early 1980s and was a close associate of Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) leader Sri Sabaratnam.

According to reports from France, Sabalingam was a Technical assistant from the Katubedda,

campus who had fled to Paris after the annihilation of the TELO leader and almost the whole of his organisation by the LTTE on the orders of Velupullai Prabhakaran. The near total massacre of the TELO was carried out in the mid 1980's by Kittu who was killed in an explosion on board an arms smuggling ship intercepted by the Indian navy last year.

Kittu's death led to the arrest by Prabhakaran of

LTTE's deputy leader Mahattaya on charges of spying for the Indian intelligence agency Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) which led to a split among the Tigers.

Sabalingam who knew a lot of western human rights activists was said to have been compiling a dossier on the atrocities committed by the LTTE and was also engaged in translating Jaffna University Teachers Association reports on LTTE

human rights violations.

He was also reported to have been collecting details of LTTE victims and carrying on an anti-Tiger campaign in France. He is said to have been visited by some politicians from Jaffna two days prior to his murder by two suspected Tiger cadres.

Reports also said that the funeral of Sabalingam is to be held on a grand scale by other Tamil organisations in France.